

# Phuket Gazette

ANDAMAN Edition

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25 Baht

## Flood aid on its way

PHUKET has rallied to dispatch more than 100,000 baht in donated funds and other aid to help the hundreds of thousands of people directly affected by flooding in Thailand's central and north-eastern regions.

Thus far, at least 59 people have been killed from the ongoing deluge in central and northeast Thailand. More than three million people are estimated to be affected by the country's worst floods in decades.

Tens of thousands have evacuated their homes and are in need of life-saving essentials.

The initial dispatch of Phuket aid was destined for Lopburi, one of the worst-hit provinces.

The donation center, located at Provincial Hall, was coordinated by the Phuket Provincial Office and Red Cross Phuket, where donations have been pouring in over the past week.

Public cash contributions totaled 104,298 baht. Real estate development firm The Phanason Group contributed 100,000 baht.

Many other items were brought to the donation center. These included bags of rice, bottles of water, instant noodles, toilet paper, canned food, blankets, pillows, clothes, and even pairs of slippers.

Donations have been made by both the private and government sectors, including the Kusoldharm

Foundation, the Phuket Red Cross, Cherng Talay Tambon Administration Organization, Tourist Police, Thalang District, Muang District and the Phuket civil defense volunteer organization.

The event also marked the closure of the relief center. The Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM) has assumed responsibility for accepting donations at its offices on Damrong Road in Phuket Town.

The DDPM is now asking for cash donations only, if possible.

On Wednesday, the Public Health Minister urged 19 state hospitals in Bangkok, Nonthaburi, Pathum Thani and Samut Prakan to prepare for possible flooding.

Health Minister Jurin Laksanawisit instructed medical workers in those provinces to protect hos-



Kusoldharm Foundation volunteers stockpile donations for flood victims before sending it off to Lopburi, one of the hardest-hit areas in the north and northeast. Photo: Pimwara Choksakulpun

pitals and medical equipment from floodwaters.

Floods had damaged 42 healthcare units, including hospitals, during past weeks. Three main hospitals, Maharat Nakhon Ratchasima, Chaityaphum and Phimai, have resumed normal operations.

Preliminary estimates of the total cost of reparations to flood-damaged to hospitals so far stands at more than 370 million baht.

— *Phuket Gazette/The Nation*

## PAD joins the effort

THE People's Alliance for Democracy (PAD) in Phuket has joined the relief effort for flood victims in Thailand's north and northeast.

Charoensamanakij Temple, behind Phuket Provincial Court, is the collection point for supplies.

The group is liaising with the Kusoldharm Foundation to arrange transport for the supplies

to disaster-hit areas.

PAD Phuket coordinator Aparat Chartchutikumjorn said donated items include flashlights with pre-installed batteries, medicine, candles and matches, and non-perishable food items such as canned fish and milk.

Miss Aparat said PAD Phuket's collection effort will continue until the floods ease.

## Gov issues flood, landslide warning

THE governor has urged officials and local agencies to be vigilant in preventing flooding and landslides in areas of construction sites and recently completed housing projects.

The call follows the Thai Meteorological Department issuing a weather warning for heavy rains caused by a monsoon trough over the Andaman Sea.

Phuket Governor Tri Augkaradacha told officials gathered at the Land Office to be wary of drains blocked by silt and muddy runoff from nearby construction areas denuded of foliage.

Land Office chief Paitoon Lertkrai said, "We are taking extra care to ensure construction follows the EIA [environmental impact assessment] that was approved for the project, with special attention given to the size of the

drains and wastewater systems."

Mr Paitoon said that about 50 residential housing projects were currently underway in Phuket, 12 of which were approved last year. "Some of them have just been completed," he said.

Only two housing projects have been approved this year, he added.

"It's normal to receive some complaints about flooding while any project is under construction. The complaints usually stem from drains being blocked," he added.

However, the Land chief pointed out that potential Phuket home buyers were getting smarter.

"The number of complaints about housing projects is decreasing as people are now more astute. If any projects have flooding problems, they simply will not buy the houses in these projects," he said.

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## This Week

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Park your plane on your doorstep in Pa Khlok.

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# Patient sexual assault claim a 'misunderstanding': hospital

By Janpen Upatising  
and Sitthipong Nongkaew

VACHIRA Phuket Hospital has concluded that a sexual assault charge against one of its staff members was the result of a "misunderstanding".

The hospital investigation began after a woman filed a complaint with Phuket City Police last Tuesday that she had been sexually assaulted by hospital staff while undergoing an x-ray examination.

Lt Col Sian Kaewthong told the *Gazette* that the woman had gone to the hospital at about 2am that day "because she had taken too much paracetamol".

"After she was treated, she was taken into the x-ray room for further examination. She said that she was touched around her body [in the x-ray room]," Lt Col Sian said.

"But, I think that it might be a misunderstanding because in the x-ray room there were many hospital staff; the woman and the [accused] staff member were not

'I have warned staff to be more careful in dealing with patients. This case is a good example'

**Dr Somnuk Jirayut**  
Deputy Director  
of Vachira Phuket Hospital

in the room alone," he added.

The woman did not want to press charges against Vachira Hospital. Her intentions were to ensure that other hospital staff did not follow the same behavior, he said.

Lt Col Sian said that police will keep the report as evidence but have left it as an "internal problem for the hospital to take care of".

Vachira Phuket Hospital Deputy Director Dr Somnuk Jirayut told the *Gazette*, "We have concluded that this case is a misunderstanding. The patient may not have been fully conscious [at the time of the alleged incident] after being treated for the overdose.

"This is not the first time she

has come to the hospital for this treatment," he added.

"She needed an x-ray of her entire torso, not only her stomach, because the overdose could have affected other organs. So, her bra had to be removed. Because she came alone, the staff could not consult any relatives.

"The staff confirmed that they did inform her they were going to remove her bra. After the examination, she did not make any complaints at the hospital," Dr Somnuk said.

"We questioned two staff members and have learned from their supervisor that they both have clean records.

"However, I have warned staff to be more careful in dealing with patients. This case is a good example," he added.

Dr Somnuk said the results of the internal investigation have been sent to hospital director Dr Jessada Chungpaibulpatana.

The findings will later be forwarded to police.

# Arson suspected in car blaze

POLICE are investigating a presumed arson attack that turned a parked car into a ball of flames in Phuket Town last week.

First on the scene, a soi off Phuket Road near Bang Neaw Shrine, were emergency rescue workers from the Kusoldharm Foundation.

Although equipped with three chemical sprayers, they could do little but watch as the flames completely engulfed the car.

Arriving soon afterwards were Phuket Municipality firefighters, who took 30 minutes to douse the flames.

Witnesses told police the fire appeared to start beneath one of the wheels before quickly spreading to the gasoline tank.

Owner Jirasak Naknan, 53, told police the vehicle had been parked



Debris is blown into the air as the Opel erupts into flames.

in the same location since the Friday night before.

The car was recently repainted, but there was no reason to suspect an electrical fault was responsible for igniting the blaze, he told police.

Police suspect a personal or business dispute may have caused an arsonist to set the car alight.

Mr Jirasak operates the highly successful Ran Khu Lek beauty salon in the area.

Damage to the eight-year-old Opel passenger car is estimated at around 100,000 baht.

Police will review images from CCTV cameras in the area to try and find out who, if anyone, was responsible for the fire.

# Highway robbery

THREE teenagers held up a pair of young women at gunpoint in Thalang and stole their motorbike early last Sunday morning.

News of the hold-up was reported to Thalang Police by Wirach Rawdboot, the older brother of one of the victims.

The woman, with a female friend riding pillion, was driving her Yamaha Fino home from work along a quiet stretch of Srisoonthorn Road when the

three youths, all on the same motorbike, began trailing them, Mr Wirach said.

The trio then suddenly cut off the women, forcing them at gunpoint to get off the motorbike. One of the attackers jumped on the Fino and both motorbikes sped off into the darkness.

Thalang Police are investigating the incident, but no arrests have been reported.

— **Raweeroj Tungchaosub**



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# New road touted from Kamala to Kathu valley

By Pimwara Choksakulpan

KAMALA'S top official has proposed construction of a new road linking the West Coast town with Kathu, bypassing Patong.

The five-kilometer road would head directly over the hills behind Phuket FantaSea and join an existing road at Kathu Waterfall.

The new road, if approved, would cost more than 17.4 million baht just for the 2.6-kilometer stretch in Kamala. The section in Kathu would cost even more.

Anxious to get the project moving, Jutha Dumluck, president of the Kamala Tambon Administration Organization, has already filed a budget request to the Phuket Provincial Office asking for funding to be provided under the *Thai Khem Kaeng* (Strong Thailand) scheme.

"This shortcut will help save fuel costs, traveling time and help ease traffic congestion over Patong Hill," Mr Jutha said.

Unlike the long-awaited road joining Patong to Chalong, which



The road will rise over the Kamala hills and end at Kathu Waterfall.

stalled where the intended road crossed onto state forest land, the Kamala-Kathu road would not need to pass an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), explained Mr Jutha.

The road would cross agricultural land, not state forest, he said. Kathu Mayor Chaianan Suthikul confirmed he was aware of the project and that his office is now surveying the proposed route.

However, Kathu Municipality had yet to apply for budget approval for their part of the road, Mayor Chaianan said.

## Bt1.5bn resort to open in Patong

A NEW 350-room, five-star luxury resort will open on the hill-sides at the southern end of Patong by the end of 2012.

News of the 1.5-billion-baht project was announced by hotel and resort consultants Mai-BS (Thailand), headed by Klaus Rauter, former general manager at Andara Villas and Suites.

"We are extremely proud of having been selected and appointed as the consultant to the owner for this 1,500 million baht five-star resort owned by truly experienced and professional developers," said Mr Rauter.

"Mai-BS (Thailand) will work with the owners and current team as consultant to select the right management company for this stunning property, to ensure best

use of space in all areas of the hotel to ensure best comfort for guests and employees through modern and efficient designs in all areas of the resort," he added.

Mai-BS has inked a deal for Phuket-based Yanggrangsi Co Ltd to develop the project at the south end of Patong.

The site is located after the Amari Coral Beach resort, with views overlooking Patong Bay.

The hotel, which has yet to be named, is scheduled to open year-end 2012 with 100 pool villas and 250 rooms.

The resort will be managed by an international-brand company yet to be announced.

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# Tsunami survivors head for Phuket



PHUKET BOUND: After surviving its second tsunami, the 'Freedom 3' is en route back to Phuket.

By Fraser Morton

THE crew of surf charter boat *Freedom 3* are on their way to Phuket after narrowly escaping with their lives from Monday's tsunami off the Mentawai Islands, Indonesia.

"I'm just so happy all the crew and passengers are safe," said 10-year Phuket resident and *Freedom* Surf Adventures owner John Wilkinson.

British chef and first mate Chris Love said *Freedom 3* was anchored in Macaronis Bay, northern Pagai, about 100 meters from surf charter boat *Midas* when the tsunami struck about 11pm.

Passengers on both boats were relaxing after dinner. Some were already in bed.

"The bay drained out and within minutes a three-meter wall of whitewater hit our boat, lifted us up and pushed across the bay," said Mr Love.

The seven crew on *Freedom 3* could only brace for impact as they were pushed towards the *Midas* by the surging waves.

*Freedom 3* then plowed into the

'I'm just so happy they are all alive'

John Wilkinson,  
owner of 'Freedom 3'



*Midas*, which immediately burst into flames.

Mr Love said Australian captain Lee Clarke snapped into action, powered *Freedom 3* into oncoming tsunami waves and out into deeper waters to safety.

Meanwhile, the crew and passengers of the *Midas* had to abandon ship as their boat was engulfed in flames. Most of them were pushed several hundred meters inland and climbed trees to safety.

Two of the *Midas* passengers were salvaged by *Freedom 3*.

"All the passengers are now safely back on land and the crew

are heading back to Phuket, where the boat will be taken out of the water for the minor repairs," John Wilkinson told the *Gazette*.

Amazingly, his captain reports *Freedom 3* having only "minor cosmetic damage".

Mr Wilkinson said Mr Love called him to tell him the news early Tuesday morning, once they had a phone signal.

"I'm just proud of their courage. The captain and crew fought against all odds to get the passengers to safety," he said.

The 7.7 quake hit near the Mentawai Islands, off Sumatra, just before 10pm on Monday.

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# City hotel staff to face drug testing

By Janpen Upatising

MANDATORY drug testing is part of an initiative by Phuket City Police aimed at ridding hotels and guesthouses of illegal drugs.

Representatives of 75 accommodation establishments last week met for a briefing on the initiative, dubbed the "White Hotel" project.

The scheme is the brainchild of Phuket City Police Deputy Superintendent Chaiwat Auykham, who wants to create a "sustainable" approach to drug suppression in the police district, which covers Koh Kaew, Wichit and Rassada as well as Phuket Town.

"We will provide information to hotel staff about illegal drug use and help them find ways to stay away from narcotics," he said.

Staff will also be trained in identifying behavior that could be indicative of drug dealing or drug use, and how to report suspicious individuals to the authorities.

At the heart of the agreement will be a memorandum of understanding (MoU).

To be signed by both police and hotel operators, the document will be a written commitment by hotels confirming that they will adopt a "Triple No!" strategy in dealing with illegal narcotics use on their premises: No drug makers, no drug traders, and no drug takers.

The MoU will also be signed by operators of serviced apartments and other types of temporary lodging facilities.



Phuket City Police Superintendent Wanchai Ekporntip at the meeting.

Establishments that sign up for the project will be subject to follow-up evaluations to ensure they are living up to their commitments, Lt Col Chaiwat said.

Theerasak Sa-Nga Saeng, Personnel Manager at The Metropole hotel in Phuket Town, described the idea as "great".

The initiative would serve as a natural extension of the Department of Labor Protection and Welfare's "White Organization" project – but with more teeth.

For human rights reasons there is no mandatory drug testing under the White Organization project, but hotels in the White Hotel project will be able to work together with police to organize mandatory random drug testing of employees, he explained.

The Westin Siray Bay Resort and the Sinthawee and iPavillion hotels will be the first to take part in the project, it was announced.

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## Sea gypsies in Rawai protest water shortage

POLICE and local officials went into negotiations with leaders of the Rawai Sea Gypsy community last week after a street protest that blocked traffic for about an hour.

About 250 members of the community took part in the rush-hour protest, which began at about 8:30am on Wiset Road near Rawai Pier, the main road through the area.

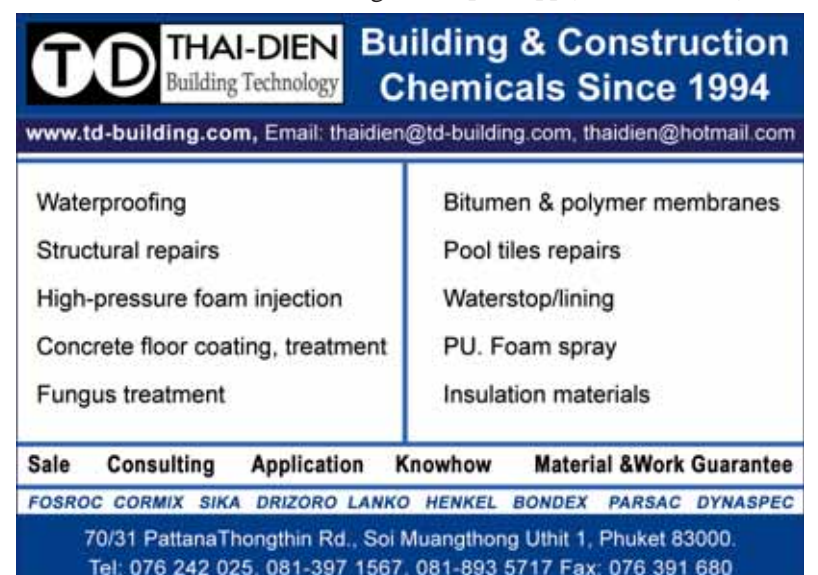
At the heart of the dispute was water rights.

A well that had been the village's

primary water source ran dry due to development of private land nearby.

Arriving to negotiate with the sea gypsies was Phuket MP Rewat Areerob, Phuket Provincial Police Commander Pekad Tantipong and Rawai Mayor Aroon Solos.

The protesters agreed to re-open the road and move the protest to nearby Wat Suwanarom after Mayor Aroon promised to provide them with water from the temple supply within 30 days.



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# Floating tradition

By Sitthipong Nongkaew

RASSADA sea gypsies set bad luck adrift in a handmade boat this week while the Rawai community washed away misfortune with water blessed by a witch doctor.

The traditions, upheld twice a year, mark the sea gypsies' most important festival: In Rassada, it is called *loy reua*, or the "boat floating" festival and in Rawai it is the *suad klang baan* and *arb nammon*, or "village chanting" and "bathing in holy water".

Although the rituals differ, both share a common origin and have served the same purpose for sea gypsy communities for hundreds, if not thousands, of years.

However, modernization is taking its toll, placing such traditions in jeopardy.

The sea gypsies have no written language of their own, so it is up to Sorot Pramongkit, of the Laem Tukkae village in Rassada, to keep track of his community's ancestry and maintain tradition.

"We hold the festival twice a year just as our ancestors did, but I cannot say for certain why we hold it twice," he said.

Mr Sorot's wife, Kanda, seems more certain. "This festival is to release bad luck out of the village; if we do it just once a year, bad luck could return," she said.

The festival is held around the middle of the sixth and 11<sup>th</sup> lunar months (usually in May and October) and coincides with the beginning and the end of the mon-



Rawai sea gypsy Alin Hadsaithong

soon season. "They both are held on the days of the full moon. I think it is quite similar to the Buddhist belief that on those days our ancestors' spirits can come into our world," Mr Sorot said.

Mrs Kanda points out that sea gypsy culture is handed down through recounting legends and holding festivals such as this.

"I remember our elders telling us stories when we gathered around, instead of watching TV like children do now," she said.

To counter the threat of losing their culture, her husband has been writing down as much as he can about sea gypsy traditions.

Change is more apparent in Rawai, where the sea gypsy community there holds their festival over two days.

"We used to celebrate the festival on the same days [as other communities], but now we hold it two days earlier so we can visit our brothers in other villages. That's what my father told me," said Alin Hadsaithong, 50.



Sea gypsy children admire the boat handmade by their elders (inset). Photos: Sitthipong Nongkaew/Rassada Municipality

"In Rawai, we don't set boats adrift. We bathe ourselves with water blessed by our *toh mor* [witch doctor], Majim Lakkoh, 82. This washes away bad luck. He learned this rite from his fathers before him," Mr Alin said.

In the evening of the first day of the Rawai festival, each family in the village fills a large urn with

water. Led by *tor mor* Majim, they chant prayers all night to guard the water from being contaminated by evil spirits. At daybreak, they purify themselves with the water to ward off misfortune.

Although it seems ironic, the recent boom in tourism may help preserve both sea gypsy festivals.

"It's good for tourists to see

the festival so they can see our culture and learn there are many different types of sea people. We can show them who we are and how we live," said Mrs Kanda.

Mr Alin in Rawai agreed. "Modernization is bringing many changes to our village, but sea gypsies still live as a community and our culture is still alive," he said.

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# Bombings mark Tak Bai massacre

INSURGENTS launched attacks in all three provinces of the restive Deep South on October 25, the sixth anniversary of the Tak Bai massacre in which 85 people died.

At least 13 bombs went off in Yala, Pattani and Narathiwat, injuring 16 people, it has been reported.

In Narathiwat, 10 home-made landmines in rubber plantations exploded within a seven-hour period after being stepped on by villagers.

In one incident in Si Sakon District, four plantation workers were hit by the same explosion. The blast blew a 53-year-old man's leg off. Three others were hit in the face and body by shrapnel.

Around the same time, bombs went off in rubber plantations in Yala and Pattani. A device in Yala seriously injured a 70-year-old man. Bombs in Pattani blew both legs off a 50-year-old woman and seriously hurt a man of the same age.

The attacks took place six years to the day after the Tak Bai incident in Narathiwat, which lingers as a source of resentment.

After six Muslims suspected of being insurgents were arrested by police in 2004, hundreds of people demonstrated at the Tak Bai district police station.

The protesters threw rocks and attempted to storm the building. Hundreds were arrested. The prisoners were stacked five or six deep into army trucks and driven to neighboring Pattani Province.

By the time they arrived, 78 had died. Another seven people were shot dead.

The incident caused outrage among Thai Muslims and led to an upsurge in violence in the Deep South. It is often cited as emblematic of former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra's mishandling of the southern unrest.

Mr Thaksin defended the army

## AROUND THE nation

by claiming the people who died were already weak from fasting for Ramadan.

After Mr Thaksin was ousted by a coup in 2006, new Prime Minister Surayud Chulanont traveled to Pattani and apologized for the incident. No-one has ever been prosecuted for the massacre.

The latest bombings came just days after the government extended the state of emergency in Yala, Pattani and Narathiwat for three months. The emergency decree, which bans gatherings of more than five people, has applied in the three Deep South provinces since 2005.

— *Phuket Gazette*



**TAK BAI:** Protesters were bound then stacked five or six deep in army trucks. When they arrived in Pattani, 78 were dead. Photo: The Nation

# Thai FM: refugees to go home 'only when safe'



Kasit Piromya. Photo: The Nation

THE Thai foreign minister has vowed that some 200,000 Burmese refugees living on the Thai-Burma border will not be repatriated immediately following the country's controversial elections next month.

Kasit Piromya said they would be sent home only if it was safe and the political situation was stable, according to exiled Burmese media organization *The Irrawaddy*.

Mr Kasit was speaking at Mae La refugee camp in Tak Province, which alone houses around 40,000 refugees.

The comments stand in contrast to those made in New York in September, when he said Thailand was preparing to send camp residents home.

The country would "launch a more comprehensive program for the Burmese people in the camps, the displaced, the intellectuals who run around the streets of Bangkok and Chiang Mai Province, to return to Burma after the elections," he told reporters.

The comments caused deep concern among refugees on the

Thai-Burma border, most of whom fled their homes to escape violence or political persecution.

Many observers believe the country is unlikely to stabilize following its first elections in two decades, set for November 7.

The junta is attempting to force armed rebel groups in the ethnic states on Burma's borders to join the country's army as a border guard force. Some, such as the United Wa State Army, are refusing to comply, leading to fears of renewed conflict following the elections.

This year's polls have widely been described as a sham designed to ensure continued political domination by the military, which has governed the country in some form since 1962.

The Burmese election commission has announced that foreign journalists and election observers will be barred from entering the country during the polls.

In the last election in 1990, Aung San Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy party won a landslide victory which the junta refused to accept.

Ms Suu Kyi has spent 14 of the years since then under house arrest in Rangoon, where she remains today.

[www.ordinationthai.org](http://www.ordinationthai.org)

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## Time for Phuket to get on the bus

Re: *Gazette online, Westin Siray Bay reaches agreement with Phuket taxi co-op, October 19*

I know one thing for sure about Phuket and taxis and that is: The prices per kilometer are two to three times higher than anywhere else in Thailand.

That will become a problem for Phuket in the future.

Added to that, many foreigners have lost money because of the high value of the baht.

So why hasn't Phuket got an Andaman Coast bus?

What we have now is protectionism and it can become a danger for the tourist industry.

I know because I am helping tourists from my country.

*Sivert Saeterbo*

## Hearing out the taxi drivers

I think that we should be a little more sympathetic towards these people as we have not heard their case.

The main problems I would think are the abundance of taxis and tuk-tuks and the cost of the rental on these vehicles.

There are only so many hours in a day, therefore the drivers need to firstly cover their daily overheads.

What they take home to their family is very little.

I went home to Ireland recently and the taxi home was 50 euros. From Phuket to my home here, a similar distance, is 500 baht [12 euros].

Who makes all the money? The people renting out the vehicles!

*irishkev24  
Gazette forum*

# Making sense of the numbers game

## Phuket Gazette

THE *Gazette* story "Increase in violent crime reports in Phuket" published recently online set off a multi-sided discussion in the online readers forum, with several readers pondering the relationship between police statistics and the actual situation on the ground.

Dismissing the report as irrelevant, some pointed out the low number of reported cases of prostitution: 1,692 cases in the province for all of fiscal 2010.

It goes without saying that the actual number of people providing sex services in Phuket is several orders of magnitude higher. Indeed, 1,692 acts of prostitution would probably constitute a pretty slow night on Soi Bangla alone.

The ability to misrepresent or otherwise "spin" statistical data for various purposes is well known.

It is a particularly big problem in the Thai media, not only because of its sensationalist tendencies but also because many people in the industry lack basic numerical literacy. This is a reflection of our society at large. It is even common for our leaders to make nonsensical statements like "I am 1,000% sure".

At the *Gazette* we feel it is important to report government statistics data as much as possible in the same way they are presented by the government agencies that produce them, letting readers decide for themselves what they mean, if anything.

Statistical analysis can be a very powerful tool, but only when properly applied. To be meaningful, the figures need to be taken at

face value, the context they were collected in well understood.

Some readers have been inclined to assume that a "25.2% rise in the number of prostitution cases reported" indicates a surge in popularity for mankind's oldest profession. Not necessarily; it is probably a better indicator of the number of brothels that failed to pay tea money.

It is also important to remember that government statistics in Thailand are, in large part, collected for internal purposes – not as grist for the media mill. This is why arrest rates figure so prominently in crime statistics, for example.

As for the increases in reports of violent crime, here too background factors need to be taken into account. For example, the increase in cases of premeditated murder, from 38 to 45 over the past two fiscal years, represents a percentage increase of about 18.4%. This has to be considered in light of the island's swelling population.

Finally, some readers have charged the *Gazette* as irresponsible for publishing crime statistics that could be damage the tourism industry. To this we reply that our mandate is to keep our readers informed of issues that affect them, not to join in creating false illusions for an industry that already has more than its fair share of cheerleaders.

concrete or rubber plantation. There is no balance.

*Dave Williams  
Phuket*

## Heartwarming

Re: *Phuket Gazette, Hope in his heart, October 23*

I was so happy to read last week that enough money has now been raised for little Rino Vogt to get the operation his heart needs.

It almost brought me to tears to think that his life had been saved by the generosity of human kind.

We don't hear enough of this type of news, it's all just doom and gloom when you switch on the TV in the morning, so I am uplifted by both the balanced content of the *Gazette* and my regained faith in the human race.

As well as for Rino and the future he now has to look forward to, of course.

I wish him all the best and please continue to report with "heart" *Gazette!*

*Miranda Fairchild  
Surin*

## It's a media crime

News that hotels will join police efforts in cracking down on drugs by testing hotel staff baffles me.

Surely drug use by the staff at hotels is barely worth chasing.

To me this is like one of those police press conferences where petty thieves are publicly humiliated while not a peep is mentioned about the "businessfolk" who bought the stolen goods.

Same same for those prostitution statistics reported this week: 1,692 cases of prostitution in the past year, and not a single pimp nicked. No surprises there...

*Kizma Aryas  
Chalong*

## China on the move

Re: *Gazette online, Chinese seek Bt10bn Phuket investment, October 18*

I'm all for the Chinese firm

funding a light rail service or any other improvement to the transportation problem.

We don't need more fancy resorts, golf courses or anything else to further ruin the environment.

Furthermore, to "find balance between development and conservation", they should start tearing down some of the junk that's been built here.

Most of Phuket is covered by

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## Issues & Answers...

### Can I adopt a neglected child?

Is there a way to get legal custody of a five-year-old boy (half-Thai, half-farang) who lives with his mother at bar she owns.

He is up all night and watches all that goes on in a place like this.

There are also rooms upstairs next to the boy's room where you can get massage... or something like that.

He probably is not going to school, and doesn't need to go to learn how to run a bar.

He used to live with his father in a resort.

*A Friend  
Rawai*

**Prapimdao Satake, chief of the Inter-Country Department of the Child Adoption Center at the Department of Social Development and Welfare, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security of Thailand, replies:**

If the boy and the foreigner

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)

wanting to adopt are not related at all, it is against the Hague Convention on the Protection of Children and Cooperation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption, which states: "Each State should take, as a matter of priority, appropriate measures to enable the child to remain in the care of his or her family of origin."

Subsequently, it is also against the Thai laws promulgated under the Child Adoption Act B.E. 2522 (1979) and the Child Protection Act B.E. 2546 (2003).

Hence, I don't recommend it as it is against the law and it will look like a child-trafficking case.

It is okay to adopt this boy if he is an orphan or related to the

foreigner by blood.

However, a foreigner who marries a Thai already with child can adopt that child as well as children of his spouse's relatives.

If the mother cannot look after her child, she can contact the Department of Social Development and Welfare in Phuket for help.

We can support her in taking care her child within her family.

We can also provide money to support them.

If the mother is genuinely incapable of looking after her child, we can do so for her temporarily.

Any foreigners interested in adopting orphans can contact us and discuss with us in person at the Child Adoption Center in Bangkok (Tel: 02-354 7509, 02-354 7515; W: [www.adoption.dsdw.go.th](http://www.adoption.dsdw.go.th)).

Those interested are also advised to read:

- the guidelines at <http://www.adoption.dsdw.go.th/adoption-03-01-e.html>, and

- the required documents at <http://www.adoption.dsdw.go.th/adoption-03-02-e.html>

# Illegal tour guides hurting Thailand

## FIRST PERSON

IN THE tourism industry today there are companies run by foreigners – especially Russians – who use Thais as their “nominee tour guides”, or what we call “sitting guides”.

These companies hire Thai guides to cover for their Russian guides who are actually giving travel information, taking tourists around and selling tour packages.

The Thai guides in these companies can't even speak Russian. All they do is sit in the office. That's why we call them “sitting guides”.

According to Thai law, foreigners cannot be tour guides in Thailand.

The occupation is restricted to Thai nationals only.

To become a guide, one must graduate from an educational institution – good or bad – and earn a tourist guide license.

The term “sitting guide” means someone who has their license but who is hired not to take tourists around, but only to legitimize tour companies because they have a tour guide license.

Basically, the sitting guides are being used by illegal tour operators as an excuse.

If this continues, the industry will be damaged.

The sitting guides themselves



**Panompol Thammachart-Niyom**, president of the Phuket Professional Guide Association, talks here about illegal tour operators and his concerns over the effect they can have on Thailand's future.

cannot improve and their talents and skills will be wasted. We feel sorry for them.

We want to plead with them to try to develop their language skills.

We want to ask them to work by themselves and not be used as a tool for foreigners.

This illegal practice started with Korean tour operators and now it seems to have been imitated – to great extent – by their Russian counterparts.

The overseas holidaymakers under the care of these illegal tour operators are taken to restaurants, spas, even hotels that are run by foreigners. The revenue is not circulated within Phuket at all.

It's like we let them take advantage of our location and natural resources for the benefit of their businesses. Finally, they will simply take the money back to their own country.

Another concern is that tourists will look at Thailand in a different way because they are taken by these companies to see illegal snake shows, taken to buy

fake snake gallbladders – sometimes even to buy illegal drugs.

What these tourists see is not how Phuket and Thailand really are.

They have few chances of meeting Thai people or feeling a “Thai atmosphere”, as they mostly do a lot of shopping within a short period of time.

I am not saying that Korean and Russian tourists are bad: The bad guys are the illegal tour operators.

My biggest worry is not that Thai guides will lose their jobs, but that the country is losing income.

The Thai government always says that there is enormous income from both countries [Korea and Russia].

However, the money actually flows out of the country.

The natural resources of Phuket are also wasted when we have to build new roads and supply more water for more people, which increases the cost of living for Phuket residents.

Only government officials can fix this issue since the power is in their hands.

# Drunk driving a Phuket norm

## Island View

By Rhoda Haynes

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

READING about the lady who managed to nose dive her Honda Jazz into a pond after a night of clubbing got me thinking, why is drunk driving so rife in Phuket? Is it the lack of legal consequences?

On numerous occasions I have noticed the car in front of me changing speed dramatically, swerving and overcompensating for maneuvers, mimicking the state of its – probably intoxicated – driver.

Less often however, do I spot a police officer administering a breathalyzer or even patrolling streets for such behavior, except on Patong Hill now and again.

On the other hand it may be a lack of public awareness of what drunk driving can result in. The Honda Jazz lady was lucky that she and her passengers escaped unharmed. More often than not, lives are lost and loved ones are left with the driver's mangled remains.

I remember an ad campaign in England entitled “Think” that featured, among other things, a man in a pub taking a sip of his second pint and the woman next to him immediately contorting, bruising and bleeding; simulating the consequences his actions could have on her life during their drive home.

Seeing that certainly helped “drive” the message home for me.

Even so, when on this island I have been known to slip my standards from time to time. I don't know if it's because of the lower chance of receiving a fine, if I have gone too long without being reminded of what can happen, or if it's a case of “holiday invincibility”.

Two years of living here should,



in theory, be enough time to get over the ridiculous belief that nothing can go awry when the sun is shining and life is more relaxed. But I know many foreigners living here who mount motorbikes in a state they would never consider acceptable in their home countries.

Convenience is not really a viable excuse here either, as motorbike taxis are available throughout the night in most popular drinking areas.

It's time for a campaign similar to the helmet wearing crackdown in Phuket Town, which includes “shock” videos of accident scenes being played to law breakers.

This has to be done before more lives are unnecessarily lost since we obviously need help remembering to save ourselves.

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

# Burning trash in Rawai

Many people in Rawai have been burning off trash recently. The other day it went on until about 5pm, and I could even see smoke from people burning off in the hills.

I went to the local municipality and reported it, but an official there just said, “It's only garbage”.

But a lot of the materials being burned off had plastic inside, such as mattresses and other items.

The air was truly unbreathable – it smelled toxic.

Choked  
Rawai



**Surachet Jitmet, Deputy Director of the Public Health and Environment Division at Rawai Municipality, replies:**

Rawai Municipality actively enforces its ban on anyone in the area burning trash, regardless whether the burn-off is on public or private land.

It may have been a simple misunderstanding when you came, or

you might have been talking with the wrong person.

Trash problems in Rawai are a top priority for Mayor Aroon Solos, so everyone is welcome to file complaints about trash here.

Anyone who sees someone burning trash is urged to report it to the Public Health and Environment Division at Rawai Municipality. We

will send our officers to investigate.

First-time offenders will be warned, but further infringements will result in a 2,000-baht fine.

You can contact Rawai Municipality at Wiset Road, Moo 6, Rawai, Muang, Phuket 83130. Tel: 076-613801. Fax: 076-289055. Email: [info@rawai.go.th](mailto:info@rawai.go.th) Website: [www.rawai.go.th](http://www.rawai.go.th)

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# Blue Ocean moves to expand

By Anand Singh

BLUE Ocean Resort in Patong has relocated to new, larger premises to reel in more tourists. The new resort is not far from its previous location on Rath-U-Thit Road.

Former premier and current chief advisor to the ruling Democrat Party Chuan Leekpai presided as guest of honor, cutting the ribbon, formally opening the new site earlier this month.

Many of Phuket's tourism industry leaders also attended the opening ceremony.

The resort's Managing Director Narin

Sethichaiyen said the "new, larger site, could handle more guests and provide better facilities".

Plans are also in motion to expand on the new 98-room site in the near future, with at least 120 rooms expected to be available for guests.

Last month, the resort's general manager and vice president of the Phuket Tourist Association Sarayuth Mallam, joined a number of tourism leaders on a road show in Australia to promote Phuket.

"We want to attract more Australian guests. Arrivals from Australia and New Zealand increase in low season, when businesses here need it most," Mr Sarayuth added.



# On the bouncing baht's trail

## Island Investor

By Bill Anderson

THE strength of the baht has not gone unnoticed among Phuket's expat population. Particularly those who derive some, if not all, of their income from overseas pensions or assets in their home currencies. But the reason behind the ever-rising value of the baht is not always clear.

Exchange rates, which have been leaning ever more in favor of the baht in recent years, have had a detrimental effect on the spending power of expats here in Phuket. Recently the baht has appreciated even quicker, causing concern

among many retirees on the island.

Before uncovering the reasons behind the baht's escalating value, we must delve back into recent history to see that this situation is not unusual.

Before the Asian Financial Crisis in 1997, which was triggered by the baht's devaluation earlier that year, the baht had traded consistently at around 40 baht to the UK pound and 25 baht to the US dollar. This had been the case for at least 15 years. It is therefore worth remembering that recent exchange rate levels are not a new phenomenon.

The Asian Crisis and the baht's devaluation suddenly made people with overseas income

extremely happy. By January 1998 the baht had fallen further, to 56 against the US dollar.

Traveling abroad with the baht was less enjoyable. I remember one somber day in Leicester Square when my poor baht was slapped with a rate of 92 to the UK pound. The tube back to my hotel was just about affordable.

Currently, with the baht appreciating back to 47 against the UK pound and below 30 against the US dollar, many Phuket expat residents with overseas income are suffering considerably.

The primary difference between now and the pre-Asian Crisis is that the cost of living in Thailand has

gone up since the mid 1990s, whilst income levels have not kept pace.

Local exporters, business leaders and trade associations are becoming concerned about the strong baht and its negative impact on their orders, revenues and bottom lines.

However, the baht's relative strength is only noticeable against major western currencies.

In comparison with most other Asian currencies, the baht has marginally appreciated but its relative strength has been modest.

This strength has mainly occurred in the past few months since the protests in Bangkok ended.

The strength of the baht against most western currencies (with the exception of the Australian dollar) is down to a number of factors. Principally, it involves the relative soundness of the Thai economy, its lack of excessive debt from a government, corporate and personal perspective and the expectations of continued strong GDP growth.

These sound fundamentals have also attracted overseas capital into Thailand, which has given an extra boost to the currency.

Thailand's stock market has been one of the best performers globally this year.

Some of this is due to foreign investors buying Thai shares that offer greater growth prospects and higher dividend payouts. Add all these factors together and the question should really be: Why isn't the baht even stronger?

A short term bounce in western currencies is certainly a possibility. However, it seems clear that over the mid to long term the strength of the baht (and other Asian currencies) is set to continue. One of the potential solutions to successfully navigate the shifting sands of the currency market is to hedge overseas investments into Asian currencies.

This is not possible with fixed pension payments but is certainly an option with overseas investments. Portfolios can be hedged into the Thai baht or Singapore dollar as well as the major western currencies.

As with most things hedging your bets is a sensible strategy to adopt, and for the time being the safest bets may well be in Asia.

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# Phuket medicos welcome new TAT web campaign

By Anand Singh

HEALTHCARE providers in Phuket have praised the Tourism Authority of Thailand's (TAT) launch of a web portal consolidating promotions and services in the Thai medical tourism market.

The web portal ([www.thailandmedtourism.com](http://www.thailandmedtourism.com)) is the first of a multi-pronged e-campaign by the TAT to boost medical tourism here.

So far, about 340 medical tourism providers from destinations including Bangkok, Phuket and Chiang Mai have been listed on the website, including hospitals, clinics, spas, and Thai traditional medicine practitioners.

Piyarat Kulvanich, head of marketing at Phuket International Hospital (PIH), welcomes the move.

"Medical tourism is an important product that hospitals in Phuket have come to rely upon," she said.

"We have world-class medical facilities that rival the best in the region, complemented by highly skilled doctors and medical personnel," she added.

TAT Governor Suraphon Svetasreni said the online campaign will help boost the number of medical tourists to the country, as well as increase the average duration of their stay.

The concept of the medical tourism model

today includes health and wellness spa treatments, served by the likes of the Six Senses Sanctuary (formerly the Six Senses Destination Spa) at Koh Naka Yai.

"When medical tourism is mentioned, people usually think of hospitals and clinics. However, health spas are fast growing in popularity with tourists who are looking for wellness retreats to boost their physical and mental health," said Ms Piyaporn Saetang of the Six Senses Sanctuary.



ONLINE: TAT is using the Internet to boost medical tourism in Thailand, much to the delight of healthcare providers.

"Most of our customers are not ill. Quite a lot of them visit the resort to rejuvenate their health, or to quit smoking or lose weight. We aim to promote a healthy lifestyle amongst our guests by offering healthy cuisines and health enhancing activities like yoga and Tai Chi throughout the duration of their stay," she added.

Ms Piyaporn said the resort has seen demand growing fastest from Australian and European tourists looking to improve their physical and mental wellbeing.

In conjunction with the website launch, the TAT has started its "Medical Tourism Blogger Contest" campaign.

The competition is for bloggers to promote medical tourism in Thailand with the best testimonials on medical visits to places including Bangkok, Hua Hin, Pattaya, Chiang Mai, Phuket, and Koh Samui.

Prizes are valued at more than US\$25,000 in cash and vouchers. Entries are to be posted at [www.Medblogcontest.com](http://www.Medblogcontest.com).

Next month, the TAT will launch its "Healthy Beauty Holiday in Thailand" sales promotion, offering exclusive rates for

dental treatments, Lasik and cosmetic surgery, holistic and anti-aging treatments, and medical checkups.

For this campaign, TAT has joined hands with partners including Royal Orchid Plus (ROP), which will offer 1,000 mileage bonus points when booking medical services under the campaign.

Well-known websites will also take part, including asiaweb direct.com, phuket.com, and bangkok.com.

From December, the "You are in Good Hands" campaign will debut to emphasize the credibility and safety of the medical services offered in Thailand.



## Real estate run-down

THE soaring baht has affected the country in many ways, but it is unlikely to hurt the country's real estate markets in the short run, according to real estate firm Jones Lang LaSalle.

A large portion of Phuket's property market relies on foreign buyers, who have been deterred as prices quoted in foreign currencies have risen significantly with the appreciated baht (see page 10).

However, Managing Director of Jones Lang LaSalle Thailand Suphin Mechuchep pointed out that even before the baht's rapid appreciation, foreign demand for real estate was declining due to political uncertainties and the economic climate in the West.

The rising baht only adds to an array of problems that have already done their part in speeding the exodus of western buyers from Phuket's property market.

Focus has now shifted towards regional buyers who may not be affected by the rising baht as much, since most regional currencies have also been appreciating.

— Anand Singh

Indulge on Sunday: Pan-fried goose liver, fresh seafood (oyster, lobster, crabs and more), BBQ grilled to your liking, sushi and sashimi, live cooking stations, imported cheeses, Swiss specialties and bakery, and more. Round off your Gourmet Sunday with Mövenpick ice cream and a Mövenpick coffee (available only here). Unmistakably Swiss.

Make it a family day. Let the kids enjoy The Play Zone with staff supervision. Together enjoy the main pool. Both free for Gourmet Sunday guests.

Every Sunday starting from 7th November 2010, 12.00 noon to 3.00 pm at Pacifica restaurant. THB 1,800 nett per person inclusive selected wines and cocktails, THB 1,500 nett per person for food only. 50% off for kids between 4 and 12 years old.

For reservations, please call or email our Food and Beverage Director, Mr. Carlos Vizán at +66 76 396 139 or [carlos.vizan@moevenpick.com](mailto:carlos.vizan@moevenpick.com)

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# Cooking for the record books



JW Marriott General Manager Robert Lohrmann with Phuket Vice Governor Nivit Aroonrat.

## On the Menu

By Bruce Stanley

OVER 3,000 Marriott resorts worldwide fired up their kitchens earlier this month for what could be the Guinness World Records largest Thai dinner ever served.

Every Marriott participating served a selection of *tom yam goong*, *laab gai*, *phad thai*, steamed fish with yellow curry, fish cakes and finished with braised banana in coconut milk syrup.

Four local Marriott managed properties joined in the celebration, including the JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa and the newly opened Renaissance at Mai Khao Beach, the Marriott at Khao Lak and the Courtyard Marriott at Surin Beach.



SIT-DOWN RECORD ATTEMPT: Guests at JW Marriott Phuket took part in the flavorsome world record attempt.



Robert Lohrmann is the general manager at the JW Marriott.

"This was a promotion initiated with Thailand to help promote tourism. The Marriott has a growing presence in the country and we want the world to know that 'business is back' and Thailand is a safe and wonderful place for a holiday. Of course Thai cuisine is well known around the world, but the country also offers a deep culture and very warm-hearted people," he said.

The celebration of Thai food was held in the JW Marriott's distinctive beachfront Ginja Taste restaurant and attended by government officials: from Phuket vice governor Nivit Aroonrat, to

president of the Provincial Administration Organization Paiboon Upatising.

It was wonderful to see such a harmonious gathering of Thai and international managers coming together over mutually appreciated Thai cuisine.

The evening was styled by Richard Taffs, the JW Marriott's director of food & beverage, an engaging Englishman who spent over 20 years as executive chef in some of the world's best hotels.

His talent with food got him noticed and promoted out of the kitchens and into the restaurants of the JW Marriott.

"The Thai dinner promotion by the 3,000 Marriott properties is part



FLAME TAMERS: JW Marriott's executive and sous chefs. Photos: Apinun Saithong

of the company's customer appreciation initiative," he said.

"The Marriott is a company committed to the spirit to serve. Each year we have promotions to recognize our staff and our loyal customers who are the basis of our business," he added.

Richard explained that all Marriott staff work from service notes which encourage higher standards.

The note for the day of the promotion was "I actively listen, identify, own and resolve problems always exceeding expectations."

Judging from what I experienced at the "world's largest Thai dinner" at the JW Marriott, I would say the company service standards are a wonderful complement to a delicious dinner.

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



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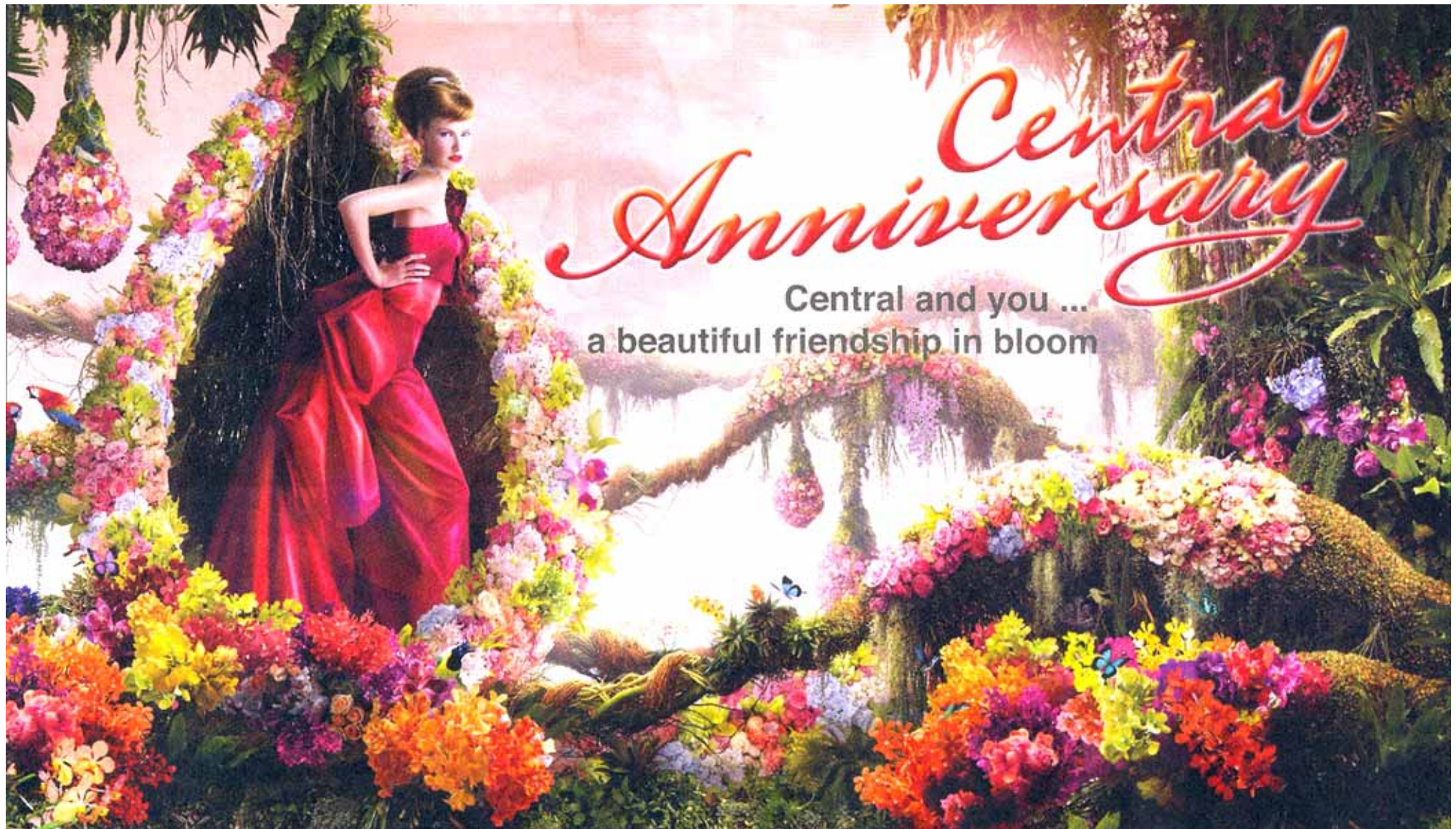
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# Facebook: the movie

It was bound to happen. A film about the rise of the youngest and 'most popular' billionaire in the world.

A MOVIE about Facebook will no doubt appeal to the same audience who obsessively "log in, like and poke" each other all day.

But *The Social Network* isn't about the end user, it's about the people who created Facebook.

The movie follows a group of bright, young students who supposedly understand their generation: an era when socializing took to the Internet, and having an online persona was a must.

*The Social Network* is perhaps one of the most poignant of commentaries to hit the big screen in years due to its reach into today's social conscious.

The hype surrounding the

**Film**  
By Scott Phillips

film's US and European premiers, credits it with accomplishing what *Rebel Without a Cause* did in the 50s, *Easy Rider* in the 60s, and *The Breakfast Club* in the 80s.

If each generation has a prevailing frame of mind, *The Social Network* labels today's youth as both the innovators and captives of the Internet's addictive social stage.

There is a brilliant scene in the movie when two Harvard students who claim Facebook was their idea manage to get a private meeting



THE BOY WHO CHANGED THE WORLD: Jesse Eisenberg plays Mark Zuckerberg, CEO of Facebook.

with the university's president.

They do a perfect job explaining what Facebook is and how it was "stolen". They clearly understand its potential and how the president holds the power to change the website's future.

The ever-arrogant president who thinks his time is the most valuable on the campus, does not listen to the students' gripe.

He objects that they used their father's status to arrange a private meeting, and lectures them about

the importance of respecting his authority.

If he only knew that within a few years, the website that the students were talking about would be worth about US\$30 billion.

The student accused of stealing the idea is Mark Zuckerberg (Jesse Eisenberg), the CEO of Facebook and once youngest billionaire in history.

As membership of the site nears the one million mark in the movie, Zuckerberg gets business cards that read, "I'm CEO, b\*\*ch!"

Zuckerberg is the kind of college student who becomes a bit of a recluse because he's almost too smart for his own good.

His social skills are short-sighted because of his sharp logic and blunt honesty that come with his intelligence.

He's so confused by emotion that he has to ask, "Is this real?" when his girlfriend dumps him in the opening scene.

As a fallout to being dumped, he does what most college students would: he gets drunk, real drunk.

Only he does it from his Harvard dorm and, with the help of his roommate, spends the night creating a website that is the prelude to Facebook. It's a hit throughout Harvard's campus. The trial run grabs the attention of other students – all of who knew a

website like Facebook was just waiting to explode on the scene – and the rest is history.

The movie is set in a deposition room where a line of Zuckerberg's former friends and classmates are suing him for screwing them over. It tells the story in flashbacks.

There's backstabbing, manipulation, sex, drugs, and everything else you would associate with a group of twenty-somethings becoming millionaires overnight.

The real-life Zuckerberg has tried to keep a low profile prior to the release of *The Social Network*.

Post-release, he no longer has that luxury. He has lashed out at the film's lack of authenticity and that his beloved Facebook was created to get back at a girl who dumped him.

The film doesn't necessarily paint him in a positive light, but consider the following: The day of the film's US premier, Zuckerberg pledged (on Oprah, of all places) a US\$100 million donation to a New Jersey school system in need of improvement.

Who could bash a guy who just donated that kind of money to a needy school system?

That sort of tactic might be why he's still the "CEO...b\*\*ch!", or why he has millions of friends – online of course.



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# John Willemse

JOHN Willemse is the Chief Production Engineer at Phuket FantaSea. He arrived in Phuket in 1996 as the owner's representative for the multimedia theater, and stayed on to become the engineer responsible for the technical aspects of the production.

"My job is to keep the show running to the highest standards. We opened in 1999 and since then many of the companies who supplied mechanical and technical support have gone out of business. I have to find important components and create systems to maintain the production."

It's not easy to maintain a state-of-the-art theater that is one of the largest of its kind in Asia. The main stage lift was manufactured in Orlando, Florida and was the heaviest lift in the world when FantaSea opened.

"The lift was designed to hoist 22 elephants up to the stage level during the show. But no one asked the elephants how they felt about that. It was only after the lift was installed that we learned they didn't wish to use it."

John has had an almost unbelievable career working with technical and mechanical systems. As a youth, he was fascinated with chemistry and created a number of large explosions in his parents' backyard in Brisbane, Australia.

## EXPAT gallery

By Bruce Stanley

At age 15, he joined the Royal Australian Navy where he worked in weapons and communications. He spent the next few years learning electronics and engineering systems. In his spare time he bought broken TV sets in Melbourne, fixed them, and sold them at "much profit" on the Gold Coast.

After his release from the Navy, he got a job with Core Laboratories as a "mud logger", identifying soil and rock samples from the company's drilling sites. He soon recognized the power supplies used in the drilling apparatus were expensive and inadequate, so he created a cheaper, more efficient alternative. He was sent to train in the US and brought back to Australia the first computer system that could identify potential oil deposits. It was put into service around the North-west Shelf off the north coast.

John then spent 10 years working as a rig electrician for Atwood Oceanics around Southeast Asia and Venezuela. In his spare time, he studied financial markets and got a broker's license in Singapore.

"I was interested in the mechanics of financial markets. I studied with a financial guru who charged 5,000 Singapore dollars an hour for a consultation. I was soon working in some very interesting markets."

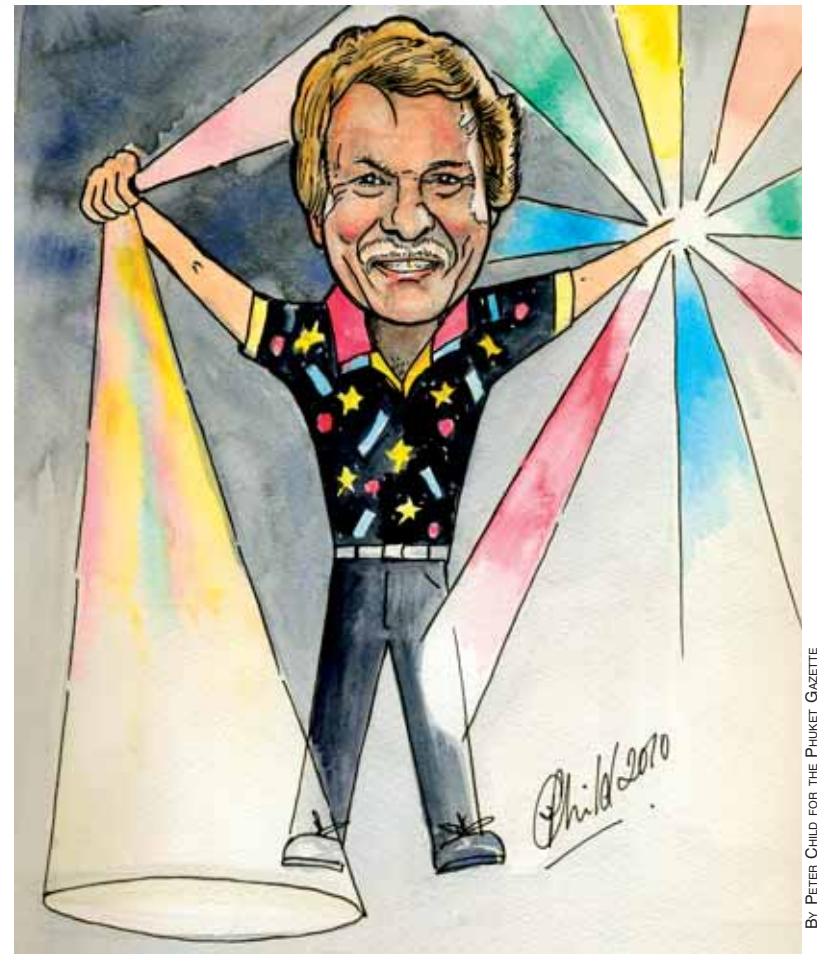
He also developed an interest in lasers and brought the technology to Singapore where he produced the island's first laser light show. He was also chosen to serve on the country's economic development board.

John moved to Thailand in 1984 and began producing laser shows for product launches. He worked with Grammy Entertainment and AV Systems designing rock concerts and night club interiors.

He was the Southeast Asia consultant for Laser Media from the US and served as technical expert for the Korea Liberation Day anniversary celebrations on the Han River and the Hong Kong Handover/Welcome China celebrations.

In 1995, John was contracted to design and put the creative technical team together for Dino Park, the multimedia theme park at Kata Beach. He has worked on Phuket ever since.

"I'm working in my spare time manufacturing LED lighting in factories in China as I'm excited about all the applications for this low power, green energy product."



BY PETER CHILD FOR THE PHUKET GAZETTE

### About Expat Gallery

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



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## WHAT'S ON in Phuket

### October 30. SALA's Chillin' & Grillin' BBQ

Join SALA Phuket for an Ocean BBQ. DJ Tom will set the mood for the afternoon, spinning groovy beach tunes with live percussion. Children can enjoy the pool and loads of garden games. Chef Jan will be serving up his usual mouthwatering BBQ fare, including Australian ribeye, slow-smoked pork ribs, grilled veggies, fresh salads and all the trimmings. SALA's Chillin' and Grillin' Ocean BBQ is held the last Saturday of every month, from 1-5pm. Price: 950 baht++ per person, includes a bottle of Peter Lehmann Shiraz or unoaked chardonnay per couple. Contact Tibor Baan on T: 076-338888, E: fbphuket@sala-phuket.com or visit W: sala-phuket.com for more information.

### October 30. An Organic Recital with Duval-Leroy at Six Senses

Drink some of the world's finest drinks this month. Six Senses Sanctuary cordially invites you to come and indulge in some of Duval-Leroy's top quality selections – one of which is exclusively distributed for Six Senses. This ensemble is complemented by a six-course wellness-inspired dinner by Executive Chef Bryan Burger. This eventful evening will be hosted by Thomas Begault of Duval-Leroy, who will unravel myths and secrets behind biodynamic wines and champagnes. Guests will enjoy succulent dishes with only the best the sea has to offer and ingredients from our own ecologically grown gardens. From 7-9pm, contact

## November 5. Pro-Am Invitational



The 2010 Phuket Property Dot Com Pro-Am Invitational will bring up to 30 professionals (European Tour and Asian Tour) to join amateurs to play a round of golf, followed by a four-course gala dinner at the Sheraton Grande Laguna Phuket in the evening. The invitational will take place over 18 holes on the Canyon Course at the Blue Canyon Country Club from 11:30am. Golfers will receive a goody bag valued at over 3,000 baht. Entry for club members is 7,000 baht and 9,000 baht for non-members. All proceeds go to the Phuket Has Been Good To Us foundation. The *Phuket Gazette* and PGTv are official media sponsors of this event.

Contact Graham Haslam on T: 087-279 1230, E: graham@phukethasbeengoodtous.org or visit W: phukethasbeengoodtous.org for more information.

biggest horse race in Australia. From 9am-2pm at IndoChine in Kalim. Contact Cristy on T: 084-0544367 or E: suaysiam@gmail.com for more information.

### November 3-30. Palazzo dinner show discount

Phuket residents go half price when the Palazzo Theater & Restaurant in Kathu opens for its first season. Palazzo invites local residents to the first European dinner show in Phuket for half price deals through November from 7-11:30pm. Price includes a four-hour spectacular show and five-course dinner for 1,600 baht only. (The usual price is 3,200 baht). This offer is limited! Tickets can be purchased at the Palazzo. The 50% discount only applies to residents of Phuket in possession of an ID card or work permit. Two tickets per person maximum. Contact Wat on T: 084-6298833 (Thai) or Alex on T: 082-8101518 (English), E: mail@phuket-palazzo.com or visit W: phuket-palazzo.com for more information.

### November 5. Carnival of Color

Cape Sienna Hotel & Villas will be hosting their Carnival of Color from 6:30pm onwards. A 2011 Charity Calendar benefiting Phuket Shelter Home for underprivileged women and children will be launched in the evening. Calendars will be sold at 299 baht each. Price per ticket is 1,500 baht which includes a scrumptious buffet by Chef Flavio, two drinks, entertainment all night with seven interactive performers, fashion show by Kittikorn & Mandaray, three international live DJs, raffles, and silent and live auctions. Contact Able Wanamakok on T: 085-8899930, E: wwpphuket@hotmail.com or visit W: wwpphuket.com for more information.

Santiago Lopez on T: 076-371400, E: fbd-naka@sixsenses.com for more information.

### October 30 - November 5. Interactive Circus Arts Now

PIA Sports & Leisure Club welcomes a brand new KidzSole for the entire family. Try the "I Can" Interactive Circus Now program, with loads of activities, fun and excitement, including trapeze, swinging, Spanish web, adagio, bike, and big trampoline fun. Don't miss "Walk on Water", from 12-1pm for all children. Program times for age groups: 10-11am, four-seven year olds (max 12 children), 11am-12pm, eight-12 year olds (max 18). The six-week course starts on Saturday, October 30. Cost is 5,400 baht per

child. Contact Martin Ware or Khun Nok on T: 076-336000 E: activities@phuketinternationalacademy.com or visit W: phuketinternationalacademy.com for more information.

### October 31. Frightfully Fabulous Halloween Party

Turn up at JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa in a bloody dead costume with a terrifying mask on halloween and join in a night of shock and horror with ghosts, ghouls and vampires. Stand a chance of winning prizes in a halloween quiz and costume competition. Dance until dawn with cool DJ music and enjoy a devil barbecue buffet to die for. Held in the Blue Drinks venue from 5pm onwards, 1,200 baht per person. Contact T: 076-338000 or 076-338000, E: jw-marriott.phuket@marriott-hotels.com or visit W: jw-marriottphuketresort.com for more information.

### October 31. Friendship Beach Halloween Party

Friendship Beach Resort in Rawai is throwing a halloween party on October 31. Children are invited to take part in activities from 1-5pm before the adult's party starts at 5pm. There will be live music with tropical rhythm and dancing. Dressing up will earn you one free beer or house wine. You'll also stand a chance of winning a best dressed

prize. The kitchen will be open and cooking from the full menu for party people who need a nibble. Contact Chef Charlie on T: 089-7285304 or E: bookings@manjai.com for more information.

### November 2. Melbourne Cup charity event at IndoChine

IndoChine is hosting a Melbourne Cup charity event with proceeds from the event going to the Soi Dog Foundation and Barnhem Muang Mai Orphanage. Entry is 1,500 baht and includes an Aussie brunch and welcome drinks. There will also be sweepstakes, raffle, live auction, DJs, prizes for best dressed, best hat and catwalk show, all hosted by our MC Bill O'Leary. Event sponsors are IndoChine, 91.5 FM, *Phuket Gazette*, PGTv, Works.com, Jagota and Chandon. Tables of 10 are available for groups to celebrate the

## Free Computer Clinics

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# YOUR Phuket

## Kee opens its doors



**MAIN MAN:** Kee Resort & Spa's Managing Director Surasak Somnam welcome guests to the new establishment in Patong.



**GUESTS ARRIVE:** From left are Winai and Wanida Wongarwatchanakarn, May Pachantabutr, Praew Aikwanich and Aeknarin Amphaiporn.

### Correction

In our October 16-22 edition of the Phuket Gazette, page 21 'Farewell party to remember', the photo marked Happy Line-Up mistakenly identified well-known performer Helene as young Jimmy Cumming. The error is regretted. Sorry Jimmy and Helene!



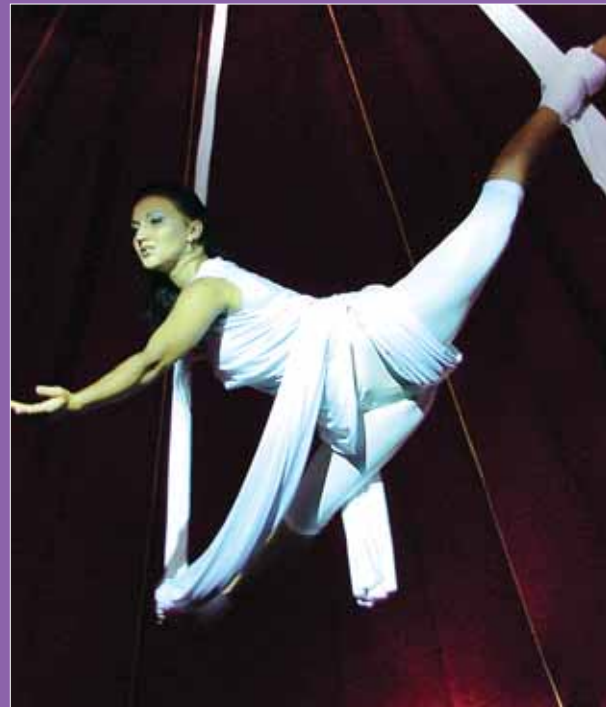
**BALANCING ACT:** Mister Bo De L'aventure is internationally recognized for his visually captivating performances.



**PALAZZO GIVES:** Palazzo Director Vladislav Bond hands a donation certificate of 50,000 baht to President of the Phuket International Women's Club Wipa Tanmanatragul.

## Acrobats come out to play

New live entertainment dinner show Palazzo Phuket opened in Kathu last week. Here's some of what went on.



**AERIAL COMPOSURE:** Performer Ann awes the crowd at the new restaurant's first-ever show last week.



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# Phuket couples share their special day



**BRIDE AND GROOM:** Kajonkietsuksa teachers Christopher Metz and Nurudee 'Piya' Choseng were married under the moonlight on the evening of October 21 at the Baan Yuree Resort & Spa, high in the Patong hills. Among those celebrating their special occasion with them was Kajonkietsuksa School Manager Permkiat Ketkul. The couple met in the school cafeteria. Photo by Danny Baci.



**MON'S BIG DAY:** PGTV's Production Manager Nattamon 'Mon' Meesin married Montree Jankaew at the Merlin Hotel in Phuket Town on Sunday October 24. They enjoyed a long, healthy courtship of five years before tying the knot. They met through a mutual friend and before their first "real life" date, they spent about four months getting to know each other on MSN dates while Montree was working in Koh Samui.

## Cape Panwa hotels give kids a great day out



**CAPE OF GOOD HOPE:** Several hotels in Cape Panwa recently organized a one-day trip for 120 children from the SOS Children's Foundation of Thailand. The youngsters were treated to a cruise aboard Cape Panwa Hotel's 'Panwa Princess' yacht and a spot of swimming off Tapao Noi Island. They also had a tour of the local aquarium.



## ANOTHER QUALITY PROJECT FROM LAND & HOUSES Land & Houses Park Phuket



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Puerk-Ampai	111	6,570,000	100,000	3,185,000	3,285,000
Ladachon	100.72	6,980,000	100,000	3,390,000	3,490,000

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

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**Location Map**

## 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: High season**

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

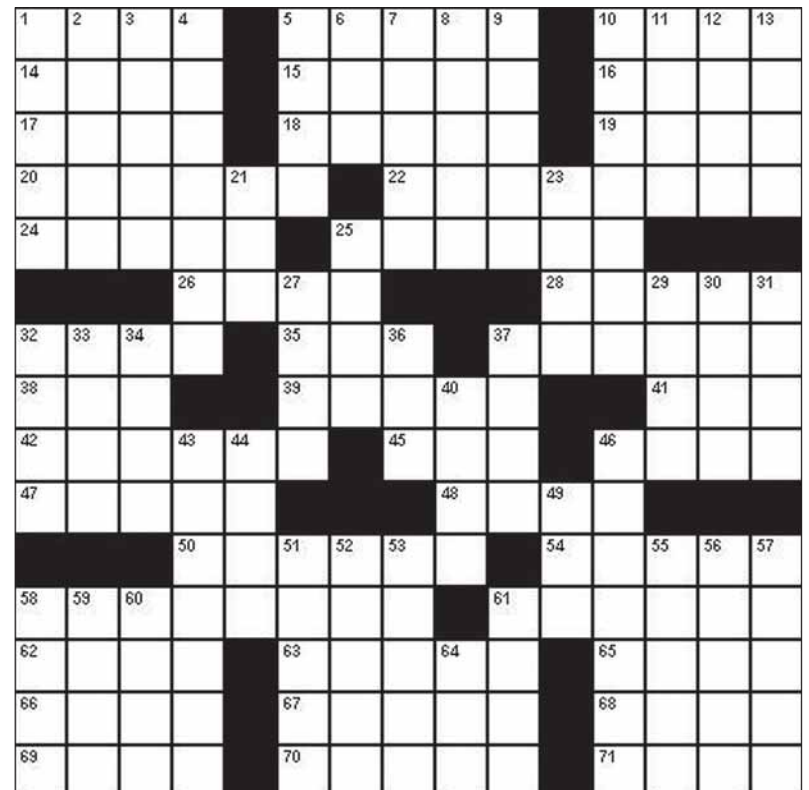
**Airport, banana boat, bar, beach, bikini, camera, cocktail, crowds, flip flops, holiday, hotel, jet-ski, motorbike, music, nightclub, parasail, party, Patong, Phi Phi, photos, Phuket Town, pirate DVDs, resort, sand, shopping, sunscreen, suntan, tour, tourists, umbrella.**

**Across**

1. Chow
5. Pay for
10. Merlin, e.g.
14. Bog
15. Eagle's nest: var
16. Horne solo
17. Actor Epps
18. Peruses
19. Metallica drummer Ulrich
20. Dutch navigator
22. Marketable
24. Group character
25. Tenfold
26. Upon us
28. Model— Campbell
32. Fishing gear
35. —de guerre
37. Shaped like the Big Top
38. Like some vbs
39. Swimming (in)
41. Family reunion attendee
42. Roman general
45. Armed conflict
46. Small and cramped
47. Borders
48. Unclothed
50. Former province in W. China
54. Gandhi's land
58. Not subject to rent
61. Go with
62. Zeno's home
63. Component of organic fertilizer
65. Borodin's prince
66. King of comedy
67. Mountaineers use this spike
68. Director Wertmuller
69. Engrossed
70. Scarlet O'Hara flower
71. Mass meet, in short

**Down**

1. Chew the scenery
2. Draw a bead on
3. Rubbish
4. Religious discourses
5. Sea swallow
6. Cereal grass
7. Clear the board
8. Actor Quinn
9. Unit of magnetic induction



10. A language of Singapore
11. Bedouin
12. Female child
13. Alleviate
21. — see it
23. Sea eagle
25. Arab sailing vessel
27. Growl
29. Other, in Oaxaca
30. Overly submissive
31. Without much effort
32. Asian staple food
33. Toward the mouth
34. Remnant
36. Mouth

37. Drive—
40. Squealed
43. Astronomical instrument
44. Yeah, right!
46. Writing implements
49. Bad-mouth
51. German maker of armaments
52. Lofty nest
53. Cool!
55. Motherless calf
56. Golf clubs
57. Gillette razors
58. Back
59. First name in scat
60. Tides that attain the least height
61. Start of a counting rhyme
64. Freight weight

Provided by BestCrosswords.com.  
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Puzzle solutions on page 29

**SCORPIO** (October 24-November 22): Success is in the pipeline for many Scorpios. The stars predict that November will be a rewarding month, particularly if you have been waiting patiently for the right moment to take action. Cupid is on your side where a potential romance with an air sign is concerned. An affair with another water sign does not look promising. Those with a birthday in the week ahead can enjoy more financial security in the coming year.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 23-December 21): A fly in the ointment causes some Sagittarians frustration in business this week. There are indications that an earth sign's casual attitude could be the cause of this problem. If you can't get through to this person, it would be more sensible to focus on working with more reliable colleagues. As November commences, there are changes highlighted in your romantic situation. This weekend you hear of an earth sign's interest.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22-January 20): The first half of November is not quite as well starred as the second for Capricorns. Mistakes could be made this week due to bad timing, so be sure the moment

is right before making important moves. However, some luck is on your side; make a wish upon the first star you see in the sky this Sunday and a dream could come true. The best days for romance are Wednesday and Thursday.

**AQUARIUS** (January 21-February 19): What you believed would be a long and winding road now looks much more straightforward. During November, Aquarians are forecast to uncover simpler approaches to both business and their personal lives. The stars suggest that a complicated romantic relationship will benefit from calmer astral conditions. However, there is one burning issue that needs more input before it can be resolved. The number eight can bring some good fortune this weekend.

**PISCES** (February 20-March 20): Your energy is stronger as November begins. Most of those born under the sign of Pisces will surprise themselves by how much can be achieved. This is an auspicious time to work towards promotion or a complete change of employment. Romance falls under less benevolent astral conditions – your tendency to see the negative side could compromise a relationship. Lucky days for finances are



Monday and Tuesday. The number six can be lucky this weekend.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 20): Natural leadership qualities set Arians apart this week. As November progresses, there will be opportunities to expand interests and put your skills to more profitable use. A water sign you have yet to meet is indicated to share your vision and collaboration is highlighted. Those yet to bounce back after a financial problem earlier this year should see improvement soon. Hot days for romance are Sunday and Monday.

**TAURUS** (April 21-May 21): Your imagination knows no bounds this week, but Taureans should not give in to too much fantasizing. At least one far-fetched idea concerning relocation could set off unnecessary stress. The stars advise that remaining where you are for the time being is the best course of action. You will know when the time is right to move. November is forecast to

bring some much needed romantic excitement for those who are single.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21): The arrival of overdue communication should speed up your efforts to solve a financial problem. Geminis are predicted to enjoy better luck with money towards the middle of November and this trend should continue until the end of the year. The stars advise to choose your business colleagues carefully. Sagittarius can put fresh spin on a stale situation, but Aries is full of hot air. The number four is lucky this weekend.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 23): Those born under the sign of Cancer who have been considering a long trip at the end of the year are inspired to start planning seriously. The stars suggest that an earth sign friend has the right experience to give good tips. Romance with another water sign flows smoothly, but an affair with a fire sign is negatively affected by their mood swings.

**LEO** (July 24-August 22): Leos who have been living life on a shoestring will find their financial situation easing as November commences. The stars predict that improvement in your working life is just around

the corner – expect an air sign to act on your behalf this week. Romance is subject to ups and downs this weekend; letting the sun set on a disagreement is not recommended. The number seven is lucky on Monday.

**VIRGO** (August 23-September 23): Your well-meaning support for a friend could open the floodgates. Virgoans are advised to take some steps back from someone with ongoing problems. As November progresses, there will be some personal challenges that demand your time and energy. One family-related issue becomes apparent this weekend – be honest about where you stand to avoid being taken for granted. A romantic relationship that you were feeling insecure about starts to feel more comfortable.

**LIBRA** (September 24-October 23): A bracing week lies ahead for Librans. The stars indicate that you could have to put in overtime due to a colleague's sudden absence from work. However, financial compensation is also highlighted during the first two weeks of November. In romance, a water sign is forecast to catch your eye. Those already committed to a relationship may not be pleased when their partner takes a trip with friends.

# PROPERTY Gazette

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

## Airpark: Home is where you park your plane

By Nicky Vermeulen

WORK on Phuket Airpark's environmentally conscious residential duplex development, Baan Rim Naam, has begun.

Earthmoving machinery doing the initial heavy lifting on the 100 rai property is underway. Plans for the island's only private airstrip include a series of hangar houses that will run alongside the runway allowing pilots to taxi straight into their homes.

The property, in Pa Khlok, has been divided into 43 lots where buyers can purchase more than one lot and build across them.

Lot sizes range from 60 wah to two rai being sold at 12 million baht per rai.

Owners can opt for either the Airpark's housing specifications or design their own home, as long as they adhere to the only two building regulations: The 12 meter height restriction and structures must have a Thai "hat" roof.

Overdevelopment on Phuket has inspired Airpark

CEO and pilot Robert "Suchard" Raksangob to keep his project as natural as possible with grass plains and water canals.

"It's aimed at people from around the world who have aviation at heart. In America you have your plane in your barn or yard like a car," said Mr Suchard.

Adding to Phuket Airpark's allure for buyers, are the well-known beaches nearby and the natural beauty of the northeastern part of the island – gaining popularity amongst tourists.

Other facilities that form part of the lifestyle development are horse stables along with a riding school as well as an archery club.

Future expansion will include a second and third project with condominiums and canal houses.

The Phuket Airpark has a pre-launch sale of 20% off property prices.

Contact Phuket Airpark at T: 076-529561, E: info@phuketairparkresidence.com or visit W: phuketairparkresidence.com for more information.



**AEROFLAT:** An artist's conception (top) of one of the hangar-house designs which will soon be rising on the Phuket Airpark Residence property. A view of the Airpark (above). Photo: Nicky Vermeulen.

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FOR seven years in the 1990s the once-prolific rock star Prince underwent a well-publicized identity crisis. He changed his name to a symbol. That never quite caught on, leaving people to just call him "The artist formerly known as Prince". Very soon after he was simply called "Tafnap".

Recently undergoing an identity metamorphosis of its own is the Six Senses Destination Spa on nearby Naka Yai island. However, they have done a much better job of it than ol' Tafnap.

The vast majority of global hotel chains suffer from a corporate culture obsessive-compulsive disorder. Each property they manage must fit into a box. For them, the property must be either economy, midscale, upscale, luxury, resort, hotel, retreat and/or boutique. That's their "box".

If they come across one that doesn't fit into their box – square peg, round hole comes to mind – well, it's nothing that a hammer can't make short work of, fitting it into a pigeonhole where it was not intended to be in the first place.

Likewise, hoteliers are often staid and more often than not find it difficult to leave the warmth and comfort of "life in the box".

Every now and then they take a few cautious steps outside their comfort zone, but that usually ends up in them stampeding – not tiptoeing – back their safe little world.

But a brave few don't turn back. These trail blazers head into the unknown. Enter the Six Senses team.

For those not in the know, the Six Senses is one of Phuket's most



**INTO THE HORIZON:** Resorts tend to follow trends when reinventing their image, but Six Senses takes its own route. Photo: Six Senses Sanctuary

innovative, creative and inspirational properties to come along in years.

What remains a mystery is why it's rarely mentioned, or has the same buzz as many of the well-heeled, well-known resorts on the west coast have.

Is it the east coast inferiority complex coming to the fore? Or more likely both customers and travelers not knowing what a "destination spa" is all about.

Things are changing, though, with General Manager Lionel Valla at the helm and a name change to

Six Senses Sanctuary Phuket.

The reinvention combines a wellness retreat, spa treatments, fitness programs in lush natural surroundings.

Organic gardens are grown to feed menus developed by world-class chefs specializing in raw food, fisharian dishes (no meat and no eggs) and some meat dishes.

This may sound a bit niche and perhaps a little touchy feely, but frankly speaking the property taps into a market that is becoming increasingly more health conscious.

And yes, there are still those wonderful private pool villas, massages and the accouterments of what Thailand does best – barefoot luxury.

As part of the new name game, the resort is offering Thai resident rates until December 26. So for an overnight stay, a weekend getaway or some private time, Naka Island is closer than you think.

Steven Roberto of Ambrose Wines just returned from a stay and



**HAVING A MOMENT:** The unique Sensory Garden at the Six Senses.

my ear is ringing with all the praises for what he considered to be one of his top hotel experiences ever.

Word is that a series of special wine dinners will be on offer in the coming months as well.

For me, I've always considered the resort to be one of the best in the region and hopefully with its

new identity, more visitors will take a bold leap forward into the unknown instead of a vanilla holiday with four walls, wash basin and a bed.

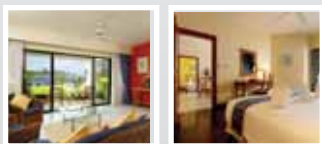
Bill Barnett is Managing Director of C9 Hotelworks and can be contacted through [www.c9hotelworks.com](http://www.c9hotelworks.com).

## LAGUNA

PROPERTY RESALE

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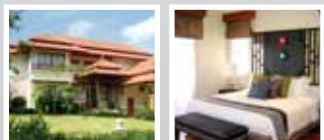
- 2 beds 2 baths Villa
- fully furnished • freehold
- pool & garden view

### 3 Laguna Townhomes THB 26 M



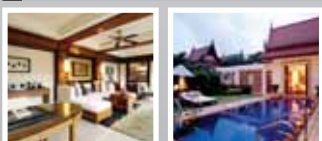
- 5 beds 4 baths Townhome
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- lagoon view • private pool

### 4 Laguna Village Residence I THB 28.5 M



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- lagoon view • private pool

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# Baan Sukhothai falls for night entertainment

By Pimwara Choksakulpan

AFTER 27 years in Patong, the Baan Sukhothai Resort & Spa on Soi Bangla has been leveled to make way for a new night entertainment plaza.

Resident Manager Sornattha "Song" Padungpant told the *Gazette* that the resort fell victim to a lethal combination of the global economic crisis and Patong's oversupply of holiday accommodation.

"The management made the decision to close Baan Sukhothai because they had suffered losses for many years. Less customers, more hotel rooms in Patong, more competition – those factors beat them into giving up," said Ms Sornattha.

"Repeat guests only were not enough for Baan Sukhothai to survive," she added.

The resort closed on August 16. The location is now no different to any other construction site in the resort town as workers continue clearing away the historical debris.

The night entertainment complex will be run by the same owner as the resort: Phuket's Aikwanich family – a dynasty that



**NEW ON BANGLA:** The new entertainment complex site on Soi Bangla.

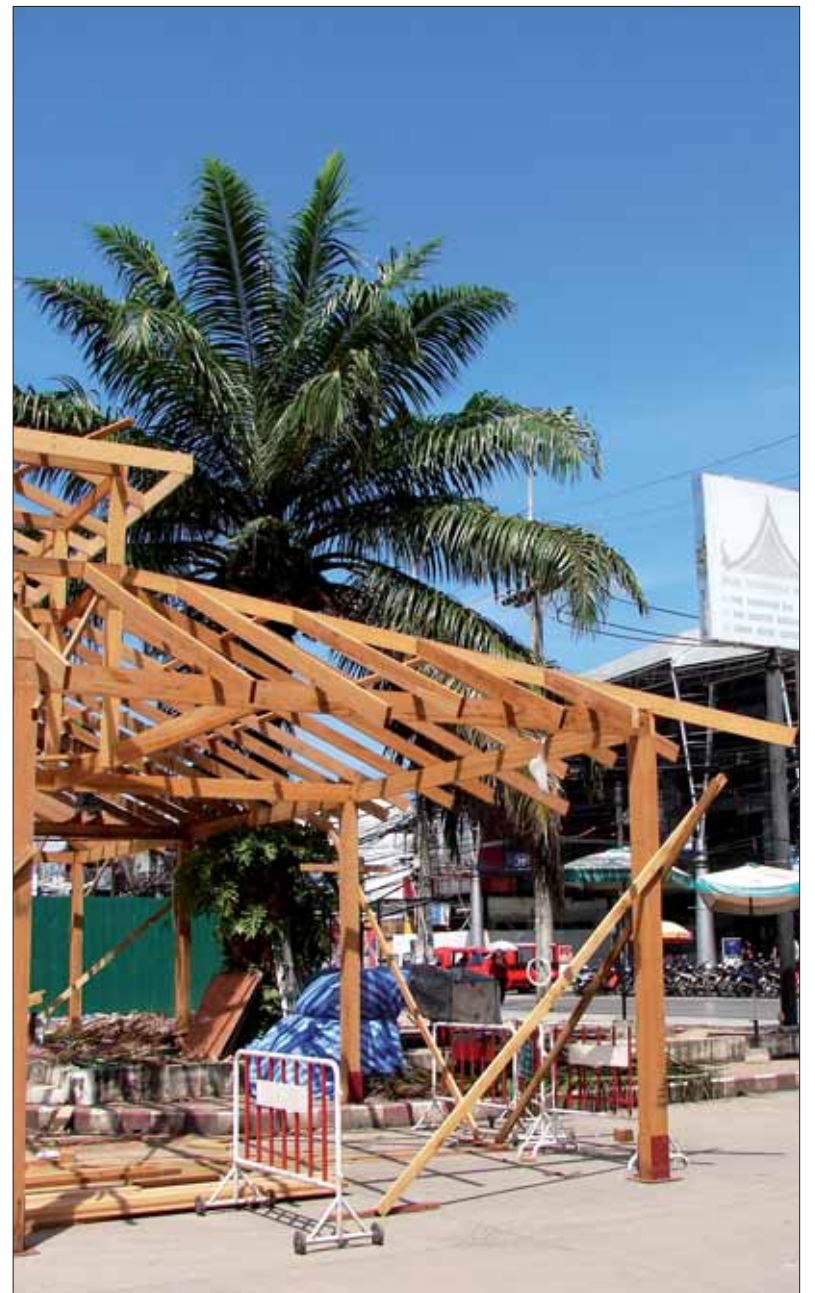
runs many tourism businesses on Phuket, including the Diamond Cliff Resort & Spa in Patong.

Ms Sornattha said that although the new entertainment complex is expected to open in November next year, the final construction plans had yet to be decided.

Ms Sornattha said the management did not want to leave the staff feeling discarded and has

avoided a mass layoff.

"Those who still want to work in the hospitality industry have been transferred to Diamond Cliff or other subsidiary companies, but those who wanted to leave were well-compensated – some received enough to start their own small businesses. I am sure everyone is happy," she said.



The new structure is being built in place of the Baan Sukhothai resort.



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# Trumpeting bright yellow bells

## Gardening

By Green Sleeves

NEXT up in our Top 20 Phuket plants is one of the first shrubs you're sure to encounter in tropical Asia: "yellow bells" or *tecaoma stans*.

Known in Thailand as *thong urai*, the yellow trumpet tree is popular with Thais as a front yard specimen, where, given plenty of sun and well-drained soil, it will bloom almost all year.

It has the ability to set your garden ablaze with masses of golden trumpets.

Another member of the *bignonia* (not to be confused with Begonia) family a pinkish-purple variety, also grows well in sunny climates. So well in fact, that it has been known to become so massive that it takes down structures.

This form is readily available in Phuket garden centers. While it can flower freely, it is less spectacular than the yellow version.

More of a climber, it also requires full sun and well-drained soil. Put it in a shady spot and it will sulk.

Yet another member of the genus is the orange trumpet or flame vine. In the right conditions, this shrub will produce masses and masses of orange tubular flowers.



**CLUSTERS OF SUNSHINE:** The *tecaoma stans*, or 'yellow bells' flower as it is more commonly known, can be seen all over Phuket. Photo: Mauro Guanandi

Somewhat reminiscent of the *hamelia* or firebush, it is a much more prolific bloomer.

*Pyrostegia venusta*, to give it its tongue-twisting, botanical name, is a genuine vine – that is to say it has tendrils which attach themselves to supports, and help the plant climb.

But it is relatively uncommon in southern Thailand and prefers the cooler climate and higher altitudes in the north.

It would be interesting to hear from readers who have successfully cultivated it here.

So let's get back to the yellow trumpet vine – the real standout in the *bignonia* family and a Top 20 choice. Part of its charm lies in its ease of cultivation, since it will tolerate dry conditions and relatively poor soil. It is also lime tolerant, not an unimportant consideration in most new plots.

Propagation is straightforward: it can be struck from semi-hard cuttings and even grown from the plentiful seeds.

A rapid grower, *tecaoma stans* will reach a height of three meters in a couple of years.

If you have a small garden and do not want it dwarfing other shrubs, you can prune the top to restrict its height.

But it will not overwhelm its neighbors, since it has a very open structure. Clipping its wings may

well thicken the foliage.

That it is cultivated widely as an ornamental pays tribute to its spectacular, trumpet shaped blooms which cluster at branch ends and forks.

They may be several centimeters across, and can appear so prolifically that the slender branches will arch under their weight. Look closely and you will find that the interior of each golden flower is scored with fine red lines.

After blooming, the shrub produces clusters of runner bean-like pods which turn from green to dark brown as they ripen.

The foliage is not typical of most tropical plants, for the sharp-toothed, lance-shaped leaves are not shiny or leathery, but delicate in texture and a pleasant shade of light green.

One of the shrub's many other names is yellow elder, in recognition of the fact that the leaves bear some resemblance to the elderberry of temperate climates.

Since yellow elder is deciduous, it is best planted among other shrubs and ornamental trees, where its periods of relative leaflessness will go unremarked.

Nowadays, and as a tribute to its wide appeal, cultivars are appearing on the market, some of which flower early.

Gold star esperanza is one such

hybrid and as is chrysanthemum, with even larger flower clusters.

The verdict on yellow bells is good, but there is some stiff competition from other tall yellow-flowering shrubs such as *cassia surattensis* or *cassia alata*.

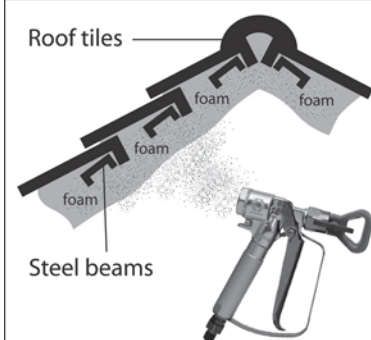
But *tecaoma stans* scores even higher than its rivals for visual appeal, for ease of cultivation and freedom from disease.

It has the additional merit of not being poisonous. The sole reservation is that it can sprawl, will sometimes lose some of its leaves, and will need clipping from time to time.

A small price to pay for such a gloriously floriferous plant.

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

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## Tip of the week

### Choosing trees

YOU can use trees and shrubs in the garden in a number of ways.

One way is to plant ornamental specimens within the lawn area, where they can develop fully, and display their good looks.

In this case, you will want to select trees based on their attractiveness.

The pleasing form of most palms, or the pyramidal shape of conifers such as the Norfolk island pine decorate the garden quite nicely.

The varied foliage of the coral tree or *erythrina variegata* and the floral displays of the

flame tree, *delonix regia*, or the *jacaranda* are reason alone for them to feature in your garden.

In the monsoon season, yellow and orange *caesalpinias* can be seen blooming everywhere.

If you only have a small area of grass, select compact ornamentals.

Ideally go for shrubs with more than one season of interest, like a period of blossom, followed by changing leaf color, or attractive berries.

Suitable candidates for this include the Chinese rice flower *aglaia odorata*, magnolia coco, or a specimen of the *solanum* genus.



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700sqm of land at a great location in Nai Harn. Includes Chanote title. Located near 7-Eleven, restaurants and bars. A few minutes drive to the beach. Net price: 2.8 million baht. More info Tel: 086-478 0201.

### 2 RAI SEAVIEW NEAR CENTRAL

Chanote, 180 degree view of Chalong Bay, 5 km to Central. Price: 27 million baht. Must see. Tel: 087-472 7870 (English & Thai). Email: [sudaves2002@yahoo.com](mailto:sudaves2002@yahoo.com)

### LUXURY BANGTAO VILLA

Superb 3 b/r villa, infinity pool, private gym and billiards room. Short walk to Bangtao Beach. Full access to exclusive Maan Tawan development. 17.5 million baht. Tel: +44-7976-481040 (English & Thai). Email: [napaul@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:napaul@tiscali.co.uk) Full details [www.watersidevillaphuket.com](http://www.watersidevillaphuket.com)

### SEAVIEW POOL VILLA 19.5MB OFF PLAN



Or **LAND ONLY 5.95 million baht** (ready to be built on at any time). Near **SURIN & BANGTAO** beaches with fantastic views. **EXCLUSIVE NEW DEVELOPMENT** with several exquisite homes already built. All utilities available. House area is 350sqm, land area 540sqm. Comes with Chanote title. Leasehold or Freehold. Tel: 084-744 2240. Email: [ross@funboatcruises.com](mailto:ross@funboatcruises.com)

### THAI-STYLE 5-BED POOLVILLA

Laguna area, 5-bedroom ensuite with jacuzzi. Original Thai-style temple roof, 12m x 6m swimming pool. 33 million baht. Tel: 087-893 4636. Email: [annericphuket@hotmail.com](mailto:annericphuket@hotmail.com)

### 3 BEDROOMS HOUSE

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

### 30 RAI IN TOWN

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

### MODERN HOUSE + SWIMMING POOL



Very nice new house in a private area. 2 bedrooms with pool view, 3 bathrooms, parking. 3.5 x 7.5m swimming pool. Price: 3.65 million baht. Welcome to look. Tel: 081-541 2025. Email: [pummy\\_zaa@hotmail.com](mailto:pummy_zaa@hotmail.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](mailto:costello@hotmail.net.au)

### BEACHFRONT LAND

Bang Sak Beach, Khao Lak. Full infrastructure. 21m x 70m Chanote. 9.5 million baht. Tel: 087-003 6078 (English & Thai). Email: [pong\\_ja19\\_9@yahoo.com](mailto:pong_ja19_9@yahoo.com)

### PATONG SEAVIEW

Land for sale 1:2:72 rai. Nor Sor 3 Gor. Hasip Pee Road. Price: 16 million baht. Tel: 084-406 9803, 085-040 7423.

### STUNNING SEAVIEW

Overlooking Patong bay. A townhouse with 3 bedrooms and 4 bathrooms. Includes a lockup garage. Asking price: 12 million baht. Tel: 076-341618, 086-691 9657.

### 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](mailto:prayoon_jp@hotmail.com)

### CONDO FOR SALE

36 sqm studio condo with built-in furniture at the Green Place. Sea and mountain views. Near shopping area. Price: 1.66 million baht. Tel: 076-360833, 081-893 5564 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-360840. Email: [khemchartc@royalphuketmarina.com](mailto:khemchartc@royalphuketmarina.com)

### LAND AT PAKHLOK

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

### BEAUTIFUL NAI YANG LAND



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

### URGENT SALE



New detached house in Phanason 3, Thalang. 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](mailto:sweetpinkylive.co.uk)

### 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](mailto:honda.1437@yahoo.co.th)

### HOUSE & FURNITURE

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

### BAAN BAI MAI



For sale in Samkong near Bangkok Hospital. 2 stories, 2 bed, 2 bath, 1 car parking space. Email: [info@allaboutwebanddesign.com](mailto:info@allaboutwebanddesign.com)

### 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.

### 3-BEDROOM HOUSE

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

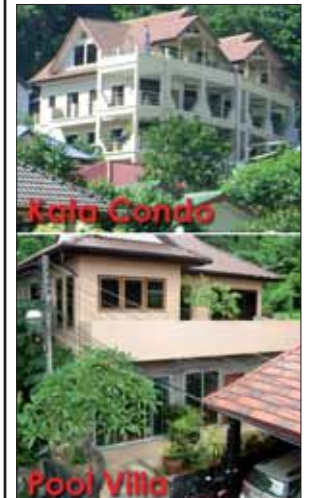
### BRAND-NEW CONDO

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

### 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](mailto:drbearnshaw@gmail.com)

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

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**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.

**PRIVATE SALE OF  
HALF 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.

**1,100 SQM LAND PLOTS**

Very nice land plots on a secure development estate, 500m from a golf course. For sale only. Price: 1.89 million baht. Tel: 081-343 0777. Email: montha\_phuket@yahoo.com

**TWO 1/2 RAI PLOTS**

Located in Soi Pasak 8. Chanote. 5 mins from Laguna Phuket. Email: jgkg24@hotmail.com

**SUPER DEAL,  
KATA BEACH**

Beverly Hills Villa. Big pool-garden, 3 bedrooms. From 19 million baht; now selling for **16 million baht!** Free furnishing. Free transfer fee. Chanote title, one year free finance. Tel: 081-788 8280. Email: maurice.phuket@gmail.com

**VERY SPACIOUS  
EUROPEAN**

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

**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

**URGENT DEPARTURE  
SALE**

Sale by owner of plots with Chanote titles: 424sqm for 1.961 million baht. 440sqm for 2.035 million baht. 363sqm for 1.678 million baht. Also for sale are 2 rai plot divided in two 400sqm segments for 1.85 million baht each or 800sqm for 3.1 million baht. Electricity and access road. No agents please. Tel: 087-269 2133. Email: hilmart@hotmail.fr

**MODERN POOL VILLA**

Furnished 3 + 1 bedroom, all w/ ensuite on 900 sqm plot. Bright, alarm system, autogate, etc. Layan Beach 3.4 km. Prefer long-term tenant. Tel: 087-386 3388 (English & Thai). Email: shanya.arman@gmail.com

**SEAVIEW LAND  
IN AO POR**

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

**ATTENTION: VULTURES**

I have a brand new luxury 2-floor, 3-bdm, 2.5-bath Penthouse with private pool, sea and mountain views. Only 300m from the beach. Need to sell NOW! If you can't make money off this property, then you should go back to bed. Contact me now! Email: stephancookca@yahoo.ca

**SEAVIEW LAND PLOTS  
PHUKET**

Only 2 plots available. Beautiful view; private, upscale development. Build yourself or with our expertise. Starting at 4.8 million baht. Tel: 086-267 0157, 086-267 0157 (English), 089-590 3665 (Thai). Fax: 076-325294. Email: bannuaton@yahoo.com

**OCEANFRONT  
PLOTS FOR SALE**

12 oceanfront plots with 15 meter water frontage. Each 600sqm and ready to build. They're in a peaceful, natural area opposite Yacht Haven Marina. Direct sale from owner. 3.9 million baht per plot. Tel: 081-343 0777. Email: montha\_phuket@yahoo.com

**3-BEDROOM  
HOUSE**

(53sq.wah) near the Two Heroines Monument with 2 bathrooms, 3 aircons, curtains and kitchen in nice landscape. Price: 2.7 million baht. Tel: 080-520 2989.

**FULL FURNISHED  
HOUSE SALE**

Jao-Fah Garden Home 3 in Koh-Kaew near BIS, 10 min to Lotus. 2 beds, 2 baths, 2 aircons. Nice living & kitchen room, car park, fully furnished. Ready to move in. 2.85 million baht near Boat Lagoon. Tel: 081-541 2025. Email: c.junlarat@gmail.com

**LAND, AO NANG KLONG**

Nice land in Ao Nang, Krabi with a mountain and sea view. Very good investment. On the same beach as the Sheraton hotel. Price: 3.5 million baht per rai. Chanote title. Land area: 22 rai. Tel: 087-949 3664 (English & Thai). Email: sajatong@hotmail.com

**KATA RESIDENCE  
FROM 2.9 MTB**

Luxury apartments, 60sqm, from **2.9 million baht**. Free furnishing. Free transfer fee. Tel: 081-788 8280. Email: maurice.phuket@gmail.com

**CHARMING  
HOME & POOL**

Exclusive hillside. Big pool and shady garden. 3 bed, 4 bath. Office. Very nice. Freehold. Secure. Tel: 076-388236, 089-727 5407 (English). Email: cosmocampbell@yahoo.com For further details, please see our website at www.villa-sale-phuket.com

**SEAVIEW LAND  
FOR SALE**

Near Supalai Resort on the east coast of Phuket slope. A 3-rai plot with road and electricity access. Price: 3.15 million baht per rai. No agents please. Tel: 080-520 5989. Email: pakaporns@yahoo.com

**NICE PLOT**

For sale. Near Layan Hill Estate (Manik-Bangjo area). Size: 1,364sqm. Price: 7.2 million baht. Tel: 080-520 2989.

**STUNNING SEAVIEW**

Overlooking Patong bay. A townhouse with 3 bedrooms and 4 bathrooms. Includes a lockup garage. Asking price: 12 million baht. Tel: 076-341618, 086-691 9657.

**4-BED  
CONTEMPORARY VILLA**

Contemporary Villa for sale. 1.5 storeys, 4 en-suite bedrooms, pool w/ Jacuzzi, western kitchen, sala and built-in BBQ. Electric gate, security system, car park for 3 cars, and nice tropical garden on one rai (1,606 sqm) of land. Good price. I also have 4 rai of land, 2 km from Natai Beach. 6 million baht. Email: nisaya@hotmail.com

**2 BED PENTHOUSE  
APARTMENT**

183 sq metres of luxury. 2 pools, security, next to beach. 16.9 million baht. Tel: 080-146 2536 (English). Email: admin@thaisunshine developments.com For further details, please see our website at www.thaisunshinedevelopments.com/for\_sale\_detail.php?id=189

**HOUSE FOR SALE**

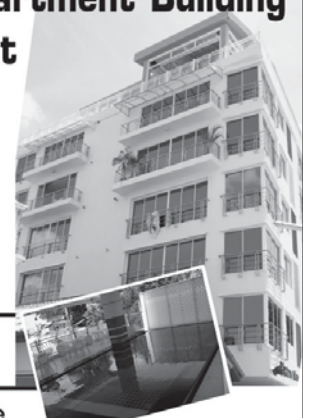
400sqm property in a quiet and panoramic location at Baan Saiyuan. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, living room, large covered terrace, and parking, plus storage. Includes Chanote title, company owned. Price: 4.5 million baht. Contact: JasminConsulting@gmx.net

**2-STORY HOUSE  
IN PATONG**

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

**URGENT SALE****Whole 7-Storey Apartment Building  
Kata Beach, Phuket**

17 apartments  
Restaurant bar  
Professional equipment  
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300 sqm roof for:  
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- Penthouse

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Email: maurice.phuket@gmail.com

**PARICHART  
VILLAGE, CHALONG**

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

**CONDO FOR SALE**

36 sqm studio condo with built-in furniture at the Green Place. Sea and mountain views. Near shopping area. Price: 1.66 million baht. Tel: 076-360833, 081-893 5564 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-360840. Email: khemchartc@royalphuketmarina.com

**1-RAI PLOT  
IN CHALONG**

For sale. Chanote title included. Photos available. 300m off main road. Price: 7 million baht. Tel: 089-651 3479.

**TROPICAL VILLA  
FOR SALE**

Lovely villa with a guest house, pool and shop for sale in Rawai. Price: 14.5 million baht. Visit: bigjuce.com

**POOL VILLAS FOR SALE**

Fully furnished 2-bedroom villas at Bangtao Beach with a nice pool. Price: 3 million baht. Tel: 084-851 6121.

**NOW 2 MTB, CHALONG  
/ PHUKET TOWN**

Newly renovated one-storey house. 2/3 bedrooms + studio, 90sqm. Total special price: **2 million baht**. Free transfer fee. Chanote title. Tel: 081-788 8280. Email: maurice.phuket@gmail.com

**BEACHFRONT  
LAND AT MAI KAO**

A 7.5 rai plot with 168 meters of ocean frontage. Nor Sor 3 Gor, ready to build. Surrounded by a peaceful and natural environment, it's an ideal place for a secure investment. Price: 15 million baht per rai. For more info, please call 081-970 9196. Email: helena.klaic@pick-place.si Website: www.maikao.info

**STUDIO APARTMENT  
FOR SALE**

In Patong. A furnished 46sqm unit with a pool and security. Price: 2.8 million baht. Freehold. Tel: 089-728 4005. Email: thamad17@yahoo.com

**3-BR HOUSE  
NEAR LOTUS**

2-storey, 150sqm house. 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, fully furnished, expensive teak furniture, all like new. 4.3 million baht. Tel: 087-047 1390. Email: japec@loxinfo.co.th

**HOUSE FOR SALE**

Private pool villa in Patong. Price: 8.5 million baht. All inclusive! For further details, please see our website at www.sandybeach.asia

**VILLA FOR SALE**

Bangtao, 2-4 bedrooms, big pool, fully furnished. Includes auto gate, Sat TV. From 3.2 million baht to 11 million baht. Tel: 084-851 6121.

**SEAVIEW LAND FOR SALE**

3.5 rai plot in Chalong with Chanote title. Price: 35 million baht. Tel: 084-759 9700. Email: phuket@mail2world.com

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- Raymarine E120 chartplotter with auto pilot
- Victron battery charger
- 3.1M dingy with new suzuki 4 stroke outboard

9,200,000 THB

► **Stevens 47 (1982)**

\$139,000 USD

► **Fountaine Pajot 56 cat (1996)**

\$625,000 AUD

► **Princess 65 (2004)**

\$1,300,000 USD

► **Riviera M360 (2007)**

6,950,000 THB

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

### 55 FOOT CRUISING CATAMARAN

6 double cabins, 105sqm sails. 2009 in composite, no engine. Price: 1.5 million baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 087-461 8089.

### MONTEREY 298SS (2006)

Twin 320 Hp Volvo engine. 50 KTS airberth is available. Price: US\$99,950. Visit our website: www.boatshedphuket.com

### MOTORSAILER 33'

Neptunian 33. Single-handed, blue water cruising yacht. VHF, radar, autohelm, GPS, depth. Completely refurbished. 2 cabins. Hot water. Please contact for more info. Tel: 081-968 1437 (English). Email: bobedward1@hotmail.com

### WHARRAM TIKI 26' (2010)

As good as new with a 6Hp 4-stroke O/B, dinghy & outboard engine and mooring. Only 1.3 million baht! o.n.o. See our website: www.boatshedphuket.com

### FAST TOUR/ FISHING BOAT

One owner, wonderful, fast tour boat, RIB rigid foam, 150Hp engine with Yamaha 5Hp for security. Full electronics, toilet, large sun cover. Up to 8 people, cruising at 25/30 knots in comfort. Priced to sell! Below US\$35,000. Hurry, best offer accepted. Tel: 076-270703, 087-2654268. Email: henkt@hku.hk

### POWER CATAMARAN

For sale. New 35 foot, fiberglass with fly bridge. Perfect for scuba diving, hotel transfers. Email: jkg24@hotmail.com

### GRP RUNABOUT 4.5M

30Hp Yamaha 2008. Only 30 hours of use. Price only 175,000 baht! For further details, visit our website: www.boatshedphuket.com

### RIVIERA 44' FLYBRIDGE (1984)

Twin 350Hp Cummins diesel engine. Thai commercial Ref. 15+3. Price: US\$ 179,950. For more info, see our website: www.boatshedphuket.com

### RIVIERA M430 (2005)

In excellent condition. Twin 425Hp Merco engine. Price: US\$249,000. For more details, please see our website: www.boatshedphuket.com

### SIMPSON 12M CATAMARAN

Built to a high standard in UK (1993). Price: US\$169,500. For more details, please see our website: www.boatshedphuket.com

### SWISS CAT 20 FT

Made of fiber glass. Comes with a Tohatsu 50Hp trailer with full equipment. Registration: 300,000 baht. Please call for more info. Tel: 089-471 1805.

### JEANNEAU SUN ODYSSEY 35'

2003, great pocket cruising yacht. Price: US\$79,950. For further information, visit our website: www.boatshedphuket.com

### SELLING YOUR BOAT?

We need new listings. See: www.boatshedphuket.com We're "no sale no fee" brokers. Call Alan. Tel: 084-842 6146.

### FOUNTAIN PAJOT 44 (2006)

Professionally maintained in excellent condition. Price: EUR 429,950. See our website: www.boatshedphuket.com

### WAKE/SKI BOAT FOR SALE



2-year-old, 4.2 meters long Cholmark boat with a 60Hp Yamaha Enduro engine. Includes trailer, GPS sonar, Waketower and more. Price: 475,000 baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 086-949 1913. Email: juraj\_t@yahoo.com

### 55 FT CRUISING CATAMARAN

6 double cabins, 105sqm sails. 2009 in composite, no engine. Price: 1.5 million baht. Tel: 087-461 8089.

### 43 FT ROBERTS CRUISING YACHT

Fiberglass boat with equipment warranty. It is undergoing major refitting. Price: US\$43,500. Contact for more info. Tel: 081-866 8716. Email: stormbay2@yahoo.com.sg

### GAME FISHING/ DIVE BOAT

20m long, built 2007. One of the nicest we've seen. Price: 5 million baht. Includes mooring. More details, visit our website: www.boatshedphuket.com

### AZIMUT 46 (2001)

For sale. New listing. Very good condition, mail for brochure. Please call for more details. Tel: 086-690 0444 (English), 085-887 7414 (Thai). Email: rico@yachtcharter-asia.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@sunnava.com or visit: www.sunnava.com

### 40 FT CRUISING YACHT

Fast fiberglass boat well equipped for cruising. It's been used for circumnavigation. Sale price: US\$85,000. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-866 8716. Email: stormbay2@yahoo.com.sg

### 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

### 12M MOTOR YACHT (1992)

G.R.P. Cummings Diesel 300Hp engine. Just rebuilt. Price: 2.5 million baht. More further information, please visit our website: www.boatshedphuket.com

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To ensure clarity, please airmail. Do not Fax!

### SOLUTIONS TO THIS WEEK'S PUZZLES

Crossword puzzle:

1	E	A	T	S	5	T	R	E	A	T	9	M	A	G	E
14	M	I	R	E	15	E	Y	R	I	E	16	A	R	I	A
17	O	M	A	R	18	R	E	A	D	S	19	L	A	R	S
20	T	A	S	M	21	A	N	22	S	A	L	E	A	B	L
24	E	T	H	O	S	25	D	E	N	A	R	Y			
26	N	I	G	H	27										
32	R	O	D	S	33	N	O	M	34	T	E	N	T	E	D
38	I	R	R		39	A	W	A	S	H	40	R	E	L	
42	C	A	E	S	43	A	R	44	W	A	R	45	P	O	K
47	E	D	G	E	S	48	N	U	D	E	49				
50	X	I	K	A	N	G	51	I	N	D	I	A			
58	R	E	N	T	F	R	E	E	59	E	S	C	O	R	T
62	E	L	E	A	63	U	R	A	T	E	64	I	G	O	R
66	A	L	A	N	67	P	I	T	O	N	68	L	I	N	A
69	R	A	P	T	70	P	E	O	N	Y	71	S	E	S	S

**Career Opportunity**

VS Asia Co., Ltd. was established in Phuket, and has over 35 years experience as professional in printing & information technology and post-production for clients in Europe, Asia and worldwide, who co-operate with our business partnership company a headquartered in Europe.

**Text & Content Editor****Job Description:**

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

**Qualifications:**

- Male/Female, Thai Nationality
- Fluent German Language in reading + writing
- Any Vocational, Diploma or higher education in related field of study
- Good knowledge of Computer (Windows or Macintosh) and Internet
- Highly responsible and punctual
- Able to work shifts with team or independently

**Salary & Welfare:**

- Salary, Social Security Insurance, tax, food, etc.
- Incentive bonus: depends on quality, skills and experience.

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



AGENCY+

**Building Manager / Village Manager (Phuket)**

**Responsibility:** Manage and take care of the project in an efficient manner.

**Required Qualifications:**

- At least 3-4 years experience in Property Management.
- Knowledgeable in Property Management work.
- Talented in management with strong leadership skill.
- Good command in English and Computer literacy.

**Property Consultant (Phuket)**

**Responsibility:** Responsible for property resale and leasing and other work assigned from the supervisor.

**Required Qualifications:**

- At least 1-3 years experience in property resale or leasing.
- Fluent in English and able to operate computer.
- Owning a car and driving proficiency will be an advantage.
- Able to work 6 days a week.

**Plus Property Company Limited**

Please send resume to [recruit@sansiri.com](mailto:recruit@sansiri.com)

For more information please contact 02-201 3173, 02-201 3163

[www.sansiri.com](http://www.sansiri.com)
[www.sansiri.com/th/career](http://www.sansiri.com/th/career)
**RECEPTIONIST**

Cleaner, security wanted. For guesthouse in Patong. Please contact more information. Tel: 082-598 1386.

**LIVE-IN NANNY / MAID WANTED**

Experienced live-in nanny to help with 3 children, aged 5, 6 and 7, at the Boat Lagoon. All children at school from 8am to 4pm. Cooking and English speaking skills would be a plus, as would a sense of humour. Please contact for more further details. Tel: 081-893 7027. Email: potter.ian@gmail.com

**TEACHERS WANTED IN PHUKET**

Satree Phuket School is seeking 1 full time, native English speaking mathematics teacher for 11 – 18 year-old students. Salary with B.A. degree in English, drama or science begins at 35,000 and M.A. degree in English, drama or science begins at 40,000 baht. Both include 4 weeks paid holiday, a government health plan and 3,000 baht housing allowance. Minimum requirements: Bachelor's degree or above, plus TEFL or CELTA certificate or equivalent. We can only reply to applicants who meet the minimum requirements. Please email your CV with covering letter to: joeynho@gmail.com; toptip4736@yahoo.com. Or call Tel: 084-666 3557. Be prepared to present all original certificates at interview and do teaching demonstration.

**STAFF WANTED**

European-managed restaurant and hotel requires an experienced seafood chef, the salary depends on level of experience. Good opportunity. Other positions; English speaking bartenders, waitresses, waiters and kitchen helpers. English speaking hotel receptionists and driver. Guaranteed all season jobs. Hotel located at Ao Nang Beach, Krabi. Tel: 075-637767, 083-640 8003, 085-150 4840 (English & Thai). Fax: 075-637812. Email: aningrestaurant@hotmail.com

**BLISS LOUNGE**

We are looking for staff.  
Bliss Lounge Patong:  
- Bartender (Thai national)  
Good fixed salary, tips and bonuses  
Bliss Lounge Kata Beach:  
- Bartender/Cashier (Thai national)  
- Hostess (Thai national)  
- Waitress (Thai national)  
- Office assistants (Thai national)  
Good fixed salary, tips and bonuses  
Positions available now!  
Interested? Visit us at Patong or give us a call!

**Tel: 085-619 4963 (Thai/English).**

**Please send your CV to email:**

**info@blissphuket.com**

**Address: 58/6 Bangla Rd. Soi Patong Resort-Patong Beach**

**SALES EXECUTIVE**

Seeking sales person to visit hotels, massage centers, spas, wellness stores and more. Must speak Thai and English. Compensation: base salary + commissions on sales. Tel: 087-466 8640. Send CV or resume to xalan71@hotmail.com

**HOUSEKEEPER NEEDED**

Full time housekeeper wanted. Should speak English and must like dogs. Cooking Thai and farang food, cleaning house and office in Cherngtalay area. Call K. Sudarat: 081-978 2725. Fax: 076-326144. Email: dae@techworx-projects.com

**WEB DESIGN JOBS**

Seeking Dutch-speaking customer care reps, web and print designers, Photoshop illustrator. Tel: 084-628 2629. Please send CV to gianni@ictned.eu

**URGENTLY NEEDED**

Seeking personnel for following positions:

- Receptionist
- Night receptionist
- Sous chef
- Waiter
- Waitress
- Assistant general manager
- Housekeeping
- Engineer
- Cook

**Club Bamboo Boutique Resort & Spa**

247/1-8, Nanai Road, Patong, Kathu, Phuket 83150 Tel: 076-345345-7. Fax: 076-345099.

Mobile: 081-893 0135. Email: [accounting@clubbamboo.com](mailto:accounting@clubbamboo.com)

**Assistant Required For Real Estate Agent****Koh Samui**

Salary 15-20,000 THB

Thai national with good English, both written and spoken. Must be computer literate and have a minimum of 1 year experience in a real estate company.

In the first instance, please submit your CV with covering letter to [emma@palmgroupasia.com](mailto:emma@palmgroupasia.com)

**Yes****WE'D LOVE TO MEET YOU.****What are you waiting for?**

Be your best and join us at  
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We are opening soon and looking for  
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Contact us via phone 076-393-550-1 or email your resume to [HR.Panwa@Fourpoints.com](mailto:HR.Panwa@Fourpoints.com) or walk-in to our pre-opening office.

Check us out at [www.fourpoints.com/phuket](http://www.fourpoints.com/phuket)

**YOU'RE GONNA LOVE US!**

**FOUR POINTS BY SHERATON PHUKET, PANWA**  
32/11 Moo 7, Tombol Vichit Muang Phuket  
Tel : 076-393550-1 Fax: 076-393-552

**FOUR POINTS**  
BY SHERATON

**Four Points by Sheraton Phuket, Panwa**

**Open Position Listing :**

- Executive Assistant Manager
- Chief Accountant
- Assistant Executive Housekeeper
- Purchasing Manager
- Assistant Chief Engineer
- Security Manager
- Laundry Manager
- Concierge
- Recreation Manager
- Spa Manager
- Executive Sous Chef
- Restaurant Manager

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### Client Service Manager

Sai Taan are one of Phuket's most successful property developers. We are looking for an administration manager to join us, focused on providing support to our sales team.

#### Key Responsibilities:

- Office management, running sales office
- Coordination between clients, agents, lawyers & Sai Taan management
- Maintaining up to date records of client & agent contacts
- Ensuring marketing material is up to date
- Coordinate with local government authorities

#### Key Qualifications:

- Excellent Thai & English language skills written & spoken
- Experience with Microsoft Office
- Ability to work as part of a team
- Hardworking & willing to learn.

We are looking for someone capable & ambitious to join our team. This is an excellent opportunity to join a professionally run, successful & growing company in one of Phuket's key industries. Competitive salary for the right candidate

Please email to [info@sai-taan-phuket.com](mailto:info@sai-taan-phuket.com) enclosing resume, recent photo & details of your current salary.

**Sai Taan Villas Co., Ltd.**

3/14, Moo 5, T. Cherrngtalay, A. Thalang, Phuket 83110

Tel: 076-271257-8, Fax: 076-271256

[www.sai-taan-phuket.com](http://www.sai-taan-phuket.com)

### HOTEL OFFICE MANAGER NEEDED

Good English skills and ability to communicate. Must be organized and have bookkeeping and hotel knowledge. Starting salary: 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 080-052 8082 (English). Email: solitude001@aol.com

### TEACHING AT PSU IN HAAD YAI

Prince of Songkla University, International College Haad Yai campus, is looking to fill 3 lecturer positions: English, Science and Social Science. Please send cover letter and resume. Email: mark.v@psu.ac.th

### EXPAT PLUMBERS WANTED

Expat plumbers and electricians. Must have own company setup with work permits. Please email: [admin@rjmthailand.com](mailto:admin@rjmthailand.com)

### WEBMASTER POSITION

We require an experienced English-speaking Webmaster. Second language a plus. Send CV with photo. Tel: 081-892 7847. Email: [patrick@oceanic-global.com](mailto:patrick@oceanic-global.com) For further details, please see our website at [www.oceanic-global.com](http://www.oceanic-global.com)

### PREMIER HOLIDAY CLUB PHUKET

Seeking admin assistant (2 positions), receptionist (2 positions), HR assistant (2 positions). Tel: 076-326292. Should submit a resume with a recent photograph to email: [admin@premierpropertyleisure.com](mailto:admin@premierpropertyleisure.com) or fax: 076-326293. For further details, please see our website at [www.premierpropertyleisure.com](http://www.premierpropertyleisure.com)

### TELESALES

Seeking self-motivated native English speakers with excellent communication skills for a telemarketing position. Must be comfortable and confident on the phone. Experience in the service industry or telesales would be an advantage. Salary: basic, plus commission. Email: [careers@pp-intl.com](mailto:careers@pp-intl.com)

### SALE REPS WANTED

Progressive real estate agency needs further sales reps. All experienced reps are welcome. We need Russian, German, and French speakers. We guarantee the highest commission on Phuket island. Please call Thomas for an interview. Tel: 080-521 0757.

### OFFICE SECRETARY

Real estate firm requires office secretary aged 30-35. Good written and spoken English language, computer skills. Salary: 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-898 8647. Email: [admin@villasuksan.com](mailto:admin@villasuksan.com)

### VILLA MANAGER REQUIRED

Must have excellent spoken and written English skills. Experience in property or hotel and people management essential. Must be a good communicator, structured and system oriented. Thai national required. Send CV and salary requirement to email: [info@villachangrajang.com](mailto:info@villachangrajang.com)

### MUSICIANS WANTED

Looking for musicians who play western style music such as rock, funk, disco and soul. We offer you 6 times a week playing and a monthly salary. English skills a must. Contact: Roger. Location: Khao Lak. Tel: 089-909 0385 (English & Thai). Email: [divepig@yahoo.de](mailto:divepig@yahoo.de)



Anantara Vacation Club is a new and exciting multi-destination Shared Ownership Club about to be launched initially in Thailand and then throughout the Asia Pacific region. It is being developed by Minor International PCL, one of the largest hospitality and leisure companies in the region with over 1,100 restaurants, 293 retail outlets and 27 hotels and resorts under the Anantara, Four Seasons.

We are now seeking to fill key positions within the sales and marketing divisions of the Club. All the following positions will be based in Thailand and anticipated commencement dates are November/December 2010.

Previous proven successful experience in the Shared Ownership (timeshare) industry is highly desirable.

The required positions are:

#### Onsite Sales Department Positions:

- Onsite Sales Manager (Samui)
- Onsite Sales Executives (Samui and Phuket) – multi-lingual staff highly desirable
- Sales Administration Managers (Samui and Phuket)
- Contract Processors/data entry (Samui and Phuket)
- Receptionists (Samui and Phuket)
- Guest Hostess (Samui and Phuket)
- Kids Club Attendant (Samui and Phuket)

#### Onsite Marketing Department Positions:

- Marketing Manager (Samui and Phuket)
- Marketing Supervisors (Samui and Phuket)
- Guest Service Representative Team Leaders (Samui and Phuket)
- Guest Service Representatives (Samui and Phuket)

Excellent remuneration and benefit packages are available for the right people, along with career development and advancement.

Please email your covering letter and resume (with reference contacts) please indicate in bold at the top of your application the position(s) you wish to apply for and reply no later than November 30th, 2010, to

Email: [recruit\\_phuket@anantara.com](mailto:recruit_phuket@anantara.com) or Fax: + 66 (0) 76336166

For more information please visit [www.minorinternational.com](http://www.minorinternational.com)

### THEATER & 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 Or email: [info@phuket-palazzo.com](mailto:info@phuket-palazzo.com)

### ACCOUNTS ASST

1 position. Knowledge of basic accounting and English required. Tel: 084-849 7212. Email your resume to: [zeycoth@gmail.com](mailto:zeycoth@gmail.com)

### FREELANCER NEEDED

To translate Thai to German or English to German with the ability to comment on translated texts for two German newspapers. Tel: 085-578 1001.

### TRAINER, PHUKET OFFICE

Right To Play seeks Thai with experience in Adult Education and Workshop Facilitation. Should be fluent English and computer literate. Please contact Khun Alisa. Tel: 02-652 9274, 089-776 6835, 081-122 4803. Fax: 076-321435. Or send your curriculum vitae to email: [info.righttoplayasia@gmail.com](mailto:info.righttoplayasia@gmail.com) Please see our website: [www.righttoplay.com](http://www.righttoplay.com)

### PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR

Right To Play seeks Thai with fluent English, computer literacy, training and experience to work on education program. Please contact Khun Alisa. Tel: 02-652 9274, 076-321435, 081-122 4803. Fax: 076-321435. Email: [info.righttoplayasia@gmail.com](mailto:info.righttoplayasia@gmail.com)

### STAFF WANTED - ALL POSITIONS

Thurmann Group is rapidly expanding and seeking qualified full- and part-time staff in various positions for its companies with different levels of experience and skills.

We are currently looking for:

- Waiter/Waitress
- Restaurant Manager (Thai)
- Club Manager
- Sales & Marketing Manager
- Purchase Manager
- Personal Assistant
- Bartender
- Cashier
- Safety Instructor for trampolines
- Marketing & Sales Executive
- Cleaner

Location: Patong. Tel: 076-341613, 087-418 1365. Interested candidates, please email your curriculum vitae: [schmidt.timo@gmail.com](mailto:schmidt.timo@gmail.com)



### KOELBL & LEHMANN CO.,LTD.

3.5 Soi 3, Bangkok Rd., Muang, Phuket

We are manufacturers of high quality Bavarian and German sausages in Phuket town since 2009. We are looking for motivated candidates to work with us.

#### 1. Key Account Assistant (1 position)

#### 2. Administrative Officer (1 position)

#### 3. Purchasing (1 position)

- Female, aged 25-30 years
- Good command of English or German at a conversational level and willing to learn new things
- Computer literacy (MS Word, Excel, etc.)

#### 4. Marketing (Part-time) (1 position)

- Good command of English or German
- Possessing a valid car driving license would be an advantage

#### 5. Driver (1 position)

#### 6. Driver's Assistant (1 position)

#### 7. Housekeeper (1 position)

- Male, aged 25-35 years
- Possessing a valid car driving license would be an advantage

#### 8. Packing Staff (2 positions)

- Female, aged 25-35 years

#### 9. Production Staff (2 positions)

- Male or Female, aged 25-35 years

Please contact us: 076-246621, 081-580 6101

Fax: 076-246622

Email to: [info@kandl.asia](mailto:info@kandl.asia) or [jane@kandl.asia](mailto:jane@kandl.asia)

For more information about us, please visit our website at [www.kandl.asia](http://www.kandl.asia)

### British International School, Phuket

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

#### • Housekeeping

#### • Building Maintenance

#### • System Maintenance

#### • PE Assistant

##### Qualifications

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

#### • IT Technician

##### Qualifications

- Male or Female / Thai national
- Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science or related fields
- Excellent knowledge of Computer hardware and software
- Ability to communicate in English
- Able to work in team and independently
- Hard working and team work attitudes
- Excellent communication and coordination skills

Benefits: uniform, group insurance, provident fund and etc.



59 Moo 2, Thepkasattri Road, Koh Kaew, Muang, Phuket 83200

Tel: 076 238711-20 # 2103, 2206, 1111

Fax: 076 238711-20 # 1130

E-mail: [patcharakorn@bisphuket.ac.th](mailto:patcharakorn@bisphuket.ac.th) or [sirirats@bisphuket.ac.th](mailto:sirirats@bisphuket.ac.th)

## Articles For Sale

### TABLE AND CHAIRS

A very unique and trendy bamboo table and 4 chairs in good condition. Paid 30,000 baht selling for 10,000 baht. Tel: 089-150 2909 (English). Email: artchampagne@hotmail.com

### HOOHAHS AVAILABLE FOR BAR

New hookahs in stock to add to bar or restaurant. Email for catalog. Tel: 080-052 8082 (English). Email: thailand.shisha@gmail.com

### WHEY PROTEIN FROM USA

Optimum Nutrition, Dymatize, Gaspari, MuscleTech, BSN Supplements available now. Free shipping anywhere in Thailand. Vitamins, Protein, BCAAs and other supplements. Shop online now. Paypal accepted. Tel: 082-415 9925. Email: bill@naiharmgym.com For further details, please see our website at: www.naiharmgym.com/store/

### KITCHEN EQUIPMENT

Kebab machine, freezer. Stove, deep fryers and more. In good condition. Tel: 076-366226.

### DOG CARRIER

'Pet Cargo' airline approved carrier for large dog. Used once. 76cm high x 94cm long x 74cm wide. Originally 11,000 baht. Will sell for 5,500 baht. Tel: 081-845 1492 (English). Email: curtlorina@gmail.com

### SONY PS3 & ACCESSORIES

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

### POND BIO FILTER FOR SALE

Pond Bio Filter Model CBF-1100 1.0 Hp. with UV Light. Included submersible Pump Arwan model:KSV-151. New release price: 30,000 baht. Second hand price: 12,500 baht. Tel: 076-273087, 081-978 5901 (English), 081-956 3775 (Thai). Fax: 076-273 087. Email: moose@waterworkwarehouse.net

### Bar & Restaurant Equipment

### PIZZA OVEN, MIXER, SS SINK

2-door refrigerator, freezer, stainless steel cook top, gas tank for sale. Tel: 086-276 7608.

### COFFEE MACHINE ELECTROLUX

1 year old. New price: 7,900 baht. Will sell for 4,500. This is the best for cappuccino and espresso. Tel: 081-271 8923 (English & Thai). Email: garfield\_catfarm@yahoo.it

## Bulletins

### ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

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

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

Bangkok Hospital - Phuket City  
Fri 7 PM

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

Green Man Restaurant - Chalong  
Tue 1 PM

Scandinavian Speaking Meetings-Karon  
Tue and Sat 7 PM (Nov-April only)  
Tel: 086-9440450 Sive, 082-2765998 Nor

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

### SPONSOR

a needy child. The Phuket International Women's Club is a volunteer organization raising funds for educational scholarships. We rely on the goodwill of donors and sponsors - small and large. If you would like to put something back into the community in which you live, contact us to find out more about giving a prize or being a sponsor.

Please call K. Carol (Tel: 087-417 8860) or K. Sue (Tel: 087-277 6948).

Or email: info@phuketiwclub.com

## Business Opportunities

### THAI DINER

At a prime location in Chalong with a nice layout and an outside patio. Solid customer base. Price: 380,000 baht. Must see. Tel: 087-852 2057.

### BAR FOR SALE

With accommodation on Bangla Rd in Patong. Ask for more details. Email: migs2008@live.ie

### BAR BANGLA ROAD

- 60 chairs.  
- Front of Bangla Road.  
- Located on the corner of Soi Eric.  
- 3 Years contract.  
- Start from 1st July, 2010.  
Contact Tat. Tel: 081-537 3799.  
Email: lele@bluebarpatong.com Website: www.bluebarpatong.com

### R.O.I. 47%

Only one investment villa (of 6) left in upscale beachfront project. Guaranteed buy-back of villa after 20 months. Owner is Phuket's oldest architect company. Tel: 081-844 7408 (English and Swedish), 087-472 7870 (English & Thai). Email: info@nchantra-property.com

### GUESTHOUSE 400,000 BAHT

It has 6 rooms, 3 with aircon and fan, 3 with only fan. Ground-floor for reception or a bar/restaurant. Separate entrance to rooms. Shower and hot water in all rooms. Located at Banzan Road on the corner of Nanai Road. Next to 7-Eleven. 23 months left on the contract. Rent: 35,000 baht per month. Call Matt. Tel: 081-787 2573, 085-795 2101.

### GUESTHOUSE, KARON BEACH

Renting lease for sale. Up and running for 10 years. Many bookings. Mail for details. Email: lghphuket@hotmail.com

### BARS FOR SALE IN PATONG

Two bars in Bangla Road for sale. 4 years lease, 4 million baht each. Tel: 080-699 3158 (English). Email: sturedj@gmail.com

### BAR & MASSAGE AND APARTMENT

12,000 baht per month in rent, includes a very nice apartment with balcony. Price: 390,000 baht. Tel: 083-394 3301 (English), 087-888 2261 (Thai). Email: gustrading@hotmail.com

### BAR COFFEE SHOP

For sale: 800,000 baht. Includes ice cream, a bar and restaurant and furnishings. In Karon opposite Moevenpick. Email: pb@gelato.it

### PATONG BEACH FRONT HOTEL

For sale. 38 rooms, 50 metres from Bangla Road. Price: 5 million baht, or near offer. No key money. Please call for more info. Tel: 086-015 7740 (English), 084-844 7693 (Thai).

### ROOFTOP RESTAURANT FOR RENT

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

### SURIN BEACH - SHOP FOR RENT

Superb location adjacent to hotels. 100 sq metres. Fully fitted, including aircons and Cool Room. 50,000 baht per month. Contact Dan at Prodecon Co., Ltd. 080-146 3466. Tel: 076-326454. Fax: 076-326454. Email: danmoglia@prodecon.co.th

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### BARS IN PATONG FOR SALE

In Soi Thai Boxing. Stadium Bar: 1.4 million baht. Kangoro Bar: 900,000 baht. Boom Boom Bar: 1.3 million baht. Call for more info. Tel: 080-055 1006.

### GUESTHOUSE FOR LEASE

In Kata with 7 rooms, a restaurant, a fully equipped kitchen, a bar. It has been in business for 5 years. Key money 2.5 million baht. Rent: 55,000 baht per month. No agents please. Tel: 081-956 1077.

### 15 YEAR OLD RESORT BUSINESS

Includes bungalows, restaurants, cafe/bar and owner's residence. 3 sublease-contracts also included. 3 years return on investment. Prime location in Kata. 8 years left on the lease, in 2.5 rai of land, 100m to beach. Price: 15 million baht. Please contact via email: terapi@post.tele.dk

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Email: iaa@intllicense.com  
www.intllicense.com

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SERVING GREAT TENNIS: Helen De Cesare, 15, is training intensively in her bid to win a grand slam.

By James Goyder

PHUKET tennis player Helen De Cesare looks set for stardom after winning a place on the Women's Tennis Association (WTA) tour – and she is only 15 years old.

De Cesare is confident she can advance to the highest echelons of the sport and has her sights set on breaking into the world's top 10.

"One day, I want to win all the grand slam tournaments," she said.

Despite losing her professional debut to German world number 53, Julia Schruoff, in Foggia, Italy earlier this year, she is determined to bounce back.

The experienced 28-year-old Schruoff took a convincing 6-0, 6-2 win against the youngster, but De Cesare believes she is a better player as a result.

"I'm getting closer and closer to my dreams every day. Maybe I will never reach them, but I won't stop working towards them," she said.

Phuket-born De Cesare left Thailand aged 12 bound for the US where she trained before spells in France and Spain.

Currently based in her father's native Italy, De Cesare has a

rigorous training regime each day.

Last year, the talented youngster was coached by the former ATP player and Davis Cup champion Mose Navarra. Now she is under the guidance of the national coach of Federation of Italian Tennis, Luigi Fiordelisi. She is also followed by a pro team of physiotherapists, sport biomechanics and a dedicated fitness coaches.

Before embarking on her travels, the young De Cesare attended Kajonkietsuksa and the British International School Phuket.

Today, she studies through a US-based school's online program, where she is enrolled in grade 11.

Although De Cesare has to balance her education around her training schedule, her travels have allowed her to become fluent in four languages: English, Thai, Italian and Spanish.

De Cesare is confident she will return to Phuket soon.

"Next year I will be in Thailand to visit my family between tournaments in Asia and perhaps I will play when I'm there," she said.

There will be regular updates on De Cesare's progress in upcoming issues of the *Gazette*.

## Hotels and schools up for Swatch

LOCAL school and hotel volleyball teams will be taking center court in tournaments hosted alongside the upcoming Phuket Thailand Open, which has attracted some of the world's best female volleyball talent.

The Federbrau Inter-Hotel Tournament will see four-person mixed teams battle it out for 30,000 baht prize money. Kata Group, Hilton, Movenpick, Le Meridien, JW Marriott, Amanpuri, Anantara, Evason and Laguna Resort have all signed on for the competition.

The matches will be held at Karon Beach on November 5 from 2pm until dark, with semi-finals on November 6 at 5pm and finals in the early afternoon on November 7.

The PTT Inter-school Cup will feature six-person teams made up of girls from local schools. Competing in the tournament are Phuket



QSI volleyball action Photo: Bob Selznick

International Academy, British International School Phuket, Quality Schools International, Headstart, the SOS Children's Village and Samkong School.

The Inter-school Cup will be played at Karon Beach from 9am on November 7, with trophies and gift sets provided by PTT.

The Phuket Thailand Open will be taking place on the same court. The tournament will be the final stop on the 2010 Swatch FIVB Beach Volley World Tour. The professional competition, which will include some of the world's top ranked female volleyball teams, will be played 9am daily from November 3 to 6. There is free admission for all matches.

– Nicholas Altstadt

## FC Phuket's promotion dream alive

FC PHUKET will look to capitalize on two away draws going into tonight's crunch home match in the league playoffs, and their bid for promotion to Division One.

Standing in their way of a much needed win is the current undefeated playoff table leaders Chainat.

After drawing 0-0 away to Samut Prakarn, FC Phuket were once again frustrated by Rayong FC who held them to a 0-0 draw on October 23.

FC Phuket have struggled in away matches all season, but their home form at Surakul Stadium, or "Fortress Surakul" helped them clinch the Division Two (South-

ern Section) title earlier this year.

FC Phuket Manager Arjan Songsamssub feels his team are improving, but said beating Chainat will be a tough task.

While failure to defeat Chainat would not prove fatal for FC Phuket's promotional prospects, it would be a major blow for Songsamssub's side, who need to finish in the top two of the group in order to gain a spot in Division One next season.

With only two rounds of matches played, Loei City are already looking like the group's whipping boys after suffering defeat at the hands of both Rayong and Chainat.

Bangkok are the only other side to have lost a game. Chainat, who finished second to Chang Mai in Division Two (Northern Section) appear set to take one of the top two places, while Loei City look destined to spend another season in Division Two (Northeast Section).

It will probably come down to a battle between Rayong, Samut Prakarn, Bangkok and FC Phuket for the second promotional spot.

Every meeting between these four teams so far has ended in a draw, making it very difficult to establish who will provide the biggest threat to FC Phuket.

– James Goyder

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## Triangle choke wins revenge match-up

MAGICAL Ray Elbe of Tiger Muay Thai camp in Chalong won his long-awaited "revenge match" against Shannon Ritch in Singapore this week.

The two first met in 2004 with Ritch winning by submission.

Elbe finally got his chance to avenge the loss at Martial Combat 11 at Resorts World Sentosa.

He wasted little time in submitting Ritch with a triangle choke.

"It's now eight in 10 wins for me and my last loss was in 2006. It feels amazing to see all the hard work that I've been doing is finally paying off," said Elbe, a Brazilian Jiu Jitsu black belt.

"I'd like to thank Shannon for giving me the opportunity to fight again. I just wish the rematch could have happened sooner," he added.

Claire Haigh, also of Tiger Muay Thai and a former Muay Thai world champion, defeated Australian Eileen Forrest at Martial Combat 12 by submission with a rear naked choke in the third and final round.

— James Goyder

# King's Cup lures Asian fleet

THE fleet of Asian sailors taking part in the King's Cup Regatta this year is on track to set a new record.

The volume of entries from throughout Asia to date has race organizers believing this year will see a record number of Asian sailors taking part.

"Last year was the biggest ever Japanese fleet and as China is a growing market for sailing, the number of Chinese entries continues to increase also," said Race Director Simon James.

"The Asian entries are very competitive, even in the cruising classes. A number of Japanese entries have won their class and the possibility of winning is the reason all participants come back year-after-year.

"Asian participants are no different to other participants in that they are here to sail well, achieve a good result, and enjoy themselves on and off the water," Mr James said.

Although there traditionally has been a large contingent of Australian and New Zealand sailors at the King's Cup, the rapid growth in the number of entrants from Asian countries such as China and Japan has been a more recent phenomenon.

Naoaki Waga has been competing in the Phuket King's Cup



**SAILING IN:** The Japanese crew on 'Fidgi' vie for line honors in the 2009 King's Cup Regatta. More Asian crews are signing up to compete in the annual five-day event. Photo: Guy Nowell/ Phuket King's Cup Regatta

Regatta for over a decade.

"The Kenwood Cup Regatta in Hawaii is no longer ongoing and a lot of Japanese sailors have shifted their attention from Hawaii to Asia," he said.

"Japanese people have been sailing in the King's Cup since the 1980s and it has a reputation as a fun carnival style regatta which is also known for

competitive sailing," he added.

The King's Cup, this year to be held this from December 4-11, has developed a reputation as one of Asia's most prestigious and competitive regattas. Sailors from all over the world now descend on Phuket for five days of racing and six lavish parties each December.

A good time may be had by all on shore, but out on the water no

quarter is asked or given.

Mr James believes the level of competition is the reason that participants of so many different nationalities keep returning.

"The King's Cup has a certain prestige and participants are competitive. The competition is intense and this regatta is seen by many as the 'one to win'," he said.

— Phuket Gazette

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