

Phuket Gazette

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Tourist in hotel knife fight

LESS than 24 hours after checking in to a Phuket resort, a Russian tourist is facing a possible manslaughter charge after a knife fight in his hotel room with a security guard.

Husband and wife Viacheslav Akhenov and Olga Kudinova checked in to the Dusit Thani Laguna Resort on November 7, Cherng Talay Police Duty Officer Somkid Khaosang reported.

The couple returned to their suite about 3am the next morning to find security guard Weerapong Kongchuay already in their room.

"They fought and the guard injured the husband with his knife," said Snr Sgt Maj Boonlert Jampa.

Mr Akhenov began to overpower the guard. During the struggle Mr Weerapong was stabbed with his own knife, Sgt Maj Boonlert explained.

Then the guests called the front desk to call the police, he said.

Lt Col Somkid said he went to Thalang Hospital to question Mr Weerapong, but the guard, contracted from G4S to patrol the resort, remained unconscious.

He died later that day.

Mr Akhenov was presented to Phuket Provincial Court on Tuesday. Police are continuing their investigation, Sgt Maj Boonlert said.

Tsunami buoys to arrive by new year

By Pimwara Choksakulpan and Stephen Fein

TWO new Italian-built tsunami direct detection units will be installed off Phuket by the end of the year, the National Disaster Warning Center (NDWC) has revealed.

NDWC Director Somsak Khaosuwan said the two units, known as "tsunameters", will be located about 400 to 500 kilometers off-shore.

Although the exact locations have yet to be determined, one of the units will likely be deployed west of Phuket while the other will be further north near the Surin Islands, he said.

"We will deploy them as soon as possible to ensure the safety of residents and tourists along Thailand's Andaman coastline," said Dr Somsak.

The launch mission is scheduled to depart from the Phuket Marine Biological Center pier on December 11.

The two new "Poseidon Class" tsunameters, built by the Italian firm Envitech, will be deployed under a total budget of about 135 million baht, he said.

In June 2006, Envitech in-



Navy SEAL divers (left) watch as the old tsunami detection buoy is hoisted aboard the HTMS Bangpakong in July. Photo: Courtesy HTMS Bangpakong

stalled two tsunameters in the Bay of Bengal under a contract with the Indian Government.

However, like the Indian tsunameters, real-time data from the units will not be available to the public through the US Government's National Data Buoy Center website.

"The public will be able to monitor data in real time, but through a different website. We will announce the website URL after the unit is in place and operational," Dr Khaosuwan said.

Thailand is currently without any means of directly detecting approaching tsunamis.

No false alarm

NDWC Director Somsak Khaosuwan maintains that the NDWC did not trigger a "false alarm" tsunami alert on November 6.

"I checked as soon as I heard these reports. At first some said the sirens sounded at Ao Nang [in Krabi], some said in Nai Yang and Kamala, or even in Tai Muang [Phang Nga], but we couldn't confirm soundings in any of these areas," he said.

However, Phuket Governor Tri Augkaradacha, the president of Mai Khao Tambon Administration Organization (TAO) and the vice-president of Kamala TAO all confirmed to the Gazette that tsunami warning towers sounded.

Tampering by local people might have been responsible if noises were heard from the speakers, Dr Somsak said.

Such tampering is known to have occurred in Phang Nga, where villagers hacked into the system to use the speakers for other purposes, he said.

Land grab dispute stalls sea gypsy cultural center

By Atchaa Khamlo

MORE than 100 sea gypsies descended on Provincial Hall last week to demand action over alleged encroachment at the site of the Urak Lawoi Culture Center on Koh Sireh.

The protesters, who live in the nearby Laem Tukkae community, said they were at first unconcerned when they noticed workmen removing barbed wire set up to surround the project site, located off "Soi Tsunami".

An excavator was at work filling in part of the land in recent weeks.

The sea gypsies initially thought the workman who pulled down the wire were part of the same work team, hired by the government to backfill land at the project site.

When they learned he was not, they demanded an investigation.

Sea gypsy Suthon Pramongkij, headman of Rassada Village 4, led the protest at Phuket Provincial Hall.

Kanin Terdchanakul, an engineer with Phuket Provincial Public Works said the investor presented a title deed proving he owned the plot of land in question.

Land use issues were not clearly examined from the outset, he said.

Land Office surveyors have since visited the site and staked out the boundary between the government land and that claimed by the private investor.

However a length of red string now in place there is just a temporary demarca-

tion. It does not indicate that the land in question has been officially recognized as belonging to the investor, Mr Kanin said.

The Land Office officials are expected to meet with Vice Governor Nivit soon to present their findings.

Vice-Governor Nivit Aroonrat has ordered an investigation into how and when the land title for the land was issued.

Until the land issue is resolved, all work on the culture center project is on hold, officials said.

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This Week

Power to the people

Burmese freedom fighter Aung San Suu Kyi has been released.

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Gold for money



Get cash in exchange for your banged up old gold jewelry. Page 11

History



Read up about sultans, Siam and Pattani back in the 1800s. Page 14

Construction



The marina in Chalong is in phase two of its development. Page 21

Classifieds

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

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Sport



FC Phuket score a home win vital to their promotional dreams.

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HRH Sirindhorn to visit Phuket

HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn will visit Phuket and Phang Nga on November 23.

Her visit, announced by the Phuket Provincial Governor's Office yesterday, will start at 9am at the SOS Children's Village in Koh Kaew, where she will chair the opening ceremony for a new school building.

The orphanage, built following the 2004 tsunami, is the fifth SOS Children's Village in Thailand.

At 10:30am, Princess Sirindhorn will leave for

Phang Nga by helicopter to chair the opening ceremony of the Don Bosco Home in Bangsak.

She will then arrive at 35th Rajapranugroh School in Khao Lak at 3:30pm for a short visit, then visit Tai Muang Hospital at 3:50pm.

Princess Sirindhorn will return to Phuket by helicopter. She is scheduled to land at Phuket International Airport at 4:40pm.

Her Royal Highness will depart Phuket for Bangkok by royal airplane at 5pm.

Patong residents left high and dry

By Atchaa Khamlo

RESIDENTS in the hills at the south end of Patong are up in arms over being left without consistent water supply – a problem they have faced for years.

The outcry comes, ironically, after recent deluges caused flooding at the foot of the hill where they live.

Knut Giesen, the 58-year-old German director of Phuket Safari, told the *Gazette*, "At the beginning of this year we had no water supply for three months. Then, when it finally came, we had water for only about 30 to 45 minutes in the morning, from about 6am.

"For the past eight days, we have had not a drop," he said on Monday.

"We called the government office [Provincial Waterworks Authority] many times, but they just said they would check it. Meanwhile, we have to pay the water bill every month. If we don't pay, they will cut the water supply off entirely."

Mr Giesen said he has had water supply problems since moving into his house, on Petchakut Rd at the top of Manisi Rd, about two and a half years ago. Since then, he had his landlord install a second water tank.



Knut Giesen

"It costs 800 baht to fill each tank. If the problem continues, I will move out. It doesn't make sense to pay every month like this," he said.

He also complained that the water meter kept turning, even if no water came out of his taps. So when it rains, he shuts off the mains to his house and relies on rainwater instead.

Englishman David Brook, 67, has lived in the street with his Thai wife for 10 years. He said on Tuesday, "I haven't had any water for 10 days now. I have been calling the water supply department every day. They just said they would

check it out, but we still do not have water.

"I will keep calling them as I don't know what else to do," he added.

When contacted by the *Gazette*, PWA Assistant Manager Pichai Patcharangsee provided a long list of reasons why the supply ran dry.

"Those houses are located in a high area. The water supply cannot reach up there... If people living down below used less water, water supply would be provided up there," he said.

Leaking mains pipes contributed to the problem, Mr Pichai added.

"We recently found and fixed many big leaks. But big leaks are easy to find. Small leaks are hard to spot, especially when it is raining. So we have to wait for rain to stop before we can even look for them," he said.

"We are not being slack. At present we are trying to find leaks, as we believe that is what is causing the low water pressure.

"The entire water pressure system needs to be improved to get water up there.

"Demand for water is increasing every day while available supply pressure has remained the same since 2006," he added.

Two new V/Govs set to arrive

TWO new vice-governors will take up office in Phuket later this month under the latest civil service reshuffle approved by the Ministry of Interior.

The two new appointees, effective from November 29, will be sitting Krabi Vice-Governor Weerawat Janpen and sitting Surin Vice-Governor Somkiet Sangkao-sutthirak.

Their appointments, approved last Saturday, are expected to lighten the workloads of Phuket Governor Tri Augkaradacha and

Vice-Governor Nivit Aroonrat.

V/Gov Weerawat, 59, is no stranger to Phuket, having served as Muang District Office Chief for a period starting in 2001.

He will be of retirement age early next year.

V/Gov Somkiet, 56, is a native of Surat Thani.

He served as vice governor of Phang Nga in 2006, then held the same position in Kalasin (2008) prior to his posting to the vice-governorship of Surin in October last year.

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Glue huffer comes unstuck

POLICE believe that a motorcycle taxi driver found dead in an abandoned cinema on Tuesday died after an apparent overdose on glue.

Officers estimated that Bangkok-native Thianchai Atwinit, 33, died three days before his body was discovered in a bathroom of the long-abandoned Nimit Cinema

on Ong Sim Pai Road in Phuket Town. Next to his body were three cans of glue.

Police believe the man regularly used the bathroom to take drugs because there was little chance of being disturbed.

The cinema closed down more than 10 years ago.



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USS Peleliu lends a hand

THE USS *Peleliu* dropped anchor in Phuket last week, bringing along a complement of 960 sailors and about 1,900 Marines.

The 5th Fleet support ship arrived straight from the Arabian Sea following 10 weeks of emergency flood-relief work in Pakistan.

Before their departure on Wednesday, crew members joined local volunteers in renovating two schools in Phuket and a charitable foundation in Phang Nga.

Patong Rotary Club volunteers were assisted by members of the US Navy League's Thailand Southern Seaboard Chapter, the International Business Association Phuket (IBAP) and QSI International School community.

Their first community relations (Comrel) sortie on Sunday took them to the Home and Life Foundation in Phang Nga, a tsunami orphanage that now also cares for troubled children from Patong.

Volunteers distributed more than eight tonnes of soil down the river bank, planted 50 banana trees and over 1,000 King's Grass plants.

They also spread 20 bags of organic topsoil and fertilizer to



Peleliu crewmen in Phang Nga.

protect against river soil erosion.

On Monday, 24 volunteers from the ship joined in minor refurbishments at Wat Thepnimit School in Wichit. After the day's work was done, students put on a cultural show for the visitors.

Tuesday saw the Comrel comrades joined by local volunteers to help with renovations at Wat Sawang Arom School in Rawai.

Over the past four years the US Navy and Marines have conducted 63 Comrel projects in the greater Phuket area, averaging 15,000 baht per project in cash expenditure – plus a lot of manpower.



A police mascot leads the helmet use public awareness parade on Wednesday. Photo: Janpen Upatising

Patong gets serious on helmet use

OVER a thousand Patong residents took part in a parade on Wednesday in support of the "100% motorcycle helmet use" campaign.

Organized by Kathu Police, Patong Taxi Federation and Patong Municipality, the parade along the beach road was to raise awareness of the helmet law.

Kathu Police already fine motorbike riders not wearing helmets, but thus far passengers have largely been exempt.

From December 1, both drivers and passengers caught at Kathu Police checkpoints without helmets will have their licenses confiscated and held until the

offender views a locally-produced film showing graphic images of road accident victims.

This initiative, used in Phuket City since July, has seen a marked increase in helmet use.

Existing safety helmet laws will be strictly enforced on January 1, when Kathu Police will fine every motorcycle rider and passenger without a helmet and also make them watch the film.

"From now on, every motorcycle rider and passenger in Kathu Police District must wear a helmet," said Kathu Police Superintendent Arayapan Pukbuakao.

– Janpen Upatising

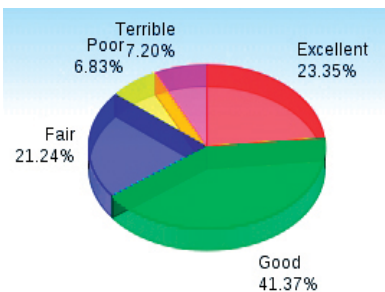
Phuket healthcare 'fares thee well'

MOST *Phuket Gazette* online readers have a favorable opinion of private health-care services in Phuket, the results of the latest Readers' Poll reveal.

Readers were asked: "With two international hospitals and numerous private clinics, Phuket has been much touted as a medical tourism hub. Cost considerations aside, how would you rate the overall quality of service at these facilities?"

Overall, 51% said these service were "good" or "excellent", compared to just 11.3% who rated them as "poor" or "terrible", while 17.1% of respondents rated these services as "fair".

Almost one-fifth of the people taking part (19.7%) answered: "I



can't say. I have never used them."

A demographic breakdown revealed that people who identified themselves as "local foreign residents" had the most favorable view, with 64% saying the private medical services on the

island were positive ("excellent" or "good") compared with just 11% who said they were "poor" or "terrible".

A majority of Thais also held a favorable view: 33% positive, 23% negative and 16% fair.

However, 29% of Thais answered that they didn't know only because they had never used private medical services in Phuket.

Murder-suicide baffles police

POLICE are trying to piece together what invoked a well-known restaurant owner to execute his sister-in-law and then turn the gun on himself in front of shocked patrons at a Phuket City restaurant last week.

Witnesses said they thought nothing when Bundit Anurakbundit, 53, got up and went over to the cashier's table, as he had done so many times before. But

this time he pulled out a pistol, put it to the skull of Wassana Jarit, 25, and pulled the trigger.

He then paused, then put the gun to his own right temple and fired again.

Mr Bundit had been dining since early evening, drinking alcohol and singing with a large group of friends.

Ms Wassana's husband was in the restaurant at the time.

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Phantom of the ape paw

A BIZARRE dream has convinced a woman in Phrae province that a pile of stones her husband dug out of a mung bean field are fossilized hands belonging to prehistoric apes.

Residents of the village in Tambon Naphoon, Wangchin District, are now queuing up to see the "hands" in order to divine winning lottery numbers from them.

Muangmon Phimpha, 42, was clearing grass from the field when his scythe hit a hard object.

In the ground he found several stones resembling human hands, so he gathered them up and took them home.

That night, Mr Muangmon's wife dreamt that a big ape came into her house and tried to embrace her. She pushed the creature away but it started to cry.

Then the ape asked if it could come and live with the couple.

That was when Mr Muangmon's wife realized the stones could be fossilized ape hands.



Mr Muangmon said that since the "hands" were found on November 7, villagers have been flocking to his house to see them. The number of visitors is especially high on lottery day, he said.

Prayoon Panjiti, deputy mayor of Tambon Naphoon, said he had seen the stones and thought they were probably the fossilized remains of a creature of some sort.

The Tambon has sealed off the field to prevent anyone from trying to dig up more.

Archaeologists will be examining the finds to determine exactly what they are, he said.

— Khao Sod

German man finds new life

A YOUNG man deported from Thailand last year after confessing to child molestation charges is making a good new start in life in his native Germany, the honorary consul of that country reports.

German Honorary Consul Dirk Naumann told the *Gazette* that the youth, who was 17 at the time of his arrest, is now doing an apprenticeship as a cook and leading a normal life.

Mr Naumann played a key role in turning the boy's life around.

After his arrest in Rawai in March last year, the youth confessed to conspiring with British national Dax Young to molest boys as young as nine years old at Young's rented home in Patong.

Although the pair's actions were clearly orchestrated by the 41-year-old Briton, the youth had no other way to secure his freedom but to plead guilty to the molestation charges after spending five months in the Phuket Juvenile Observation and Protection Center.

He turned 18 and his mother passed away at the age of 56 while he was incarcerated.

Mr Naumann and German ambassador Dr Hanns Schumacher



The German youth (left) pictured with Dax Young. Photo: Gazette file

tried to convince Thai authorities that the youth was as much a victim of the British pedophile as the other boys.

From a broken home and with a father in jail in Germany on a murder conviction, the boy spent a lot of time on the streets of Phuket with no adult supervision – until he fell under the sway of Young.

The German embassy was aware of the boy's circumstances before his arrest.

They tried to persuade him to

return to Germany, but he refused to abandon his mother, who suffered from a chronic lung disease. The family had been living in Phuket since 2003.

After the boy confessed to the charges in July last year, he was fined 17,000 baht and given a four-month suspended sentence.

He flew back to Germany shortly after his release.

Mr Naumann said the boy is doing very well now, dates women – and has no interest in little boys.

— Phuket Gazette

Patong fire leaves post office soaked

A SMALL fire in Patong caused a commotion along Phuket's busiest beach road and water damage to Taweewong Post Office this week.

The blaze on Monday reportedly broke out from an electrical short inside an air compressor on the second floor of the True Coffee shop, on Soi Patong Post Office.

Six Patong Municipality firefighting vehicles rushed to the scene.

Firefighters managed to extinguish the fire in about 10 minutes.

A lady selling drinks in the area said, "I saw a thick, black smoke coming out of the air conditioner on the second floor of True Coffee building."

"I ran away without my staff,

thinking I had to save myself first."

The owner of a nearby shop called the 199 emergency number to report the fire.

Police investigators are still trying to determine the exact cause of the blaze.

The firefighters quick response prevented the blaze from spreading to nearby tourist-oriented businesses on the busy soi.

Apart from the fire damage to the air-conditioning system, there was also water damage to computers and other equipment inside Taweewong Post Office.

Patong's beach road has suffered many fires in recent years, including a spate of arson attacks at Jintana Plaza in 2008 and 2009.

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Col Panuwat: LOG ON

Phuket Immigration chief calls for hotels register guest information online

By Janpen Upatising

PHUKET Immigration Superintendent Panuwat Ruamrak has warned hoteliers to register guest details through the agency's online database, or risk being fined for noncompliance.

Col Panuwat announced the tacit warning at a seminar at the ICT Center in Saphan Hin last week.

"After one month, we will look at how the system is performing. We may consider imposing fines on hotels who don't enter the details," Col Panuwat said.

After the seminar he explained that the law already requires hotels to register guest details within 24 hours of check-in.

Those failing to do so face a fine of up to 2,000 baht per foreigner not registered.

Hotel representatives at the seminar were shown how to register details directly through the Phuket Immigration website.

Details entered into the system include first name, last name, nationality, gender, passport number, visa details including type and class, and date of entry into the country.

Details are also required from guests' TM6 Arrival/Departure Card, the blue and white card each person must complete before entering Thailand.

The data required are flight number, date of birth and port of entry, but not the tourist's self-reported yearly income, as is required on the TM6 form.

Hotels are not required to inform guests that the hotel will send their details to Immigration.

"The main point is security and



Col Panuwat shows a hotel staffer how to log on. Photo: Janpen Upatising

safety. It makes it easier for us to search and check information about foreigners," said Col Panuwat.

"It is also more convenient for business owners. They don't have to contact us in person; they can do everything online," he added.

Phuket Immigration is not alone in the drive to compile a database of such data. Immigration offices in other provinces have been working on this project since April as well, he said.

Phuket Immigration will share

information with other Royal Thai Police divisions, but only on request. The database will not be open for public searching, nor to other police units.

"Coordination between Immigration and other police is normal, but they can't access our information by logging into our database," he said.

Broad statistics will be compiled from the data and publicly released, however.

"We will publish only the num-

bers of people arriving and leaving by boat and at the airport. The statistics will be posted on our website so anyone in tourism can see the trends. It will not be detailed information," he said.

To date, 300 hotel businesses have registered with the web portal to use the service.

"I think it has been successful so far, but the numbers who have registered is still low when compared with the total number of hotels and guesthouses on the island, which is more than 1,000.

"Many owners of rented accommodations thought they didn't have to register with us, but they do," Col Panuwat reminded his audience.

Filing false tourist information with Immigration had led to five fraud cases in the past nine months, said the colonel.

Korntip Reankrai, manager of the Royal Phawadee Village in Patong, was familiar with the case.

"There was a group of tourists from the Middle East staying with us three months ago. Once they checked in, we submitted their passport numbers and visa information through the website.

"The following day the police arrived to look for these guests. It turned out that they were involved in counterfeit credit cards," she added.

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Bout flies out: Cabinet approves extradition to the US



Mr Bout was escorted to a US airplane Tuesday afternoon. Photo: The Nation

SUSPECTED Russian arms dealer Viktor Bout was finally flown out on Tuesday to face terrorism charges in the United States after Cabinet approved his extradition.

"I myself sent him off," said Maj Gen Supisarn Bhakdinart, commander of the Crime Suppression Division. Mr Bout was escorted by six officials onto a US plane which left the tarmac at Don Mueang Airport at about 1:30pm, he said.

He arrived in New York late Tuesday aboard a US Drug Enforcement Administration plane, *CNN* reported.

Mr Bout, suspected of being one of the world's largest arms dealers, was the

inspiration behind the Nicholas Cage movie *Lord of War*.

Thailand has been at the center of an international tug-of-war between the US and Russia over the 43-year-old businessman since his arrest in a sting operation in Bangkok in 2008. Mr Bout allegedly offered to sell weapons to US agents posing as members of the leftist Farc rebel group of Colombia.

In August, Thailand's Appeals Court ruled that Mr Bout should be extradited to the US to face trial on charges including conspiring to kill Americans, conspiring to provide material support to terrorists and conspiring to acquire and use an anti-aircraft missile.

The Russians reacted furiously to the verdict, calling it "unlawful and political". Experts say Mr Bout has been heavily involved with Russian intelligence and Moscow does not want him to fall into US hands.

Mr Bout was due to be sent to the US shortly after the verdict but legal technicalities prevented the extradition. The court set a 90-day deadline for him to be sent to the US which was due to expire on November 19.

The Cabinet decision came just days after Prime Minister Abhisit met with President Barack Obama at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum, noted respected political blogger *Bangkok Pundit*.

Man blown up in front of lover

A CAR mechanic was killed in front of his girlfriend after youths threw a bomb onto a packed minibus in Bangkok on November 15.

The device landed on 26-year-old Phichet Chaiya's lap, blowing his insides apart and killing him instantly, according to *Khao Sod*.

Three young men identified by police from CCTV footage are suspects in the murder. Police believe their targets were a group of technology college students who had just got on the bus.

Witnesses said the suspects followed the orange route 27 minibus on motorcycles before the attack, which happened at a bus stop in Minburi District.

After around six or seven Min Buri Technical School students boarded the vehicle, witnesses reported seeing a young man throw an object through the open door.

After the loud explosion, Miss Natthaporn saw her boyfriend collapse. She said she was so shocked she lost control of her senses and was told afterwards that someone had thrown a bomb onto the bus.

Democracy icon freed

FOLLOWING seven years under house arrest, Burmese freedom fighter Aung San Suu Kyi was released on November 13, prompting hopes the democracy heroine can bring about reconciliation in her military-ruled nation.

Her release came six days after Burma held its first elections in two decades, which a military-backed party won by a landslide amid accusations of fraud and intimidation.

In an interview with the *BBC*, the 65-year-old Nobel Peace Prize winner called for a "non-violent revolution". She added that she would take any opportunity for talks with the ruling military junta, which she wanted to change rather than fall, reported AFP.

The day after her release Ms Suu Kyi, who has spent 15 of the last 20 years in detention, told a press conference she was willing to work with all parties for the sake of democracy.

"I will talk to anyone who is willing to work for the good of the country and democracy. National reconciliation means recognizing that there are differences," she said.

Ms Suu Kyi has also said she is



willing to reconsider her stance on sanctions against her isolated, resource-rich country. The Nobel laureate had previously called for targeted sanctions at military figures as well as a boycott of tourism to Burma, which she claimed merely lined the pockets of the generals.

Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva hailed Suu Kyi's release but said it remained to be seen what the consequences would be, he told Reuters.

Exiled former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra said he believed the release of Ms Suu Kyi would help improve "the protection of human rights and democracy" in Southeast Asia, in particular Thailand, AFP reported.

Meanwhile, some cautioned that Ms Suu Kyi's release did not represent a major concession by the military junta.



FREE AT LAST: Aung San Suu Kyi waves to her supporters. Photo: AFP

London-based Amnesty International pointed out that more than 2,200 political prisoners remained in jails in Burma.

"The fact remains that authorities should never have arrested her or the many other prisoners of conscience in Burma in the first place, locking them out of the political process," said Amnesty.

Ms Suu Kyi's National League

for Democracy Party won Burma's last elections in 1990 by a landslide, but the military ignored the result.

The party was dissolved by the government after it boycotted this year's elections.

Political prisoners were barred from standing in the polls, meaning Ms Suu Kyi and hundreds of other potential candidates were excluded.

— *Phuket Gazette*

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Coaching the bureaucrats

Re: Gazette online, Volleyball challenge: Let's keep Phuket a winner in tourism and sports, November 14

It is hard to believe that after five years of building this World Championship event into a great success that it is now in jeopardy due to lack of sponsorship.

Likewise, the new Ironman 70.3 Asia-Pacific Championship triathlon that was awarded to Phuket over great destinations like Adu Dhabi and Singapore, did not receive any sponsorship from Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) or the Sports Authority of Thailand (SAT).

The world is watching and the lack of government support is very disappointing.

*Debbie
Online forum*

Where in the world would you feel safe?

I am writing in response to a letter published last week regarding the "appalling" serious crime rate on the island, regardless of which light it is seen in.

Where are you from? Are you from a hamlet in the Swiss Alps where "The hills are alive with the sound of music" sung by Julie Andrews as she gallops across the mountainside is the soundtrack to your life?

Are you from one of those places that sees one murder a year? Only that would explain how you could see the serious crime rate here as "appalling".

It seems you have not seen the crime rate here through the eyes of someone who grew up in Johannesburg, who has spent every day of the latter half of the

Basic healthcare under observation

Phuket Gazette

RESULTS of a recent *Phuket Gazette* online reader's poll provide an interesting glimpse into how Phuket's expatriate community feels about private healthcare services available on the island (see page 3).

The poll question asked readers to rate the overall the quality of treatment offered at private hospitals and clinics in Phuket, cost considerations aside.

In almost every other poll posted over the past year, the group of people who identified themselves as "local foreign residents" tended to hold views that could subjectively be considered "more cynical" than the other two demographics: Thais and tourists (or visitors).

In this case, however, expats held the most favorable view, with 64% saying the private medical services on the island were positive ("excellent" or "good") compared with just 11% who said they were "poor" or "terrible".

The group appears to be in a good position to judge, as only 5% of them said they had never used such services.

That such a favorable view is held by the resident expat community speaks well of private healthcare in Phuket, which the Ministry of Public Health expects to play a key role in its ambitious national plan to generate over four billion baht in revenue for the country over the next five years.

One of the reasons for the success of the Phuket medical tourism industry is the wide range of services on offer, with options for people of just about every income level.

first 30 years of my life scared to death that someone was following me, or that I would be hijacked and raped if I drove down the right road at the wrong time.

There, the soundtrack to our lives would be "the hills are alive... with the sound of gunfire!"

It was only when I got here that I realized what "baggage" I

have from growing up in South Africa.

We have some serious psychological damage regarding our safety when compared with people from most of the Western world.

To us, electric fencing, burglar bars, alarm systems and guard dogs are a normal way of life.

Apart from the two international hospitals, treatment is also available at Mission Hospital as well as at many clinics, which are typically run by doctors attached to the island's government-run hospitals: Vachira Phuket, Patong and Thalang. These three facilities also play an important but largely overlooked part in Phuket's medical tourism.

But there is still much room for improvement. Reliable, independent information sources for tourists interested in treatments on the island are lacking, with much of the sales and marketing done through word-of-mouth or by inbound tour operators and other agencies seeking to turn profits.

Also left out of the picture almost completely are the medical needs of low-wage migrant laborers from Burma, the number of which could be as high as 200,000. Already this segment of the population is putting far too much strain on the state-run medical system.

We can only hope that when the new provincial government hospital opens on the east side of Phuket Town, where many Burmese work and live, special services will be set up to accommodate their needs.

If not, we are all subject to suffer from the kinds of contagious diseases that are far more likely to first spread among the least fortunate members of society.

This place has allowed me to feel safe for the first time in my life. My soul does not feel like it's a hostage anymore.

This place is the "coke light" of serious crimes compared with other places in the world.

Stop griping and be grateful you haven't had to endure and survive a lifetime in the city holding the top spot for the highest violent crime rate on the planet.

*Safe and sound
Kathu*

Take good care, make good profits

Re: Gazette online, Private healthcare gets a thumbs-up: poll, November 15

I received very good treatment as an outpatient. The costs related directly to that were reasonable.

However, I did feel that like most private hospitals, the cost of medicines/pills was extortionate and have little doubt this covers many of the extras, such as the numerous staff to "hold one's hand" which are not found in the government hospitals.

*Brian Davis
Online forum*

Delectable decor

Re: Phuket Gazette, Chipping away at design conformity, November 6

What a beautiful home you featured in the *Gazette* a few weeks ago. Christina is a truly inspired lady! Keep the design and decor tips coming – everyone loves to have a nosy inside view of other people's homes, and I for one am always looking for new ideas. Some more photos would be nice next time though – just a thought!

*Samantha Swimmingstone
Bang Tao*

Phuket Gazette

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Issues & Answers...

Do I need a 'business visa' to work online?

Is earning money through online advertising, website affiliate marketing or operating a business that has only an online presence whilst staying in Thailand considered working? Would that person be required to have a "business visa"?

*Ting tong farang
Phuket Town*

Pol Col Panuwat Ruamrak, Superintendent of Phuket Immigration, replies:

Any foreigners working or starting a business in Thailand, online or off, need to first get a proper visa.

They can apply for a Non-Immigrant B visa at a Royal Thai Embassy in their home countries, and once they get it they can come to Thailand and apply for a work permit with the Department of Employment.

If we find out that a foreigner is doing business online without a

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

Submit your issue at

www.PhuketGazette.net/IssuesAnswers

work permit, we will arrest them and take legal action through the court.

Somkiat Baiadul, a labor specialist at the work permit division of the Phuket Department of Employment, replies:

Doing business online is considered a type of work, so foreigners are required to have a work permit to do so.

The first thing to do is get the proper business visa. Foreigners with any other types of visa cannot apply for work permits.

An exception to that rule is foreigners married to Thai citizens with legal marriage registration documents; they can apply for

work permits.

For more information on the visas and documents required to apply for a work permit, we advise foreigners to contact us or the Department of Employment in the area they live.

We need detailed information from the foreigner before advising on further action. Please call Phuket Department of Employment at 076-219660-1 ext 13 for further information.

Overcharging for electricity

I have discovered a problem with the reading of electricity meters. The "non-official" meter at my place has a four digits, a decimal point, then another digit.

The meter reader tends not to read the decimal point when recording your electricity usage. So instead of being charged for 391.7 units, the people reading the meter will say that you used 3917 units. That is a big price difference.

This happened to me, so please

Environmental laws are holding us back

FIRST PERSON

PHUKET is a well-known tourist destination that relies heavily on the industry – the same as Nice in France, or Sanya in Hainan, China, both of which I have traveled to on official visits with the Phuket Governor.

Both places have roads that run parallel to beaches which greatly contribute to beach management because they prevent building on the beaches.

As I was told, the governments [of France and China] make exceptions to environmental law for those places.

Phuket, however, is regulated by the same environmental laws as the rest of Thailand, which is why the island's tourism development is held up.

We preserve the natural environment while tourism businesses need to grow. These conflicting issues are what slows down tourism growth.

The Klong Koh Pee Road project in Saphan Hin is a good example.

Construction started, but it runs just a short distance of 600 meters and remains unfinished because Cabinet didn't give approval for completion because it is in a mangrove forest area.

I think the loss of those mangrove trees is worth it because the benefit of the road to people is greater.

As of now, the only major road



Thalang District Office Chief **Narunat Suphutpratoop**, 57, has a unique suggestion for Phuket coastal development. Here he talks about the need for special environmental laws to facilitate infrastructure development and rapid growth of the tourism industry.

linking the north of the island to the south is Thepkasattri Road.

Different transportation infrastructure such as a monorail, or the proposed road running under existing high-voltage power lines, is needed.

I also think a ring road around the island is of utmost importance.

If the road runs parallel to both west and east coast beaches, it would help tourism development.

The road, which should be about 50 meters from the beaches, would be a good solution to beach management problems and would provide tourists with extremely impressive and beautiful unobstructed views.

Now, the only such road we have runs from Surin Beach to Rawai, but it doesn't circle the whole island.

To do so, it would have to pass through forests, mangrove swamps and national parks, so if asked whether this project is possible, I would say, "No" because of environmental laws.

We would need to get approvals, do an environmental impact

assessment and sometimes NGOs and such get involved. So, we can do nothing to improve the tourism industry and eventually we will fall behind other countries.

Look at Langkawi in Malaysia. They originally targeted the island for agricultural development, but moved into tourism.

They built a cable car over a mountain, but if Phuket wanted to do something like that, environmental law would hold it up.

I think Phuket and other islands such as Samui, Lipe or Tarutao need special environmental laws with special committees to approve projects.

The committee should be made up of both local and central government representatives to push important projects through.

The local representatives would know the area and local needs better, unlike officials in Bangkok.

This system would encourage rapid growth of the tourism industry in Phuket.

If we really want Phuket to be a tourism paradise, the law must give us the power to do so.

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be aware of this and check to see if your meter has a decimal point.

Also, check your bills [if you pay your landlord for electricity]. Is there any recourse I have with my rental company [if they overcharge me for electricity]?

Big Bear
Cherng Talay

Vichan Praenam, assistant manager of the Phuket Provincial Electricity Authority (PPEA), replies:

If anyone suspects that their electricity meter is being read incorrectly, they can contact the meter and transformer department at the PPEA in person, or contact the branch office nearest them.

The customer should bring their bill with them so we can see what their meter number is and we can check the meter profile. We will then send an officer to examine the meter and if it has been read incorrectly, we will refund the overcharged amount by deducting it from the next bill. We don't give cash refunds.

If a customer suspects that the

meter is malfunctioning, they can contact us and we will send someone to investigate. We will install a standard meter next to the meter in question and if there is less than a 2.5% difference between readings from the two, it is working properly. If it is not working properly, we will repair it free of charge.

People who pay their electricity bills to their landlords and feel they are being overcharged can request to see their bills for the past 12 months at the PPEA accounting department. The customer needs to give us their address so we can locate and print past bills for them.

Patak Road parking

Nobody seems to take notice of the parking rules on Patak Road in Karon. On even-numbered dates, parking is allowed on one side of the road and on "odd days" the other.

However, it is not policed and taxis and tuk-tuks park on both sides along with motorbikes for

rent. This leaves no space for tourists to walk, and forces them onto the road. This is very dangerous, as no one slows down and someone is going to be killed on this road soon.

Warren Quinn
Karon

Lt Woradetch Chookua of Chalong Police Station replies:

We cannot strictly enforce the parking regulation for several reasons.

First, we often have problems with tourists who park overnight. Also, when tourists go on tours to islands, sometimes the vehicle is parked in the same place for days.

This also affects tuk-tuks and taxis because if they followed the traffic regulation it will cost them business.

To help resolve the dangerous traffic problem we have officers assigned at five different points where traffic is heavy.

As for people's driving habits, there is little we can do unless we catch them in the act.

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On The Move



Phuket Property Dot Com recently appointed **Thanida Charinchawalit** as Sales Manager. Ms Charinchawalit has had five years experience at the world renowned golf course Blue Canyon Country Club, and three years experience in Phuket's real estate business. She is now very much looking forward to her new role and the challenging opportunities at Phuket Property Dot Com.



Indigo Pearl has promoted **Ms Sasha Marker** to Assistant Director of Sales. She holds a BA in Business Administration from Cambrian College of Arts & Technology, Mumbai. Sasha started working at Indigo Pearl in November 2008 in the role of Sales Manager- MICE also looking after the weddings segment including Indian weddings. Now her role will expand to overlooking the daily operation in the sales department.



Mr Shabbir Godil has recently been appointed General Manager of the Hard Rock Cafe in Patong. He has an MBA in management and has worked in the restaurant industry since 1980. He has been working in the Hard Rock Cafe franchise since 2007. Mr Godil has experience in Hard Rock Cafes all around the world, including Florida, Guam and Saipan before coming to Phuket.

Dog hotel doing well

INNOVATIVE local businessman Wichai Chidchio read Phuket's market well when he expanded his dog training school to include a hotel catering to an exclusive clientele: canines.

Mr Wichai has operated the training school for 15 years, and the addition of the dog hotel has experienced unprecedented success.

The dog hotel features 95 rooms, 60 standard rooms and 35 VIP (Very Important Pooch) rooms. A standard room has mosquito protection, while a VIP room is an individual house with optional fan or air conditioning.

Standard rooms are 200 baht a night and VIP 550 baht. The stay also includes grooming, tick and flea removal and health checks.

The dog hotel has enjoyed year-round occupancy rates averaging at 70%. High season usually adds an additional 10-20% to that figure, but Mr Wichai says tourists are not his main target market.

"The influx of long stay European tourists and a shift in local dog-owners' attitudes influenced my decision to expand" Mr Wichai said.

He caters to both Western and Thai clients. His Thai clients come from as far away as Phang Nga, Krabi and Surat Thani.

The Phuket International Dog



Wichai Chidchio and the dog hotel.

School (PIDS) and hotel is the island's sole source for boarding, training, and short or long term hotel stays according to Mr Wichai.

His seven-rai facility allows space for the dogs to run around. All guest dogs are walked three times a day and a 4x10 meter salt water swimming pool can also be used for swimming practice.

Mr Wichai plans to expand his business a further three rai due to the success rates he has enjoyed. Plans are currently in the works for a few more VIP rooms to be built, a restaurant for customers and their dogs and a pet cemetery.

- Nipawan Scudder

Airplane accidents start taking off

By Alastair Carthew

CAPTAIN Chesley B Sullenberger III (Sully) and Captain Rich de Crespigny may have somewhat exotic sounding names but, despite a number of airline captains living on Phuket, they are not locals.

They are, in fact, American and Australian heroes of two major commercial airline "incidents" in the last two years, the first in New York in January, 2009 and the second in Singapore in November, 2010.

Both experienced pilots epitomized the calm professionalism that puts airline pilots at the top of the most trusted profession lists on a regular basis.

Capt de Crespigny landed his Qantas Airlines Airbus A380 with 433 passengers on board at Singapore's Changi Airport on November 4 this year after a loud explosion and smoke started spewing from a left wing engine.

Capt de Crespigny was praised as a hero in his native Australia, and rightly so.

Captain Sullenberger was the pilot who guided US Airways

As the industry continues to grow, so does the number of accidents and incidents involving aircraft in Thailand and the rest of the world.

Flight 1549 to a perfect emergency landing on New York's Hudson River after a flock of birds knocked out both the engines.

All passengers got off the aircraft safely. He was an overnight celebrity in the US. A former fighter pilot, "Sully" followed textbook emergency procedures.

All this is great to hear. Passengers need to have complete faith in the professional ability of the pilot and co-pilot to handle any incident or accident properly.

For the record, an accident is defined as "an occurrence associated with the operation of an aircraft which takes place between the time any person boards the aircraft with the intention of flight and all such persons have disembarked, in which a person is fatally or seriously injured, the aircraft sustains damage or structural failure or the aircraft is missing or is completely inaccessible."

An incident is defined as "an occurrence other than an accident, associated with the operation of an aircraft, which affects, or could affect, the safety of operations."

Since records began in 1922 the number of aircraft accidents and incidents, including some in

Phuket, has steadily risen as the aviation industry continues to grow. In fact this year is heading to be one of the worst on record, globally, for incidents/accidents."

There have been 25 incidents and accidents this year, eclipsing last year's record-setting 24.

Going back to the beginning of commercial air travel in 1922, when there was one incident, the numbers have steadily increased since then.

Phuket's worst accident was the One-Two-GO crash in September 2007, in which 90 people died and 40 were injured after the pilot attempted to land at Phuket International Airport in heavy rain, strong winds and poor visibility, causing the aircraft to skid off the runway, crash into the berm and burst into flames.

Thailand has had its share of accidents and incidents since 1929. In the past decade, the latest available figures show that there were 99 accidents, involving Thai aircraft, civil and military, and other aircraft within Thailand.

The types of aircraft range from helicopters, military jets, single engine aircraft and commercial planes.



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New brokers going for gold

By Anand Singh

FINNISH company GoldToMoney have opened their first Thailand branch in Phuket, giving jewelry owners a unique opportunity to offload their old gold.

The shop, located at Chalong Circle, may deceive passers-by as it has not an ounce of gold on display.

That's because the company does not sell gold. It only buys it.

Branch Manager Jori Lassila explained the company specializes in buying broken or "worn out" gold jewelry that has little ornamental value and may be hard to sell.

Once bought by the company, the jewelry is exported from Phuket to Finland. There the gold is extracted from the jewelry and melted down into 24 karat gold pieces at the company's smelting facilities.

The company then sells the gold to industries that may use the nuggets in making certain electronic products, or even in dentistry.

"If we buy something from you, it is a guarantee that you will never see it again because we in-



The business by Chalong Circle.

tend to melt it down and resell it as pure gold pieces," said Mr Lassila, with a hint of humor.

"Our target is to buy ornamented gold that may be so worn out that gold shops may be unwilling to give sellers a good price for it.

"Gold ornaments are priced largely for their handiwork. If a piece of gold bullion was worth one million baht, the same weight in ornamented gold may be worth three



Kati Lassila inspects the value of some old jewelry. Photos: Anand Singh

to four million baht," he explained.

"However, if buyers were to take their broken or worn out jewelry to a normal gold shop, they may not be compensated as much because gold shops buy ornamental gold pieces with the intention of reselling them as jewelry.

"If a piece of gold jewelry is really old or broken beyond repair, they may need to be melted down and refashioned, with the cost

being passed on to the seller.

"We compensate our customers for only the price of the gold and because we are not going to refashion the gold again, we can offer sellers a better price," he added.

Being a specialist gold buyer, the company is able to buy gold from as little weight as eight karats, an amount that is often too small for standard gold shops to buy.

"We are also able to compensate

sellers with large amounts of cash at one time, owing to our international business connections and high liquidity," explained Mr Lassila.

Regarding the potential problem of customers trying to sell stolen or illegal items, Kati Lassila said the company strictly requires proof of identity – either passport or ID card – from sellers.

"We carefully document each piece of jewelry by taking photographs and filing descriptions," she explained.

"The company also has access to a database that is operated by the Gold Traders Association of Thailand. Before buying the more expensive pieces, the company can search the database to see if the item is listed as illegal or stolen," she added.

The Phuket branch is the latest outlet for the international chain which has stores in Finland, Sweden, France and Estonia.

Proper marketing has seen the firm's business expand quite rapidly: "business is often slow for the first three months at each startup because the concept is quite new" said Mr Lassila.

Chedi changes name

THE Chedi Phuket has rebranded itself as The Surin Phuket, with the name change effective as of the beginning of this month.

The resort's Senior Sales Executive, Sureerat Bunpanluek said that The Chedi Phuket has been managed by General Hotels Management (GHM) as The Chedi since 1995. Last year the resort's Board of Directors decided not to renew its contract with the hotel's management company.

"Since Chedi is a chain brand owned by GHM, the resort has to rebrand upon termination of the management contract," Mr Sureerat said.

"GHM's head office is in Singapore, from which they manage The Chedi Chiang-Mai and The Chedi Muscat in Oman. Now that we have rebranded, our head office will be located at the premises of the resort in Surin, which should be an advantage to our management team," she said.

Since the rebranding, the biggest change to the resort has been the appointment of a new General Manager, Antonio Saponara.

Mr Saponara previously worked for the Chedi Muscat and as GM of Amanpuri Resort. Other than that the resort's management policies are set to remain the same for now, according to Mr Sureerat.

There are plans for major renovation of the resort from May till October next year.

During that period the resort aims to raise awareness of the name change amongst its former guests through e-marketing campaigns, travel agents, booking websites, as well as social networking websites.

Based on the products offered and the location of the resort, The Surin Phuket will continue to target mainly European tourists looking for a premium yet secluded holiday resort.

— Anand Singh

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Koninkrijk der Nederlanden

Uitnodiging

Ter gelegenheid van de benoeming van de heer Seven Smulders als Honorair Consul en vanwege de opening van het Nederlandse consulaat in Phuket, heeft Ambassadeur mr. Tjaco van den Hout het genoegen alle in of in de omgeving van Phuket wonende Nederlanders uit te nodigen voor een receptie, die zal plaatsvinden op 30 november van 17.00-19.00 uur in het "Mare" restaurant van het Centara Grand Beach Resort Hotel, Karon Beach Patak Road.

Indien u van plan bent te komen wordt u verzocht zich voor 25 november schriftelijk, bij voorkeur per e-mail, aan te melden bij:

Het Consulaat der Nederlanden
 14/18 Dara Hotel, Moo 4 Chaofa Road Vichit, Muang Phuket 83000
 Tel: 076-304906-7, Email: dutchhcp@gmail.com
 Contactpersoon: K. Darunee

De aanmelding dient de volgende gegevens te bevatten:

- Naam
- Adres
- Woonplaats
- Telefoon
- Emailadres

Na aanmelding wordt u een persoonlijke bevestiging per email toegestuurd. Graag deze bevestiging bij de ingang tonen

De openingstijden van het Consulaat zijn als volgt: maandag, woensdag en vrijdag van 14.00-1700 uur of op afspraak

Spymaster on top of his game

THE master has written his 22nd novel and it's one of his best, displaying his instantly recognizable style. See if you can identify him by his opening paragraph:

"At seven o'clock of a Caribbean morning, on the island of Antigua, one Peregrine Makepeace, otherwise known as Perry, an all-round amateur athlete of distinction and until recently a tutor in English literature at a distinguished Oxford college, played three sets of tennis against a muscular, stiff-backed, bald, brown-eyed Russian man of dignified bearing in his middle fifties called Dima.

"How this match came about was quickly the subject of intense examination by British agents professionally disposed against the workings of chance.

"Yet the events leading up to it were on Perry's side blameless." The words "British agents" should be a dead giveaway.

Nobody knows how to start a novel like 79-year-old spymaster, John le Carré and the lofty authority of his narrative voice is second to none.

Books

By James Eckardt

Our Kind of Traitor

By John le Carré

His new book is *Our Kind of Traitor* (Viking, New York, 2010, 306 pages). Since the Cold War ended, le Carré's villains range from Big Pharma to weapons dealers to African coup plotters.

His target now is crooked international bankers, the same ones who brought about the global recession.

Dima is an ex-convict and money launderer for the Russian mafia, a man with an encyclopedic knowledge of skulduggery in high places.

He is accompanied by two shifty bodyguards. His closest associate and his wife were recently assassinated in Russia and he has fled to Antigua with their two young daughters, his own two teenage sons and his religious fanatic of a wife.



OUR KIND OF WRITER: The master, John le Carré. Photo: .johnlecarre.com

He fears for his life and wants to turn himself over to British intelligence, reveal all that he knows and start a new life for himself and his extended family.

He feels that Perry has a sense of fair play and appeals for his help in contacting the British.

The story is told by Perry and his longstanding girl Gail, a talented barrister, to two British agents named Luke and Yvonne in the basement of a safe house in

London.

The tale of their days together with Dima and his family is told in a masterful mix of dialogue among the four and constantly shifting perspectives.

When the information makes its way up the intelligence chain, senior spy Hector makes a dramatic entrance. He quickly sees eye to eye with Perry and offers up his ideology of struggle against corrupt bankers in the City of London

and their equally corrupt high-placed political allies in parliament.

"You're on record as believing that our green and pleasant land is in dire need of saving from itself," Hector tells Perry. "I happen to share that opinion. I've studied the disease. I've lived in the swamp.

"It is my informed conclusion that we are suffering, as an ex-great nation, from top-down corporate rot."

Perry and Gail agree to become involved in the plot to save Dima and begin training for the mission.

The characters are all magnificently delineated, with each taking the stage in turn in a series of complex plot changes that allow Luke, the mid-level spy, to reflect on the motives of his boss, Hector.

Later in the book, the scene switches to a small Swiss village where Perry and Gail take care of the Russian family while agents in Zurich plot to spirit Dima away from a meeting with his mafia and international banker colleagues.

The suspense is huge and the ending short and explosive. Read this book in a single sitting. I did.

Bestsellers

English language books
in Thailand



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- 1) **Lost Symbol** – Dan Brown (390 baht)
- 2) **Twenties Girl** – Sophie Kinsella (420 baht)
- 3) **Exitwound** – Andy McNab (420 baht)
- 4) **Assegai** – Wilbur Smith (420 baht)
- 5) **The Book of Tomorrow** – Cecilia Ahern (420 baht)

Behind the pages: George Saunders

George Saunders – a geologist by training, a writer, a professor and a humorist by nature – has an uncanny knack for illustrating the absurdity of mankind with sympathy and compassion.

Saunders, a *New York Times* best-selling author, is known for his short story and essay writing, for which he has won several awards.

His deadpan narrative voice and satirical genius have earned him comparison to the late Kurt Vonnegut Jr, to whom Saunders has acknowledged debt. He, much like Vonnegut, is acutely

aware of the necessity to use words with surgical precision. In his latest collection of essays, *The Braindead Megaphone*, Saunders writes, "The generalizing writer is like the passionate drunk, stumbling into your house mumbling: 'I know I'm not being clear, exactly, but don't you kind of feel what I'm feeling?'"

In the incisive *The Braindead Megaphone*, Saunders compares mass media to a man of low intelligence with a megaphone at a party.

"A culture's ability to understand the world and itself is critical to its survival. But today we are led into the arena of public debate by seers whose main gift is their ability to compel people to continue to watch them."

Saunders, 52, has a bachelor's degree in geophysical engineering, a master's in creative writing, and is currently a professor of creative writing at Syracuse University.

Commenting on his education and early career as a geophysical engineer, Saunders said, "Any claim

I might make to originality in my fiction is really just the result of this odd background: basically, just me working inefficiently, with flawed tools, in a mode I don't have sufficient background to really understand. Like if you put a welder to designing dresses."

Aside from regularly contributing to the likes of the *New Yorker*, *Harper's*, *GQ* and *Esquire*, Saunders has authored five fiction books, including *CivilWarLand in Bad Decline*, and the *New York Times* best-selling children's book *The Very Persistent Gappers of Frip* (2000).

His two works of non-fiction are the limited-edition promotional *A Bee Stung Me, So I Killed the Fish* (2006) and *The Braindead Megaphone* (2007).

– Nicholas Altstadt



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Michelin standard at Mom Tri's

ONE OF Austria's hottest new chefs is coming to Phuket to present a special seven-course dinner on November 20. He has been chosen to inaugurate the newly renovated gourmet kitchen in Mom Tri's at Villa Royale, Kata.

The evening is a must for foodies since the chef, Didi Maier, is head chef at Johanna Maier & Sons, a Relais & Chateaux two Michelin-star restaurant in Austria.

Last year he was presented with the Newcomer Award honoring him as the best new chef in Austria.

Didi's menu incorporates many ingredients that he'll personally bring from Europe. It features treats like veal with spicy celery, fillet of pike-perch with oxtail ravioli sweet-sour mushroom sauce and confit of duckling breast.

Wines will be expertly paired by wine director Georges Ciret from Mom Tri's comprehensive and award-winning wine cellar.

Some of the pre-selected wines include Martinborough Vineyard Pinot Noir 2006 and Roc de Cambes by Château Tertre Roteboeuf. A glass of Champagne Gosset Excellence Brut will also be served before the meal.

On the Menu

By Bruce Stanley

THE Living Food Cafe on the road to Nai Harn Beach is a full-bodied restaurant, complete with all the trimmings – it just doesn't have a stove or an oven.

"If you cook food, you lose valuable nutrients," explains Richard Cracknell, creator of the Living Food Cafe.

"The whole idea of a raw foods diet is to create better health by balancing the alkaline and acidic elements found in all foods" he adds. Richard is well known on the island for his talents at healing the body. He arrived in Phuket in 1994, when he set up his bodywork studio near Kata Beach.

He is also an avid athlete who regularly competes in marathons and triathlons, impressive for a man of 63 years.

Richard firmly believes that the combination of diet and exercise is the formula for a long healthy life.

In 2008, when Richard joined the Kona Iron Man he chose to eat raw foods to give him energy, rather than filling up on traditional carbohydrates.

"I've been focusing on exercise and healing for many years. I grew



RAW DEAL: The cabbage rolls are big. up in a family of athletes. I've learned that my diet is directly related to how I feel and how much energy I have."

In 2009, he opened the Living Food Cafe to share his knowledge of food with his friends and those who come to him for healing. He wants to provide foods that make people stronger and healthier.

The menu consists of fresh local ingredients from hydroponics farms and local suppliers.

"We use no dairy products or wheat flour, as many people have allergies to processed foods.

"People want to be overwhelmed by color, texture and taste when they eat, so we've provided a menu of foods that is full of nutrition and natural appeal to the senses."

He presents simple combination dishes like rings of fresh local papaya with a generous portion of guacamole as an example of this.

His version of a burger is a tasty



PLEASURE MINUS THE GUILT: Even the Choc Fudge cake is healthy for you.

combination of sprouted lentils, wheat berries, flax, sunflower seeds and lots of locally sourced cashews for the patty placed between his own brand of Living Food bread.

The menu at the Living Food Cafe is a result of Richard's many years of traveling and looking for the healthiest foods. The result is an international selection of tapas and desserts guaranteed to satisfy a variety of tastes.

From the Middle East, he offers falafel, humus and tabouli. His Japanese selection includes nori rolls, sushi and miso soup. On the

Italian eggplant, spinach lasagna and pizza, he uses cashew cream instead of cheese.

There's a big selection of healthy fruit smoothies and freshly made juices full of nutrients.

Perhaps the most surprising are the sweet desserts on offer including pineapple kreme pie, carrot cake and even chocolate brownies.

"Chocolate is good for the body and is full of anti-oxidants."

Richard beams radiant health and energy. It seems he has found the fountain of youth which he's happy to share with his patrons.

Northern resorts to make history

THE culinary teams at five top-end resorts are pooling together to create the first-ever North Phuket Culinary Arts Festival at Mai Khao Beach from December 3-5.

On December 3, Sala Phuket Resort & Spa joins forces with the Renaissance Phuket Resort & Spa to create Phuket's longest dining table. The table will stretch over 300 meters between the resorts.

On December 4, guests can relax at Infinity Sunsets at Anantara Phuket Villas and Aleenta Resort & Spa. On hand will be cocktails created by international barmen; a unique barefoot barbecue served at the infinity pool and Thai food from the market stalls on the lawn.

DJ Charles Schillings will provide music until late.

Jim Thompson will also be showcasing its new beach and coastal wear collection in a never before seen fashion show.

On Sunday December 5, the JW Marriott Phuket Resort presents "The Brunch of Your Life" that includes a selection of sophisticated tastes from the JW Marriott's 14 kitchens served up at the Marriott Cafe and Lotus Pavilion on the beachfront.

Four unique beverage stations will also be set up. These include the bubbles champagne bar, classic to cool cocktail bar, the iced beer boat and a hand-blended juice bar. A host of free activities in and around the pool will be provided to entertain children.

For more information e-mail: events@northphuket.com

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Siam and the 'syair' of strife

Looking Back

By Anand Singh

DURING the early 19th century, Kedah was a Malay state under Siamese hegemony and the Sultan of Kedah answered to the King of Siam in Bangkok.

An anonymous scribe at the sultan's court wrote a lengthy account of the Burmese invasion and Kedah's involvement in the subsequent war.

The story was hand-written as a poem, using old Malay language and Yawi script. The poetic style, known as a 'Syair', is composed of four line stanzas, and contains 1,102 verses.

This particular Syair is vital as a historical source because it is virtually an eyewitness account of events that occurred during the early reign of Sultan Ahmad Tajuddin of Kedah.

From its origins in Kedah, the original manuscripts found their way into the British museum archives.

In 1980, Muhammad Yusoff Hashim translated the original poem into contemporary Malay and called it 'The Battle for Junk Ceylon: the Syair Sultan Maulana'. Later the Syair was translated from its original Yawi text into Thai language by Dr Rattiya Sallae.

The lengthy poem starts by bidding the reader to pay homage



to Sultan Ahmad Tajuddin, ruler of Kedah. According to the poem, when the young sultan ascended the throne of the semi-autonomous Malay state, he made his father-in-law, Datoh Maharaja commander-in-chief of the Kedah army.

Not long after his ascension a rebellion broke out in the Pattani region, which also submitted to Siam.

When the rebellion broke out, King Rama I asked Sultan Ahmad to send troops to Pattani to aid Siamese soldiers in crushing the rebels.

The king conveyed his message through the Governor of Songkhla, who was put in charge of the campaign against the rebels.

The Sultan could not refuse orders from Bangkok for fear of military retribution. He therefore asked his senior general Datoh Maharaja to lead his army northward to assist the Siamese army, who were headed south from Songkhla.

According to the Syair, along the way Kedah's military leaders bickered amongst themselves which led to serious delays.

Finally the Kedah army decided to stop marching altogether and instead, leisure at a town called Padang Terap, which was on the way to Pattani.

Meanwhile in Pattani, the

Governor of Songkhla anxiously awaited the Sultan's forces to arrive so that they may jointly assault the rebel stronghold. When Kedah's assistance never arrived, the governor sent several envoys to Sultan Ahmad to find out why there has been a delay.

The Sultan, concerned about the progress of the march sent some of his trusted officers to Padang Terap to find out why the army was not moving from the town. When they reached they could only persuade the commander-in-chief, Datoh Maharaja to send scouts forward to Pattani to gather information.

The scouts returned with news that Siamese forces led by the Governor of Songkhla had already crushed the rebellion and taken control of the city of Pattani.

When the Sultan received news that the war had been won without Kedah's involvement, he became furious and fearful of a Siamese backlash.

He dismissed his generals and appointed a trusted aide, Temung Khongkum to lead another force of 5,000 troops from Kedah to Pattani.

When the second Kedah army finally arrived in Pattani, the Governor of Songkhla was outraged. Believing the Sultan had conspired against him by delaying



ALLY: Sultan Ahmad Tajuddin of Kedah was loyal in supporting Siam.

the army's march to Pattani, the Governor ordered the arrest of Temung Khongkum and other Kedah army officers.

The rest of the army was sent back to Kedah with a message, warning the Sultan that in due time his state would pay the price for disloyalty. The Sultan realized that he had to make amends with the Siam.

He therefore sent the Laxmana of Kedah to meet with the Songkhla Governor, who was still in Pattani. The Laxmana asked the governor for forgiveness and the immediate release of prisoners from Kedah that had been detained. The courtly Governor forgave the Sultan and released the

prisoners who then returned safely back to Kedah.

The Governor's leniency towards the Sultan proved a good decision.

Not long after the Patani incident, news reached Bangkok that the Burmese had assembled a large army and were preparing an invasion.

With more than 10,000 men and hundreds of ships, they planned to invade the south of Siam once again and part of this large invading force was spearheading its way to Thalang.

Once again the Siamese sent a message to Sultan Ahmad, seeking his assistance in soldiers and supplies.

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Allan Zeman

ALLAN Zeman has built one of Phuket's most successful villa projects, Andara, which rolls up the mountain at the south end of Kamala Beach. Andara comprises 37 two- to four-bedroom residence suites and 26 villas, each of at least 2,000 square meters.

The project sold without much effort due to Allan's good reputation and the many contacts he has developed during his impressive 40-year career as one of Hong Kong's major entrepreneurs.

He is perhaps best known as the founder of Hong Kong's Lan Kwai Fong entertainment district, which boasts some of that island's best restaurants and clubs. But he is also a major property developer in Hong Kong and serves as Chairman of Ocean Park, the very popular theme park. He sits on the board of a number of government and service organizations as well, while his business continues to expand into mainland China.

On Phuket, he built the stylish shopping center Plaza Surin at Bang Tao, and the Silk restaurant now located at Andara.

Allan spent his first years in Montreal, Canada. His father died when he was seven years old and the young boy was motivated to earn money. He had an instinctive work ethic. He began working in restaurants washing dishes when

EXPAT gallery

By Bruce Stanley

only 11 years old. At age 16, he began scouring the Help Wanted ads in the local newspaper for a job offering more money.

He was hired as a shipping clerk by a lingerie company and learned the essentials of the export market.

He was then hired by the Algo Group as a salesman. By the time he was 18, he was in charge of sales for the company's Western Canada division.

He first went to Hong Kong when he was 19 to set up his own export company, Jump for Charley.

"I immediately loved the hustle and bustle of Hong Kong. With a partner, we designed and exported sweaters. I made my first million dollars when I was 19."

But he got a shock when he discovered that after paying taxes on his million dollars, he had less than half of it left. He decided to move his residence to Hong Kong which had a more favorable tax structure for the young entrepreneur.

In 1975, Allan founded Colby International Group to source and export fashion apparel to North

America. The company grew to become one of the largest supply chain management companies in the world, with more than 36 offices worldwide.

He is Chairman of Sweetpea Entertainment, a company that produces movies and television series, including Dungeons & Dragons which was viewed in over 1,000 theaters in the United States.

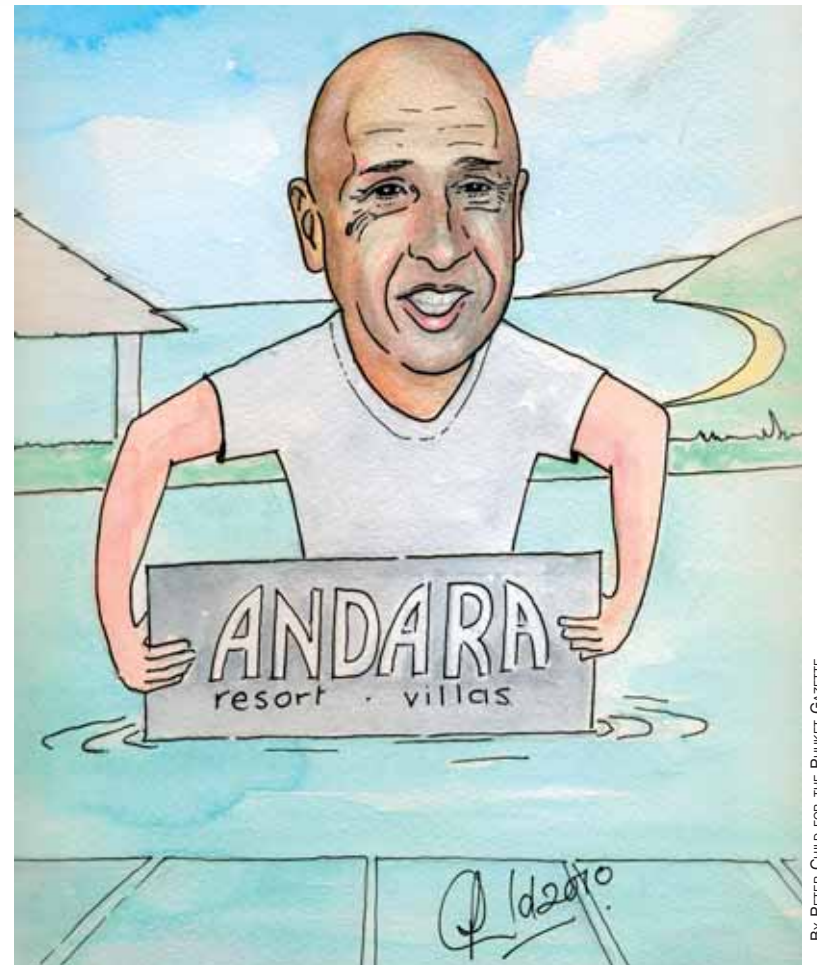
Allan also sits on the Board of Wynn, one of the world's largest gaming companies, in Las Vegas and Macau.

While he has had holidays all over the world, he remembers that it was in 1990, while staying at the Amanpuri, that he first thought of doing business here.

"Phuket is magic and it's only several hours from Hong Kong. So I began looking for projects with my designer, Branko Pahor."

The results are the distinctive Andara and Plaza Surin. He also built Chandara, his private estate above Laem Singh Beach, which sprawls over 8,000 square meters under a number of Thai-style roofs.

"Andara has been so well received that we are looking at creating a brand that we can take to other destinations. It's a real responsibility when someone invests with you. I want everyone who buys into one of my projects to do well."



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

November 20-30. Palazzo dinner show discount

Phuket residents pay 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 Palazzo. Discount applies only 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 20-30. Chet Collins at Six Senses Sanctuary

Upon meeting with you, Dr Chet will select manual treatment techniques based on your physical needs and goals. Fifteen years of clinical and field experience allow full consideration of underlying medical conditions when determining the appropriate techniques to use for your treatment. Your individual treatment goals may include accelerating your flexibility, rapidly resolving a specific physical condition, or optimizing your wellness plan results. Prices are 13,500 baht for 90 minutes, 9,000 baht for 60

December 5. Ironman 70.3 Asia-Pac



Laguna Resorts & Hotels and World Triathlon Corporation (WTC) are hosting the inaugural Ironman 70.3 Asia-Pacific Championship will be held on 5 December 2010 at Laguna Phuket from 5:30am-4pm. The race will be the culmination of WTC's new Asia-Pacific Ironman 70.3 Series and Laguna Phuket is expected to be the permanent home of this Championship. The Ironman 70.3 comprises a 1.9km swim, 90.1km cycle and 21.1km run. The *Phuket Gazette* and PGTV are official media sponsors for this event. Contact Naravadee Swangridht on T: 076-362300, E: naravadees@laguna-phuket.com or visit W: ironman-phuket.com for more information.

per person is 3,800 baht ++. Contact Sylvie Yaffe on T: 076-333569, E: pr@villaroyalephuket.com or visit W: villaroyalephuket.com for more information.

November 21. Phuket-Times Amateur Golf Open

The fifth round takes place at the Laguna Phuket Golf Club. The first tee time will be 11am. Prize presentation and food at the venue. Trophies will be awarded for first to third in three categories, plus nearest-to-pin and long drives. Contact Neil on T: 082-280 3486. For Thai, contact Laong on T: 087-856 4426, E: phuketamateurgolfopen@gmail.com or visit W: phuket-times.com for more information.

November 22. RPM - Spot the Difference

Royal Phuket Marina is launching a free entry contest on facebook.com/royalphuketmarina. All you need to do to win their fantastic grand prize of a boat trip for two to Phang Nga Bay, Phi Phi or Krabi, a spa treatment for two, or a dinner for four at Les Anges' is "Like" their Facebook page and guess the exact number of differences between the two pictures shown (in the picture's comments section). Terms and conditions apply. Contact Michael Forrest on T: 081-958 8199, E: michael@royalphuketmarina.com or visit W: royalphuketmarina.com for more information.

November 23. Free Facebook in Business Seminar II

Open discussion on setting up, making your pages attractive, advertising and case studies. 76 Hour lounge, Nap Hotel, Patong from 7pm-9pm. Woody Leonhard will moderate. Limited seating. Sponsored by Nap Hotel, 76 Hour lounge, Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppes, and the *Phuket Gazette*. Contact Woody Leonhard on T: 076-290468, E: Woody@KhunWoody.com or visit W: KhunWoody.com

minutes and 5,000 baht for 30 minutes. Contact T: 076-371400, E: pr-naka@sixsenses.com or visit W: sixsenses.com/sixsensesanctuary

November 20-24 Deborah Marshall-Warren at Six Senses Sanctuary

Deborah Marshall-Warren is a gifted and respected hypnotherapist. As a leading light in the field of contemporary interactive hypnotherapy in the UK and in Europe, she has run her own private practice (Whole-Being Interactive Hypnotherapy) for nearly two decades. Deborah holds a Post

Graduate Certificate in Education and a Diploma in Hypnotherapy, and is an Emeritus Fellow of The Hypnotherapy Society. Prices are 4,000 baht for 30 minutes of Interactive hypnotherapy, 10,000 baht for 75 minutes (initial); 8,000 for 60 minute follow-up and smoking cessation for 12,500 baht for 90 minutes and 8,000 for a 60 minute follow-up. Contact Six Senses Sanctuary on T: 076-371400, E: pr-naka@sixsenses.com or visit W: sixsenses.com/sixsensesanctuary phuket for more information.

November 21. Loy Krathong

One of Thailand's most beautiful festivals is traditionally performed on the full moon night of the 12th lunar month, which is usually in November. The idea is to worship the river goddess and at the same time to float away any bad luck and start anew. Banana leaf lanterns and floating paper lanterns are set free in the sky and on water.

November 20-30. Maharlika at Six Senses Sanctuary

Internationally acclaimed Maharlika massage specialist Victor Quemuel is available for your

needs. Prices for the Maharlika massage are 7,500 baht for 70 minutes, Maharlika thread peeling facial for 7,500 baht for 70 minutes and Maharlika VIP Ritual (facial and massage) for 12,000 baht for 90 minutes. Contact T: 076-371400, E: pr-naka@sixsenses.com or visit W: sixsenses.com/sixsensesanctuary phuket for more information.

November 20. Guest Chef at Mom Tri's Kitchen

One of Austria's hottest new chefs will create a special seven-course dinner for Mom Tri's Kitchen at Villa Royale. Didi Maier is the head chef at Johanna Maier & Sons, a Relais & Chateaux 2 Michelin-star restaurant in Austria. Didi has prepared an exquisite seven-course menu incorporating many ingredients he'll bring from Europe himself. Wines will be expertly paired by wine director Georges Ciret. Price

Free Computer Clinics

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

November 21, 28 – Chalong, December 5 – Patong, December 12 – Laguna, December 19, 26 – Chalong

For more info contact Woody T: 076-290 468



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Fun Factory

The staff at Factory Club (pictured) in Patong were busy on opening night last weekend. Photo: Nicky Vermeulen



Phuket International Academy Mind Centre welcomed world-renowned academic-turned-Buddhist monk Matthieu Ricard for his visionary 'Train Your Mind, Change Your Brain' talk and photography exhibition last weekend.



RUNNING THE SHOW: Recently-crowned Ironman World Champion Mirinda Carfrae of Australia was guest of honor at a cocktail reception and dinner hosted by Laguna at Banyan Tree. Mirinda is pictured with Laguna Resorts & Hotels managing director Michael Ayling (centre), Banyan Tree Phuket general manager Francois Huet (left) and Banyan Tree Phuket hotel manager Jerry John.

Toasting high season



EAST 88 beach lounge at Serenity Resort and Residences rang in high season in style with their Lift Off Party which featured a buffet, free flowing drinks and a bikini model show, amongst other festivities.

CHILLING: (Left) Aussies Jennie and Stefan Jurkiewicz enjoy themselves.



Expats Spencer Fenton, Violeta Kirchner and Martijn De Liefde.



BEVY OF BEAUTIES: From left are Sarah Wales, General Manager of Serenity Resort and Residences Urs Aebi, Kerry Lahana and Julie De Vitto. Photos: Alexandra Andersson

Fashion Central



TRENDY: Natthinee Namsuriya, Phi Phi and Patchanok Hananupong.



THE LADIES: Kaniittha Prasopsiriku from Royal Phuket Marina, Praewpayom Aikwanich from Asia Web Direct and Parivee Thavornhengtrakul from wotif.

FASHIONISTAS and celebrities flocked to Central Festival for the grand opening of the 100-million-baht New Look Lan-Lom Bar Circle last week. Rococo garments were modeled as part of the opening ceremony.



Photos: Atchaa Khamlo

THAI BUFFET DINNER

LOY KRATONG NIGHT

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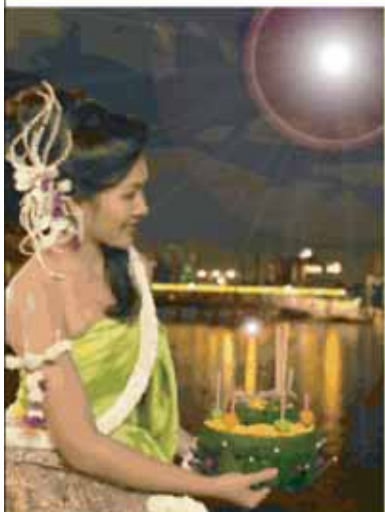
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One night in Phuket...

By Bruce Stanley

IT WAS a night of feathers, mojitos and salsa at One Night in Rio, the Phuket International Women's Club (PIWC) annual gala, which was held last weekend at the Hilton Phuket Arcadia Resort.

Once again, the PIWC showed they know how to throw a party that leaves their guests dancing past midnight.

This annual ball is the highlight of Phuket's social season and attracts supporters from all over the island who come together to have fun while raising money for scholarships for students in financial need.

"Over the past 21 years, the PIWC has paid for the education for hundreds of local students.

"We depend on the kind contribution of our members as well as our fundraising events. I am happy that we have received such an enthusiastic response," Wipa Tanmanatragul, President of the PIWC said.

The scholarship fund was sup-

ported by ticket sales and contributions from local resorts and donors.

At the evening's live auction, tickets for two to Sao Paulo, Brazil, were auctioned to the highest bidder. Past PIWC President Sue Arnulphy and husband, Michel, offered a winning 105,000 baht.

The luxury TwinPalms Resort donated gourmet food and beverage packages for which Neil and Linda Cumming paid 160,000 baht into the PIWC scholarship fund.

While One Night in Rio was full of great food, cocktails and dancing, the silent auction tables and raffles were ably handled by many of the students at the two local universities who have benefited from the clubs scholarships. It was a wonderful night for a very good cause.

Photos: Atchaa Khamlo and Bruce Stanley



SHOWGIRLS: PIWC President Wipa Tanmanatragul poses with some of the entertainment.



From left: Cherry Wright, Denise Bertrand, Keith Brooks, Tony Wright and Elaine Rawslay.



MERRY: Karen Ignatowicz and David Liddell.



LADIES OF THE BALL: Masked Ido Haddon and Debbie Dionysius partied the night away.



PIWC POWER: Organizers Carol Dux, Sue Arnulphy, PIWC President Wipa Tanmanatragul, Maggie Wigman and Wendy Stanford are to thank for this wonderful evening going ahead.



LOOKING SNAZZY: Ulla and Finn Amsinck.



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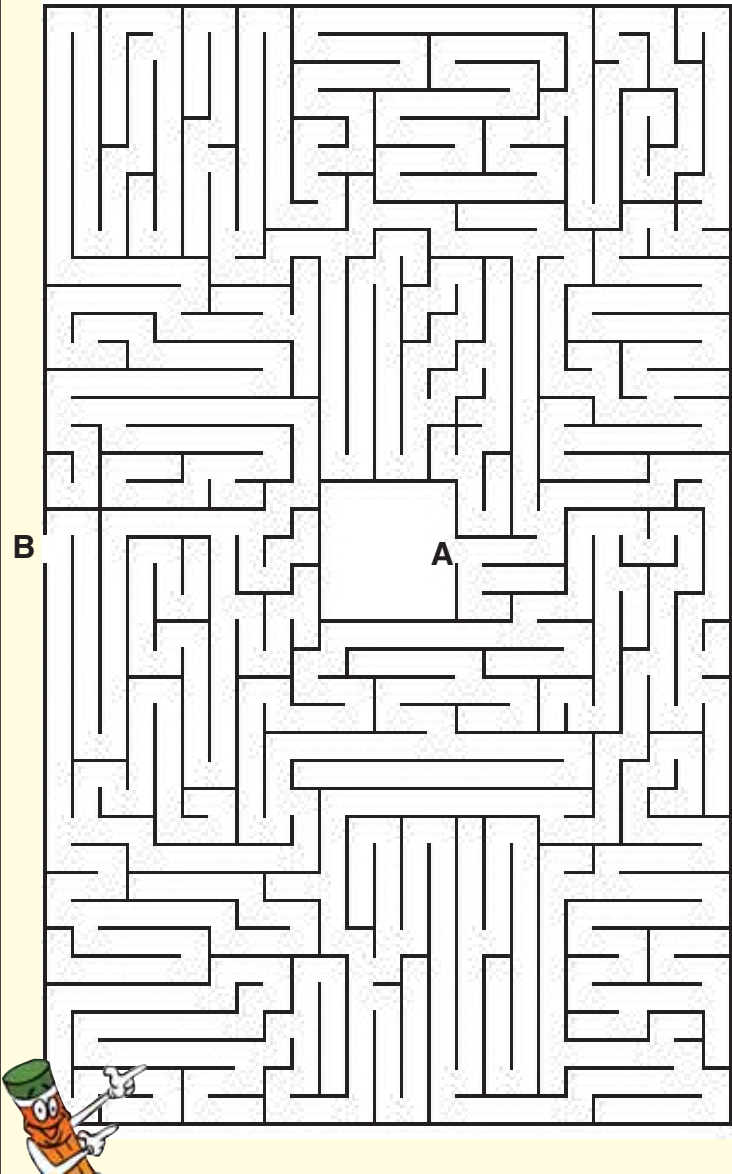
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A *Gazette* staff member completed this maze in three minutes. Can you beat their time? Make your way out of the maze.

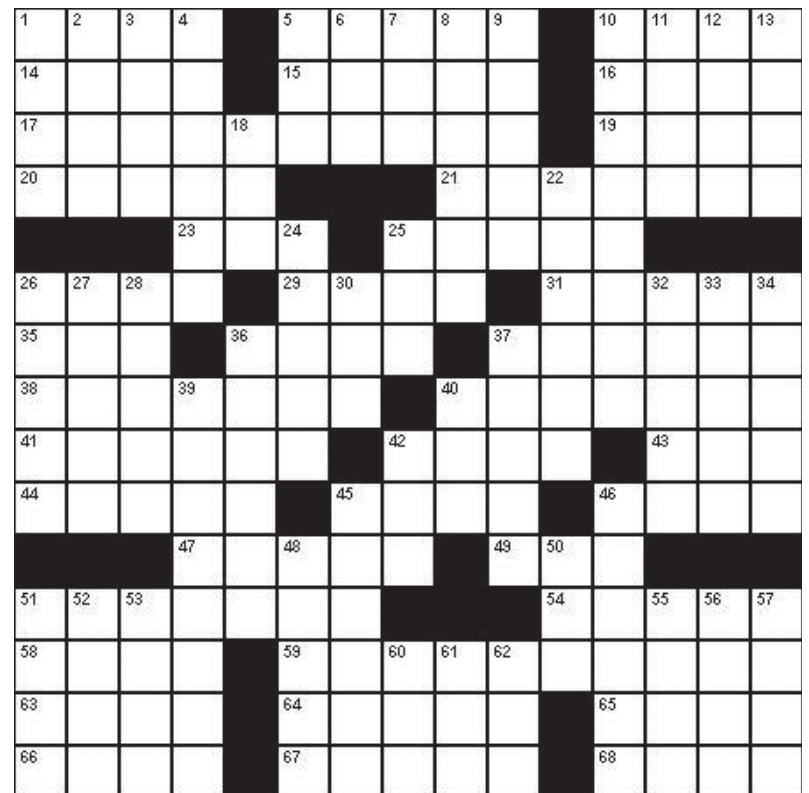


Across

1. Mid-month times
5. Corpulent
10. Open __ night
14. Manner of walking
15. Immerse
16. Expel gas or odor
17. Decorative
19. Actress Turner
20. Outer coat of a seed
21. Eyeglass having two portions
23. Application
25. 1961 Heston role
26. Tempo
29. Winglike parts
31. Pale purple
35. Competitor of Tide and Cheer
36. Horse's gait
37. Spanish inn
38. Attains
40. Fortified place
41. Bit of progress
42. After the bell
43. Heston's org.
44. Capital of South Korea
45. Curse
46. Back part of the foot
47. Honda model
49. Feel bad about
51. Antiquated
54. Floating platforms
58. Graph prefix
59. Brawl
63. Collar type
64. Uneven
65. Authentic
66. Denomination
67. Available
68. Cattle group

Down

1. __ Rhythm
2. Challenge
3. Half of zwei
4. Carved image
5. Compass direction
6. Freight weight
7. Escape
8. Good, in a way
9. Tending to a definite end
10. Sondheim or Simon
11. Apple product



12. Basic currency of Papua New Guinea
13. Bibliography abbr.
18. Barker and Bell
22. Threadlike
24. Auricular protuberances (past)
25. Chow down
26. Seine spot
27. Coeur d'__
28. Mild cigar
30. Acapulco article
32. Singer Cleo
33. Be gaga over
34. Artificial waterway
36. Muse of comedy

37. Mum's mate
39. Lying down with head raised (heraldry)
40. Outlaw
42. Resinous deposit
45. Having two horns
46. Fireside
48. Home movie medium
50. Metro area
51. Gorillas, chimpanzees and orangutans
52. Appraise, charge per unit
53. Gator's cousin
55. Golfer's "watch out!"
56. Travel from place to place
57. Timetable, for short
60. "As if!"
61. Code-breaking org.
62. "Sure thing"

Provided by BestCrosswords.com.
Used with permission.

Puzzle solutions on page 29

SAGITTARIUS (November 23-December 21): Those born under the sign of Sagittarius who have yet to make holiday plans are forecast to receive an intriguing invitation. To accept will probably mean that you have to work hard until the end of November, but enjoyment next month will compensate for that. If your birthday lies in the week ahead, expect the coming year to offer more opportunities to see the world. Lucky days for finances this week are Sunday and Monday.

CAPRICORN (December 22-January 20): Capricorns coming to terms with a situation that was not what they wanted should see the bright side this week. The stars suggest that an upbeat mood allows you to concentrate more positive areas of your life. Romance is mostly well-starred – a relationship that was troubled by outside influence should become more under your control. Scorpio has a tempting business proposition that could suit your ambitions very well.

AQUARIUS (January 21-February 19): Information received early next week could be the tip of the iceberg. Aquarians are advised to delay reactions until the whole picture be-

comes clear. An earth sign colleague is dancing to a different tune, but Leo sees things from your point of view. Finances are insecure until the end of the month, but December promises to bring more monetary rewards. Sparkling days for romance are Monday and Tuesday.

PISCES (February 20-March 20): The stars suggest that many Pisceans will be embarking on a spiritual journey as November draws to a close. Your interest in non-material matters may not be shared by family and friends – if this subject causes friction, find other things to talk about. Those who are single learn more about an earth sign potential romantic partner. Your interest in this person grows and a relationship is predicted to follow.

ARIES (March 21-April 20): Arians are predicted to be spoiled for choice in the coming days. If there is the possibility of relocation, the stars advise checking facts thoroughly as there are signs that you could be taken in by smooth talk. In the world of work, a water sign can make useful introductions, but communication with Virgo is affected by crossed wires. Your romantic outlook remains good – a date this Sunday goes better than expected.



TAURUS (April 21-May 21): Taureans should endeavor to keep their personal and working lives separate this week. There are indications that the temptation to turn a business relationship into a more intimate one will be strong. The best approach is to allow yourself the space this weekend to consider possible outcomes. A disagreement over money earlier this month should be resolved, although you may reconsider your trust in a particular person or institution.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21): History repeats itself for many of those born under the sign of Gemini this week. If this relates to a business situation, you should have the experience to ride out this minor storm. If a personal matter is concerned, there could be a new twist to events. Taurus can give calm advice, but other air signs only have impractical suggestions to make. The number seven is lucky this weekend.

CANCER (June 22-July 23): Someone at work is predicted to ruffle your feathers this week. Cancerians who suspected that this person has ulterior motives should now receive proof. The best course of action is to do nothing. Your personal life appears to be up in the air – more stability will be found when December commences. A dream you have this weekend reflects mixed emotions concerning a romantic relationship. Wear the color jade green to encourage more constructive thinking.

LEO (July 24-August 22): Nitpicking wastes valuable time for many Leos early next week. The stars suggest that colleagues caught up with minor details could try to involve you too. Wednesday is the best day to make your point. Family matters may also require some straightening out – there are signs that children are the cause of some domestic upheaval this weekend. You are advised to reset boundaries. Lucky days for romance are Wednesday and Thursday.

VIRGO (August 23-September 23): Your business outlook until the end of the month is unpredictable, so Virgoans should not invest energy or money in new schemes until

December. The stars suggest that family members are planning holiday celebrations for next month that could require more input from you than previous years. A hot-headed approach to romance has positive results this weekend. Those already committed need to help their partner make a difficult decision.

LIBRA (September 24-October 23): Your anxiety over an employment situation is eased when a fire sign steps in. Tuesday and Wednesday are the best days to schedule discussions involving promotion and financial compensation. Certain Librans may be forced to realize that they have too many irons in the fire at present. The stars advice is to streamline before the end of the year as your outlook for 2011 includes a demanding business challenge.

SCORPIO (October 24-November 22): Plans gather momentum this week for many of those born under the sign of Scorpio. The last days of November promise to be a busy time, with emphasis on last minute work. If your energy is low, this is the time to adopt a healthier diet and get some exercise. Romantic affairs are well-starred – there are signs that your interest in another water sign is finally returned this week.

PROPERTY Gazette

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

Marina construction sails ahead smoothly

By Janpen Upatising

PHASE two of construction on the new Chalong Marina, which is being built by Golden Plan Co Ltd and Prommitr Co Ltd, is well underway and scheduled to finish in September 2012.

Phase one of the project, which saw construction of the port, quay, wastewater treatment pool and sailing navigation works was completed in 2007 well within the 70-million-baht budget.

The second phase, which began in September last year with a 235-million-baht budget, includes the construction of the passenger terminal, immigration and customs offices and a Thai Marine Department office.

The marina will have space for 50 yachts at a maximum length of the 30 meters per vessel.

Officials are optimistic about the role the new facility will have



Phuripat Theerakulsiput

in reducing drug trafficking problems in Phuket.

The marina will serve as the main check-in point for visitors sailing the Andaman region and all marine traffic will need to go through Immigration and Customs before continuing elsewhere.

"For now, we as a government authority, have to admit we are not 100% efficient. Presently, tourists



DRUDGE ON THE DREDGE: Phase two of Chalong Marina's construction is currently underway. Photo by Steven Fein

freely enter other marinas and report their arrivals later," said Phuripat Theerakulsiput, chief of Marine Office 5 Phuket.

"We have to ask the marinas in Phuket to submit lists of yachts that check in and out at their locations. It is international standard that travelers entering a country by boat need to check in with immigration first, and once

we open Chalong Marina, we can enforce the regulations and make sure everything goes according to law," he said.

"Hopefully this will see problems regarding drugs decline," Mr Phuripat added.

However, the project does have its complications.

"Chalong Bay is a closed area suitable for building marina, but it

needs to be built according to international standards.

"According to the specifications for marina development, the breakwater wave level should not exceed 0.5 meters.

"But during the the monsoon season, the wave levels reach higher than one meter. If we don't have the breakwaters, it will be dangerous," he said.

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In brief...

Great Eagle plans eight Langham and Eaton hotels for Thailand

GREAT Eagle Hospitality Group, a Hong Kong-based hotel developer, is expanding its business internationally, including a plan to operate five Eaton hotels and three Langham properties in Thailand over the next five years.

Brett Butcher, chief executive officer of Langham Hotels International and Eaton Hotels International, said the group planned to manage at least eight properties in Thailand within the next four to five years.

Five properties will be operated under the newly created Eaton brand and three under the Langham luxury brand.

The three Langham hotels in Thailand will be developed over

the next three years, after the opening of its first resort property in Koh Samui late last year.

It will operate two hotels in Bangkok in the Phya Thai and Sukhumvit areas, and another in Phuket which will be developed by an Irish investor, and all three hotels are scheduled to open in 2013.

The Langham in Sukhumvit will feature 320 rooms and 80 residences, serving business travellers and the luxury leisure market.

Langham Place, with 400 rooms, is targeted at the same group, while the 78-villa resort in Phuket will focus on foreign tourists.

— The Nation

Erawan pushes pause on Ibis Krabi project

ACCORDING to published reports, the Ibis in Krabi – an Accor collaboration with Thai hospitality group Erawan – is currently on hold along with two budget hotel projects in Hua Hin and Sri Racha. The Erawan group owns seven

properties, including the recently opened Ibis Riverside on the Chaophraya River. Erawan's Grand Hyatt Erawan, JW Marriott and Courtyard by Marriott, all in Bangkok, took substantial hits from the red-shirt protests in May.

Thailand tops largest expat lifestyle survey

THE reason an increasing number of expatriates choose to call Phuket home has been reflected in HSBC's "Expat Explorer Survey 2010". Thailand has topped HSBC's comprehensive research document, which focuses on three main sectors: economics, experi-

ence and offshore offspring. Also featuring in the report are the retiree or "silver expats" segment, which has expanded in metrics and statistics. According to the data, 24% of expats who come to Thailand view the destination with retirement in mind.

Back to the future, luxury looks east



Property Watch

By Bill Barnett

CRASH test dummies and pioneering voyages have one thing in common: The question mark at the end of their journey into uncertainty.

There have been many such voyages over the years which often taken place in sailing boats.

Take Christopher Columbus for example. Perhaps in today's age he might have taken to the seven seas in a well-appointed superyacht.

As far as success in not falling off the end of the world, as many thought he would, there are those in Phuket relating to the east coast with the same disdain and resistance as Columbus' critics did.

West coast pride is nothing new, just look at those images of scantily clad vixens from Baywatch and indeed check out the guys from Entourage when they hit Venice Beach to chill, Hollywood style.

Postcard-perfect sunsets, long stretches of white sand beaches and non-stop partying all add up to bombastic pre-ordained sanctimonious posturing.

Meanwhile, somewhere on Phuket is a mad scientist strapped into a time-machine that is wired to Google Earth, gearing up to discover Phuket's next big thing and what the future holds.

A domestication in the hotel development sector has seen a crushing onslaught of new mid-scale hotels on every corner of the island. It's like the iPad, suddenly everyone wants one.

Unfortunately, most of these new contenders are like errant school children in that they haven't done their homework. In most



FUTURE: Like a mad scientist, developers might try anything for inside info.

cases financial models have only seen the backseat of the car, or have even found themselves in the boot instead of riding shotgun up front. Ego has replaced sound financial fundamentals.

While the mid-market heads for huge oversupply, the global financial crisis has tempered the luxury segment over an extended period and brought its pipeline into a state of slow motion. Reference the late Michael Jackson's moonwalk for time trials.

Like a high-society drunk, zig-zagging down Park Avenue looking for a place to lie down and rest, luxury's quest for a home is looking to upgrade out of the island's middle-class suburbia into something a bit more upper crust. Snobbish yes, but as any Wall Street banker will tell you, the rich are the exception rather than the rule.

Over the past few years, many tourism and property experts, myself included, have been of the opinion that across the Sarasin Bridge, extending into Phang Nga, they are developing in a very big way.

However, the restrictive zoning act for the southern part of Phuket's northern neighbor, which came into play earlier this year, has been an unexpected killjoy for developers along with a few new regulations.

While the north will continue, with small-scale projects, the evolution of the east coast and Phang Nga Bay islands is well underway.

This includes the recently opened Westin Siray Bay Resort and Spa on Koh Sireh as well as the reported announcement of a new luxury mixed-use project, a four-star Sheraton that will open at Ao Makham next year and the long overdue Regent in Panwa.

Drumbeats of progress continue at Yamu and Jumeriah and are spreading with apparent prospects of a Taj Exotica in Koh Lon, redevelopment for Maithon Island and a further Rawai Four Seasons project.

The mad scientist who has just arrived back from future Phuket has seen all the developments going on, and can rest easy knowing that luxury may well have found a new home by then.

Bill Barnett is Managing Director of C9 Hotelworks and can be contacted through www.c9hotelworks.com.

Laguna

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3 Allamanda 2-Bedroom Suite THB 7.9 M



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Getting to know the lay of the land

RATHER than being offered a property title, a buyer may be approached to buy the company which owns the property.

In such an event, the parties typically enter a Share Sale and Purchase Agreement.

This lays out the terms and conditions for applying for the sale of shares in the company which upon execution shall provide the buyer with control over the holding vehicle owning the property.

A buyer would be well-advised to investigate the company, and its property, to ensure that the legal structure underlying the two is in full compliance with all applicable laws and regulations.

Furthermore, the buyer should verify that the company is in compliance with the applicable tax laws and maintains proper accounting (if required).

The buyer and seller should also check on potential tax liabilities which may occur in connection with the sale of shares.

Particularly in cases where a Thai company owns a plot of land, the buyer should be cautious and verify that the company is fully compliant with all applicable legal requirements.

Furthermore, it must be understood that only investors who are able to demonstrate their legitimacy should be invited to become shareholders in such a business entity.

Designation of simple nominee

Property Legal

By Michael Greth

shareholders is illegal in Thailand.

Any violation of the applicable laws, including but not limited to, circumvention of the laws prohibiting foreign land ownership, may have severe consequences for your investment if the legal structure underlying your property is scrutinized by the authorities.

A buyer should also consider that a company must be maintained which causes additional annual and ongoing costs.

The buyer should insist that the sales documentation, usually a Share Sale and Purchase Agreement, contains comprehensive warranties and representations from the seller in capacity of shareholder and/or director as well as the company itself.

Such warranties and representations cannot substitute a professional due diligence in the company and its property, however, it can provide further protection for the buyer.

The warranties and representations may include, but not limited to, that the company is holding the sole and undisputed title to the target property.

Also, that the shares are free of encumbrances or third party rights, that the seller is the sole



EYEING OPPORTUNITIES: Buyers should always conduct due diligence when acquiring a company and the property it owns. Photo: Nicky Vermeulen

and undisputed owner of the shares, that the company has no outstanding debts or liabilities (other than those which have been disclosed) and that the company is not involved or threatened by litigation or other governmental action or investigation.

Depending on the jurisdiction where the company is registered, a seller may further be able to provide his buyer with a Certificate

of Good Standing, which is basically an official document issued by the registrar of corporate affairs, stating existence and good standing of the company as further described under the certificate.

If possible, the parties may also agree to use an escrow arrangement in connection with the company sale, providing both parties with protection against

non-performance of either party.

Typically, under such an escrow arrangement, the buyer pays the funds required for the purchase of the shares into the account of a third party (e.g. escrow agent), who then releases and disburses the monies to the seller upon an event which has been agreed as a relevant trigger for the release of the funds.

In the case of a share sale, this could be the completed transfer of the shares to the buyer and seller's resignation as the company's director demonstrated by relevant proof.

In the event of a sale of a British Virgin Islands (BVI) company, the parties may deem a Certificate of Incumbency.

This is issued by the BVI company's appointed registered agent and acceptable for this specific purpose as it shows the current company shareholders and directors.

In summary, a property purchase by acquisition of its holding vehicle can be a straightforward and transparent transaction.

However, both parties should seek professional advice by both a legal and tax advisor to ensure smooth completion of the transaction.

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Pride of Barbados at home in Phuket

Gardening

By Green Sleeves

THE *Caesalpinia*, otherwise known as cassia, is under the botanical microscope on the Top 20 list this week, if only on account of its current floral displays around Phuket.

Call it what you will – peacock flower, dwarf poinciana, pride of Barbados, or red bird of paradise – it is positively thriving in this unseasonably sodden weather.

Yes, it is the tail end of the monsoon, but nationwide reports of flooding only serve to confirm the suspicion that we are getting more rain than usual.

Caesalpinia pulcherrima is a well-known shrub and is very easy to grow.

Though it has its origins in America, it has become a firm Phuket favorite, growing in public spaces such as motorway verges.

There are lines of bushes or clipped hedgerows all over the island, one notable specimen can be found on Chao Fa Road

East opposite Wine Connection.

The plant can however, become straggly. The remedy for this is normally to prune drastically, but pruning will cause this particular plant to come back bushier and stronger than before.

Left alone, the peacock flower will grow to a modest three meters, so it is also a good candidate as a lawn specimen.

Its chief glory is its vivid inflorescence, which consists of five-petaled, orange or red, crinkly, bowl-shaped flowers borne on erect, pyramidal spikes which can be several inches in height.

There is also an equally common yellow variety – though it is less distinctive – and a rarer pink hybrid.

Make no mistake: *pulcherrima* is a spectacular and profuse bloomer.

The leaves are attractive and technically bipinnate, which means they have small pairs of leaves divided into tiny leaflets.

This fern-like foliage is also evergreen, a real virtue in the tropics, where leaf drop can be so unsightly.

This plant will grow in both acidic and alkaline soils, is fast

growing and will tolerate wet and dry conditions alike. It will even put up with salt-laden winds.

The *Caesalpinia* is a good candidate for a mixed shrub border, since its open spreading habit means that plenty of sun filters through to any smaller plants around it.

Many gardeners plant it along an outside wall. But be sure to give it room by positioning it at least two feet from the base of the wall.

Propagation could not be more straightforward. Because it is a member of the pea and bean family, it produces masses of bean-like pods which gradually turn dark brown or black.

The ease with which they germinate is apparent from the frequent presence of new plantlets under existing bushes.

Since *caesalpinia pulcherrima* is a legume, it is often confused with another branch of the family, namely the *cassia* and especially with *cassia surattensis*, better known as the scrambled egg bush on account of its spikes of bright yellow flowers which resemble those of the yellow *caesalpinia*.

In the South Sea Islands, it is known as *kolomona*. Given the right conditions, it can, like *pulcherrima*, bloom all year round.

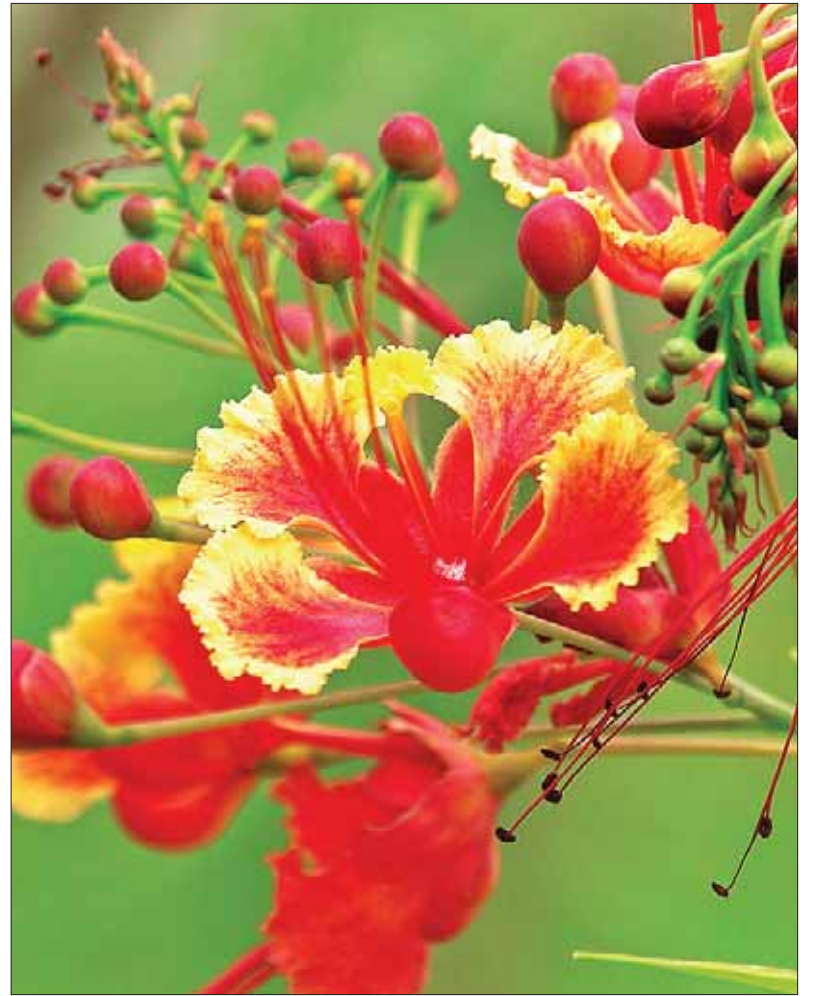
But it is taller than the peacock flower – up to six meters – and is thus arguably better as a dooryard tree than as a garden shrub.

It has the same characteristic bean pods, but the foliage is pinnate and not bi-pinnate, that is to say, there are six to ten oval leaflets in pairs along each stem.

Cassia fistula also deserves a mention. Its long, pendulous spikes look like those of *wisteria* or *laburnum* – shrubs familiar to all European gardeners.

Hence its common names of *Indian laburnum*, or golden shower tree. It is truly spectacular when in full and fragrant bloom.

An altogether larger plant than *pulcherrima* or *surattensis*, it is probably too substantial for the



PROUD AS A PEACOCK: The *Caesalpinia pulcherrima* or “peacock flower” is stunning in both red and yellow (inset). Photo: Arun Kumud Mauro Guanandi

average garden. So it gets a mention, but no Top 20 rating.

So the vote here goes – just – to the peacock flower.

Hard to beat for its good looks, both in terms of flowers and foliage, its extended flowering period, its ease of cultivation and general amiability.

The only downside is that it can

be a bit sprawling and the pods can be unsightly if not removed. Oh – and it is thorny. But having it in your garden is worth the odd pin-prick.

If you have a garden that you would like to be featured, please email pcampbell45@gmail.com

Tip of the week

Plants in pots prompt a rethink

A RECENT visit to a garden consisting almost entirely of pot plants prompted a rethink.

Most shrubs can be grown in containers, however, it's not just the usual culprits.

While front yards and patios in Phuket tend to be inhabited by *euphorbias*, *adeniums*, *bougainvilleas*, palms and *wrightias*, this garden had *gardenias*, *dracaenas*, gingers and plenty more.

With this in mind, why not try out foliage plants such as crotons, *graphophyllums* and *acalyphas*.

Container plants can be de-

ployed to create an interesting focal point and define a sector.

They can colonize difficult areas, such as a dry or an excessively wet corner.

Pots are an effective means of controlling a plant's environment, while the amount of moisture required can be monitored and specific nutrient or pH requirements catered for.

And they can, if necessary, be brought indoors. Short spells in the house are recommended since few plants can adapt permanently to a relative lack of sun and humidity.


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PATONG 3-BED TOWNHOUSE

190sqm townhouse, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Five years old, nice neighborhood, large communal pool. 6 million baht. Tel: 082-498 0872 (English). Email: shetz66@hotmail.com

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In Layan Soi 7, close to the beach, a lake, a main road and an electricity supply. Ideal for a private house. Tel: 081-787 4383, 081-968 3549.

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SEAVIEW LAND

North end of Bang Sak Beach. 68 meters of road frontage. 2 rai 3 ngan and 52 sq wah. Price: 7.5 million baht. 6km north of Le Meridien Khao Lak Beach & Spa Resort. Tel: 081-894 7644.

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

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3-BEDROOM HOUSE

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

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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

3-BEDROOM HOUSE

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

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LAND FOR SALE

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

LAND AT CHERNG TALAY

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

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

LAND AT PA KHLOK

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

PRIVATE SALE OF HALF A RAI

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

LAND AT PA KHLOK



49 rai, nice flat land. Chanote, 2.5km from Heroines' Monument. 1.7 million baht per rai. Tel: 083-180 2143.

SEAVIEW LAND FOR SALE

Near Supalai Resort on the east coast of Phuket slope. A 3-rai plot with road and electricity access. Price: 3.6 million baht per rai. No agents please. Tel: 080-520 2989. Email: pakapoms@yahoo.com

ROYAL PLACE CONDO

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1 RAI OF LAND

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URGENT SALE!

Nice plot at a good location near Two Villas project (Manik area) with Chanote title. Price: 1.5 rai at 6.9 million baht. The land has electricity access and ready to build on. Tel: 080-520 2989. Email: pakapoms@yahoo.com

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Beautiful upscale development with access to boat and taxi, plus resort amenities. Price: 4.5 million baht and 5.5 million baht. Tel: 085-503 1255 (English).

VILLA IN NAI HARN

2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, large veranda and garden, quiet location, 3.3 million baht. Tel: 081-894 1660 (English), 081-077 0133 (Thai). Email: cottrell@tttmaxnet.com

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5 rai, 3 ngan, 24 sq wah of sea view land (9,296sqm). The area is very private with a very beautiful seaview and overlooking nearby islands, not far from Tondo Pier and Koh Yao Noi Pier. The land is ideal for a residential development. If you are seeking an opportunity to invest in solid ground which provides you a greater value investment, here is the right answer. Tel: 087-276 7997 (English & Thai). Email: offy_ddcafe@hotmail.com

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Perfect for island-hopping in safety and comfort. Can be used as a private charter boat (17 Passengers + 3 crew) and comes with optional tour contracts with five-star resorts. Contact Ross for more info and photos. Must sell now! Tel: 084-744 2240. Email: ross@funboatcruises.com For more details, please visit our website at http://www.funboatcruises.com/mvsting_deck

ALUMINUM SPEEDBOAT

6.3 meters LOA, Marine grade aluminum construction. 115 Suzuki 4-stroke with 110-liter fuel tank. Imported trailer all like new condition. Asking 1.2 million baht. See at Max Marine showroom. Call for more info. Tel: 076-617269 (English & Thai). Email: craig@maxmarine.asia

RACING YACHT FOR SALE

Inglis 47' racing yacht. Lift keel, sweptback spreaders, masthead and fractional asymmetrical and 1.5 bowsprit, twin wheels and aft nav station. In excellent condition and ready to race. Please contact for more details. Tel: +61-418-939336 (English). Email: nomadaust@hotmail.com

MOTORSAILER



Neptunian motorsailer. VHF, GPS, Depth, Radar, Autohelm. Two cabins. Full galley. Single handed, blue water cruiser. Tel: 081-968 1437 (English). Email: bobedward1@hotmail.com

SWISS CAT 20FT

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

38FT CATAMARAN

It has 4 double cabins, 2 toilets/showers. In composite, under construction. Price: 390,000 baht. For further information, please contact. Tel: 087-461 8089.

JEANNEAU SUN ODYSSEY 35'

2003, great pocket cruising yacht. Price: US\$79,950. For further information, 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

RIVIERA 44' FLYBRIDGE (1984)

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

DINGHY FOR SALE

New Quicksilver, 2.7 meters, soft bottom, inflatable keel, hypalon. Price: 60,000 baht. Tel: 081-817 8377 (English & Thai). Email: bucephalus1950@yahoo.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

19FT RIB FOR SALE

With a 100Hp, 4-stroke engine, built in a stainless steel tank. Comes with a trailer. Also includes a 7-inch color chart plotter, fish finder, outboard bracket, life vests, 2 anchors and a bilge pump. Price: 650,000 baht. Email: alistair@aimdb.net

RIVIERA M430 (2005)

In excellent condition. Twin 425Hp Mercs. Selling for US\$249,000. For more details, please visit our website: www.boatshedphuket.com

SEABOB



Offshore, no limit. High performance product. For more information, please call Alex. Tel: 081-955 5569.

SOLUTIONS TO THIS WEEK'S PUZZLES

Crossword puzzle:



COFFEE
break

Would you like to keep up on what's happening in Phuket - the good, the bad and the bizarre? Let us share it with you - every week!

TO: The Phuket Co Ltd, 79/94 Moo 4, Thepkasattri Rd
T. Koh Kaew, A. Muang, Phuket 83000

YES, I want to receive the PHUKET GAZETTE for a full year - 52 issues!

I hereby authorize payment against my Visa ☐ / Mastercard ☐

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Please Deliver To:

Street address

City

State or Province

Zip Code

Country: _____

To ensure clarity,
please airmail.
Do not Fax!

Last 3 digits
on back of card



Brush, a new and very refreshing "Art Bar/Restaurant and Lounge" in Kalim Beach (planned opening 15th of December 2010) is looking to refresh the culinary scene as well as set up a unique Lounge which will be the most artistic and original place to dine or entertain in Phuket. Before the opening, we are seeking talented Thai National team members to join this exciting new project in Phuket.

| KITCHEN | |
|---------------------|--------------|
| Head Chef | BHT 20-25000 |
| Demi Chef De Partie | BHT 15000 |

| RESTAURANT | |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Assistant Restaurant Manager | BHT 20-25000 |
| Hostesses | BHT 15000 |
| Waiter/esses | BHT 12000 |

| BAR | |
|-------------|-----------|
| Bar Manager | BHT 30000 |
| Barmen | BHT 15000 |

Apply by contacting Cedric Girardon on Phone number: 0828125421 or send your resume/CV to cedric@brushphuket.com

Brush Restaurant & Lounge:
Kalim Beach, Patong, Phuket, Thailand
WWW.BRUSHPHUKET.COM



LA BOUCHERIE
RESTAURANT
soi sansabai

Due to the expansion of our business, La Boucherie Grill and Steakhouse is currently looking for the following positions:

| | |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Waiter / Waitress | 4 Positions |
| Bartender / Bartendy | 2 Positions |
| Maid | 2 Positions |

Interested applicants please call Khun Bao at 084 84 9 2122 and submit current resume, expected salary with photo to the email : bao@phawadee.com



FARANG FOOD PARADISE CO., LTD.
Food & Beverage supplier based in Phuket, is currently seeking for the following position:

Assistant Branch Manager for KRABI

- Thai National
- Good command of English language
- Experience in Sales, Marketing and Food service is a plus
- Good interpersonal skill, service-minded and well organized
- Self motivated and able to work independently

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

FARANG FOOD PARADISE CO., LTD.
99/33-34 Moo 1, Billion Plaza, T. Kathu, A. Kathu, Phuket 83120
marc@phuketfood.com or Tel. 076 612 733 - 076 248 900
www.phuketfood.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 or jane@kandl.asia

For more information about us, please visit our website at www.kandl.asia

PHUKET BABYSITTING

Phuket's first professional babysitting service is looking for staff. If you speak English, like children, and can work either part or full time. Please contact us. Khun Tracey: 084-745 1222, Khun Joy: 081-797 1497. Email: info@phuketbabysitting.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 Please visit our website: www.oceanic-global.com

GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Experienced Thai national, full or part-time. 8,000-10,000 baht to start. Fun place to work. Call for more information. Tel: 087-380 0525. Send your CV to email: boxergirl@boxergirl.net Visit our website at: www.boXXerworld.com

ASSISTANT MANAGER

and receptionist in Phuket. We are seeking a Thai national: female 21-30 years old with a bachelor's degree and good English. Please send resume with a current photo & expected salary to svcp@svensonhaircenter.com or call 076-249657-8.

BARTENDER / RECEPTIONIST

Salary 8,000 baht per month plus service charge and commissions. We need a Thai national who speaks and understands English. Shift - morning, afternoon, evening. Knowledge in making all drinks and front desk experience. Must be helpful, friendly and outgoing with guests. Tel: 076-333222. Email: sales@ccbloomshotel.com

Professional Property Management Solutions

Phuket's premier property management company is looking for suitable, qualified candidates for the following positions:

Guest Services Coordinator**Qualifications:**

- Good command of spoken and written English essential
- 1 year experience in hotel or property management
- Computer literate

Please send your application with a recent photo to Human Resource Dept. Phuket Island Property Services Co.,Ltd (PIPS)
393/2 Moo 1, Srisoonthorn Road, Cherngtalay, Phuket Thailand 83110

Tel: 076 270 750, Fax: 076 270 751, Email: personnel@pipsphuket.com

Phuket Gazette

The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following position:

Advertising Sales

- ▶ Thai, age 26 up with an out going personality
- ▶ Bachelor's degree in marketing or related fields
- ▶ Experience in sales and marketing
- ▶ Good command of spoken & written English
- ▶ Must have own transportation and drivers license

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV and writing sample by email to na@phuketgazette.net

The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

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

IRON BED SHEETS

We are looking for someone to iron bed sheets. This is part-time work. Tel: 085-789 5701, 085-474 6216. Email: chanisara.guesthouse@gmail.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

THAI STAFF WANTED

to working in dive shop. Must speak English and have a professional appearance. Tel: 084-838 3158 (English). Email: talal@bwdiving.com

BAR STAFF PATONG

New venues in Patong needs staff with hospitality experience. Walk-in interviews at Seduction disco 12pm - 2pm on Thursday 18 and Monday 22 November, 2010. Tel: 083-690 5040.

BOUTIQUE MANAGER

In Surin required. We are seeking an energetic and well-groomed Thai lady to work as the manager of a beautiful new boutique in Surin. The successful candidate must be friendly, enthusiastic and knowledgeable about fashion. Must have very good English and sales skills. Prior experience in fashion retail is an advantage. We offer an attractive salary with benefits. Tel: 076-364007. Please send your CV to email: bliss@online.com.kh or finance@rjmthailand.com

TEACHERS WANTED IN PHUKET

Satree Phuket School is seeking a native English speaker to teach science full-time and another candidate to teach math part-time. Starting salary is 30,000 - 35,000 baht, with 4 weeks of paid holiday, government health care, and 3,000 baht housing allowance. Minimum requirements: bachelor's degree or above, plus TEFL or CELTA certificate or equivalent. Send your CV with a covering letter to: joeynho@gmail.com, toptip4736@yahoo.com, nong64@live.com, a_pupatanun@windowslive.com, arayaphan@hotmail.com. Tel: 084-666 3557, 089-647 9085, 089-587 1018, 086-945 9280. Be prepared to present all original certificates at the interview and do a teaching demonstration.

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



Phuket Orchid Resort & Spa

Kata Group Resorts, Thailand

An award winning 524 room hotel with a large convention center, located in the center of Karon Beach requires:-

■ Assistant Sales Manager

- Minimum 1 year experience in a 4 star Phuket hotel
- Good knowledge of all Phuket based agents
- Self motivator with good organizational skills
- Knowledge of government departments for MICE

■ Trainee Sales & Administration

- Recent Graduate
- Good knowledge of English

Please send resume to:-

Personnel Department of Kata Group: personnel@katagroup.com

Phuket Orchid Resort & Spa is part of the famous Kata Group of Hotels with exceptional benefits and family values both in and out of the work place

Tel. 66 076 396 519 - 23 Fax. 66 076 398 313

www.katagroup.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

CHIEF ACCOUNTANT

Bachelor's degree in Accounting. At least 2 years experience in Chief Accountant position or 4 years in Assistant Chief Accountant position in a hotel business. Tel: 076-239707, 083-503 3329, 081-877 9292. Email: prakaisriroj@hotmail.com

PROPERTY SCOUT WANTED

Real estate company looking for property scout. Find new houses, take photos and talk with webmaster. Thai national with basic English language skills. Tel: 081-968 0309 (Thai). Email: info@houseinphuket.com

LOOKING FOR ACCOUNTS ASST

1 position. Knowledge of basic accounting and English required. Tel: 084-849 7212. Email: zeycoth@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



WEST SANDS VACATION CLUB

Mai Khao Beach, Phuket

Be a part of something fantastic! West Sands Vacation Club is seeking additional outgoing, motivated individuals to join our growing fun-filled family. Competitive salaries and benefits.

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Sales Executives (Russian, Arabic, German, English speakers required) | 5 Positions |
| Marketing Executives | 3 Positions |
| Accountant (Effectively communicate in English) | 1 Position |

Send resume or CV with recent photo to mark@west-sands.com



Interested applicants are invited to apply in person at West Sands site, Mai Khao Beach. Alternatively, send your application with full resume/curriculum vitae by stating the position applied for with your qualifications, experiences, expected salary and enclosed a recent photo by email to:

Khun Orravadee Santamano
hr@west-sands.com or orravadee@west-sands.com
www.west-sands.com
T. +66 (0)76 372 000 F. +66 (0)76 372 017

| | |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Property Sales Director | 1 Position |
| Financial Controller | 1 Position |
| Sous Chef | 1 Position |
| Chief Steward | 1 Position |
| Night Manager | 1 Position |
| Sales Manager (Water Park) | 1 Position |

WANTED

SCANDINAVIANS & FINNS FOR WINTER IN GOA

Reputed international Developer Karma Royal Group has four resorts and a thriving Timeshare Sales operation in tropical Goa.

We seek Scandinavian and Finnish sales representatives (trained or inexperienced) for the coming winter season (December to March)

This is your opportunity to escape to the winter sun, work in a professional environment and enjoy the low costs associated with living in India. An opportunity to **MAKE MONEY and SAVE MONEY.**

For full information email your CV to both royalmark01@hotmail.com and valeska@royalperspective.com

Visit our websites: www.karmaresorts.com
www.royalresorts.com.au
India. Thailand. Indonesia. Australia

TRISARA

Sales & Marketing Team

Trisara is Phuket's most exclusive resort and consists of the award winning resort hotel and spa plus 27 magnificent residences, which are managed and rented by the resort for the owners.

A unique opportunity exists for three professionals to join our expanding Sales & Marketing team. We are seeking energetic, creative individuals to fill the following positions.

Director of Sales & Marketing (Expatriate)

Events Sales Manager

Guest Database/E-Commerce Manager

If you are an energetic, organized and result-driven team player who is looking for a challenge at the highest level of standards, send your resume and a recent photo to:

Human Resources Director

60/1 Moo 6, Srisoonthorn road, Thalang, Phuket

Email hr@trisara.com

Tel. 076-310350 Fax. 076-310299



Have you got an
OUT GOING PERSONALITY
and energy to match?

WANT TO BE FAMOUS? JOIN OUR PUBLIC RELATIONS FLYER TEAM

BE QUICK AS POSITIONS ARE LIMITED

Call or Email

Martin on 0878 88 00 18 or info@famousphuket.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 or fax: 076 -326 293. Website: www.premierpropertyleisure.com

FREELANCE SALES REP

A quality contemporary furniture manufacturer is looking for an enthusiastic freelance/part-time sales representative, speaking Thai and English, to expand business in Phuket, Bangkok and Samui. Tel: 053-022177. Email: laurentolivier@gmail.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. Email: mark.v@psu.ac.th

SUSHIBOX JOB OFFERS!

Sushibox is opening soon in Ocean Plaza, Soi Bangla, Patong. We are offering the following job opportunities:

- Assistant Manager (1)
- Hostesses (3)
- Waitresses (3)
- Sushi students (3) Earn as you learn how to make sushis!

Excellent salary and working conditions. Call Khun Oy for an appointment. Tel: 083-6438709. Email: sushibox@gmail.com

WANT VOICE TALENT

We want voice talents. If you have a good voice and speak clearly. Tel: 086-191 6335 (Thai), 084-119 4094 (English & Thai). Please send a voice file to us at sicsoundstudio@hotmail.com

WAITRESS NEEDED

New Italian restaurant needs a waitress, Thai nationality only. Must speak English. 10,000 baht monthly + service charge. Tel: 076-343019. Email: info@casajip.com

SUNRAYS SCHOOL

Sunrays School is looking to fill the following positions:

1. Marketing Executive: Must be able to execute a marketing plan. Must be proficient in Thai and English.

2. Teachers: Thai, Arts and Music. Ability to teach more than one subject an advantage. Part time positions for teaching Arts and Music welcome. Tel: 076-522292 (English), 080-529 3084 (English), 081-797 5937 (Thai). Fax: 076-522292. Email: admin@sunraysschool.com

VILLA MANAGER REQUIRED

Must have excellent spoken and written English skills. Experience in property or hotel and people management essential. Should be a good communicator, structured and system oriented. Thai National required. For more further details. Tel: 088-223 4561. Please send CV and salary requirement by email: info@villachangrajang.com

Articles For Sale

GAS OVEN

Large gas oven for sale, 3 months old, little used. 22,000 baht. Tel: 089-197 7438 (Thai), 088-168 8145 (English). Email: olay1@yahoo.com

WIFI, TELEPHONE, FAX

WiFi unit, a telephone, and a fax for sale cheap. Tel: 086-953 8616. Email: harlequinjen@gmail.com

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

SNORKEL ITEMS

Stratos adjustable fins, venturas mask, snorkel scubapro, boots, gloves, rubber suit. Price: 4,200 baht. Tel: 087-993 8737.

SMALL TOSHIBA FRIDGE

Small Toshiba Fridge. 6 months used. 3,000 baht. Tel: 088-442 2770 (English). Email: malila_ec@hotmail.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@naiharnngym.com Website at: www.naiharnngym.com/store/

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

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

TEAK, RATTAN FURNITURE

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

HOOKAHS 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

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

Bar & Restaurant Equipment

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

PIZZA OVEN, MIXER, SS SINK

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

Bulletins

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

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

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

Bangkok Hospital - Phuket City
Fri 7 PM

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

Green Man Restaurant - Chalong
Tue 1 PM

Scandinavian Speaking Meetings-Karon
Tue and Sat 7 PM (Nov-April only)
Tel: 086-9440460 SWE, 082-2765998 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@phuketiwcc.com

Svenska kyrkan PHUKET

Is here for you, Swedish or Scandinavian speaking.

- Movie Night, Wed Nov 24, 6.30 pm
- Advent service, Sun Nov 28, 11.00 am

www.svenskakyrkan.se/thailand

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BEST BAR / RESTAURANT IN TOWN

10 year lease! Low rent. Great revenues. 120 seats + living accommodation. Must see. 6.9 million baht only. Tel: 085-252 4236 (English). Email: erik.stoffer@psa-int.com

BAR FOR SALE

Soi Tiger. Phone for details. Tel: 087-676 1926 (English & Thai). Email: shaunrice@btinternet.com

MINIMART LAUNDRY BIKE RENT

Located at major intersection. Accommodation. Parking. Income of 30,000 baht net per month. Price: 500,000 baht. Tel: 085-619 7492. Email: lmarrable@hotmail.com

OFFSHORE BAR FOR SALE

Offshore Bar (Nanai Rd & Nanai 2). Price: 1.6 million baht. Expiry: April 2012 (two high seasons left). Get in touch for further details. Tel: 088-382 9074 (English). Email: g.frea@btinternet.com

SEAVIEW LAND, KOH YAO NOI

5 rai, 3 ngan, 24sq wah of sea view land (9,296 square meters). The area is very private with a very beautiful seaview and overlooking nearby islands, not far from Tondo Pier and Koh Yao Noi Pier. The land is ideal for a residential development. If you are seeking an opportunity to invest in solid ground which provides you a greater value investment, here is the right answer. Tel: 087-276 7997 (English & Thai). Email: offy_dd_cafe@hotmail.com

22-ROOM HOTEL, PATONG CITY



Hotel with building of 800sqm. 3 units on 4 floors. Freehold land of 400sqm. In center of Patong City. For sale by owner direct at 40 million baht. Tel: 089-290 9567 (English & Thai), 084-848 2511 (English). Email: lars@industriby.se For further details, please see our website at: www.brommathaihouse.com

ROOFTOP RESTAURANT FOR RENT

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

BAR FOR SALE

With accommodation on Bangla Rd in Patong. Email: migs2008@live.ie

PATONG STEAK & GUESTHOUSE

At a prime location. A spacious grill restaurant/bar with 70 seats, 6 rooms and excellent equipment. Available for rent on a long-term lease. Tel: 081-894 0570. For further details, please see our website at http://www.hermanns-phuket.com

11 UNIT APTARTMENT-HOUSE

Off Nanai Road in Patong. Newly renovated, secure income with little work due to long term rentals. Includes Chanote title. Sale by owner. Price: 9.8 million baht. Tel: 087-265 0652 (English). Email: gisbert1@gmx.net

RESTAURANT FOR SALE

Prime location in Patong opposite post office on Rat-U-Thit Rd. For more info, please call. Tel: 084-847 8626, 081-124 8051. Email: ming restaurant@hotmail.com

RESTAURANT IN PHUKET TOWN

Top location. Rent: 15,000 baht per month. 2 hotels opposite, many others nearby. Price: 450,000 baht. Tel: 087-031 7086 (English & Thai). Email: HLraum@aol.com

PATONG GUESTHOUSE FOR RENT

26 rooms with restaurant area. 2.5 million per year. Key money: 500,000 baht only, and refundable security deposit is 500,000 baht. Tel: 084-806 6213 (English). Email: annyouchou@hotmail.com

BAR FOR SALE

At Bangla Boxing stadium. New Tiger, fully furnished bar with a 3-year contract. Tel: 082-256 5386.

LOCAL GROUND FLOOR

120sqm interior plus 50sqm covered outside. On the ground floor of Soleluna Hotel in Patong. Convenient for a restaurant or bar. Tel: 076-364770, 087-008 5143 (English). Email: vissiasafina@alice.it

SHOP CHEAP PRICE FOR SALE

Massage & Internet Travel Agency. Good area of Patong. Cheap! Quick sale. Tel: 081-537 7137, 089-544 3555 (English & Thai). Email: sunisadia@hotmail.com

GUESTHOUSE FOR RENT, PATONG

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FC Phuket record vital win



VICTORY: Nene Bi fires home the winning goal. Photo: Apinun Saitong

By Andrew Jennings

FC PHUKET'S promotion push gathered pace following a well-deserved victory over Loei City at Surakul Stadium on Saturday night.

The Southern Sea Kirin fought back from a goal down to secure an incident packed 2-1 victory.

After falling behind early in the second-half, a penalty from Thawin Butrsombat and a close range strike from Nene Bi Tra Sylvestre rescued Phuket from defeat.

The win, coupled with Chainat FC losing to Samut Prakan, means Phuket is now in second position in Group B of the Thai League playoffs – just two points behind leaders Rayong FC.

The game marked Phuket's first home outing since Ivorian midfielder Camara Ahmed suffered a heart attack during play against Chainat.

It was fitting that his countryman Nene Bi scored the winning goal to keep Phuket on course for promotion to Thai League Division 1.

The game didn't start so

FC Phuket fixtures

Sunday Nov 21: Loei city
4pm, away

Saturday Nov 27: Bangkok FC
6pm, home

Saturday Dec 4: Chainat FC
4pm, away

Saturday Dec 12: Rayong FC
6pm, home

Sunday Dec 19: Samut Prakan
FC 6pm, home

Kick off times subject to change, check
The Phuket Gazette for details

The visitors, who barely mustered a shot in the opening half, went ahead two minutes into the second half after Phuket failed to clear their lines.

They almost went two goals down a minute later but for a fine save from their goalkeeper, Safari Nansen.

Phuket required a quick response and they got it at 60 minutes when Thawin converted a penalty.

The same player missed a second spot kick at 73 minutes, just before the Loei City manager was sent off by the referee after protesting the penalty decision.

Sylvestre's winning goal came with 11 minutes remaining, when he fired home from close range after a scramble in the box.

FC Phuket manager Arjan Songsamssub expressed his delight with the victory following the final whistle.

"I am very happy with the win, but this is just one step in the right direction. I would like to thank all the supporters for coming to the game," he said.

Support local rugby

PHUKET Lomas Rugby is appealing for donations as they get ready for a busy tour schedule.

The Lomas, a voluntary club that relies on contributions to pay expenses, is sending teams to two important youth tournaments in the coming weeks.

The under-15 and under-12 squads will compete in the National Sevens Regional Qualifiers to be held in Krabi on November 27 and 28.

The annual festival of youth rugby will also again take place at Kasetsart University in Bangkok on December 18 and 19. The Lomas will send three youth teams to the event.

The competition will mark the first ever tour for the Lomas under-10s. In total, 40 Phuket youngsters will go to Bangkok.

The Phuket Lomas Head Coach

Patrick Cotter is very grateful to all the club's supporters.

"Many of the players have never been outside Phuket so the tour will be a big step in their development," he stated.

"To do this we again ask for your help. I know many of you have put your hand in your pocket in the past and due to that we have been able to achieve so much in a short time and we thank you. We couldn't have done it without your help."

Contact Pat Cotter on E: phuket rugby@gmail.com for more information on making donations.

Patong Municipality will supply transport for the players, while Island Furniture, owned by Khun Siriporn and Alan Cooke MBE, have agreed to sponsor Lomas Rugby for the coming year.

– Andrew Jennings

Perfect 10 for Portrait FC

PORTRAIT FC were crowned 2010 Adult Futsal League (AFL) champions last week at Phuket International Academy.

Portrait recorded 10 wins from their 10 league games, scoring 75 goals en route to the title.

Before their final game last Thursday the team were awarded the AFL Cup and celebrated with a bottle of bubbly being sprayed on them.

The final match followed the same pattern as the previous nine, with Portrait FC running out comfortable winners, defeating last season's champions Phuket Morning Star 7-1. The Thalang Tigers clinched second place thanks to a 6-4 win over SGS.

This was the fifth AFL to take place at PIA and there has been a different winner every season.

League organizer Martin Hill singled out one star player for special mention.

"Portrait FC were strong from start to finish and thoroughly deserved the win. I was extremely impressed by one of their players in particular, Somsak Srithong. He was the golden boot winner with 31 goals. At times some of his play was simply breathtaking," he said. AFL season six starts on December 2.

Contact Martin Hill on E: football@phuketinternationalacademy.com for information.

– James Goyder

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Aqua Aerobics
Aqua Aerobics is an excellent form of exercise, suitable for all levels of fitness and ages. Emphasis is on cardiovascular, muscle toning, flexibility, mobility and conditioning using the water's resistance while providing an all round physical workout.
Every Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30am – 9:30am

BSS Christmas Camp
Brazilian Soccer Schools (BSS), hosted at PIA Sports & Leisure Club's floodlit Limonta "Soccer Pro" FIFA approved soccer field will be heating up the Christmas break, with their highly popular 5 day Brazilian Soccer Camp. For boys and girls, aged 6 – 16 years old
20th – 24th December, 2010
From 9:00am – 1:00pm
Sign up early to avoid disappointment! Limited space available.

Kids Adventure Camps

Kids go on adventure this Christmas with PIA Sports & Leisure Club. Children from 7 – 12 years old can join the fun with a wide variety of activities to choose from. Each day will combine a range of adventurous activities from snorkelling and kayaking to water parks and ATVs. Packages include transfers, snacks and refreshments.
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