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Brand Phuket now official

By Atchaa Khamlo

PHUKET has been given the green light to promote itself as a tourist destination independent of Thai-

Sombat Kurupan, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Tourism and Sports, told a crowd at the Light Up Phuket tsunami memorial event on Patong Beach on Sunday evening that the island had performed well in spite of a year marked by political upheaval, tight economic circumstances and natural disasters.

To this end, Phuket is being pushed by the Ministry of Tourism and Sports to become a brand in itself, he said.

"The Ministry of Tourism and Sports has established a policy to push tourist places such as Pattaya, Hua Hin and Phuket to promote themselves as their own brands," said Mr Sombat.

"Phuket can make itself a brand name without referring to Thailand... because if there were any political troubles, natural disasters or epidemics, the problems would



Sombat Kurupan

not affect other areas. The trouble would be limited only to the places where the trouble has occurred," he explained.

Mr Sombat cited Phuket as a good example of a tourist destination that can be independently developed and promoted to the world, as Phuket already leads the Andaman region by being safe and providing international-standard tourism services.

The permanent secretary said

that Phuket was expected to attract five million visitors this year, generating more than 100 billion baht for the economy.

Recounting Phuket's recent economic performance, Mr Sombat said that a total of 5,005,653 Thai and foreign tourists came to Phuket in 2007, generating about 94.24bn baht.

In 2008, the number of tourists grew to 5,313,308, generating about 101.685bn baht, he said.

Last year, although the ministry statistics say Phuket attracted only 3,375,931 visitors, it still generated 94bn baht, he added.

Mr Sombat identified Australia, Sweden, England, Germany and Russia as Phuket's main source of international tourists, along with Malaysia, Singapore, Korea and China as the mainstay source markets in Asia.

He added that new source markets coming onstream bolstered Phuket's performance. "New markets in the Middle East, such as Iran, are adding to the increasing number of tourists coming to Phuket.



PIWC President Wipa Tanmanatragul presenting a scholarship to Phuket student Umaporn Kongmeak at this year's PIWC Awards ceremony.

Person of the Year

THE Phuket Gazette is delighted Parent-Teacher Association of Club (PIWC).

the PIWC's first Thai President, has been selected for her embodiment of "charity for charity's low-profile dedication to the work of the PIWC.

Founded 21 years ago, the PIWC is for women of all nationalities. They share a common goal: to raise funds for scholarships for club's membership.

Phuket. This year alone the PIWC PIWC support." granted 56 new scholarships, bringing to 628 the total awarded in the organization's history.

"Many foreign friends encouraged me to join, and I was really impressed by the voluntary nature and objectives of the group. I was involved in the Thai school sys-

to announce that our 'Person of Satree Phuket School for four the Year' Award for 2010 goes to years], so I knew how important Khun Wipa Tanmanatragul of the financial aid would be for quali-Phuket International Women's fied children and their families.

"And I had seen firsthand the Khun Wipa, elected this year as benefits of community support. I was awarded a one year exchange student scholarship to study in high school in the US. Later, I was sake" and her 15 years of quiet, supported by Rotary when I went to Australia for five years to study and train as a nurse.

That Khun Wipa meets the criteria for the Award is well born out by her reaction to receipt of it.

"I am really honored to be sechildren from disadvantaged familected. It is so unexpected. There lies. Currently there are more than are so many others who have 30 countries represented in the done more than I over the years, so I accept [the award] in recog-Their support for education, nition of their efforts as well. And ranging from junior school to uni- for all those wonderful young versity degrees, is legendary in people who have excelled with

Khun Wipa is the wife of renowned hotelier Khun Methee Tanmanatragul, former President of the Thai Hotels Association Southern Chapter, and proud mother of a Chulalongkorn University graduate currently pursuing her master's degree at tem [as President of the Kingston University in the UK.

Anchalee steps up

PHUKET MP Raewat Areerob has for Mrs Anchalee, who before her confirmed that Anchalee Vanich Thepabutr will take up the position of Secretary-General to the Prime Minister from January 2.

Mrs Anchalee, who for years erved as a Democrat Party MP, will replace outgoing Secretary-General Korbsak Sabhavasu following his resignation.

The news follows days of speculation about whether or not PM Abhisit Vejjajiva would approve the promotion.

promotion was a Deputy Secretary-General to the Prime Minister.

State news agency MCOT reported that Mr Korbsak announced his resignation amid rumors of a rift between himself and Finance Minister Korn Chatikavanij over the government's "Pracha Wiwat" (People's Agenda) welfare policies, which some critics have branded as "populist".

PM Abhisit had yet to receive The announcement is a triumph Mr Korbsak's letter of resigna-



Anchalee Vanich Thepabutr

tion, but the premier has already talked with him about the decision, said the MCOT report.

- Pimwara Choksakulpan

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BOOK NOW

This Week

Thoroughly drilled

Top officials, including the World Health Organization, review the fullscale emergency rescue drill.

Page 8

So that was 2010...



The *Gazette* looks back at the top stories of the past year. Pages 14-15

North by Northeast



Check out one of the best Isarn eateries on the island. Page 17

Property



PSU Phuket excels in doubling the seats of Page 23 learning.

Classifieds

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

Pages 27-38

Sport



FC Phuket promoted through to Division 1, but lose the money Page 40

Saturday



22 - 32

Monday



22 - 32 Tuesday



Wednesday



Thursday



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Officials choose site for new Provincial Hall

By Janpen Upatising

THE new provincial hall under planning will be built on a 15-rai vacant plot of government land in Phuket Town.

The site is next to the regional Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Center on Damrong Road.

The announcement was made at a meeting last week to discuss the project.

"There are many government offices here at Provincial Hall. It is overcrowded. So we need to have a new building," said Vice Governor Somkiet Sangkaosutthirak.

Prajiad Aksornthammakul, the head of the Phuket Development Planning Group, explained to the Gazette, "The [current] building was examined by the Phuket Public Works Office.

"We were told that this building is not suitable and too old to be used.

"It is 102 years old and has decayed over time," Mr Prajiad said.

Before the committee could make headway into the project, they would need to know how

TWO alleged foreign copyright pi-

High-ranking provincial offic-

Superintendent Arayapan Puk-

buakhao led the search on a

warehouse located on a soi off

Nanai Road in Patong.



Phuket Provincial Hall, now 102 years old. Photo: Janpen Upatising

many government departments will be sharing their offices at the new hall, V/Gov Somkiet said.

"We also need to know how large their offices will be. We have sent a survey to government departments asking whether they want to move their offices into the new Provincial Hall building or not.

"We will have their replies sometime in January," he said.

"The Public Works Office will

be responsible for designing the new building, which will be Sino-Portuguese style – just like the current one," V/Gov Somkiet added.

However, the project still needs budget approval.

"Once we finish planning and designing this project, we will keep it and wait," V/Gov Somkiet said.

"It will be one of the first projects we propose when it is time to request the budget."

Time runs out for pirate duo

rates were arrested in a raid by Phuket police last week. Specializing in Washing and Repairing ers along with Patong Police

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The warehouse tenants, named as Truong Van Doan, 33, and Tong Vankorn of Vietnam, were arrested at the scene, police said.

> Officers conducting the raid seized about 10,000 pirated watches with a street value of about five million baht.

Among the pirated high-end



Police inspect the timely haul.

brand names found were Rolex, Omega, Cartier, AquaMarin Carina, Patek Philippe, Casio,

Breitling, Bulgari and Tag Heuer.

Most of the watches were high-quality knockoffs to be sold for 5,000 to 10,000 baht each, police said.

Mr Truong told police that the watches were shipped from China by a man he named only as "Arping".

After arriving in Bangkok, the items were then transferred south to Phuket.

The Vietnamese duo then allegedly distributed the goods to stalls in Patong, Karon, Kata, Kamala and other popular tourist places in Phuket.

- Yodsak Jarana

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Keep land for local people: **Land Office chief**

PHUKET Provincial Land Office chief Paitoon Lertkrai has expressed deep concerned over too many Phuket people selling their land to off-islanders.

"I do not mean just people from other countries, I mean anyone not from Phuket," he told the Gazette.

"Right now many Phuket people are selling their land, and most of the buyers are people from other provinces or Thai companies," explained Mr Paitoon, who is originally from Surat Thani.

"I am worried that if all Phuket people sell their land, their future generations will become poor because all their family land would have been sold and the money spent," he added.

His concern has grown out of the recent spike in volume of land transfers being processed at the Land Office in Phuket Town.

"Just today [December 28, 2010] our office earned more than 10 million baht in transfer fees alone. We transferred ownership of about 200 titles today," he said.

Newborn found at dump site

By Yodsak Jarana

A BABY boy, thought to be just hours old and with the umbilical cord still attached, was found abandoned near a dump site in Kathu on Tuesday evening.

Phongthep Joyjard, a respected elder who lives in the area, discovered the newborn while he was out exercising on Soi Saithong near the dump site.

He heard the baby crying and followed the sound to find the babe wrapped in a towel inside a white fertilizer sack, police said.

The unnamed infant, who had suffered no injuries except for some insect bites to his face, was taken to Vachira Phuket Hospital by officers of the Disaster Prevention and Mitigation section of Kathu Municipality.

Police are now trying to track down the child's parents.

The newborn weighs just over six pounds (2.72kg) and initial tests show he is in good health, hospital staff said.

Mr Phongthep initially heard the baby's cries at about 3pm, but it wasn't until he was returning from his walk at about 4:30pm that



Alive and recovering.

he again heard the cries and raised the alarm.

A group of neighbors went to investigate and the baby was found at about 5pm.

They immediately reported the surprising find to the police and soon after Kathu rescue officers rushed the baby to hospital.

From subsequent questioning of local residents, police say a teenage couple drove a motorcycle into Soi Saithong at about 2pm before departing 10 minutes

However, no witnesses have been able to confirm the couple's appearance or provide a defini-



A nurse at Vachira Hospital attends to the babe. Photos: Yodsak Jarana

tive description of the motorbike to police.

The baby is now under the responsibility of the Phuket Provincial Social Development and Human Security Office.

Phannee Sittikan, chief of the Human Security office in Phuket, told the Phuket Gazette, "The baby will be sent to Baan Songkhla Shelter for Children as soon as his health improves. The baby will be of Thai nationality, in case we cannot find the parents."

This latest baby abandonment comes after a garbage truck driver in Pa Khlok found the body of a dead newborn in the back of his truck while he was separating trash in August.

Swedish man, 25, found dead

POLICE are investigating the death of a Swedish man whose body was found in his rented room at Cherng Talay on Monday.

Police identified the man as Swedish national Felipe Basualto Trincado, 25, born in Santiago,

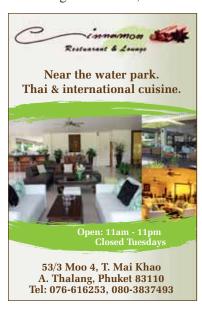
Swedish Embassy officials confirmed that his next of kin in Sweden had been notified of his death.

Mr Basualto Trincado's body was found hanging by the neck from the inside doorknob of his rented room in an apartment block near Bang Tao Beach.

Although the body had several large lesions on the forearms and legs, police said there were no signs of struggle inside the room.

Apartment owner Kordetch Komkong said he used a master key to enter the room at about midday.

He entered the guest room only after he noticed an unusual odor emanating from within, he added.





Basualto Trincado's body



Police estimate the time of death at 14 hours before they arrived. Cherng Talay Police were

notified of the death at about 2:40pm that day.

Officers found his passport and other personal documents in a backpack inside the room.

Mr Kordetch said Mr Basualto Trincado contacted him the day before, Christmas Day, asking to rent a room.

Upon check-in, he did not have his passport or other identification, Mr Kordetch said.

Although the Swede appeared absent-minded and listless, he decided to allowed him to take the room anyway, Mr Kordetch added.

Kusoldharm Foundation workers took Mr Basualto Trincado's body to Thalang Hospital for further examination.

- Wichai Witthawat

Patong traffic flow to change January 15

PATONG Municipality officials this week confirmed the new oneway system will take effect on January 15.

Adding to the changes will be new parking zones and regulations coming into effect on December 30, with new road markings and signs being put in place to assist motorists.

Five roads connecting Rat-U-Thit 200 Pee Road and Thaweewong Road (the beach road) will become one-way, doing away with the current system that has traffic switching to the right side of the road instead of the left.

All five roads are bet w e e n Prachanukhro Road at the south end Patong and Phra Barami north, both Keesin



Road to the Patong Mayor Pian

of which will remain unchanged in the new system.

Under the new regulations, long lines of tuk-tuks parking on the beach road are expected to become a thing of the past.

- Atchaa Khamlo





Germany's rising Michelin Star-Chef Jens Jakob is coming to the Evason Phuket & Bon Island to present his Cuisine Philosophy.

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We wouldn't drink Phuket water: Poll

LESS than 20 per cent of *Phuket Gazette* readers think tap water on the island is safe to drink, results of the latest online readers' poll reveal.

The poll, launched on December 18, asked readers: Do you think tap water in Phuket is safe to drink?

Overall, almost half of the respondents (49.2%) answered "no", compared with just 19.8% who answered "yes".

Reflecting a great deal of uncertainty about the quality of mains water on the island, almost a third of all of those who took part (31%) answered: "I'm not sure".

In a breakdown by demographics, Thais were more likely to think the local water supply was safe to drink than their foreign counterparts.

Just over a third (34%) thought the local water was safe to drink, compared, with 19% of expats and 18% of tourists.

However, more than half (52%) of respondents who identified themselves as tourists said they



Not even 20% of respondents said they would drink water straight from a tap in Phuket.

weren't sure, a far greater percentage than the number of expats (17%) who were uncertain.

Overall 632 people voted in the 10-day poll.

Welcome all children

to Bangkok Hospital Phuket.

- Phuket Gazette

Aceh asks Phuket for tsunami drill training

By Pimwara Choksakulpan

A DELEGATION of medical staff from the Indonesian province of Aceh was in Phuket last week to seek assistance in developing their own tsunami search and rescue training drills.

About 170,000 Indonesians died in the disaster, most were in Aceh, at the northern tip of Sumatra.

The tsunami also left roughly 500,000 survivors homeless.

At Provincial Hall, Phuket Governor Tri Augkaradacha welcomed the delegation from Zainal Abidin Hospital, led by its Director Dr Taufik Fauzi

Dr Taufik said the main purpose of the visit was to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Phuket Provincial Health Office (PPHO) to help train Aceh medical personnel in conducting tsunami rescue drills.

The MoU was signed on December 24 in Saphan Hin, before the tsunami rescue drill started



The Aceh delegation with Phuket Governor Tri Augkaradacha (center).

there (see page 8).

"We would like Phuket to help us improve our ability to manage hospitals, medical teams and people when faced with a disaster, especially a tsunami," said Dr Taufik.

"Although much help has been received in rebuilding Aceh since the 2004 tsunami, the special ter-

ritory has yet to develop its own quality rescue operation," he added.

PPHO Deputy Director Wiwat Seetamanotch said, "Once we have finished the initial training, we will not abandon them.

"After six months, we will go back to monitor their improvement," he added.

City shortcut opens

ANCHALEE Vanich Thepabutr, now confirmed to become Secretary-General to the Prime Minister from January 2 (see page 1), was in Phuket last week to officially open the new road connecting Phuket Town's two largest public parks.

The opening of the road, temporarily named Sai Phang Muang Khor, took place with a Christmas Eve ceremony complete with a parade and marching bands.

Leading the procession along the thoroughfare was the Phuket Wittayalai School marching band, who were followed by members of the Thai Peranakan Association in traditional attire.

Mrs Anchlee's husband, Phuket MP Tossaporn Thepabutr, also attended, as did fellow Phuket MP Rewat Areerob and Governor Tri Augkaradacha.

The new road, which connects Chao Fa East Road and Sakdidet Road Soi 1, provides a much



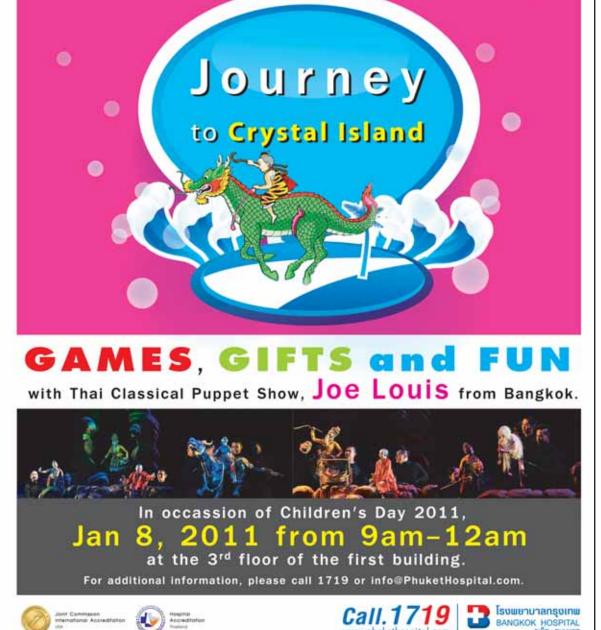
Anchalee Vanich Thepabutr bangs a gong to announce the road open.

faster route between Suan Luang Park and Saphan Hin than was previously available.

"The road is 1,126 meters long. Construction started in 2008 and finished on December 8, 2010 at a total cost of 50,674,000 baht," said Phuket City Mayor Somjai Suwanasupana.

Phuket City Municipality has yet to decide on an official name for the road, said the mayor.

- Janpen Upatising





Tsunami Memorial Services

Phuket remembers

By Atchaa Khamlo

DECEMBER 26 was a day of mixed emotions. It began with a service at the Tsunami Wall of Remembrance in Mai Khao, where a crowd of Thais and foreigners turned out to pay their respects and lay garlands for those lost to the waves six years ago.

Brigit Winkler, 62, from Stuttgart, Germany, lost her 66-year-old husband Josef Michal to the tsunami in Patong.

"He came [to Phuket] alone before me and I was supposed to come later and meet him here. Then he was gone," she said.

His body was never recovered.

"I still hope to find his body so we can hold a funeral for him," Ms Winkler added.

Ms Winkler returns to Phuket with friends each year to attend

the memorial services and to remember Josef.

Among the gathering in the morning sun were many Phuket expats, including the well-known 73-year-old American Larry Amsden, a Phuket resident for the past 20 years and a founding member of the Rotary Club of Patong Beach.

He lost four close friends to the tsunami: one Thai and three Americans, two of which were on holiday.

"I come for this ceremony every year," he told the *Gazette*.

"We spent the year [after the tsunami] helping people try to get their lives back, building homes and working on damaged boats," Mr Amsdem recalled.

Summing up his emotions at the service, he quietly said, "It's a day of remembrance."



A couple lay a wreath in remembrance at Patong. Photo: Pollit Thitivarithinun

While the somber mood of the crowd focused on the past, Thalang District Chief Naruenart Supattaraprateep clearly had his mind on the present, specifically on the sensational prediction that another tsunami will strike the region before the end of 2010.

"The prediction has had a big effect on tourism in Phuket, but there will not be another tsunami [as predicted].

"Anyway, if another disaster did occur, our tsunami evacuation plan and the drills we have conducted everywhere in Phuket would help us to quickly react to the situation," he said.

As usual, the annual Light Up Phuket event that night drew a much larger, and more varied, gathering.

American tourist Cynthia Vale, 51, said, "Six years have passed. It was a terrible tragedy. I can feel the people's sadness and it makes me sad. I'm praying for the people and their families," she said.

"I feel safe in Phuket, and the prediction of another tsunami didn't stop me from coming. Whatever will be, will be. We cannot live our lives stuck in the past. We have to move on," she added.

Retried Finnish couple Ake and Tarja Soujanen, on holiday in Phuket until April, were present.

"I joined the memorial ceremony last year... The ceremony was very beautiful, so we came here again," Mr Soujanen said.

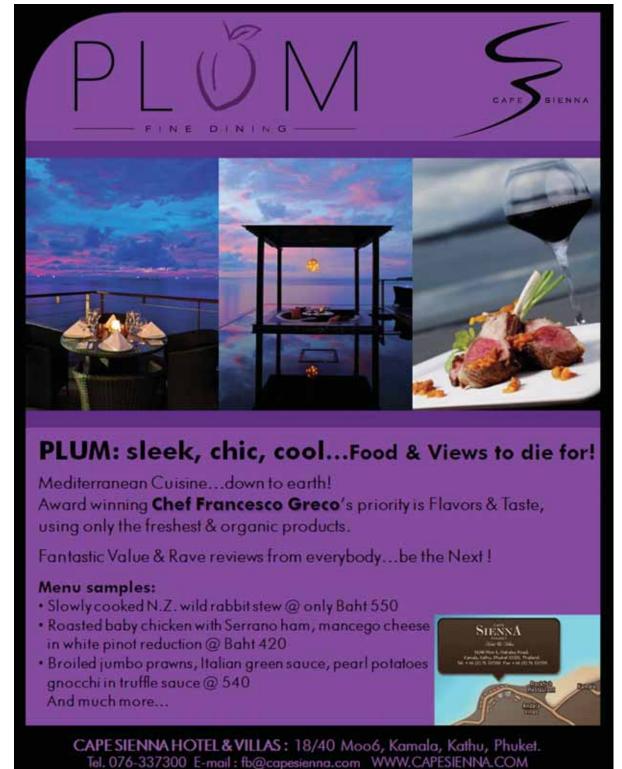
Through taking part in memorial services, Mr Soujanen believes people are finally putting the tragedy behind them. "We feel very sad about what happened six years ago. We're glad that everything bad seems to have stopped and people aren't mourning anymore, that's what I think," he said.

However, he added that international media repeatedly showing footage of the disaster prompted dire memories to live on. "I saw a tsunami documentary on BBC yesterday. It was a very big wave and people were really afraid. I hope there will not be another tsunami," said Mr Soujanen.

"And I don't agree with people selling DVDs and VCDs about the tsunami.

"I think it's stupid to show such a sad story like that," he said.

See pages 20-21 for more photos of tsunami memorial services





Thai cops nab UK pedophile

A BRITISH man on the run for more than 12 years, fleeing charges of abusing children as young as 18 months, has been arrested in Thailand.

David Charles Taylor, 66, is believed to have committed and filmed sex crimes against Thai children after fleeing similar charges in Britain in 1998.

When he was arrested in 1998, police allegedly found more than 10,000 child porn images on his computer, some of which showed boys being tortured, sexually abused by adults and having sex with dogs.

Thai police arrested Mr Taylor December 19 in Nakhon Ratchasima. He is set to be extradited to Britain to face 35 child sex charges, though he will likely face prosecution in Thailand first.

Immigration police chief Wibool Bangthamai described Taylor as "a threat to the world community and a disgrace to both the United Kingdom and Thailand," *The Nation* reported.

Speculation over Puea Thai leader

RUMORS abound over who will lead the opposition Puea Thai party into the next general election.

The party's patron, exiled former PM Thaksin Shinawatra, is understood to be considering appointing his younger sister Yingluck as leader.

Meanwhile, former commerce minister Mingkwan Saengsuwan is believed to command the loyalty of around 60 Puea Thai MPs and has eyes on the party leadership.

Mr Thaksin's wife Pojaman has also been named as a potential candidate.

The current party leader,

nation

Yongyuth Wichaidit, resigned about two months ago, though he was quickly reinstalled in order to prevent a power struggle, reported *The Nation*.

Mr Yongyuth is not expected to lead the party into the next general election, which is likely to be held this year.

On December 25, around 40 Puea Thai MPs reportedly flew to Dubai to persuade Mr Thaksin to back Mr Mingkwan as party leader.

However, party insiders said that the exiled billionaire did not see Mr Mingkwan as leadership material.

PM Abhisit Vejajjiva said he was informed about the meeting in Dubai. He said he hoped Thaksin would keep his promise to seek change only through parliamentary means.

Mr Abhisit said the Democrat Party was already preparing for the elections.

- The Nation



A very Thai Christmas

ELEPHANTS in Santa costumes performed for students in Ayudhaya before handing out presents on Christmas Eve this year.

The event was part of a cam-

paign to promote Christmas in Thailand.

A frost-covered Doi Inthanon in Chiang Mai also added to the "spirit of the season" over the weekend.

Young mum kills baby in her sleep, then shoots self

A YOUNG mother shot herself after waking to find she had rolled on and killed her baby daughter while asleep, say police.

The bodies of Aphiwan "Bum" Phengsakul, 18, and her one-year-old daughter Supachya were discovered by Mrs Aphiwan's mother on the evening of December 22.

Supachya had a broken neck, while Mrs Aphiwan had a bullet wound to her right temple. Lying close to her hand was a .38 caliber Smith & Wesson revolver.

MOM TRI'S

THOUSE

Mrs Aphiwan's mother, Aphiradee Anantirasat, 42, tearfully told Thai daily *Khao Sod* that she had visited her daughter earlier in the evening. She said Mrs Aphiwan was agitated, pacing back and forth in the house, wouldn't chat and was behaving very strangely.

Mrs Aphiradee said she saw Supachya lying on the bed but did not suspect anything was wrong with her.

She left the house to buy some food and

when she got back, she found her daughter lying dead on the bed next to Supachya.

"I almost fainted because I'd lost both my daughter and granddaughter," she said.

Mrs Aphiradee ran and found her son-inlaw, who had been out working as a gardener, and brought him back to the house.

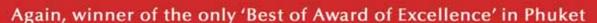
He was shocked. His wife had killed herself with his gun, which he thought was safely locked away in a storage room.

Police believe Mrs Aphiwan fell asleep

and rolled onto her daughter, breaking her neck.

When she woke up, she couldn't live with what had happened. She forced open the door to the storage room, found the gun, lay down by her dead child and shot herself, police explained.

Mrs Aphiradee said her daughter had been a restless sleeper since she was a child. She said it wasn't surprising that she could have rolled onto her baby without realizing.





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Tsunami drill raises the bar

By Pimwara Choksakulpan

IF ANYTHING is being learned from the repeated tsunami evacuation and emergency rescue drills conducted in Phuket, it is: "Practice makes perfect."

The full-scale emergency rescue drill held last Friday, December 24, was praised as impressive, this time not just by Phuket authorities, but also by a representative of the World Health Organization (WHO).

WHO technical officer Dr Arun K Mallik said, "I am impressed with the way different agencies are collaborating with each other, and impressed with the MC's translation from Thai to English informing the groups about what is going on.

"I think Phuket is now ready to respond to any kind of emergency," he added.

Phuket Governor Tri Augkaradacha told the Gazette, "I would like tourists to place confidence in our safety measures. We practice tsunami drills twice a year to know what functions or skills need to be improved and we get (PPHO); Phuket DMAT (Disaster better each time.

"This time, I am very pleased with now ready to rethe command center, a feature of spond to any kind emergency rescue of emergency." operations used around the world. Dr Arun K Mallik We used it once in WHO technical officer

the One-Two-Go airplane crash. Everything was Foundation among others. well-coordinated, with no confusion," he added.

Regarding the state of public preparedness in case of a tsunami, the governor said, "I am sure Phuket people know what they are supposed to do and where to go. Tourists also know from the tsunami evacuation signs and maps posted along beachfront roads."

Seven Smulders, the Netherlands honorary consul for Phuket, also praised the exercise: "I and Dutch tourists have much confi-



A 'mock victim' is airlifted to safety.

dence in Phuket's ability to respond to an emergency.

This proves that the whole evacuation has improved substantially, from good planning to excellent execution, with very good coordination among agencies."

During the exercise, hundreds of emergency rescue workers from all over Phuket took part in two hours of search-and-rescue drills at Saphan Hin in the morning.

Among the agencies taking part in the drill were the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM) Phuket office; the Phuket Provincial Health Office

Medical Assist "I think Phuket is Team), which has units from all six hospitals in Phuket; the Royal Thai Navy Third Area Command; the Kusoldharm Foundation and Phuket Kupai Ruamjai

The drill followed a two-day training camp in "command post exercises" at the DDPM Academy in Phuket Town.

The drills began with the remote sounding of the nearby National Disaster Warning Center (NDWC) warning tower.

Once the signal began, workers rushed to set up an operations center and field hospital using inflatable tents provided by the Red Cross.

Meanwhile, a team of Navy Seals used a helicopter to airlift a



DMAT rescuers assist a 'victim' in the tsunami evacuation and emergency rescue drill on December 24.

mock tsunami survivor from the sea and take him for emergency medical treatment.

PPHO Deputy Director Wiwat Seetamanotch said, "Our field hospital can be set up in just 15 minutes. With 10 beds it can handle about 200 patients a day. Victims requiring surgery or overnight treatment will be sent to hospital."

The training continued in the afternoon at Phuket International Airport, where a staging area and field hospital were set up to coordinate evacuation to medical facilities aboard a specially-equipped C-130 transport plane operated by the Royal Thai Air Force Institute of Aviation Medicine.

"The drill is based on the scenario that all six Phuket hospitals are too crowded to provide treatment for all who require it, creating a need to evacuate victims to facilities in partner provinces," Dr Wiwat said.

"This time we asked for cooperation from Nakhon Sri Thammarat, which was undamaged from the [hypothetical] tsunami. In an emergency, patients will be airlifted by C-130 to field hospitals at airports in those provinces, then rushed to hospital for treatment," he added.

The Nakhon Sri Thammarat unit is one of seven partners the Phuket unit can call upon in the event of an emergency. The others are provincial units in Chiang Rai, Udon Thani, Phetchaburi and Ayudhaya, as well as the Emergency Medical Institute and the Navy Medical Department, both in Bangkok, Dr Wiwat explained.

In addition, Gov Tri signed a

Meomorandum of Understanding (MoU) with local companies willing to provide emergency relief supplies. The firms are: Coca-Cola distributor Haad Thip PCL, as well as retailers Supercheap, Big C. Tesco-Lotus and Makro.

Under the terms of the MoU, these firms will provide emergency food and drink supplies within an hour of request. It is the first MoU of its kind signed anywhere in Thailand, said Dr Wiwat.

Also at the event was a hightech emergency communications van belonging to the Ministry of **Information and Communications** Technology (MICT).

The MICT is developing a system to ensure uninterrupted information flow and communications in Phuket in the aftermath of any disaster, Dr Wiwat said.





January 1 - 7, 2011 PHUKET GAZETTE 9





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Not too many hotels, just too clustered

Re: Gazette online, Phuket Poll: Are there too many hotels on the island?, December 28

It's close to being too many, but

The problem today is that the authorities accept too many hotels and resorts located too close to each other – that's bad.

With better land regulation Phuket can have double the number of tourists and it won't feel like more.

We know the number of passengers passing through the airport will be rising from around seven million passengers per year up to almost 13 million in the next

There is the limit, but it has to be spread around with much better regulations than we see today.

Gazette forum

Thailand, life is good

As I sit on the balcony of my newly rented shophouse on the bypass road, feeling nostalgic about my journeys that have led me to the land of smiles and thinking about the new and exciting opportunities that Phuket will deal me, I thought I would jot down some thoughts for all of us to consider - Thais, expats, and tourists alike.

As anyone who has ever decided to start a new life in a foreign land, or for that matter ever traveled outside their native country, the experiences and situations are often filled with anticipation, confusion and even trepidation.

Things like finding a place to sleep, navigating unfamiliar streets and getting a local mobile

Plumbing the depths of water quality

WATER-related issues are a constant source of complaints received both at the Gazette editorial offices and at Provincial Hall.

A recent online poll revealed a great deal of confusion among readers over whether household tap water is safe to drink. Overall, less than 20 per cent of readers thought it was, while nearly half said it was not.

More than one-third of those taking part answered "I don't know" (see page 4).

The directors of the island's two largest public waterworks say their water is potable when it leaves their treatment plants, but say they can't make any promises for the water's quality after that.

The fact that the people responsible for these supply systems can't vouch for the quality of their end product should be as a red flag for anyone considering quenching their thirst straight from the tap.

The Gazette understands the many challenges these agencies face, but nevertheless feels that provision of potable water should be considered an achievable goal. Singapore can do it, why not Phuket?

Doing so would be well worth the investment, bringing big cost-savings to consumers while making a huge reduction in the number of plastic water bottles incinerated at Saphan Hin.

Goals can be achieved only after they have been set, but the present reality is that our water providers seem to have little desire or incentive to provide safe, potable water to Phuket homes. Consumers don't demand it and the status quo is highly acceptable to bottled water suppliers.

phone number can be challenging, and at times even frustrating.

I think it's important for us to remember that it's these challenges that make life truly worth

living – it's not the destination

So let's all remember in 2011

tion safely...and the lady who makes my somtam.

Phuket Town

Thanks for spicing it up, Phuket

Re: Gazette online, Phuket Gazette, OPINION: Street Show a great event for Phuket, December 26

It was indeed a fun event and Thalang Road is a great location with much more atmosphere than Sapan Hin.

If the organizers can set up the stages along the street a little better it would be perfect. It was a very tight squeeze in a couple of places.

Anyway, well done, thanks for something different!

> Jamie Gazette forum

Other city shows are 'streets ahead'

After reading your "Street show a victim of its own success" editorial last week, I felt compelled to write in.

It mentioned the key factors that contributed to the success of the Street Show, and the aspects that detracted from it, except one: the lack of sidewalks in Phuket Town.

The closed streets and taped off areas were great if you're able bodied, but anyone in a wheelchair or pushing a pram had to negotiate the half-meterwide sidewalk to pass nearly every single act.

The Phuket Street Show is certainly welcome back, but wheelies and parents of young infants need not attend.

> Damien Evans Chalong

In association with The Nation Multimedia Group PCL

Editor: Parichat Utintu Managing Editor: Chris Husted News Editor: Stephen Fein Features Editor: Fraser Morton

Managing Director: Oranee Hildebrand General Manager: Natthira Susangrat Production Manager: Suchart Changate Publisher: The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

Contact us:

Editorial: news@phuketgazette.net Advertising Sales: adsales@phuketgazette.net Classified Advertising: classads@phuketgazette.net Website services: koy@phuketgazette.net Gazette Guide: guide@phuketgazette.net Events Sponsorships: events@phuketgazette.net General: info@phuketgazette.net

Telephone: 076 273555 (10 lines) Fax 076 615240

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that life is good – embrace it! Let's work together to secure everyone's happiness.

Internet connection

I've been a customer with TOT

However, since I signed up I

for six months and signed up to a

package that boasts an internet

have never reached 6 Mbps and

usually my service is between 2

not up to speed

speed of 6 to 8 Mbps.

to 5 Mbps.

Thank you Thailand for accepting me, challenging me and yes, at times even frustrating me. And thanks to the motorcycle taxis and tuk-tuks who take me to my next destina-

Phuket Gazette

While the idea of potable tap water might

seem like the stuff of science fiction to some,

the technology needed to make it has been

available for decades. Today, many people

have water-treatment equipment fitted to

If the water is truly treated to potable

standards when it leaves the factory, why not

make the extra effort needed to get it safely

initial investment and the ongoing cost of

all the way to the home rather than waste the

What's needed is a change in mindset and

Possible areas to start might include ending

the practice of holding kratong-floating activi-

ties in public reservoirs, such as was the case

This year, the annual event was finally

switched by Kathu Municipality to the pond in

Sadly, the practice re-emerged this year at

If we continue to encourage young minds to

sully the public water supply this way, the true

meaning of Loy Kratong will be lost to the

the new "boutique reservoir" behind Phuket

Rajabhat University, even though the school

has a perfectly suitable lake to conduct such

activities on its own campus grounds.

better public awareness of the need to protect

the quality of water at the source, whether it

be groundwater or supplies stored in local

supply pipes in their homes.

treating it in the first place?

at Bangwad Reservoir for years.

front of the Tin Mining Museum.

reservoirs.

next generation.

Issues & Answers...

no response, it might be possible that the officers who took the calls were administrators without the technical knowledge to respond.

If a customer feels their internet speed is slower than it should be, we recommend you report it by contacting our call center at 1100.

If a customer is having trouble connecting to their service, or if their connection has failed, they should call 1177. The system will keep a record of the call and forward a report to us.

Send us your queries and

we'll ask the right people

to respond to them.

Submit your issue at

www.PhuketGazette.net/

IssuesAnswers

I've called the TOT office twice and written to them once. As of yet I've received no response or any improvement to my internet speed. What can I do to get my money's worth in this situation?

> Tired of paying more for less Chalong

Prachuab Meesaeng, Technical **Manager of TOT Information** Service Center in Phuket, replies:

There may be several factors as to why your internet speed is slower than it should be.

The first one is that your telephone line may not be in good condition. The line could be old or damaged – possibly from humidity. It is advised to replace the telephone line, which is something we can do.

Second, your house may be too far from the internet exchange point. If the distance is more than 1.5 kilometers we will try to make improvements for the customer.

However, we need to know the telephone number of the customer, so we can check up and then determine what is the actual problem.

Suporn Chuenpimolchankij, Assistant Senior Director of TOT, Phuket Branch, replies:

In reference to the occasion the customer called our office and got

A trashy beach

The garbage service at Nai Harn Beach is appalling.

It is one of the best beaches I have ever had the privilege of visiting, yet responsible government officials seem either unwilling or incapable of managing the waste from both visitors and local businesses.

I often see bundles of garbage left alongside one or two lonely bins only to be torn apart by the street dogs over night.

Pay increase needed to keep Govt competitive

FIRST PERSON

THE Cabinet recently approved minimum wage increases for government workers that will come into effect on January 1.

I think this adjustment signals the Government's preparation to become a member of a free trade area (FTA), one in which other member states will have higher minimum wage structures than Thailand.

The daily minimum wage in Phuket is set to go up to 221 baht and in Bangkok to 215 baht.

This increase is an advantage to workers, but not so for business operators.

The Bangkok rate is lower than ours because they have services such as free buses and trains – none of which we have here.

It would be great if the Government also offered us mass transit systems like Bangkok, or extended the railway network to Phuket and nearby provinces.

This would help reduce the cost of living in Phuket because people currently have to pay incredibly high travel expenses.

With no other viable alternatives, people must buy their own cars, which creates more traffic congestion.

If Thailand had smarter government officials, this problem could be solved.

One way to keep smart people working for the Government is to increase salaries.



Phuket Chamber of Commerce President **Dr Sirichai Silapa-archa** is deputy director of Vachira Phuket Hospital, Phuket's largest medical facility. The MBA graduate from Prince of Songkla University also holds a bachelor's degree in medicine from Chulalongkorn University. Here he speaks about the need for the recently-announced salary increases for civil servants, which he feels are necessary to prevent a national "brain drain" to the private sector and abroad.

I totally agree with the decision to increase salaries for all government officials, which was a brave one

Once Thailand becomes a member of the FTA, we will need more clever workers to help develop the country.

If Thailand doesn't offer attractive payment, the Government will lose outstanding executives to the private sector or to neighboring countries offering higher wages.

A government administrator's salary should be set at around 70 to 80 per cent of that of a CEO for a big private company in order to keep those people working with us.

If they receive good payment, they won't need to go outside the country for work.

Also, I think the salary of administrators should be adjusted higher than those of legislators

because they work 24 hours a day, while legislators only work in the daytime.

Administrators are currently asked to work very hard for low

That's why there are fewer smart people working for the Government.

For ordinary people the salary adjustment sounds like bad news, but actually it's not.

The adjustment will keep intelligent people – like finance minister Korn Chatikavanij – working with us and will attract more capable people in the future.

Without these people, Thailand will not be able to beat Malaysia or Singapore.

Their visions will see increases in national income, with people becoming progressively wealthier until they eventually reach the same level as their counterparts in developed countries.

The latest fashion: saving the planet

THE new words and slang section of Merriam-Webster's online dictionary defines "ecotistical" as "having or showing an excessively high opinion of oneself because of one's conservationist ecological practices".

An "ecotist" as the Urban Dictionary defines it is "a sanctimonious bastard whose inflated sense of self-worth is derived primarily from his commitment to saving the planet".

The world is full of ecotists.

Some people are sincere and genuinely concerned about Earth's wellbeing. They demonstrate such through actions and consistent behavior.

Ecotists, however, will shamefully flaunt all things labelled "raw" and "organic", regardless of how eco-friendly they are – it's the image that matters.

The spectrum of behavior is no different on the global scale.

There are organizations with good intentions, such as the World Wildlife Foundation (WWF) or People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), which are devoted to the conservation of our planet.

Then there are the so-called "greenwashers", big-business entities who are blamed for fudging the facts in an attempt to promote themselves as environmentally friendly.

In 2000, British Petroleum (BP) re-branded itself as environmentally friendly, claiming its position as leader in moving the world "beyond petroleum".

Corpwatch sited a group of shareholders who pointed out that in 2000 BP actually "spent more

Island View

By Nicky Vermeulen

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

money on their eco-friendly logo than on renewable energy".

And who can forget their colossal failure to limit the damage caused by the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico this year?

There are companies around the world claiming to be ecofriendly in one way or another, but lack the evidence to prove it.

On Phuket, the number of establishments marketing themselves as "green" is offensive when you consider what they are offering, especially when it has a "luxury stamp" on it.

Companies cannot claim to be environmentally friendly and then plant their projects near fragile ecosystems, such as wildlife breeding grounds.

I don't care how eco-friendly they claim to be with their developments. They're destroying natural habitats and chasing wildlife away.

The only way developers and tour companies can be environmentally friendly is to avoid building in sensitive wildlife areas all together.

As good as one's intentions may be, by supporting many eco-friendly products and developments is not helping the situation at all.

By doing such, it is essentially going against the desired cause of creating a better, cleaner, safer planet.

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



 ${\bf DUMPING\ GROUND:\ Piles\ of\ garbage\ are\ a\ common\ site\ on\ Nai\ Harn\ Beach.}$

Visitors may as well just throw garbage directly into the ocean; this is where it often ends up anyway.

Why can't officials provide more bins (maybe even bins for recycling) and at least empty them in a timely manner to prevent wellmeaning visitors and businesses from having to leave the garbage on the ground?

Nai Harn Beach, like many other Thai beaches, is a great asset but it is being slowly destroyed by mismanagement and apathy.

> Raymond Waldron Nai Harn

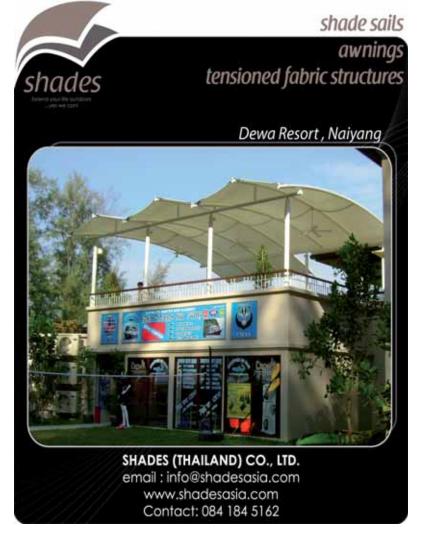
Surachet Jittmeth, acting director of the Rawai Tambon Administration Organization (OrBorTor) Public Health and Environment division, replies:

This problem has been ongoing since most of the trash cans on Nai Harn Beach went missing in 2009. In September of that year we received trash cans as a donation from the Southern Big Bike Charity, 20 of which we placed in about 10 locations around Nai Harn Beach.

Today, we only have two left. This year, our budget to purchase trash cans has been approved and we are planning to place them similarly in about 10 locations. This time we will post signs asking people to preserve the government property.

We also send officers out during the day to monitor the beach and keep people from littering.

If you see people in the area exhibiting bad behavior, please visit Rawai OrBorTor to fill out a complaint form. We are also keeping our eyes out for such. For more information call us at 076-613801 ex114.



Retailers ration palm oil

By Anand Singh

RETAILERS throughout the country have begun rationing the sale of bottled palm oil in a move to curb seasonal shortages. Tesco Lotus, for example, is limiting sales to one bottle of palm oil per family, *The Nation* reports.

Although palm oil is still available from most large retailers in Phuket, many have limited sales of the product.

Mr Pramarn Urawan, a researcher at the Phuket Internal Trade Office, said part of the nationwide problem may be panic buying following news of possible shortages and price increases next year.

"Industries that depend heavily on palm oil usage may resort to stocking up to ensure that possible shortages will not affect their operations.

"Excessive panic buying then eventually leads to actual shortages, especially during this time of year when supply is already lagging," Mr Pramarn said.

The price of crude palm oil has risen from 3 baht to 7.50 baht per kilogram. Costs of producing palm oil have been rising and shipments have been cut, according to statements from Tesco Lotus.

At the government controlled selling price is 38 baht per bottle, Tesco reports it is losing money, since production costs are now 50 baht per bottle.

However Mr Pramarn also said that rationing palm oil should not have a significant effect on businesses in Phuket, since there are no industries that intensively use palm oil on the island. "The majority of consumers in

Phuket use palm oil for cooking, in households and restaurants. Although palm oil is one of the cheapest cooking oils on the market, there are substitutes readily available, such as soya and corn oil that can be bought for around 46 baht a bottle," Mr Pramarn said.



SUPPLY AND DEMAND: Palm oil sales are being restricted. Photo: Anand Singh

The Department of Internal Trade has asked suppliers to release a stock of over two million bottles of palm oil to ease the current shortage which should not last into February, as palm oil production is expected to increase to its yearly peak by then.

Thousands to sail in for PIMEX

THE boating industry will experience a boom this week when leading Asian boat show PIMEX comes to Phuket, especially since PIMEX 2011 is set to be a record breaking event.

Visitors are expected to number more than 6,000, of whom 2,000 will be trade visitors.

The number of exhibitors has already exceeded those in previous years. With more than 40 boats inthe-water, the 2011 PIMEX continues to reign as the largest inwater boat show in the region.

Powerboats of all sizes will be displayed with sailing yachts, Thaibuilt boats, and the full range of international boat brands represented through Thailand dealerships.

PIMEX will also showcase three of the world's top automobile brands – Jaguar, Lexus and Land Rover.

- Phuket Gazette

TAT to win tourist hearts with lady luck



ATTRACTING TOURISTS: The Miss Belgium contest in Phuket was a success, and the TAT is trying to tap into the industry's tourism potential.

THE 12 contestants taking part in the 2011 Miss Slovakia beauty contest will visit Phuket in January as part of the Tourism Association of Thailand's (TAT) efforts to generate publicity for Phuket and the region, and attract more visitors from Eastern Europe.

During their Thailand tour the contestants will also visit Bangkok and Phi Phi from January 7 to 21.

The TAT Frankfurt Office has partnered with ESO Travel, a major Slovak tour operator and one of the co-organizers of the annual beauty contest.

"The event will enhance Thailand's good image and attract more visitors from the rapidly growing countries in Eastern Europe," TAT Frankfurt Director Ms Suwalai Pinpradap said.

"The beauty contest will specifically help us target the key



market segments: young people, women, the jet-set group, hon-eymooners and family travelers," she added.

In 2009, Slovakia showed the highest growth in visitor numbers from Europe to Thailand. There were 8,511 visitors from Slovakia, up 28.7 per cent from 2008.

The Miss Slovakia pageant, which is widely watched every

year in its home country, Hungary and the Czech Republic, will help to generate exposure for Thai tourist destinations like Phuket and Phi Phi, which provide the backdrop destinations for the contest this year.

The TAT will be responsible for accommodation, transfers and domestic air tickets for the 12 contestants, event organizers and the associated media during their stay in Thailand.

In November 2009, the TAT Paris office agreed to sponsor the Miss Belgium 2010 contest, which also used Phuket as the backdrop destination.

According to the TAT, the Miss Belgium beauty contest proved a resounding success thanks to the stunning tourist attractions and backdrop scenery, plus the professionalism of the Thai support staff.

The management team of the Miss Belgium beauty contest may again choose Thailand as a backdrop destination for this year's contest.

Anand Singh





70/31 PattanaThongthin Rd., Soi Muangthong Uthit 1, Phuket 83000.

Tel: 076 242 025, 081-397 1567, 081-893 5717 Fax: 076 391 680

The top 10 industries for 2011

By Anand Singh

THE Center for Business and Economic Forecasting has predicted Thailand's top 10 industries for the coming year.

The center, part of the University of Thai Chamber of Commerce (UTCC), also said that businesses that did notably well last year were export oriented with extensive foreign connections.

The medical services industry topped the list as the best industry for next year. About 1.6 million medical tourists visited Thailand last year.

The UTCC center said that the medical industry will continue to grow rapidly because of the expected growth in patient numbers. Patients are, in part, increasing due to the emergence of new diseases at a faster rate than ever before, the report stated.

Natural gas is second on the center's list this year. Gasoline and diesel prices are expected to remain high in the foreseeable future, so consumers will increasingly look to cheaper alternatives, such as natural gas, for transportation.

Earlier this year in a meeting on alternative energy in Phuket, Phuket Vice-governor Teerayut Eimtrakul said that although Phuket is a small province, it is densely populated, which is why the island needs to focus on cleaner energy alternatives for transportation.

According to Mr Teerayut, the Ministry of Energy will join hands with the provincial government to open the South's first natural gas retail station.

The availability of natural gas on the island should benefit the tourism and transport sectors since it is a cleaner and much cheaper energy source for vehicles, compared to gasoline.

Financial services and publishing were ranked third and fourth respectively.

The UTCC center is confident in publishing firms because it believes printed media will still be popular since electronic media devices are not yet widely available.

The fifth and sixth industries in the ranking were chemicals, and food and beverage, respectively.

Seventh was the alternative energy industry, such as ethanol production and education was ranked eighth.

Phuket continues to grow as a center for international education, with more investment being poured into international standard education facilities than ever before.

Last year plans were drawn up for the construction of two new



HEALTH ON TOP: Medical services is the top ranked industry for this year, according to the UTCC list. Photo: Gazette file

international schools on the island.

One of the campuses will become the Kajonkiet Group of schools' new international school, set to open in Kathu by May. The school will follow a British curriculum, administrators said.

Thai Hua School also plans to build a new Chinese International School in Phuket. The school, touted to be the first of its kind in southern Thailand, will offer a Chinese international curriculum in affiliation with Huaqiao University. The campus will be located behind the existing Thai Hua School in Phuket Town.

The ninth industry in the ranking, expected to achieve high growth next year, is rubber pro-

duction. The UTCC report said that the Thai rubber industry still has a lot of room to grow.

It is also expected that rubber exports to China will increase significantly in the coming year due to healthy growth in demand for rubber and related products. Agriculture and gold both came tenth in the ranking.

High season figures pale in comparison to last year

THE start of this year's tourism high season in Phuket is down about 25 per cent overall compared with last year, one industry analyst reports.

Bhuritt Maswongsa, vice-president for marketing at the Phuket Tourist Association, said occupancy rates at Phuket hotels in November were only about 60 per cent on average.

"We used to get occupancy rates in the 70 to 80 per cent range in November, and 85-90 per cent in December, but we aren't getting them this year because Europeans aren't travelling," he said.

Economic recession, increased tax rates, higher fuel charges and the introduction of a travel tax in some EU countries has pushed up

airfares and package tour prices a lot, he said.

Unusually heavy snowfall across much of the continent has also hurt arrival figures because of flight cancellations and because Europeans who felt their homes were at risk did not want to leave them, he said.

The situation in Phuket would be far worse if it weren't for continuing growth in non-European inbound markets, including China, Korea, Australia and Russia.

These four countries, together with Singapore and Malaysia, have now surpassed Europe collectively as a source of high season tourists to Phuket, he said.

An oversupply of rooms in the resort sector continues to shorten

the peak booking period, when most resorts are at or near full capacity, he said.

"This year's peak season runs from December 24 through January 20, after which it will slow down again," he said.

Mr Bhuritt expressed exaspera-

tion with the fact that resorts continue to mushroom in Phuket despite the obvious oversupply.

The start of this high season was down "about 25 to 30 per cent overall" compared with last year, he estimated.

The downturn appears to match

the prediction of those who took part in a *Gazette online* poll posted in mid-November, when almost 75 per cent of those voting said they thought the rising baht would have a considerable negative effect on high season performance.

- Stephen Fein





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Year in review: the stories



INFRASTRUCTURE

30-4127

PUBLIC TRANSPORT



LIFEGUARDS



HELMET SENSE



KILL CITY

AFTER more than a decade of debate, construction of an international convention and exhibition center on Phuket was finally approved by Cabinet with a budget 2.6 billion baht.

The site chosen was Mai Khao. The project chief says construction is likely to get under way mid-2012.

Plans for Patong Tunnel started seeing daylight, though residents in Patong's Ban Mon community protested over the harm their "village" will suffer.

There was much heavy talk about light rail this year, though all the guests stopping by the Governor's Office to discuss the project were from China or Korea.

Italian-Thai Development Co made headway with the "Sarasin II" bridge project and built a sealed road free of charge for Mai Khao villagers living by the on-ramp.

Back in central Phuket, the bypass-bypass road opened as did a shortcut between Suan Luang Park and Saphan Hin.

Efforts to build a road from the airport to Koh Kaew remain swamped in bureaucracy, but the mangrove flyover at Saphan Hin was approved in principle.

Also passing the public hearing process were the Darasamuth underpass and the Samkong flyover projects, though funding approval is still needed for them to move ahead

After two knockbacks at public hearings, re-redrafted plans for the Chalong Marina were finally put to use. The project is scheduled for completion in mid-2011.

PHUKET'S lack of reasonablypriced public transport was a common theme in media reports all year. With no end in sight to the stranglehold local transport syndicates hold, more island residents than ever registered new vehicles this year – causing a notable increase in traffic congestion.

The undisputed low point came in mid-June, when angry tuk-tuk and "black-plate" taxi drivers blockaded the access road to Phuket Deep Sea Port. The drivers demanded that visiting US sailors use their services rather than the free transport provided for them by the Navy.

Many local residents hoped the outrage would become a major diplomatic issue serving as a wake-up call forcing the government to finally address the Phuket transport crisis. That didn't happen: The US Embassy in Bangkok played down the issue and reconfirmed its intention to continue using Phuket and as a port-of-call for visiting seamen.

In other transport news, a dispute between rival taxi concessionaires at the airport erupted in February. It was finally resolved in May, when Airports of Thailand mediated a settlement that allowed both groups to add 30 more vehicles to their existing fleets.

The only improvement was the continual development of the Pink Bus service in Phuket Town that included more buses, greater frequency of arrival and installation of new bus stops and English-language signs.

THE year began with a tragedy at Nai Harn Beach when a 10-year-old boy who was celebrating New Year's Day with his family became the year's first drowning victim.

Apichet "Nong Max" Srinakarak's death reignited fury over the absence of lifeguards stationed on Phuket beaches at the time.

Lifeguard provider LP Laikhum lost a Phuket Provincial Administration Organization (*OrBorJor*) contract due to "managerial problems" in November 2009. It was four months later, on April 25, when a new team of lifeguards landed on Phuket beaches after the Phuket Lifeguard Club won a 10-million-baht *OrBorJor* contract. The 10-month contract stationed 83 beach guards at 13 Phuket beaches until February 2011.

Since then, the lifeguards have been on duty daily from 9am to 7pm. Although the lifeguards have saved many, deaths have continued. In July, lifeguards stationed on Karon Beach lashed out at local hotels saying they need to be more forthcoming in warning tourists not to swim in heavy surf.

In September, visiting Australian surf life-saving specialist David Field expressed concerns over the standard and variety of equipment lifeguards use to save swimmers. The following week, the Phuket Lifesaving Carnival took place on Patong Beach, with hundreds turning out in support of surf safety. Deaths continued on Phuket beaches, the latest of which was when two Russians died in separate drownings on the same day in December.

JANUARY 1, 2011 marks D-day for the island-wide enforcement of a law requiring all motorbike riders and passengers to don helmets.

Beginning with a publicity campaign in April, police in Phuket Town started the crackdown on July 1. People caught on bikes without helmets had their licenses seized, returned only after they viewed a film showing graphic images of road accident victims and attended a lecture.

Hundreds were caught within days, and scores more in the weeks following, making the "scared straight" film one of the most talked-about movies of the year.

After seeing the impact on helmet use in Phuket Town, Provincial Police Commander Maj Gen Pekad Tantipong ordered the helmet law to be enforced island-wide.

Patong staged a parade to publicize the campaign before its enforcement there, with about 1,000 people joining a motorcade and parade. Agreements were drafted to have organizations introduce separate punishments for their own staff caught breaking the law.

Superintendent Wanchai Ekpornpit of Phuket City Police said the mandatory move will continue until July, 2011, after which police will begin fining offenders up to 500 baht per driver and passenger not wearing a helmet. Drivers with passengers without helmets face additional 1,000-baht fines.

The campaign won national acclaim. Soon after its launch, Deputy Interior Minister Thavorn Senniam said he would encourage similar projects in the South.

THERE were over 50 murders in Phuket in 2010, but two lethal stabbings stood out as particularly heinous.

In late June, the decomposing body of Phichit-born bar hostess Wanphen Pienjai was found stuffed into a suitcase in Wichit. A month-long manhunt followed before police finally arrested American Ronald Fanelli, a former US Navy officer.

Fanelli confessed to killing Ms Wanphen, but told a press conference it was accidental. His trial on charges of premeditated murder has been delayed pending the results of a psychiatric evaluation.

Reward money of 50,000 baht offered by police for information leading to the killers arrest was divvied up among the Phuket City Police investigation team. The *Phuket Gazette* and Rotary Club of Patong beach joined forces to raise scholarship money for Ms Wanphen's mother, who is now taking care of her two surviving children.

In mid-August Phuket was shocked by the stabbing murder of American Dashawn Longfellow in his rented home in Rawai.

All evidence, including eyewitness accounts of Mr Longfellow losing a bar fight to British muay thai fighter Lee Aldhouse earlier the same night, put police in pursuit of Aldhouse, who managed to slip out of the country. He was arrested about two weeks later at a Heathrow Airport on an outstanding warrant from a previous case. Thailand has submitted a request for his extradition.



January 1 - 7, 2011 PHUKET GAZETTE

that had everyone talking



FEEL GOOD FACTOR

IT WASN'T all bad news this year. In fact, the people of Phuket did some pretty amazing – if not, sometimes dangerous – things in the name of good causes.

The Rotary Club of Patong Beach joined the rest of the world in a race against time to get relief aid to earthquake-devastated Haiti after a 7.0 earthquake killed more than 230,000 people on January 12. Through valiant fundraising efforts, Rotary Patong and the Phuket Red Cross surpassed the three-billionbaht mark in February.

Elsewhere in January, two kayakers announced their ambitious plans to paddle over 14,000 miles from Phuket to California – in their 20-foot wooden vessel. They were met with both skepticism and support from the Phuket community, but it wasn't long before the pair's plans hit a series of snags.

A lack of money scuttled their March departure date. Then, in a turn of good fortune they were gifted US\$25,000 by a sponsor and the voyage was back on in October, and in a bigger vessel. But it wasn't to be. The pair's kayak sank on a training trip in Phang Nga Bay on August 24. They are still determined to one day make the 20-month paddle to the US.

Then in March, 59-year-old Les Bird pledged to climb Europe's highest mountain, Mont Blanc, in the French-Italian Alps to raise money for the Child Watch Phuket foundation. The Phuket ironman athlete reached the 4,810-meter summit on July 10, and handed over all his donations the following week. Amazingly, only 10 days later he swam across the Solent, in the English Channel, just for fun.

Phuket in a kayak this year with



TSUNAMI CAPITAL

DECEMBER 26 marked the sixth anniversary of the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami disaster, which once again thrust Phuket into the limelight as the unofficial "capital" of the tragedy.

Although the death toll in Phuket from the inundation was less than one per cent of the regional total, that didn't stop most international news crews from starting their annual coverage of memorial events here rather than in the Indonesian province of Aceh, where more than 110,000 lives were lost.

Thailand's preparedness for another tsunami has been onagain, off-again news over the past year. Confusion reigned in early April when the National Disaster Warning Center issued a "tsunami alert", but not a full evacuation order, following an earthquake off the coast of Sumatra. On the morning of November 5 residents of Kamala and Nai Yang once again ran for the hills when the NDWC towers sounded in those locales. Provincial officers confirmed the false alarms, but the NDWC dismissed them as "rumors", denying ever having triggered a warning. If the siren sounded it might have been the result of unauthorized parties hacking into the electronics, the agency's chief suggested.

Tsunami skittishness continued to be exacerbated by unsubstantiated rumors played up in the Thai media that another inundation was imminent, as well as the fact Thailand was without the ability to directly detect a tsunami for much



OFF-THE-WALL

SNAKES slid their way into headlines in 2010, especially a threemeter cobra crushed by oncoming traffic while trying to cross Thepkrasattri Road in Thalang in February. By website statistics, the story was one of the Gazette's most popular of the year. We're still trying to figure out why.

Other snakes of note during the year were a Chinese serpent found slithering into a Norwegian man's home in Chalong and a poisonous tree snake that got more than the ruler from teacher Joy Tongnual when it tried to enter her classroom at the Phuket Babysitting Co offices in Wichit in September.

Students at Satree Phuket School jumped to conclusions when they saw a young woman trying to throw herself off a pedestrian bridge over nearby Thepkrasattri Road in August. Several students intervened to stop the woman from launching herself into the traffic meters below, only to learn from police the next day that she was a serial suicide con artist.

Police at the Tah Chat Chai checkpoint made no assumptions when a man wearing a shirt identifying himself as a member of the New York City Police SWAT team tried getting past with about 8,000 ya bah (methamphetamine) pills in July. At the time of his arrest, the man was already high on ya bah.



RED STORM

NO ACCOUNT of 2010 in Thailand would be complete without including the protests by United Front for Democracy Against Dictatorship (UDD) in Bangkok. The turmoil began in early February and ended with a blaze in May.

Taking a cue from the protests by yellow-shirt PAD protesters in previous years, the red-shirt supporters of fugitive former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra caused months of inconvenience in the capital before gearing up for the "final countdown" by setting up camp at the Rajprasong shopping district in central Bangkok.

The showdown ended violently, with at least 27 arson attacks in the capital and the shooting deaths of protesters that are still under investigation.

Among the dead was the leader of the movement's armed wing, Maj Gen Khattiya "Sae Daeng" Sawasdipol.

The protests had little effect on Phuket, but travel advisories issued by many diplomatic missions in Bangkok badly hurt the local tourism industry and led to calls among industry leaders to market Phuket as a destination "independently" from the rest of the

A few hundred Phuket red shirt supporters joined the encampment in the capital.



WORLD CUP FEVER

PHUKET sang in unison with sports nuts around the world in June and July, as the FIFA World Cup came to the "rainbow nation", South Africa, for the first time.

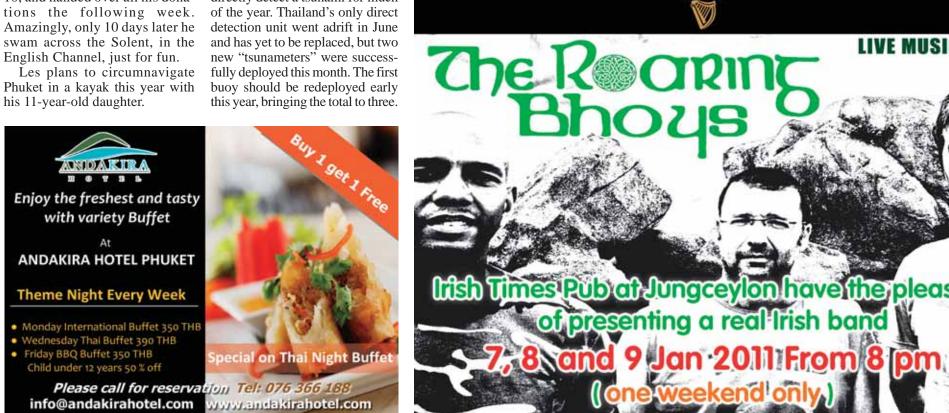
While the football action was explosive, fans watching the games on TV couldn't help but put their fingers in their ears, turning to their friends and asking, "What the bloody hell is that sound?"

Yes, it was the year the dreaded vuvuzela (plastic horn) reached the world stage and caused outrage among die-hard fans who couldn't hear what commentators were

Meanwhile in Germany, Paul the Octopus accurately predicted the outcome of all his country's matches, including their semi-final defeat. Sadly, Paul died in October at the height of his career. He was two years old.

Spain went on to lift the trophy - correctly predicted by Paul after getting clouted all over the pitch from overzealous Holland players in the final.

- Fraser Morton, Chris Husted and Stephen Fein



Lars & Boom Ydmark

LARS and Boom Ydmark represent the success of the marriage of Western and Thai talents working in Phuket's hospitality industry. They work out of their Dewa Resort, which has 34 luxurious private pool villas and 62 elegant suites that overlook the resort's water park, across from Nai Yang Beach.

"We decided to build the resort in a quiet part of the island. Our guests are drawn to what they remember of Phuket before the dynamic development of the past few years. At Dewa, we can offer tranquility, a truly relaxing beach holiday, says Lars."

While he looks after the marketing and administration of Dewa, Boom supervises operations at the resort's Qi spa. She is also developing a distinctive line of beautiful jewelry to complement the chic style of Dewa. She travels to India to collect semi-precious stones for her line of rings, bracelets and other items, a talent she learned by taking jewelry design courses in Bangkok.

Lars arrived in Phuket in 1994 as part of the opening team for a Novotel, now the Royal Phuket City Hotel, in Phuket Town. He graduated in 1985 from the Schloss Klessheim, a premier institute for hospitality training, in Salzburg, Austria. He then joined the Sheraton for five years before seeking work in Hong Kong.

EXPAT

gallery

By Bruce Stanley

He was recruited by Shangri-la Hotels as Executive Assistant Manager for a property on Fiji, and was later transferred to Indonesia where he worked for two years as Project Coordinator for the opening of the Shangri-la in Jakarta.

"Opening hotels in Jakarta and Phuket gave me the interest and experience required to open my own properties. By 1999 I was offered jobs in Bali and Dubai but we decided to open our own hotel management company, Tri-Asia, to build properties on Phuket. I had married Boom by then and loved living in Thailand, and could see the great opportunities for tourism development on the island."

Boom has had her own interesting career here. Besides jobs at Club Med, Le Meridien Phuket and Amancruises, she is best remembered for her years in guest relations at the Amanpuri resort. She married Lars in 1997 and they have two children, Carl and Elin, in addition to Fabian from Lars' earlier marriage.

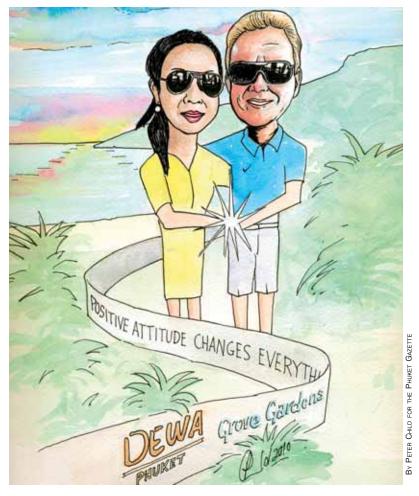
With Lars' extensive hotel experience and Boom's talent at dealing with the required Thai aspects of working in Thailand, Tri-Asia developed the Deva Resort in Patong and then the Jiva Resort & Spa at Kata Beach.

In 2003, they embarked on building Grove Gardens, a 36 unit mixed development of apartments and town homes, on a piece of land they had bought to build their own estate near the upscale Cape Yamu. The project quickly sold out.

When they were offered the opportunity to build a resort at Nai Yang Beach, they developed Dewa. Lars was involved in the design process where he could use his talents with feng shui in the arrangement of villas and the main buildings, and in placement of the water features.

Currently, Tri-Asia is managing Dewa as well as developing and consulting on other boutique resort properties around Phuket. They have made a significant impact on maintaining a high standard for resort development on the island by following their own corporate credo - PACE: Positive Attitude Changes Everything.

"Phuket is a great place to live and we must ensure that we have a clean and safe environment for our visitors. And the local government must ensure an international infrastructure to keep up with the pace of development," says Lars.



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.

Visit



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- · 6,000 participants
- · 35+ yachts in the water
- · More than 100 exhibitors
- 50 countries represented
- · A dozen boats sold last year
- Over 30M US\$ in deals made at the 2010 show



We enjoyed the show. Very good attendance regarding the quality of visitors.

> Vincent Tabuteau Owner of Asia Marine

The networking potential and generation of leads at this year's show, especially within the trade, gives it a definite advantage over the other shows.

> Scott Galloway Chris Craft Thalland



buyers. With continued Informa Yacht Group input, this show will continue to grow as we come out of the financial slump.

Managing Director for Go Boating Thailand



THAILAND



















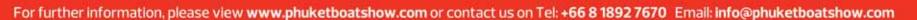












Head downtown to find Isarn

UDOM Gaewprachan came to Phuket in 1986 from her native Si Saket in northeastern Thailand (Isarn) for work and all was good but for one thing: no suitable Isarn food.

Not so quick to fill her pockets as to satisfy her own craving for a taste of home, Ms Udom and a friend soon began cooking and selling Isarn food from a pushcart in Phuket Town.

By 1997 the pushcart business had grown into Siang Kaen Isarn restaurant on Mae Luan Road.

It was one – if not the first – dining establishment to set up shop on the street, Ms Udom says.

The restaurant, which opens onto the street, is staffed mostly with family members and is always brimming with customers. It's easily spotted by the pile of customers' motorbikes parked out front.

Siang Kaen is sure to please everyone, from seasoned veterans of Isarn cuisine to "hold-the-chilis-please" first-timers.

The menu, as is the case with many Thai restaurants, can be overwhelming in its variety of choice, but have no fear: it's all good.

For those who would like a little direction in their first visit, this humble diner would like to suggest his favorite meal for two. Necessary, of course is an order each of sticky rice for you and your dining partner. You may also require a large bottle of Leo beer (55 baht) to start.

Keep in mind this is not a place for appetizers, main courses, deserts and "private" dishes: this is a free-for-all in which dishes come in no particular order, or all at once.

Another dish worth a mention is *naam tok moo* (40 baht): tender strips of grilled pork marinated in a *naam tok* sauce. *Naam tok* is a flavor-packed mix of fish sauce, lime, chili, ground roasted rice, mint, red and green onion, and parsley.



Cheap Eats

By Nicholas Altstadt

When asked what the secret was to grilling the *plaa* saba to perfection, Ms Udom replied with a smile, "We don't have a special technique – we just order quality fish, which in this case comes from Norway".

Quality ingredients, she says, are the secret to all of Siang Kaen's dishes.

"We try hard to get the best ingredients possible – even when they're out of season. We want to keep our entire menu available year-round," she says.

Siang Kaen also offers customized

Siang Kaen also offers customized dishes: Just call ahead and let them know what you want and they'll try their best to accommodate.

"We don't think of this as a business, we just want people to be happy. We want this place to be like a home for Thai people and foreigners alike," she said. "If you're not happy with your food – if it's too spicy – just tell us and we'll make a new dish for you."

You can find Siang Kaen at 46/1 Mae Luan Road, Taladyai, Phuket Town, T:076-234171. Look for the rows of motorbikes outside.

There are many a meat served with the *naam tok* sauce, but

personally, pork is the best bet. A plate of *somtam* "spicy papaya salad" (30 baht) is a must as it's among the best in all of Thailand.

If you're not a fan of the "fishy" taste, be sure to order the *somtam thai* which makes good use of lime juice and sugar instead of fish sauce.

Tom saeb moo sap "spicy soup with minced pork" (50 baht) wonderfully compliments any meal.

The citrus-based soup can be served with a variety of meat – minced pork is a good choice for both taste and lack of bones.

A must have is their *plaa saba yang* or grilled mackerel par excellence (120 baht).

Fearing the disappointment of being served the run-of-the-mill, overcooked slab of stringy fish, there was some hesitation in ordering it – but luckily we gave it a go.

The dipping sauce for the *plaa saba* is a perfect match: soy sauce, sweet soy sauce, lime juice, chili and green onion.





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Life & style A bird's eye view of 2010 In brief... Brits flee th big freeze

Travellers found flying to Phuket this year a breeze, with low-cost airlines capturing imaginations with competitive fares and new direct routes.

By Alastair Carthew

TRAVEL to Phuket was made even easier this year, with huge growth in low-cost carrier routes and a boom in arrivals from Russia and Australia – two markets that appear set to hit record levels.

Most important, there were no major incidents or crashes.

November reflected the growth pattern for the year. International passenger arrivals for the month were up almost 50 per cent on 2009, with the overall total, including domestic arrivals, for the month up 23.4 per cent.

Thai Airways' announcement of a commercial partnership with Singapore-based Tiger Airways made headlines, as did THAI's hefty fare increases early in the year.

Nok Air and One-Two-Go had a mixed year. Nok Air emerged from a major restructuring, while One-Two-Go's Phuket service was absorbed into its Orient Thai Airlines parent.

Bangkok Airways continued to steadily consolidate its boutique airline reputation.

Happy Air, a Phuket-owned startup in 2009, survived to see its first birthday and continues to grow. It now offers flights to Hua Hin, Haad Yai, Nan and Langkawi with a fleet of three Saab 340 turboprop aircraft, up from one last year.

Firefly, the Malaysian Airlines subsidiary, also expanded its Phuket to Penang business during

Both Happy Air and Firefly are convenient airlines for foreigners needing to make "visa runs".

But it was the continued surge in carriers such as AirAsia and the Virgin Group from Australia that caught travellers' imaginations with a mixture of competitive fares and more direct flights.



FLOCKING TO PHUKET: Travellers enjoyed more routes at better prices this year. Photo: Nicky Vermeulen

in 2009, AirAsia has never looked back. The low-cost carrier's upward success story took another leap forward this year with its launch of direct flights between Phuket and its main Southeast Asian destination rival: Bali.

Virgin's V Australia launched direct flights to Phuket from several major cities, but will unfortunately cease these services early in early 2011, allegedly because it cannot make money on the routes.

However, Strategic Airlines of Brisbane, Australia, in November announced direct flights to Phuket from Brisbane and Melbourne would start in February.

Virgin's Pacific Blue will continue direct flights to Phuket, but only from Perth in Western Australia.

Other direct flights came through Australian carrier Jetstar, which continued its upward trajectory in 2010.

Another regional carrier that did well over the past year was Tiger Airways, which is soon to enter into a commercial Since opening its Phuket office relationship with THAI that

should boost its network.

Even more exciting for Phuket's beleaguered tourism industry was the news that Qatar Airways, a quality Middle Eastern airline out of Doha, started direct flights to Phuket via Kuala Lumpur.

Hainan Airlines, from southern China, launched a flight service to Phuket with a stopover in Beijing.

In December, Iranian carrier Mehan Air announced it would start direct flights from Tehran using a 243-seat Airbus A300-

Well-established carriers including DragonAir continued to take advantage of increasing demand among Hong Kong residents. In 2009, the last complete year for which complete figures are available, around 100,000 Hong Kong tourists travelled to Phuket, many on DragonAir direct flights. Thai Airways also got into the act with direct Hong Kong-Bangkok-Phuket flights.

The Russians also kept on coming. In July, Russian tour operator Pega Touristik said it would increase charter flights to Bangkok

and Phuket from eight Russian cities, using a Boeing 757 for daily flights to Phuket.

Rossiya Russian Airlines, based in St Petersburg, in August started scheduled flights to Moscow to connect with Thai Airways International flights to Phuket, via Bangkok.

Russian national carrier Aeroflot announced in October it would start three weekly flights directly from Moscow to Phuket.

Transero, a scheduled and charter carrier, announced it would fly charters to Phuket from St Petersburg and other Russian

From January through June last year, over 305,000 Russians visited, more than doubling the 2009

TUIFLY, a large charter group, started direct high-season flights to Berlin from December 14 through to late April 2011, and from Munich to Phuket on December 11.

Blu-Express, flying out of Rome, now also flies to Phuket via Bangkok.

Brits flee the big freeze

TRAVEL firms in the UK have reportedly seen a huge surge in package holiday bookings for December and January due to ongoing torrid weather conditions.

And many Brits are opting for Thailand and the Middle East.

Online travel agent www. lowcostholidays.com said its website traffic rocketed to 60 per cent above normal since the first snow fell in the UK.

Other hot search destinations in the past month have been the Canary Islands and Dubai.

Travel Counsellors reported a 20 per cent jump in bookings since severe weather began, with many Brits opting for two-week breaks in December and January.

Supermodel says 'yes' to Phuket



BRITISH supermodel Kate Moss will be on Phuket to usher in the New Year, according to the *Daily*

This will be the third year in a row the 36-year-old fashion icon has spent New Year's Eve on Phuket.

She is reportedly visiting with her boyfriend, Jamie Hince, her eight-year-old daughter and her mother.

It is rumored the supermodel will splurge over UK£100,000 on her trip on luxury items, including a yacht charter.







January 1 - 7, 2011 PHUKET GAZETTE 19

WHAT'S ON in Phuket

January 1. SALA's Chillin' and Grillin' New Year

Join SALA Phuket for their first barbeque of the year from 1-5pm. Ease into 2011 grazing on delectable barbeque fare while DJ Nhum lays down tracks in front of a beautiful ocean backdrop. Enjoy beach games, swim in the pool and swing in the trees. The price is 650 baht ++ per person or 1,250baht ++ per person and includes a free-flow of beer, wine, sausages by Simon the butcher, coconuthusk-smoked-pork spareribs, curry-rubbed chicken thighs, slow-roasted beef ribeye steak and a seafood grill. Draft beer jugs for 250 baht ++.

Contact Tibor Baan on T:076-338888, E:fbphuket@salaphuket.com or visit W:salaphuket.com for more information.

January 5-8. Michelin Star Chef Jens Jakob visits Evason Phuket

Germany's rising Michelin Star Chef, Jens Jakob, is coming to Evason Phuket & Bon Island to present his cuisine philosophy. Don't miss "Jens Jakob, Champagne and Pearls on the Lonely Island" from 7-11pm each night. These will be spectacular evenings featuring extraordinary tapas style creations with champagne. Price is 2,100 baht nett per person. On January 8, at 8pm, Chef Jens will present "Jam Session" at Into the Sea restaurant. Experience the secrets of Michelin star cooking when Chef Jens showcases his sophisticated cooking style of modern French-infused cuisine with molecular techniques in a specially created menu. The price is 2,800

January 15-16. Phuket Airpark Aviation Show



Airplanes from all over Thailand and Malaysia will be on show at this event. From 10am-7pm, meet the pilots and see the aircraft. There will be flying games, a barbeque and a bikini contest for the Miss Phuket Airpark 2011 title. To enter the pageant contact Gift at Egift.th@hotmail.com. Open to ladies between 19 and 28. Contestants will receive 500 baht and a free bikini while the runner-up will win 3,000 baht, second place will win 5,000 baht and the winner, 10,000 baht. Contact Robert or Tom Claytor on T: 076-529543, E:robert@thephuketairpark.com or visit W:phuketairparkfly-inpilots.blogspot.com.

baht nett per person. Contact Bernardo De La Garza on T: 076-381010, E:fbma-phuket@sixsenses. com or visit W:evasonphuket.com for more information.

January 6-9. Phuket International Boat Show (PIMEX) 2011

The Phuket International Boat Show (PIMEX) is the largest inwater boat show in the region and the most effective showcase for boating and marine leisure. Now in its eighth year in Phuket, the show will be held at Royal Phuket Marina and will display more than 40 yachts in the water as well as marine products, luxury brands and prestigious cars in the 2,500 square meter exhibition hall on the marina boardwalk. From 11am-8pm. The *Phuket Gazette* has

sponsored this event since its launch in 2004. Contact Andy Dowden on T: 081-8927670, E: info@phuketboatshow.com or visit W:phuketboatshow.com for more information.

January 7. Curry Fridays, Navrang Mahal

Curry Friday every alternate week. Enjoy an authentic and lavish Indian curry buffet. Selections include all-time favorites chicken tikka masala, very hot mutton vindaloo, juicy kebabs, Goan fish curry, chickpea curry and many more. Served with nan bread and basmati rice. All you can eat for only 449 baht nett. Draught beer by the glass for just 50 baht nett. Special discount on beverages. From 7-11:30pm.

Contact Seemant Raju on T:076-286464, E:sm@karonseasand.com or visit W:karonseasand.com for more information.

January 15 & 22. Saturday chill out on Bon Island

Join Evason Phuket on Bon Island every Saturday for a chill out session. DJ Ricky will spin the tunes, while you indulge in an unforget-table experience with all the food and drink you can handle. Price is 1,900 baht nett per person inclusive of modern tapas, local beer, house spirits, cocktails, soft drinks and juices. From 7-11pm.

Complimentary transportation available from Evason Phuket's pier. Contact Bernardo De La Garza on T: 076-381010, E: fbma-phuket@sixsenses.com for more information.

January 22. Ninth Annual QSI Phuket Fun Run

Registration is at 8am at Bang Wad Dam in Kathu. There will be events and awards for children aged five to nine and school teams for the one kilometer, 6.5km and 13km runs. The Team Challenge event is open to businesses, NGOs, and social teams. There will be free water for runners, good food and drinks, jumping castles, a band, DJ, raffles and silent auctions all for a complete family fun day! The *Phuket Gazette* and *PG*TV are sponsors of this event.

Contact Jantira Nobnorb or Alan Siporin on T: 076-524243, E:

qsi@phuketinternet.co.th or visit W:phuket.qsischool.org for more information.

January 23. PCF Charity Race Day and Great Phuket Rubber Duck Race

Dragon boat, kayak, home-made raft and cardboard box races. Ride in classic cars, jump on a trampoline and kids can enjoy arts and crafts. There will be a Delightful Duckling costume contest, a terrific magic show by Joe Conrad, and much, much more is on the agenda for the day. Good food and drinks at very reasonable prices. The highlight will be the second Great Phuket Rubber Duck Race. This time they plan to launch 2,000 ducks. Amazing prizes – the biggest one so far is worth US\$27,000 (about 800,000 baht). A great day for all the family.

Contact Alasdair Forbes or Janyaporn Morel on T:087-884 9964, E:alasdair@phuketcharity.org or visit W:phuketcharity.org/pcf-race-day for more information on this charity event.

January 24. Classical Concert at Mom Tri's Villa Royale

Mom Tri Devakul has invited HE Adm ML Usni Pramoj to perform at Villa Royale, continuing the tradition of the Baan Kata Arts Festival, a celebration of art and cultural events. Others on the program include Joseph Haydn: string quartet in F major, Op 77, No 2 and ML Usni Pramoj: string quartet No1 and HE Admiral ML Usni Pramoj, a privy councillor, is also an accomplished musician and composer. String Quartet No 1 was inspired by the turmoil in Bangkok. A three-course set menu will be available on the evening, in addition to the a` la carte menus. Price is 500 baht per person and includes a cocktail reception. Contact Sylvie Yaffe on T: 076-333569, E: pr@villaroyalephuket.com or visit W:villaroyalephuket.com

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ROYAL BALLET: On Christmas Eve a group young dancers performed ballet, folk and modern dance with professional Russian ballerina Alexandra Vorobyova (center) at Royal Phuket Marina.



JOLLY GOOD TIME: Santa dropped in at Sala Phuket.

YOUR Phuket

ON DECEMBER 26 the Andaman Players took to the stage once again for their second performance of The Pirates of Phuket this festive season, at the Green Man Pub in Chalong. The show was a huge success with children and adults alike enjoying a good old fashioned pantomime for Christmas. Hot on the heels of this latest success, The Andaman Players hope to take their show to the north of the island in coming weeks.

GARRRRR: Some of the action that took place when the pirates descended on The Green Man Pub.





EVIL GENIUSES: Actors Marc Mulloy and Denise Bertrand get into character.



SWING THAT SWORD: The pirate spy, actress Victoria Pegram (left), and villain Hata Mari, Denise Bertrand, locked in battle. Photos: Daniel Wolf



COPPER'S CHRISTMAS: Volunteers of the Royal Thai Tourist Police and their guests enjoyed a Christmas party at Royal Phawadee Village recently. Phuket Governor Tri Augkaradacha, Kathu District Chief Siriphat Phathakul, Tourist Police Superintendent Ekachai Pramanakul and Kathu Police Superintendent Col Arayapan Pukbuakao all took part in the celebrations. Vice-President of the Tourist Police Claude de Crissey was the host.



LAGUNA VISIT: Representatives from all of the resorts at Laguna Phuket Resort dropped in at The Phuket Gazette office to say Merry Christmas.

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Honoring the fallen six years on



British Honorary Consul Martin Carpenter and his family pay their respects at Patong Beach with flowers.



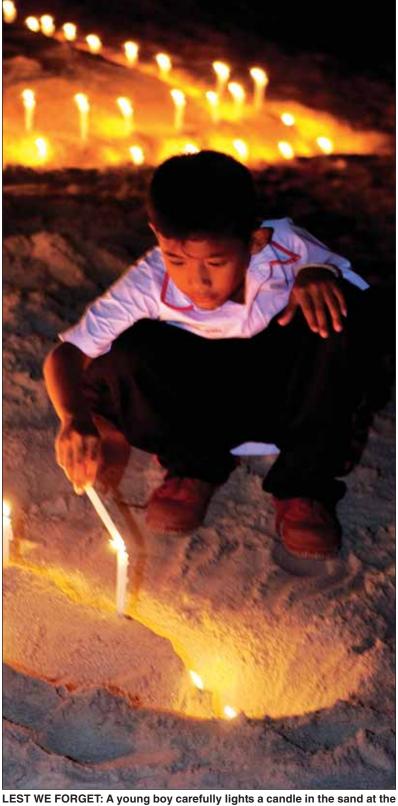
Hundreds of flowers and candles were placed by tourists and locals at designated areas on the beach.



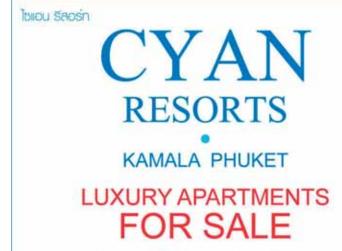
As is customary, lanterns were also let off into the night sky.
Three young boys help each other place their candles.







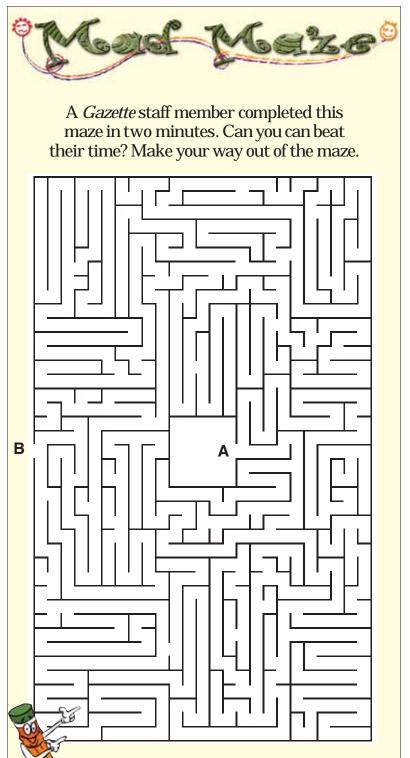
Light Up Phuket remembrance event at Patong Beach on December 26. Six years to the day, the Asian Tsunami struck Phuket. The hundreds of lives lost on the island will never be forgotten, and the mass crowds of both tourists and locals - who turned out to honor the fallen, was testament to this. Lest we forget. Photos: Pollit Thitivarithinun



Location 200 meters from Beach Bank Finance Available



January 1 - 7, 2011 PHUKET GAZETTE



Across

- 1. Ruse
- New Mexico T_s County
- Adjustable Risk Trading Strategy
- 13. Ascend
- 14. Excessive 16. Diamonds, example
- 17. Some are pale
- 18. Expressionless
- 19. Zeno's home
- 20. D-Day beach 21. Georgia, once: Abbr
- 22. Sovereignty
- 24. Unattractive
- 26. Attack a fly 27. Pond scum
- 29. Millennialism
- 33. Faithful
- 34. Lean
- 35. Adorable
- 36. Directional ending
- 37. Main stem of a tree
- 38. Deserter
- 39. Draw with acid
- 41. Broadcasts
- 42. Interlace
- 44. Native of Moorea 46. Plinth
- 47. Tablet
- 48. Grand
- 49. Frail
- 52. Miracle-
- 53. Citrus coolers
- 57. Composer Schifrin
- 58. Nymph ruling rivers 60. Take a meal
- 61. __Brockovich
- 62. Second king of Israel
- 63. Drop
- 64. Winglike parts
- 65. Bank (on)
- 66. Queensland Super Rugby team

- German (Mrs)
- 2. Rhythmic swing
- Between ports
- 4. Crazy
- 5. Scuffle
- Restless

break

- 7. Scent
- Sky light
- 9. Sterile
- 10. Dominion
- 11. A wedding cake may have three of these
- 12. Hang around
- 15. Glance
- 23. __ de mer
- 25. Guy's partner
- 26. Lower legs
- 27. Artery that feeds the trunk
- 28. Execute illegally
- 29. Agitate
- 30. Hearing-related

- 31. Fend (off)
- 32. Allot
- 33. Internet language eg, pwn3d
- 34. Experiment
- 37. Final part
- 40. Ilium
- 42. Court
- 43. Republic in South America
- 45. __ the cows come home
- 46. Of inferior quality
- 48. Track
- 49. Bloodsucking insect
- 50. British nobleman
- 51. East of Eden director Kazan
- 52. Bestow
- 54. Thin change
- 55. Children's author Blyton
- 56. Goes down
- 59. Swiss river

Provided by BestCrosswords.com. Used with permission.

Puzzle solutions on page 33

CAPRICORN (December 22-Janu-



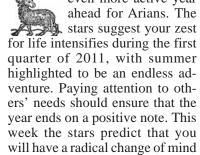
ary 20): Although there will be no quick fix to most problems in 2011,

Capricorns will be more positive. Material matters become less important and you're even luckier in love than the year that's just passed. This weekend, a discussion with friends can result in a new project being started.

AQUARIUS (January 21-February 19): Emotional weights from the past are lifted, making it easier for Aquarians to pursue new relationships. During the second half of the year, teamwork paves the way to financial success. A general trend this year is that Aquarians will become more pragmatic in their business outlook. This week, there are signs that friends or family members will look to you for guidance.

PISCES (February 20-March 20): Insecurities should be laid to rest by solutions found in March and April. After then, Pisceans will fine tune their skills in the employment world. Further education looks more interesting around this time. You may be tempted to cut old business ties in the middle of the year, but it will be better to keep relations simmering. Your outlook this week is sunny.

ARIES (March 21-April 20): An even more active year



about a romantic situation.

TAURUS (April 21-May 21): Ideas begin to take more constructive shape during the first quarter of 2011.

Travel is under the spotlight in February and March, and emphasis is on stimulating creative projects. Your self-confidence peaks during the last quarter of year, and there is a change of priorities. A partner who is used to being the center of your attention may show dissatisfaction. The number eight brings good fortune early next week.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21): Gemini will take care of unfinished business in the first

quarter of 2011. During the summer you'll live a more glamorous lifestyle and singles enjoy being the center of attention. Be careful with your finances during the final part of the year – bad investments

YOUR horoscope

By Isla Star

could land you in hot water. Generally speaking, this is not an auspicious year to either borrow or lend money. During the first week of January, a romantic partner's resolutions could cause friction.



CANCER (June 22-July 23): As the New Year begins, many Cancerians realize some commitments will be im-

possible to keep, but the stars suggest that promises made to yourself about work should be kept. Romance is well-starred during the summer months, but expecting too much support from a partner is likely to yield disappointment. This week, a tip from a friend comes at a fortuitous moment for those seeking relocation.

LEO (July 24-August 22): Knowl-

edge is the key to your success in 2011. Leos who are ready to learn

more will take advantage during the first quarter of the year. The stars suggest that this quest could encourage you to move to greener

pastures in the summer. In the realm of romance, the middle of the year is a time when friendship can be lifted to a more intimate level. After a financial downturn during the second quarter, the remainder of 2011 brings gain.

VIRGO (August 23-September 23): The speedy events in the first quarter of 2011 could shock laid back

Virgoans. Your willingness to embrace change could depend on friends' influence. Romance smoothes out over summer when you accept that over-possessiveness has a negative effect on relationships. During the final quarter of the year, wheels are set in motion for a more secure financial future. Single Virgoans could be disappointed when they pursue a romantic connection made with a fire sign over the Christmas period.

LIBRA (September 24-October 23): Romance is ready to

surprise you this spring. Many Librans may be reunited with an old flame or someone they've admired from a distance in the past. Others could find that commitment is now what they desire. Where finances are concerned, the middle of the year heralds a decision to take money matters more seriously. Those in

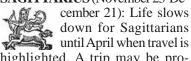
business are forecast to set their sights further afield from October onwards. This week, your preference for a slow start to the year is compromised by the arrival of visitors.

SCORPIO (October 24-November 22): Scorpios will be content to stay in their

own space during the first quarter of 2011. Close friends who understand your moods will understand your need for a quiet life, but this is not an auspicious time to embark on a romantic journey. There is emphasis on financial gain in November. As the first week of January gets under way, your attention is focused on home improvements.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23-De-

highlighted. A trip may be prolonged and romance is also forecast to be found along your journey. Those with a longstanding partner will appreciate the security of this relationship more. As the last quarter of 2011 begins, your mental energy sharpens and you see a way to make a dream come true. This week, a lucky meeting with an air sign improves your chances of securing new employment.



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PROPERTY Gazette

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Expanding education

By Samaporn Janyanon

THE future looks bright at Prince of Songkla University (PSU), which has completed ambitious expansion plans ready for the 2012 academic year.

Work on superstructures of three new buildings finished early last year.

Construction of these began in 2008 under a 210-million-baht government budget aimed at helping PSU realize its current five-year expansion plan, which is aimed at almost doubling its new student enrollment rate by the year 2012.

Currently 2,700 new bachelor's and master's degree students are accepted each year.

PSU plans to have the necessary infrastructure in place to allow an increase to 5,000 new scholars annually by the 2012 academic year.

A six-storey administration building, four-storey education building and a two-storey cafeteria were erected on 30,000 square meters of campus land at the beginning of last year.

University administrators will move into their building this year. The 1,500-seat cafeteria and new education building, with classroom seating for 1,000, will also go into use.

Aesthetically appealing, the administration and education buildings are built in a Sino-Portuguese style.



TOP CLASS: One of three new buildings at Prince of Songkla University, and (below) a view of the campus. Photos: PSU

"We wanted to showcase Phuket's signature architectural style in our buildings, since it gives the island its charm" said Assistant Professor Doctor Methi Sunbhanich, Vice President of PSU Phuket.

The expansion will also afford students with new academic opportunities.

The educational building for example, will include a branch of the Confucius Institute, where students will be able to study Chinese language and cul-

ture, beginning this year.

PSU Phuket hopes the center will enable graduates to better tap into the growing strength of the Chinese economy.

In two other campus projects now underway, the former Learning Center building will become an Information Technology Center and work is now underway on a 6.5-meter monument to King Rama V.

Both projects were supported by budgets raised from alumni donations.







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NOT TAKING IT LYING DOWN: As we march into the next decade, Phuket's tourism industry will face mounting pressure from rival Asian holiday destinations to stay one step ahead of the pack.

IT IS an age-old tale, of a lone castaway washing up on some deserted palm fringed island. Crawling to shore, the survivor spots a tarnished brass lamp sticking out of the sand in the harsh afternoon sun. Waves wash over the metal object as if in slow-motion.

Snatching it up like some street bum hustling for change, our hero frantically rubs the glowing treasure trove. Out pops a genie from the bottle and speaking in a booming voice announces: "Seven wishes are yours and yours alone."

If only this were so for Phuket. As we enter the next decade, a brand-new year has fallen off the roof like some random billboard and nearly killed the dog. Near hits and misses are becoming a regular part of island life, with the arrival of most developments making life on Phuket resemble an upside-down cake.

So what does our Phuket ship-wrecked lost soul desire for 2011? Perhaps some footprints in the sand could lead us towards making some of those elusive wishes to reality.

But be warned: As we march toward our collective future, our genie could be set for a little tough love and an inevitable bruise or two.

North-South expressway: Being a simpleton at heart, I feel the need to point out that the island's welcome mat is placed well north of center on the island, with the two most voluminous feeders of traffic on the island being the airport and Sarasin Bridge.

With the exception of the already established main northsouth highway, there is little room, if any, left to create wider coastal roads or a secondary holistic thoroughfare.

The controversial delayed new



road from Kathu to the airport makes absolute sense and would be an enormous help.

Ongoing tales of light rail tracks to Phuket Town and public buses seem to defy logic given Phuket's exceedingly large footprint and half-urban, half-rural demographic.

Building an expressway on top of the existing artery or a series of strategic flyovers seems to be a model other similar developing destinations have pursued with success.

Special administrative zone: Revolving provincial leadership has created a series of ups, downs and a twisted pathway in establishing and executing long-term plans for the island. Both Bangkok and Pattaya have self-determined status as they can elect leadership rather than see someone appointed.

The benefits of continuity, sustainable vision and some sort of accountability is key. Phuket as a high-growth economic contributor to the national economy deserves its own place at the dinner table.

Tourism infastructure projects: You can only rely on a

cushy seat on the gravy train for so long. The stage in fat cat city is getting crowded. Singapore, Macau, Malaysia and Vietnam are like a hungry pack of wolves after a greater share of the lucrative tourism market.

Mega projects and tourism attractions must be encouraged, incentivized and promoted in order to remain part of the starring cast of characters. Hotel rooms will be left empty unless there are drivers for the destination of Brand Phuket.

3G, Internet quality: As Asia leads the pack in recovery from the global financial crises, the playing field between East and West is leveling. A storyline from developing into developed nations is on the scorecard of most nations in the region.

Thailand's 3G saga needs to end. Add in the basic human needs of water, housing, food and that fourth necessity of any thriving metropolis: fast internet connections.

The powers that be may have been tied up seeing red lately, but now a firm priority has to be catching our neighbor's tiger tails.

Redevelopment reigns: The messy continual sprawl of new build exuberance is on display 24/7. Comprehensive zoning initiatives and tax and regulation incentives for redevelopment of properties

that encourage upgrades instead of green field development should be the cornerstone.

Changes in the Board of Investments policies are called for to allow foreign investors to take up existing projects that would be upgraded and modernized, instead of only creating more widespread building and undermining supply-demand fundamentals.

Bank financing for foreign property buyers: Until the country opens its doors to finance for foreigners, its attractiveness to overseas buyers to kickstart a sustainable recovery is doomed to a rapidly diminishing piece of the pie.

Whoosh! A sudden gust of wind catches the genie, carrying him beyond the ocean horizon before our castaway's seventh wish can even be heard.

Our survivor stands on the shore alone, the waves tickling his toes with the promise of a new year of tropical sunsets and sunrises leading to pangs of angst and hope.

Somewhere out there, only a whispered, "Be careful what you wish for," is all that can be heard.

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



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Iconic Kata view to be saved

By Pimwara Choksakulpan

FOLLOWING complaints by local residents, developers of a condominium project in Phuket have agreed to not build the top two storeys of the apartment block to preserve views over Kata Bay.

The environmental impact assessment (EIA) of the Kata Royal Condo project on Patak Road was originally approved for seven storeys.

However, when local residents realized the structure would block the view of Koh Phu (Crab Island) from the road over Kata Hill, they staged a protest and lobbied the Phuket Provincial Office to review the EIA approval process.

A work stoppage order was issued by Karon Municipality pending investigation of the matter.

The EIA was upheld by the Phuket office of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, but the decision whether to lift the construction ban rested with Karon Municipality, which refused to rescind the stoppage order until receipt of a letter from a provincial review board signed by the governor.

Although the construction was deemed legal in every respect, the



PEEK-A-PHU: The revised height of the Kata Royal Condo Project would allow a glimpse of Koh Phu to remain.

developers finally agreed not to go ahead with the final two floors of the project.

At a meeting among local officials and company representatives chaired by Vice Governor Nivit Aroonrat late last month, the developers said they were prepared to shelve plans to complete the project

according to the original design.

Among those attending the meeting was Karon Mayor Thawee Thongcham.

The developers also presented computer graphics showing an artist's conception of how the project would appear from atop Kata Hill road with just five storeys. Under the new design, Koh Phu would appear to float just above the finished structure.

However, once motorists began their descent the view would become obstructed by the building.

Pimpa Phitya-isarakul, executive director of the project, said, "We understand what villagers feel

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Construction commences Q2 2010 nd Completion during Q2 2012

and have agreed to save the iconic view of Koh Phu. We are visitors. We will be happy if local people are happy."

Asked how much the truncated design would cost the company in terms of lost sales, she said that it's too early to know whether the project partners would be able to recoup their investment.

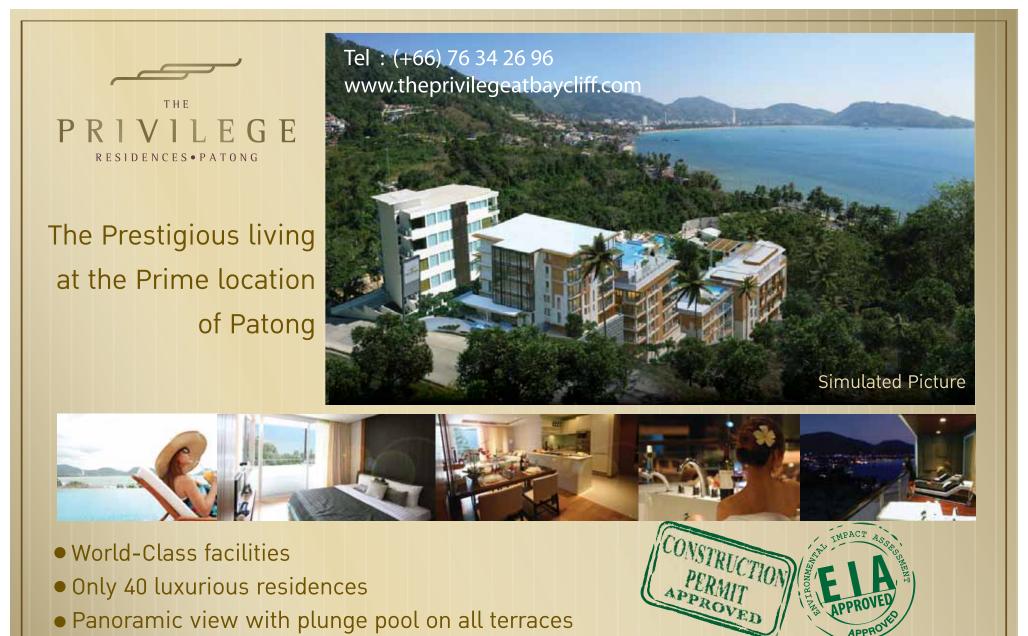
Despite the concession made by the developers, local officials fear residents may insist the project be scaled back even further.

Village representative Chalong Loysamut said, "I will let the villagers consider this new plan and discuss whether we are pleased with the offer.

"But I don't think we will accept it because we told them before that we would like to cut off two more [storeys] to offer a panoramic view of the area."

"I would like to say to all of those concerned in the construction approval process that they should take greater care to protect the environment and develop sustainable tourism, rather than waiting for problems like this to arise and be fixed one-by-one.

"There won't be anything left to save on this paradise island if we don't start saving it now," he said.



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Exotic gingers are out there

FOR most expats, the word "ginger" conjures up images of dried root ginger in the fruit and veg section of the supermarket, or memories of Christmas jars packed full of scrumptious stem ginger pickled in syrup.

But the spicy root is literally, only the start of the story. While the ginger family is a genus of aromatic herbs, it also includes some of the most exotic flowering plants on the planet.

The fact that they are rarely encountered in Europe is because they need the heat and high humidity of tropical environments.

Most flowering members of the Zingiberaceae family are grown in gardens here, and not just commercially cultivated. Zingiber Officinale, is the source of many food flavors, but several species possess exotic and unusual flowers.

Etlingera Elatior, or torch ginger is more likely to be seen in local fresh markets, where its dramatic waxy bracts are sometimes sold for use in floral arrangements or as table decorations.

As with all members of the genus, the torch ginger has lengthy and fleshy stems which shoot straight from the tubers below ground. They need to be strong, for they have to support the heavy and ornate red or pink "flowers".

Arranged around a tightly packed cone of smaller petals, the whole floral display does resemble a flaming torch. Hence the name.

The torch ginger alone would probably be included in our Top 20 Phuket Plants, but there are other members of the genus which rein-



RED HEAD: Think ginger and the root may spring to mind, but the family also has some of the most stunning flowering plants found on Earth.

force the ginger's place in the list.

Take the *Costus* or spiral ginger. According to some authorities, it belongs to a separate genus, but its characteristic, if less dramatic, conical red or orange bracts make this unlikely.

In the case of the spiral ginger, the leaves form a single circle at the top of long stems, and the coneshaped flowers sprout from the center of this ring of foliage.

The spiral ginger you see most

often in Phuket is the *Spicatus*, and has the saucy nickname of "French kiss". It is frequently employed as a mid-sized, ground-cover plant, where the red cones appearing atop a meter-high canopy of attractive green foliage, add a distinctive look to any garden.

Gardening

By Patrick Campbell

While small red flowers do sprout from these cones, they are much more evident in the crape ginger.

In this case, large white blooms with a pink throat emerge from terminal purplish cones.

Like *Variegatus*, which has impressive white and green leaves, the crape gingeris not easy to locate in garden centers.

The *khiing daeng*, or red ginger, is however more readily found, and is a particular favorite with Thais. It is a substantial plant, up to two meters in height and boasts a profusion of leaves up to 30 centimeters long. The Latin name of *Alpina Purpurata* is a misnomer, for the upright spikes are bright red in color.

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Nowadays though, cultivars exist in various shades of pink, cream, and white. All these gingers are perennials. Most contain aromatic, essential oils in their tissues, thus scarcely surprising that so many are cultivated for the kitchen, or for use in traditional medicine.

Your local fresh market will sell you a delicious hot brew made from boiled ginger root. Other herbs that belong to the same family include galangal and turmeric, and more surprisingly, cardamom. All are staples of Thai cuisine. What would they do without their ginger? However, members of the *Zingiber* family are glamorous as well as serviceable, and glamor needs to be pampered.

All floral varieties will best thrive in a moist, humus-rich soil and all will benefit from a partially shaded locale. If you do want to attempt to grow them in pots, don't allow the container to dry out completely.

Propagation is, as you would expect, by division of the rhizotomous clumps, though fleshy cuttings can sometimes be persuaded to take root. If you do get a result, you will find that the ginger is not just useful, but also exceedingly beautiful.

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



www.beautifulworldthailand.com

Tip of the week

Healthy soil the right way to grow

GARDENERS need to know about the soil in their patch because soil type is an important factor when selecting plants.

For example, heavy clay soil will support different plants to light, sandy ones, as will soils that have excessive acid or alkaline.

The degree of acidity or alkalinity is graded on the pH scale – the same as swimming pools. Measuring kits for this are available in most good plant nurseries. A neutral soil is pH 7 while acidic soils have a lower number and the alkaline ones are higher. While most plants will thrive in the 5.5 to 7.5 range, some demand either acid or alkaline soils. For example, if you decide to try growing members of the ericacaea family (heathers, azaleas) in your Phuket garden, remember that they will require acid soils.

To decrease the pH level, you can use dolomite limestone. Scatter about 2 to 4.5 kilograms for every 10 square meter. To increase the pH level, you can use sulfer, aluminium sulfate, hydrated lime, coffee grounds or gypsum. About 65 to 70 grams of sulfer, 4.5 kgs of aluminium sulfate and 2,2 kgs of peat moss for every 10 sqm.



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Built to the highest western standards, Sunrise Ocean Villas offers a stylish and contemporary design to suit our clientele. Large window panels and an infinity swimming pool are built to offer the enjoyment of a great open space with a truly amazing view. Buy your dream villa now with a 25% discount for only 14.9 million baht! Tel: 081-343 0777 (Eng) 086-274 6062 (French) Email: montha_yahoo.com or thesunrisevillas@yahoo.

CHECK THE PRICE

Before you buy. We offer unrivalled prices. Contact Piyathanara Group Co Ltd. www.piyathanara.com

com

PATONG CONDO SALE

Freehold apartment. 46sqm, fully furnished, with security and a pool. Price: 2.7 million baht. Email: thamas17@ yahoo.com

1.5 RAI AT CAPE YAMU

Two 0.75 rai plots at Cape Yamu. Chanote from owner. 4.5 million baht per rai. Tel: 076-239432, 081-087 9237 (English & Thai), 086-270 8727 (English). Email: crob58@ gmail.com For further details, please see our website at www.samuivillaforsale.com/ phuket-land

CHARMING POOL VILLA

Shady hillside. Big pool and garden. 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms with office, secure. New condition. High quality, very nice. Freehold. Tel: 076-388236, 089-727 5407 (English). Email: cosmocampbell @yahoo.com For further details, please see our website at www.villa-sale-phuket.com

NAI HARN HOUSE 7 MILLION BAHT

Near Nai Harn Beach, in a quiet area. 250sqm, 2-storey house with 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms, a western-style kitchen. Full air conditioning. It has two big terraces and a 12x6m common pool in a beautiful garden. Includes Chanote title directly from owner. Tel: 083-388 8036 (English or German), 089-972 5378. For further details. www.phuketquality house.com

LAND IN KAMALA

1 rai, behind Phuket Fanta Sea. Price 6.5 million baht. Contact for more details. Tel: 087-270 9093.

1 RAI CHANOTE: 1.5 MILLION BAHT

1 rai at Mission Hills. Discount for quick sale. Tel: 076-239432, 081-087 9237 (English & Thai), 086-270 8727 (English). Email: crob58@gmail.com

SPECTACULAR SEAVIEW, BANGTAO

Land plots starting at 4 million baht. Private, upscale development. Build yourself or with our expertise. Show villas open now! Tel: 086-267 0157 (English), 089-590 3665 (Thai). Fax: 076-325294. For more details. Email: bannuaton@yahoo.com

1 RAI PASAK 8

Chanote title, only a few minutes from Laguna Phuket. Contact for more details. Email: jgkg24@hotmail.com

HOT DEAL POOL VILLA



8.49 million baht (price reduced from 11.5). 3-bedroom Balinese villa in Rawai with 762sqm of land area, 178sqm of living area, and a private pool. Fully furnished. Tel: 076-381482, 087-383 5453 (English). Email: fretif@hotmail.com

BAAN SAIYUAN VILLA



Detached house in Rawai 98sqm, 3 bedrooms. Price: 9.5 million baht. Tel: 087-270 9093. Email: a.pueng@gmail.com

LUXURY CONDO IN SURIN

91sqm, 2 bedrooms, best address in Surin. Foreign freehold. Good rentals. Price: 8.9 million baht. Tel: 080-527 5440, 076-192 8893 (English). Email: matsivarbergstrom@sparay.se

VILLA ON SURIN **BEACH!**

Unique opportunity. The only private villa on Surin Beach. Stunning seaview. 2-storey house with large glass areas facing the sea. Two terraces, one a roof terrace of 70sqm This terrace can easily be converted into additional living space of 50sqm (2 bedrooms and a bathroom) which still leaves a roof terrace on 20sqm. Asking price: 19.5 million baht. Leasehold or Freehold. Tel: 082-807 2392. Email: info@hyrahusphuket.se For further details, please see our website at www.hyrahus phuket.se/Objekttillsalu_ 16.html

SEAVIEW SMALL PLOT

Land plots starting at 3.5 million baht. Tel: 086-982 2888 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-374882. Email: prim_purdue @yahoo.com

SINGLE HOUSE NEAR **LAGUNA**

2 bedrooms with aircon, 2 baths (1 en suite) on 55sq wah in Baan Don. Furnished, TOT phone line with ADSL, nice garden. Chanote title. 2.4 million baht. Tel: 076-313201, 086-280 4734. Email: khunclaub@hotmail.com

LUXURY GOLFVIEW VILLA



State-of-the-art 4-bedroom villa, close to BIS and 12 mins to Patong Beach. 16.8 million baht. Tel: 076-321445, 089-724 7211 (English). Email: julien@phuketimmo.com

58 RAI IN TAKUAPA

Palm oil farm, includes house. Trees 10 years old. Price: 10 million baht. Contact for more details. Tel: 089-594 4017.

VILLA 5 URGENT SALE

Home & Business at Phuket Villa 5. Living Room, Dining Room, 5 Bedrooms, Kitchen, Office, 4 Showers/Toilets, Business Room, Storeroom. Plot of more than 500sqm. Asking Price: 7.6 million baht (negotiable). Tel: 076-248696, 085-475 5581 (Thai). Fax 44-700 4416. Email: siam@gmx.net See at www.thai-swiss.ch/ Immobilien.immobilien.0.html

BIG 3-BED BUNGALOW, CHALONG



3 bedrooms (all en suite and all with aircon), large kitchen, lounge and dining room. 1,906sqm of land. 1,600sqm of garden. 200 sqm of internal space. Close to shops and majorfacilities. Quiet village near Wat Chalong. Chanote title land. 15 million baht or reasonable offers. Land can be leased. Tel: 087-384 9754 (English & Thai). Email: paulspring@live.com

BEAUTIFUL PATONG TOWNHOUSE



In the heart of Patong in a quiet soi with quality houses. Consists of separate lounge, dining area, western kitchen, downstairs toilet and laundry. Upstairs, a mezzanine area for a small office, and two large double bedrooms each with own bathroom/shower/ toilet, and balcony. Has been upgraded to include new aircons, fans, granite surfaces, sinks, toilets and stainless steel fittings, and comes completely furnished with quality furniture, flat screen TV, fridge, microwave and appliances, plus internet and cable. Everything done for you, just move in and live the dream. Price: 5.5 million baht with room to negotiate. Rent-back option is possible. Tel: 087-267 9280 (English). Email: philsk@ ihug.co.nz

BOAT LAGOON MARINA

Houses 23/65 + 76 for sale. Freehold. End units. Price: 6.9 million and 8.9 million baht. For further details pls call Khun Pen. Tel: 081-968 9046.

Email: skyumpix@gmail.com

Chosen as the ultimate escape of the month by Homes Tropical Magazine.

5 minutes from Nai Harn beach, in Rawai. Unique, quiet and romantic.

Waterfall, cave, jacuzzi, high-end private cinema etc, only 5 units with

kitchen and king suite.

Now for short / long-term avilable from 2,000 baht per night and

available as real estate-freehold (Co., Ltd). Tel: 080-883 1040.

KOH YAO NOI Oceanfront with a seaview. 11 rai with Chanote title. Contact: Piyathanara Group CoLtd. www.piyathanara.com

OCEANVIEW VILLA

In Kamala, It has 4 bedrooms on 1,624sqm land. Contact: Piyathanara Group Co Ltd. www.piyathanara.com

SUPERB NAI HARN POOL VILLA



At superb location in the center of Nai Harn. Only a few minutes' walk to everything. It has a cedar roof, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, LDY, a waterfall and many other major benefits. Beautifully furnished. Includes WiFi, ADSL, and satellite TV. Price: 15.9 million baht. Contact us for a private sale. Tel: 087-470 7570

PATONG TOWER

1 bedroom full ocean front foreign freehold 69.41sqm. 8 million baht. For more details. Email: egarand@aol.com

LAND NEAR BIS

For sale. 2-rai 2-ngarn 48.5 sq wah plot near British International School. Price: 7.7 million baht per rai. Tel: 02-655 0092-3, 081-899 4543.

5-BED THAI-STYLE **POOL VILLA**

Laguna area, on 1 rai, luxury finishing, large pool, 500sqm of living space. Tel: 087-893 4636 (English & Thai). Email: anneric phuket@hotmail.com

MUST SELL: 1.9MB

OR BEST OFFER. NEW

www.coco-palace.com Boutique Resort

MODERN RENOVATED **ONE-STOREY** TOWNHOUSE WITH 3 BEDROOMS. WITH CHANOTE TITLE. IN PHUKET TOWN, CLOSE TO LOTUS, A PARK AND A SCHOOL. IN VILLA 3 QUARTER, WHICH HAS A **BIG POOL, TWO TENNIS** COURTS AND A GYM. CONTACT FOR MORE **DETAILS. TEL: 081-788** 8280 (ENGLISH), 081-791 1525 (THAI).

NAI HARN APARTMENT



Furnished 106sqm unit on top floor. Freehold with a swimming pool and gym. Price: 4.8 million baht. Tel: 087-283 3358.

NAI HARN LUXURY CONDO



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

BUILDING FOR SALE IN KATA

A 7-STOREY BUILDING WITH A TOTAL OF 17 APARTMENTS AND 300 SQM ROOF. NEARLY 2 APARTMENT COMPLETED. **INCLUDES A** RESTAURANTANDA BAR, PLUS PARKING. 12 **APARTMENTS ARE** LEASED, 5 ARE AVAILABLE. PRICE FOR WHOLE BUILDING: 19 MILLION BAHT. TEL: 081-788 8280. EMAIL: MAURICE.PHUKET @GMAIL.COM

ANUPHAS GOLF VILLE

In a gated community. Beautifully furnished with 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. In excellent condition. Price: 5.5 million baht. Tel: 080-172 3832.

RAWAI4 BEDROOMS



200sqm with 4 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms. Includes aircons and storage areas. Within walking distance to many shops and beaches. With mountain views. Price: 5.9 million baht. Call Tom for details. Tel: 084-424 7688.

BEACH LAND, **KOH YAO YA**Í

6.2 rai of beach land. Public road and water, 75 metres of beach frontage – white sand, no rocks. Includes shophouse and beautiful view. Tel: 081-649 3557. Email: ken@phuketlife style.com For further details, please see our website at: www.phuketlifestyle.com

LAND FOR SALE

4 rai at Bang Jo near main road. For a quick sale from owner: 13 million baht. Tel: 081-956 0527. Email: tuenjai1@hotmail.com

LAND FOR SALE

1.5 rai of land for sale. At one of Phuket's most desirable locations. Suitable for one or two houses. Price: 22 million baht. Tel: 089-474 0431.

KATHU LUXURY POOL VILLAS



Close to BIS and Patong Beach: 2 and 3-bedroom villas with swimming pool. From 8.5 million baht. Tel: 076-321445, 089-7247211. Email: info@botanvillage. com For further details, please see our website at www.phuket-cottages.com

PHUKET LAND

Direct from owner:

- Patong Seaview: 288 sqm
- Patong Seaview: 1,500 sqm - Chalong: 3.25 rai just 300m to the sea.

Tel: 087-283 7161. Email: gibbo_960@hotmail.com For further details, please see our website at: www.khaolak tropicalvillas.com/ land_sales.html

LAYAN SEA VIEW LAND

5 rai of seaview land. Lavan area. This is priced to sell at 3.2 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-649 3557 (English). Email: ken@phuketlifestyle.com For further details, please see our website at: www.phuketlife style.com

BEACHFRONT LAND AT MAI KAO



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

SALE: 2-BEDROOM APARTMENT

New condo in central Patong. 6th-floor unit with a pool and gym, and a good view. Top quality. Price: 8 million baht. Freehold. Tel: 089-728 4005. Contact for more details. Email: thamad17@yahoo.

THE HEIGHTS PHUKET

Ocean, pool & mountain view. Price: 19.5 million baht or best offer. Tel: 086-883 9815.

URGENT SALE! KAMALA



50% auction. Price: 39 million baht. Contact for more information. Tel: 087-077 7314.

PATONG APT

2-bedroom apartment for rent or sale. 87sqm unit on the 5th floor with seaview. Fully furnished. Tel: 081-891 6502. Email: andrea.capucci@ amail.com

BEAUTIFUL BANG TAO

Beach garden penthouse. Includes a jacuzzi, roof and garden. Near beach. Price: 9.95 million baht. Tel: 084-630 2416. Email: ionhassall@aol.com

LAND IN RAWAI

Best land, from 1.8 million baht for 464sqm. Many plots to choose from. Tel: 084-111 3977 (English & Thai). Email: stefan@ stefan.asia Call or mail for further details. Photos and details, check website at www.stefan

URGENT SALE!

ANICE STAND-ALONE VILLA IN KATA HILL. WITH A GARDEN, BIG POOL, JACUZZI, LARGE LIVING ROOM AND KITCHEN. 3 BEDROOMS, A STUDY/ OFFICE, ALL FURNISHED. FROM 19 MILLION BAHT. NOW OFFERED FOR ONLY 15 MILLION BAHT. TEL: 081-788 8280 (ENGLISH), 089-971 8399 (THAI). EMAIL: MAURICE.PHUKET @GMAIL.COM

KHAO LAK TROPICAL VILLAS

Enjoy peace and tranquility in the heart of the naturalistic resort of Khao Lak. Khao Lak Tropical Villas is a boutique development of 19 spacious pool villas from 180-530 sqm, set on the edge of the national park. Live your life with Nature. Just Launching our Emerald Collection. Tel: 087-283 7161. Email: gibbo 960@hotmail.com For further details, please see our website at: www.khaolak tropicalvillas.com

KATHU HOUSE (URGENT)

140sqm house, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, fully equipped, internet, air conditioned, possibility for another bedroom, open kitchen, big living room, garden with possibility to do a swimming pool. Chanote title. Asking 6.2 million baht (negotiable). Tel: 076-319003, 081-086 0733 (English & Thai), 080-887 3732 (English & Thai). Email: thaivid @hotmail.com

PHUKET COUNTRY CLUB CONDO

Freehold! 59sqm. 1 bedroom with bath on 5th floor. Needs renovation. 1.9 million baht. Tel: 081-085 6715 (English). Email: surlamer05@yahoo.com

11 RAI HOBBY FARM

200km from Phuket. 1 hour to Surin island. With Chanote title. Price: 4 million baht. Tel: 089-594 4017.

BANG TAO PENTHOUSE

140sqm unit, plus a roof, garden and private pool at a beach resort. Price: 16 million baht. Comes with 2 pools, a gym, WiFi and 24-hour security. Tel: 084-716 0502.

BEACHFRONT CONDO

Located in North Patong. 2 bedrooms. Tel: 086-276 5117. For pics, please contact jihshand@gmail.com

LUXURY VILLAS IN RAWAI

3-4 bedroom villas with 2 storevs. 327sam. fully furnished and airconditioned with a big garden and ample parking. At a quiet location in a gated community with 24hour security. Price: 11.9 million baht. Tel: 087-893 8747.

GREAT LIVING HOME

Single house for sale or rent located at Phanason 3 (Thalang). Land area 63.3 sq wah, 3 bed, 2 bath, large living area, furnished, ADSL, tel, landscaped garden and 24hr security. Sale price: 2.85 million baht. For more info, call Phing. Tel: 087-278 0067. Email: sweetpinky @live.co.uk

PATONG APARTMENT FOR SALE

9th-floor unit in a condotel. 28sqm, fully furnished. Ready to move in. 10 minutes to beach. Price: 1.5 million baht or nearest offer. Tel: 089-909 3882.

CONDO FOR SALE

75sqm, near Dowroong Wittaya School. Fully furnished with 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, a kitchen, a balcony, a living room. Includes 3 aircons, a fridge, etc. Price: 2.2 million baht. Freehold. Email: thailand112@hotmail.

SURIN LUXURY POOL VILLA



Luxury pool villa with 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, a maid's room and a garage for 2 cars. Land 940sqm, 450sqm construction and 250sqm living area. 1 minute walk to Surin, Bang Tao Beach, opposite The Chedi, Amanpuri Resort. Close to high-end restaurants and bars. Aquick sale for 25.5 million baht. Please contact us for more info. Tel: 087-277 5451, 081-536 1101. Email: srbolu55@yahoo.co.uk

NICE PLOT



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

PHUKET'S ALL POOL CONDOMINIUMS

Enjoy risk free tropical living in a completed Mandala Condominium located near Bang Tao Beach in Phuket's popular west coast Laguna area.

SHOW UNIT OPEN DAILY

Several apartments, including two penthouses, are still available for purchase in the gated community. Attractive financing options are available.

AWARD WINNING DESIGN

Mandala was "Highly Commended" at the recent Thailand Property Awards 2010 in the "Best Condominium Development in Phuket" category.

RENTAL UNITS ALSO AVAILABLE



tom@indigoRE.com

HOUSE IN KAMALA



For sale. 2 houses on land. 1 Ngan 89sq wah. Chanote title, near mountain, peace and safe, 10 minutes from the beach. 7.5 million baht direct from owner. Tel: 083-180 2143. Email: yaris.vios@ gmail.com

HOUSE FOR SALE

Baan Suan Loch Palm. Price: 9.5 million baht. Contact: Wanrisa. Tel: 088-765 1826.

PATONG TOWER 1 BEDROOM

Modern, fully furnished 1-bedroom apartment. 68sqm, freehold. Price: 6.5 million baht. Tel: 081-088 8099.

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. Émail: pakaporns@ yahoo.com

2-STOREY HOUSE **IN RAWAI**

Beach. For sale. Price: 2 million baht. For 30-year lease: 1.3 million baht. It has 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, a living room, a kitchen and a garage. Includes ADSL, TVT. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: phuket7@yahoo.com

PRIVATE SALE OF HALFARAI

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.

RUBBER PLANTATION 48 RAI



For sale. Located on the main road to Laguna Phuket. Suitable for a housing project. 4 million baht per rai (Nor Sor 3 Gor). Please contact owner's representative. No agents please. Tel: 080-520 2989. Email: pakaporns@yahoo .com

2 LUXURY POOL VILLAS



in Nai Harn. 3 buildings with 3 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms in Balinese and Thai style, built from teak and other first-class materials. 800sqm land with Chanote title. Includes a wall fence and an electric gate. The property has a pool with a waterfall and jacuzzi, a maid's house, a covered terrace and carport. Asking price: 16 million baht. Tel: 083-388 8036 (English or German), 089-972 5378 (Thai).

Property Classifieds

Properties For Rent

CHEAP IN KAMALA

A fully furnished 1-bedroom unit with a kitchen and dining room. Includes aircon, hot water system and free cable TV. Longterm rent: 7,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-826 7287 (Khun Sak).

LARGE HOUSE WITH POOL

Very nice (fully furnished) 4+1 bedroom house with pool. Located on Kwang Rd. Available for long term rental at 70,000 baht per month. Tel: 085-781 1758. Email: take_a_tab@ hotmail.com

KAMALA BEACH

New apartments and houses, furnished Western style, aircon, cable, internet, quiet and secure. 14,000-20,000 baht. Tel: 084-716 0502, 083-645 3546.

58 MONTHLY PAYMENTS



of 35,000 baht. Located at Rawai Beach. For sale: 28 years leased pool villa, furnished, WiFi and car park. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

3-BEDROOM POOL CONDO YAMU

Luxury 3-bedroom condo with private pool for rent at Cape Yamu. Fully furnished. Brandnew, sea views, onsite manager, all facilities. Prefer long-term. 75,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-894 1530 (English). Email: andrew@leemarine.net

LUXURY VILLA

A 5-bedroom luxury villa and apartment with a Turkish sauna in Patong. Comes with security. Visit: franksvilla.com

360,000 BAHT YEARLY RENT



at Rawai Beach. Or 60,000 baht permonth. A villa with 6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, a living room and kitchen. Has WiFi and cable TV. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@ yahoo.com

CENTRAL KATA

1 bedroom apartment, short or long term, with WLAN in central Kata. Tel: 076-384385, 084-063 9223 (English), 081-396 3941 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-384385. Email: eburneday@ gmail.com

FOR LONG-TERM RENT

Deluxe, modern apartments available for longterm rent. Designed in open-plan style with full airconditioning, Western kitchens, spacious bathrooms and quality fittings throughout. Located on the beach road overlooking King's Park and directly opposite the fullyserviced Surin Beach. Each apartment includes internet and full UBC TV. Contact Dan on 080-146 3466. Email: danmoglia @prodecon.co.th

30 RAI FOR LEASE

Flat land in new Dowroong School. Very good location for business. Tel: 081-691 2526.

APARTMENT PATONG

140sqm, fully furnished. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, plus storage room. Spacious living/dining area with a western-style kitchen and a large balcony. Full aircon. Includes free WiFi and UBC ready to install. At a quiet location near Nanai Rd. For long-term lease. More information, please call 084-

APARTMENT IN PATONG

Fully furnished apartment for rent in Patong (Nanai). Tel: 076-341105, 081-894 4730, 081-892 5983. Fax: 076-292149. Email: nanaivillaphuket@gmail.com For further details, please see our website at www.nanai villa.com

500.000 BAHT YEARLY RENTAL



Rawai Beach. 400sqm, guesthouse, 6 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms. 30-year lease 7.2 million baht paid over 10 years. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

HOUSE IN CHALONG

Near Palai Beach. For long-term rent. 2-3 bedrooms with aircon, cable TV and car parking. Fully furnished. Tel: 089-728 8311.

SURIN 1 BEDROOM

Fully furnished, western kitchen/appliances, upper balcony overlooking shared pool/ natural spring, 24-hour security. Available now. 5 minute walk to Surin Beach. Email/ call for competitive rates. Tel: +81-90-6658 5627. Email: hktkferg@hotmail.com

RAWAI POOL VILLA

2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully furnished iwth Internet and cable TV. Includes a sala and a mountain view. Tel: 086-478 0201. Email: laongfa@hotmail.com

CLOSE TO LAGUNA

4 bedrooms, 3 baths, fully furnished. 50,000 baht per month. Interesting! Walkable to Club House: Tennis, basketball court and swimming pool. Tel: 081-956 5966 (English & Thai). Email: phuket-property@ hotmail.com For further details, please see our website at www.c2phuket.com/misc/ detail.php?post_id=41832

CHALONG BEACH DUPLEX

Fully furnished with 2 bedrooms. Includes cable TV and Internet. Price: 12,000 baht. Tel: 089-470 6104. Website: www. houserentalsphuket.com

CHALONG NEW HOME

2-bedroom home with telephone, aircon and cable TV. Tel: 089-652 1473 (English). Email: anandaestates@yahoo.com

KAMALA BEACH HOUSE

3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 250sgm. Available Jan 1. 2 pools, jacuzzi and fully furnished. 5 minutes to beach. Tel: 081-892 7082, 084-716 0502.

KATA CONDO



Large, western, 110sqm, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, with huge covered terrace Fully fitted teak kitchen, baths with granite tops, fully furnished, cable, ADSL, parking. Located in a quiet area. Tel: 084-840 1262. Email: north8east98@yahoo.com

4 BEDROOMS ON **BEACHFRONT**

4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. All rooms come with a view, a pool, jacuzzi and access to the beach. Night security is included. Must see! Tel: 088-168 5032. Email: benfpe@aol.com

ONE BEDROOM CONDO

New, fully furnished with WiFi and pool. Near Central Festival Phuket. Tel: 081-892 0038.

POOL VILLA IN RAWAI

Beautiful 2-bedroom villa with a private pool. Close to Rawai and Nai Ham Beaches. Rent: 45,000 baht per month. Available between May 1 and October 31. Tel: 080-694 4582.

LARGE LUXURY HOUSE



Just a few minutes to Rawai and Nai Harn Beaches. 5 bedrooms, en-suite. With a private swimming pool and a big sala to host guests. Long-term rent: 55,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-397 1835.

RAWAI POOL VILLA

4 aircon bedrooms, 4 baths, teak furniture, large terrace and garden. 55,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-894 1660 (English), 081-077 0133. Email: cottrell @tttmaxnet.com

ROYAL PLACE CONDO

37sqm 1-bedroom unit on the 7th floor. Fully furnished. Electrical appliances included. Near bypass and Tesco Lotus. Tel: 081-979 0653.

FULLY FURNISHED HOUSE

1-and 2-bedroom houses for rent. Starting from 10,000 baht per month. At Palai, near Chalong Bay. Tel: 081-8924311. For further details, please see our website at http://palaigreen.weebly.com

1 BEDROOM **APARTMENT**

Mid Patong. Large, nicely furnished, light and airy unit with a full kitchen and aircon. In Central Patong in Paradise Complex. Long-term rent: 30,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-276 7608.

3-BED PATONG HOUSE

Fully furnished, with aircon, Internet, cable TV and freezer. Available for short- or long-term rent. Tel: 086-478 0201. Email: laongfa@hotmail.com

BRAND-NEW HOUSE PATONG

First rental. At a quiet location. Fully furnished with 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, aircons and European-style kitchen. Tel: 084-185 8536.

HOUSE FOR RENT NAIHARN

Long-term tenant wanted, cheap house, free-standing from hill. Livingroom, dining room, 2 bedroom, bath+kitchen, 2 balconies, carport, 118sqm.Tel: 087-461 2956, 084-441 8593. Email: Reinhold. Bergen@gmx.de

BUILDING FOR RENT



Opposite Royal Phuket Marina, near Koh Kaew Post Office. 3 storeys. Rent: 25,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-171 9705.

Classified Advertisements

Please use this form to write your classified advertisement. Then hand it to any of our agents

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Classified ads are charged per line. Each line is 120 baht, with a minimum of 4 lines (heading included) per ad.

All advertising must be paid for in advance.

Deadline for January 08,2011 issue: Thursday, Dec 30 before 3pm.



The Gazette Online is always on top in Google!

Property Services

RESORT/PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

European with ample management and experience of pre-opening of resorts, estates and condos in Thailand. Now available. Email: resortgm@gmail.com

Property Wanted

GENUINE CASH BUYER

Wanted: modern open-plan single-storey detached house with garden. Minimum 2 bedrooms, western kitchen, cable TV and internet, made road, maintained area. No agents; price negotiable to 10 million baht. For more info. Tel: 087-2785037 (English). Email: petercallen@live.com

Accommodation Available

HOUSE FOR SALE OR RENT



2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, big kitchen, 2 aircons, big garden, cable and internet. Fully furnished. Just move in. Sales price: 2.5 million baht. Rental price: 14,000 baht per month. Located on bypass road behind the SoHo Roast Duck restaurant. Call for more details. Tel: 084-848 7474 (English & Thai). Email: kasina888@gmail.com

APARTMENT PATONG

140sqm, fully furnished. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, plus storage room. Spacious living / dining area with full western kitchen and large balcony. Full aircon. Includes free WiFi. UBC ready. Quiet location. For more information, please call. Tel: 084-185 8536.

500 / 600 BAHT PER DAY



For rent. On Rawai Beach. Penthouse: 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom and a kitchen with WiFi, TV and motorbike. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

2 HUGE SEAVIEW CONDOS

35/210sqm. In Rawai with a pool and 24-hour security. Short-orlong-term rent from 500 baht a day. Tel: 087-054 3034. Email: morletian@hotmail.com

KATA LUXURY VILLA RENTAL

Seafront 3-bedroom villa at tip of Kata Beach headland. Built-up area: 3,400sq ft. 15m above the sea with spectacular Andaman seaviews. 6m x 15m infinity pool, dense foliage, spacious balconies, outdoor showers in natural settings. Very private and secluded. Thai, Japanese, and Balinese design influences and artifacts. Excellent Thai cook. Please contact for more info. Tel: +65-9-621 0254, +65-9-621 0254 (English). Email: seavest@ singnet.com.sg Or visit our website: www.house phuket.com

ROOMS IN KATHU: 6,000 BAHT

Large modern rooms with their own bathroom, satellite TV and Internet connection. At a great location with mountain views, near Loch Palm Golf Club. Contact Pu. Tel: 083-593 6955. Email: cssmyth@hotmail.com

3-BEDROOM POOL CONDO YAMU

Luxury 3-bedroom condo with private pool for rent at Cape Yamu. Fully furnished. Brand new, sea views, onsite manager, all facilities. Prefer long term. 75,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-894 1530 (English). Email: andrew@leemarine.net

500 BAHT A DAY, RAWAI BEACH



Nice pool guesthouse, 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, WiFi, cable TV, covered car park. Email: marnard2004@hotmail.com

BANGLA ROAD

1-bedroom luxury apartments with jacuzzi for rent in Bangla Suites from January 2011. Short and long-term leases are available for reasonably priced units. For more info. Tel: 081-894 8446. Email: sfrkata@hotmail.com

LUXURY APARTMENT IN PATONG

Room for rent with swimming pool. Daily and monthly. Tel: 081-894 4730 (English & Thai), 081-892 5983 (Thai). Fax: 076-292149. Email: mori@phuket.ksc.co.th For further details, please see our website at www.nanaivilla.com

Classified Advertisements

Please use this form to write your classified advertisement.

Then hand it to any of our agents.

_ _ _ _ (heading)
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Classified ads are charged per line. Each line is 120 baht, with a minimum of 4 lines (heading included) per ad.

All advertising must be paid for in advance.

Deadline for January 08,2011 issue: Thursday, Dec 30 before 3pm.

LUXURY HOUSE FOR RENT



The tropical modern Thai design is pleasing to the eye and so are the classy furniture, fixtures and fittings which compliment the overall environment of luxury. 3 bedrooms, 1 maid's room, swimming pool and garden. Long term: 100,000 baht per month. Short term: 140,000 baht per month (November-March only). Tel: 076-289121, 086-276 2785, 084-848 7474. Send email to: vgyorkshire @yahoo.com

APARTMENT & ROOM IN PATONG

Apartment for long term rent. 8,000-20,000 baht per month. Room from 600-1,500 baht per night. Tel: 076-512151, 089-290 9567. Email: info@brommathai house.com See our website at www.brommathaihouse.com

CONDO FOR SALE / RENT, RAWAI

Best price on the island. Quiet, 300 meters from the beach. 8 units. Tel: 080-007 8091 (English) or 086-112 1477 (Thai). Email: rawaireservation @yahoo.com

APARTMENTS FOR RENT/SALE



Stunning luxury apartments created by an innovative new property developer, Phuket Land and House Legal Co Ltd. The Royal Palm residence is made up of new small apartments at Nai Harn Beach with various styles of units to choose from. These include studio, 1-bedroom and 2-bedroom apartments plus a 3-bedroom Penthouse. Sizes range from 33-200sqm. Each unit features a unique modern design with quality custom furnishings. LCD TV, an IP Phone System with high-speed wireless Internet connection, intercom, alarm, automatic Gate balcony/terrace, and private parking. Starting price from 2.79 million baht. Tel: 076-289122, 084-8487474. Email: theroyalpalmresidence @yahoo.com See our website: www.theroyalpalm residence.com

Accommodation Wanted

1 ROOM IN VILLA

I will be in Phuket sometime in January. I would like to rent a room in a NICE VILLA for 1 month. Price flexible! Tel: +06 047 638151 (English). Please email with details: holtum007@gmail.com

KATA BEACH

Looking for accommodation—studio or 1-bedroom apartment until Feb 2011. Must be in clean and safe area. Email: trannyboi68@hotmail.com

AFFORDABLE APT / ROOM

I am moving to Phuket in Jan and looking for a year-long lease on an apartment or room. It needs to be affordable and I need TV and good WiFi. Email: jonnyhips@hotmail.com

2-BED, PATONG / KAMALA

I am looking for a one or two bedroom in Patong or Kamala. I will need it from January 20 to April 20, 2011. Please send all pictures and information about the place. Email: ron.772@hotmail.com

NEED PLACE IN PHUKET

I need a place to live, preferably in the Patong/Kamala area, from Jan 15 to April 19. Tel: +1-608-843 3902, +1-608-843 3902 (English). Email: ctw0110@gmail.com

2 BED NEEDED FOR FEB 24

Looking for a 2-bedroom, fully furnished house to rent for 3 or 4 weeks from February 24. Ideal location is the central Phuket area. Tel: 081-797 7796. Email: watandleisa @live.com

SEEKING ROOM IN KATA

I am interested in renting a room or apartment at Kata Beach. Looking for a good price for 2-3 months with good references. I visit Phuket twice a year. Please send your info to email: us@palmsprings.de

Holiday Homes & Villa Rentals

KAMALA VILLA WITH OWN POOL

Available on New Year due to cancellation. 3 bedrooms, all ensuite. Quiet, cozy, views, beautiful. Contact for more details. Tel: 089-729 1403 (English & Thai). Email: imcconnac@aol.com

Household Items

MOVING SALE

Pok Pok Cart, freezer / fridge, range, misc kitchen utensils. All used less than 30 days. Tel: 089-729 8309. Email: mbates900@yahoo.com

MOVING OUT

6-piece black sythetic cattan furniture. Very nice. Will sell cheap! Please email for more info: bigluke45@yahoo.com

NEED WASHING MACHINE

Would like to buy a washing machine with hot water. Tel: 081-978 0819 (English). Email: genybr2010@gmail.com

BRAND NEW MATTRESS

New King Size Mattress, 200 x 180 x 32cm. Swiss technology. 25,000 baht. Will sell for 12,000 baht. Please contact me for details. Tel: 087-881 9550. Email: fachour @gmail.com

CATTAN LOUNGE FURNITURE

We have a 3-seater, a 2-seater and a coffee table in brown. All in good condition. Selling for 15,000 baht o.n.o. Location: Bang Tao. Call for more info. Tel: 084-054 4367. Email: rewopnaida@hotmail.com

GARGOYLE STATUES

Each weighs over 20 kilos. Custom base with lights. Paid over 60,000 baht, will sell for 25,000 or best offer. Moving back to USA.Tel: 083-690 7737 (English). Email: steveastray@hotmail.com

GARDEN PODS

Green and white, seat 3 people in each, with folding hoods. In excellent condition. Bought 3 months ago for 65,000 baht each. Move forces sale. Will accept 50,000 for both. Call for more info. Tel: 44-740-320 5040. Email: beckyhalls@gmail.com

WALL-MOUNTED FANS

Two Hatari white wall-mounted electric fans. Rotate with 3 speeds. Excellent condition. Quick sale at 1,000 baht each. Fan blade is 200mm. Tel: 083-638 2946. Email: mikewivell @facesofthesea.com

Household Services

DWF HOME SERVICES

Built-in bars, counters, pools, kitchens, ponds, etc. Contact: K. Noi. Tel: 081-606 5746. Email: DWF_homeservices @hotmail.com

Looking for land to buy?

See more classified ads at www.phuketgazette.net

Boatshedphuket.com INTERNATIONAL YACHT BROKERS SELLING YOUR BOAT? We can meet you on board, take up to 80 photos and full details. We will accompany all viewings and provide non exclusive brokerage on a "no sale, no fee " basis. Boat of the moment Abeking & Rasmussen 57' Beautiful classic steel Ketch T: +66 76 239 745 Euro 330,000. M: +66 84 8426146 www.boatshedphuket.com boats@boatshedphuket.com www.boatshedphuket.com

SALING BOAT **FOR SALE**



Year: 1989. Length: 32' -9.75m. Country: Thailand Builder: Beneteau. Hull material: GRP. Engine: Volvo Penta. Price: 1.5 million baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-090 9170.

DINGHY WANTED

Inflatable, without outboard engine, 4.5 to 6 meters in length. Must be in good condition. Please call for more info. Tel: 084-712 7451 (English). Email: info@moby-dickadventures.com

38FT CATAMARAN

It has 4 double cabins, 2 toilets / showers. In composite. under construction. Price: 390,000 baht. Please call for more info. Tel: 087-461 8089.

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

BIG GAME FISHING BOAT FOR SALE

13 meters, purpose-built big game fishing boat. Totally rebuilt. Hino 200Hp Diesel plus the latest electronics. Price: 4.5 million baht. Serious offers considered. Tel: 082-218 3177. Email: deudale@yahoo.co.uk

DINGHY FOR SALE

New Quicksilver, 2.7 meters, soft bottom, inflatable keel, hypalon. Price: 60,000 baht. Tel: 081-817 8377 (English & Thai). Email: bucephalus 1950@yahoo.com

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. Tel: 076-617269 (English & Thai). Email: craig @maxmarine.asia

FAST TOUR/ FISHING BOAT

One owner, wonderful, fast tour boat, RIB rigid foam, 150Hp engine with Yamaha 5Hp for security. Full electronics, toilet, large sun cover. Up to 8 people, cruising at 25/30 knots in comfort. Priced to sell! Below US\$35,000. Hurry, best offer accepted. Tel: 076-270703, 087-265 4268. Email: henkt@hku.hk

DOUBLE KAYAK

Fiberglass, good condition, imported from Europe. Used a few times. Price: 30,000 baht. Call for more info. Tel: 076-202908, 086-268 7901. Email: martintwn@yahoo.com.

PROPELLOR

Stainless Steel Propeller! 13-1/4' X 15'. Fits Suzuki or Evinrude. Hubs available for other engines. Price: 5,000 baht. Please call for more information. Tel: 081-397 7598 (English & Thai). Email: kajoda1954@yahoo.co.uk

LIVEABOARD

Boat completed (Complete refit 2009). 24m-long and 6m-wide, 3 decks, sun deck 40sqm. 2 engines 300Hp. 1 generator 30Kv. 7 cabins with aircon bathroom and toilet. Includes Bauer Mariner 250 compressor and 10 sets of dive equipment. Only 3.5 million baht. Call for more info. Tel: 085-786 0787. Email: nicolaswinckler @hotmail.fr

£29,000 ONO

38ft steel videos sailing yacht. Nice condition. Inspections in January ashore at Langkawi. Call for more details. Tel: +44-013-06640898. Email: brianral phgoodwin@yahoo.com

BOAT SHARE

May I share your boating expenses in exchange for some agreed-upon usage? Tel: 089-017 7876. Email: billwoods80@hotmail.com

REMOTE SEARCHLIGHT

Guest stainless remote operated, motorized, 12v spot / floodlight. In excellent condition. 7,000 baht. Please call for more information. Tel: 081-397 7598 (English & Thai). Email: kajoda1954@yahoo.co.uk

INFLATABLE DINGHY

Lodestar 2.6 meters dinghy. Hypalon construction with 5Hp Yamaha outboard. Fitted launching wheels. Super condition. Price: 65,000 baht. Call for more info. Tel: 081-397 7598 (English & Thai). Email: kajoda1954@yahoo.co.uk



20' CHRIS-CRAFT

BOAT

20' Chris Craft Special

Edition. With a powerful

5.0L, V8 engine that gets

you to 57 mph (91 kmph)

in seconds. In an excep-

tional quality handbuilt

prestige boat. Barely

used. Call Paul for more

30-foot monohull. Needs work.

A bargain at 200,000 baht. For

further details, please email:

info. Tel: 076-617269.

FIBERGLASS BOAT

jgkg24@hotmail.com

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

RACING YACHT FOR SALE

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

18FT SPEEDBOAT



In very good condition, with an overhauled 90Hp Yamaha engine. Price: 370,000 baht or best offer. Tel: 085-253 4429.

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, Thepkrasattri 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 \(\sqrt{\text{Mastercard}} \) / Mastercard \(\sqrt{\text{Mastercard}} \)									
I hereby authorize payment against my Visa \(\sigma\) / Mastercard \(\sigma\) (Phuket Island only!) Thai Baht 1,560 for Phuket Special Delivery (Phuket Island only!) Thai Baht 2,800 for a domestic subscription (outside Phuket)									
☐ Thai Baht 9,000 for an overseas subscription (any country outside Thailand)									
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Card #: Exp. Date: Security Code:									
Issuing Bank: Country: Last 3 digits on back of card									
Signature: Date:									
E-mail address:									
Please Deliver To:									
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Country:									

Perfect for island-hopping in safety and comfort. Can be

GULF CRAFT 36'

5.5 MILLION BAHT

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

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

WAKE/SKI BOAT

2-year-old, 4.2 meters long Cholmark boat with a 60Hp Yamaha Enduro engine. Includes trailer. GPS sonar. Waketower and more. Price: 475.000 baht. Please contact tor more information. Iel: 086-949 1913. Email: juraj_t@ vahoo.com

NEW BOAT SUNNAV 18FT

For sale. Highest quality with trailer. Price: only 270,000 baht. No engine. Please contact for more information. Tel: 089-476 7443, 085-352 1940 and 076-377577. Email sales@sunnav.com or see website: www.sun nav.com

SOLUTIONS TO THIS WEEK'S **PUZZLES**

Crossword puzzle:														
1 F	² L	³A	4 M		⁵ T	⁶ A	⁷ O	°s			⁹ A	10 R	11 T	12 S
13 R	Ţ	s	Е		14 U	N	D	U	15 E		16 S	U	ī	Т
17 A	L	E	s		18 S	Т	0	N	Υ		19 E	L	Е	Α
²⁰ U	Т	Α	Н		21 S	s	R		22 E	23 M	Р	Е	R	Υ
			²⁴	²⁵ G	L	Υ		²⁶ S	w	Α	Т			
	27 A	28 L	G	Α	Е		29 C	Н	1	L	ı	30 A	31 S	32 M
33 L	0	Υ	Α	L		34 T	Н	L	N		35 C	U	Т	Е
36 E	R	N			37 T	R	U	N	K			³8 R	Α	Т
39 E	Т	С	40 H		41 A	1	R	s		₩ W	43 E	Α	٧	Е
44 T	Α	Н	1	45 T	1	Α	N		46 S	0	С	L	Е	
			47 P	1	L	L		48 T	Н	0	U			
49 F	50 E	51 E	В	L	E		52 G	R	0		53 A	54 D	55 E	56 S
57 L	Α	L	0		58 N	⁵⁹ A	I	Α	D		60 D	1	N	Е
61 E	R	I	N		62 D	Α	٧	I	D		ő	М	1	Т
64 A	L	Α	E			65 R	Е	L	Υ		66 R	Е	D	s

MAID/RECEPTIONIST

An attractive honest and polite person who speaks English. Wanted by a handsome resort owner, 51. Email: skyumpix@ gmail.com

PERSONAL ASSISTANT WANTED

I'm seeking an attractive Thai woman between 25-35 years old who is fluent in English. For single semi-retired businessman. Position might suit a nurse, a university teacher or a similarly qualified woman. I can provide an apartment at Royal Phuket Marina and a high salary for the right person. Tel: 089-054 4354.Please send your photo and CV to bggvirgo@gmail.com

GRAPHIC ARTIST

Freelance work producing brochures and graphics. 86-275 2480 (English).Email: tony@graingerdesigns.com.au See our website at the link below.www. graingerdesigns.

2 OPENINGS

1) Director of Tourism and Finance. Function as Director of the company for the Tourism Division and handle AR AP and Balance Sheet Reconcilation. Monthly salary up to 25,000 baht, depending on experince and capability.

2) Operations Manager. Manage the operations of 2 USA made Sport Fishing Boats. In charge of maintenance logs and schedules. Accomapny trips as required and directed by the managing director. Expat highly desireable. Up to 30,000 baht a month. Email: martin@phuketfishboat.com

For further details, please see our website atwww.phuketfish boat.com

NEED FOOT MASSAGE SPECIALIS

We are seeking staff for a new shop at Big C. Good salaries. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-537 6866.

SENIOR HOUSEKEEPER REQUIRED

Senior housekeeper required. Thai national, must speak English, good salary. Please email info@villachangrajang.com

STAFF WANTED, BYD LOT 13

- -3 Waiter / Waitresses
- 1 Sous chef
- -2 Cooks
- -2 Hotel wine shop sales per-
- 1 Receptionist

Tel: 076-343024, 081-476 1871 (English), 086-272 0111 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-343028. Email: umi@bydlofts.com

AVC Engineering is Thailand's leading MEP Engineering and Home Automation Company. With over 160 completed projects we are looking for professional, highly motivated individuals for the following positions:

M&E Engineer, 2 positions (English not essential)

Bachelor's degree in Mechanical or Electrical Engineering. Minimum 3-5 years of working experience in M&E design and site management. Holds an EIT (Engineer-in-Training) license. Proficient in AutoCAD.

Secretary, Fluent in English (Speaking, reading and writing)

Female with Bachelor's degree. Proficient in software applications like spreadsheets, word processing and email.

Please note these positions are only open to Thai nationals. If you take pride in your work and want to be part of a highly specialised team, then please send your resume to info@avcphuket.com

AVC ENGINEERING Co., Ltd.

9/76 Moo 4, Bandon Rd.(HYW 4030), Cherng Talay Thalang, Phuket 83110 Thailand. Office: +66 (0) 7661 5810 Fax: +66 (0) 7661 5811 Email: info@avcphuket.com, www.avcphuket.com





SALA Phuket Resort and Spa:

SALA Phuket is a stylish 5-star resort located on Maikhao Beach, Phuket. The property offers 79 luxurious villas and suites on unspoilt beach frontage.

SALA Resorts and spas is a home grown Thai hospitality company which owns and operates three luxury resorts in the

We are looking for the following professionals:

Food & Beverage

- FB Supervisor
- Senior Waiter / Waitress Hostess

Front Office

- Front Office Supervisor
- Guest Relation Officer
- Bell / Driver

<u>Engineer</u>

- Senior Pool Cleaner
- Technician

Housekeeping

- Room Attendant
- Gardener (คนสวน)

If you have what it takes and you would like to join our dynamic team, please forward your CV or contact our Human Resources Dept. Contact details below.

Human Resources Department

333 Moo 3, T.Maikhao, A.Talang Phuket 83110 THAILAND Tel: 076-338888 # 2011-2013 Fax: 076-338810 E-mail: <u>hrphuket@salaphuket.com</u> For more information about SALA Phuket Resort & Spa Please visit our website at

www.salaphuket.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@premierproperty leisure.com or fax: 076 -326 293. Website: www.premierpro pertyleisure.com

SALES EXECUTIVE/RM

Five years experience in property sales or hotel management required. Tel: 076-318400, 081-989 5466 (English & Thai). Email: cilcon@hotmail.com For further details, please see our website at www.bang taotropicalresidence.com

GERMAN COMPANY

That sells electrics seeks a sales engineer in Phuket. A minimum of 2 years' electrical experience. Must have car. Tel: 02-673 9857-9. Email: hr@th.jungasia.com

NATIVE ENGLISH TEACHER

Female Caucasian to teach class of 10-12 children, 3-7 years old.

Located in Chalong. Work hours: Mon-Fri (8am-4pm). Start immediate.

Tel: 080-624 7060. Email: phuketpreschool@yahoo.com

VILLA MANAGER REQUIRED

Must have excellent spoken and written English skills. Experience in property and people management essential. Good communicator, structured and system-oriented. Thai National required. Please contact for futher details. Tel: 084-848 0000. Send CV and salary requirement to info@villachangrajang.com

PADI DIVING INSTRUCTOR

Required for dive center on Phi Phi. Urgent. Please send your CV to email: jgkg24@hotmail.com

PAUL ROPP **POSITIONS AVAILABLE**

Shop Assistant Required

Paul Ropp Thailand Co.,Ltd is now looking for shop assistants to join our team at our flagship store in the Royal Phuket Marina. The candidate must have the qualifications as under;

- Good communication skills in English
- · Good attitude and appearance
- Flexible and able to work under pressure
- · Computer literacy
- Thai national

We offer a good salary and commission. If you have the above qualifications and would like to join our team, please send your CV to *pandhaj@paulropp.com* or call us at *076-360859*.

visit us at www.paulropp.com

Phuket Gazette

The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following positions:

Reporter (3 positions)

The successful candidates will be Thai nationals with initiative, outgoing personalities and plenty of experience about the world and how it works. Also essential are the ability to communicate in English, both spoken and written, and a car. Knowledge of Burmese (1 position), passion for sports (1 position) is an advantage.

Good salaries for the right candidates.

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV by email to Oh@PhuketGazette.Net Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

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



Laguna Holiday Club, the fastest-growing Vacation Club in Asia, Is urgently seeking:

Sales Representatives

English, Russian, Chinese (Cantonese and/or Mandarin) and other multi-language speakers

Salary, benefits, generous commissions, and easy hours

Call... 076-362400 Ext.4404-4405 career@lagunaholidayclub.com

WANTED IT DEVELOPERS

Asia Web Direct is seeking IT developers with 2 years experience. Great working environment. Send your resume now. Email: recruitment@wotifgroup.com

GRAPHIC/WEB **DESIGNER NEEDED**

Tel: 086-060 7712. Email: thepixel studiosjulie@hotmail.com

WEB / LOGO **DESIGNERS**

Seeking website and logo designers. Tel: 084-628 2629. Email: gianni@ictned.eu

BANG TAO RESTAURANT

We need 1 European chef and 1 Thai cuisine chef. Please contact Peter. Tel: 087-882

Gazette Online Classifieds – 10,000 readers every day!

Island Job Mart

www.erawana.com



Erawana Co., Ltd. has developed over 100 villas in Phuket since 2003. To support our continuously growing business, we are currently seeking energetic, open-minded individuals who are highly motivated to apply for the following position:

Sales Manager

- Prepare all sales and marketing materials
- Present projects to potential customers
- Support existing customers (after sales service)
- Improve relationship with other sales agents
- Manage entire sales process (legal, land office, etc.)

Please note that this position is only open to native English speakers. Compensation package includes a base salary starting from 50,000 baht, commissions based on sales performance and annual bonus.

If you are willing to work hard and are result-oriented, please send your resume to info@erawana.com. We regret that only short-listed candidates will be notified.

Office Address Erawana Co., Ltd.

19/10 Moo 6, Soi Khok Tanode 2, Baan Don-Layan Rd., Thalang, Phuket 83110 Tel: 076-275 022-3 Mobile: 089-729 2989 E-mail: info@erawana.com

HEXACON PROPERTY

HEXACON PROPERTY STAFF WANTED

We are looking for professional staff for our expanding property company in Phuket.

We are looking for English, Russian, Italian, German, French, Spanish and Thai-speaking sales staff with experience in the property business.

We want good sales people, based on high commission, as well as an experienced accountant.

Our strategy is to represent a select group of the best projects on and around Phuket.

This includes condominiums and villa projects in the best locations.

Our strengths are that we work internationally, have substantial knowledge about Phuket and that our staff speak several languages such as Thai, Russian, English and Scandinavian.

If you have what it takes please submit a resume / CV, a recent photo and expected salary to: michael@hexacon-property.asia

We need the following staff:

- Accountant / Secretary (Thai Only)
- 10 Sales with good experience
- Salespersons for our booths in Jungceylon and Patong area (Thai only)

HEXACON PROPERTY Co., Ltd.

1 Moo 8 Chaofa West Road, Chalong Sub-district, Muang Phuket District, Phuket Province, Thailand Webiste: www.hexacon-property.asia



Royal Phuket Marina is Asia's most sophisticated and high-tech yachting haven, a world-class destination combining luxury waterfront living with a state-of-art marina, is now looking for enthusiastic and motivated candidates in the following position:

Sales & Marketing Manager (Expat or Thai National)

Job Descriptions and Responsibilities:

- Take charge of all sales and marketing activities
- Provide leadership to the day-to-day operations of the sales and marketing department, while maintaining focus on the company's strategic goals
- Develop the strategic marketing plan for all projects
- Develop, maintain and improve business relations with all customers of the company
- Operate with outside agents and other service providers
- · Develop, implement and manage eMarketing strategies, plan activities for the assigned RPM products, which align with brand strategies; ensure KPIs(key performance indicators), and other goals/objectives will be met or exceeded

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in a real estate and / or marketing related field
- Minimum of 5 years experience in sales & marketing management capacity in real estate, residential sales is a must
- International experience with a large real estate developer is a major advantage
- Developed communication and presentation skills
- Strong motivational, innovative, and interpersonal skills
- · Proven leadership ability to influence, develop, and empower employee to achieve objectives

Interested candidates please sent fully detailed CV, recent photo, current and expected salary with other related documents to:

HR Department Royal Phuket Marina

68 Moo.2 Thepkrasettre Rd, Kohkaew, Muang, Phuket Tel: 076-360833-38 Fax: 076-360840 Email: prasertm@royalphuketmarina.com

Phuket Gazette

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- ► Fluent in English
- Able to work to strict deadlines
- A team player
- ► Naturally curious about the world, especially Phuket and what affects its residents
- Newspaper experience and/or layout skills, espcially in PageMaker or InDesign, required.

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

The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

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Bangkok Hospital – Phuket City Fri 7 PM

Patong Hospital – Patong Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri, Sat, Sun t 7 PM

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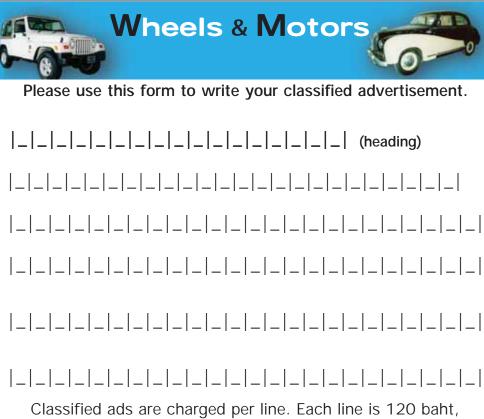
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keep hold of their top players and

coach then their rise up the Thai

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So it's Division 1 football for Phuket next season and if they can

The season wasn't without its

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Chainat FC at home.

By James Goyder

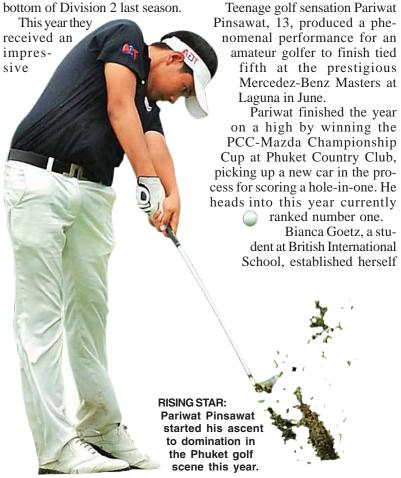
AS WE leave 2010 behind it's a good a time to take a look back at the sports stories that made the headlines in Phuket over the past 12 months.

It was another marquee year for sport on the island, thanks to the exploits of its history making football team and the emergence a couple of potential future sporting superstars.

FC PHUKET

THE biggest story of the year was undoubtedly the meteoric rise of FC Phuket. In only their second year in existence, they clinched the Thai League Division 2 South and just last weekend sealed promotion to Division 1 through the playoffs.

This was a team that finished rock bottom of Division 2 last season.



picking up a new car in the process for scoring a hole-in-one. He heads into this year currently ranked number one.

Bianca Goetz, a student at British International School, established herself

makeover with a new green kit, a as one of the finest young swimmers in the region by winning gold in the 800 meters freestyle at the Singapore National Age Group Championships.

> The achievement saw her rise to number one in the rankings in her native country.

The star of last year's Quicksilver Thailand Surf Competition was 12-year-old Annissa Flynn. The talented youngster showed she could mix it with the best adults when she won the Women's Open Shortboard competition for the second successive year.

THE RISE OF THE LOMAS

THE Overgaard Phuket International Rugby 10s continues to grow and is quickly becoming one of the best amateur rugby tournaments in the world. Last year saw the 12th installment, which was no exception as the tournament returned to its spiritual home in Karon.

The Phuket Lomas are gaining a reputation for their fearless rugby and have already had success on tour. The club now boasts three youth teams.

In December, The Lomas U-10s made history in Bangkok when they won their age section at the Satit Kaset Youth Rugby Festival.

VOLLEYBALL AT KARON

The FIVB Women's Volleyball World Tour returned and was



The FIVB Women's Volleyball World Tour was once again a high point for sports in Phuket this year. Photos: Apinun Saithong

once again a huge success with spectators flocking to Karon for the event.

American duo Nicole Branagh and Kerri Walsh were the winners but they had to do it the hard way.

After losing their second round match they had to win their next six in order to reach the final in the double elimination tournament, but they managed it and were worthy champions.

This year saw the addition of an amateur and schools tournament, allowing local players to get in on

SAILORS YOUNG AND OLD

THE Phuket King's Cup Regatta remains the most prestigious yachting event in Asia and for the second successive year the event attracted in excess of 100 boats.

Despite the wild weather, Ray Roberts on Evolution Racing won the Racing Class, seeing off a late

ANDARA

challenge from Neil Pryde onboard Hifi. At the opposite end of the sailing spectrum 10-year-old Anapat Ngarmdee proved to be one of the stars of the regatta's opening weekend by clinching first place in the inaugural Phuket King's Cup Dinghy Series.

KEEP ON RUNNING

MASSIMO Cigana and Belinda Granger took top honors at the 2010 Phuket Laguna Triathlon in December, which featured a field of more than 800 competitors, including Phuket resident Garry Holden, who made a name for himself after shedding 45 kilograms for hit television show "Asia's Biggest Loser".

The following weekend this competition was complemented by the inaugural Ironman 70.3 Asia-Pacific Championship, also at Laguna. American Tim O'Donnell and Swiss star Caroline Steffen emerged victorious in their respective races.



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Heading for the big time

By Andrew Jennings

FC PHUKET was unable to produce the fairytale finish to what has been a glorious season as they went down 1-0 at the hands of Buriram FC in the Thai League Division 2 playoff final in Bangkok on Wednesday night.

Just four days after recording the now-famous victory over Samut Prakan to finish top of Group B and gain promotion to Division 1 next season, fatigue finally caught up with Phuket as they fell to a single Supakit Jinajai strike on 42 minutes.

The Southern Sea Kirin also missed out on the handsome one million baht awarded to the overall playoff champions, but can be content with the 500,000 baht they will receive for finishing as runners-up.

Phuket can be forgiven for Wednesday's reversal to Division 2 Group A table-toppers Buriram given their energy-sapping exploits in recent weeks.

Phuket's principal aim for the 2010 season was promotion to Division 1 and they achieved it in dramatic fashion courtesy of a nerve-jangling 2-1 home victory over Samut Prakan last Saturday.



GOING UP: The FC Phuket squad celebrate their promotion to Division 1 after defeating Samut Prakan last Saturday. Photo: Apinun Saithong

The home side did it the hard way, fighting their way back from a goal down early in the first half to clinch top spot in Group B, a point ahead of Chainat FC, who were also promoted to Division 1.

FC Phuket striker Thawin Bootsombat was the hero for the "Hulk" supporters as his two second-half goals sealed the historic victory for the Southern Sea Kirin and promotion to the second tier of Thai football for next term.

Celebrations included the players hoisting Phuket Provincial Administration Organization President Paiboon Upatising into the air.

The end of season statistics for Arjan Songsamssub's side makes for impressive reading.

They were defeated only once during the 10 playoff games, and finished on 19 points, after they lifted the Division 2 Southern Section title back in September.

The new 2011 Division 1 cam-

paign has been penciled in for a mid-February start, with fixtures and dates to be announced shortly.

FC Phuket has confirmed to the *Phuket Gazette* that decisions on which loan players from this season will remain at the club for next term will be made in the coming



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