





# Phuket Gazette

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# Bus plunges off Patong Hill

#### One dead, 40 injured: Survivors recount moments before the accident

By Atchaa Khamlo

PASSENGERS aboard the tour bus that overturned on Patong Hill road suspect a problem with the vehicle's clutch was responsible for the accident that left one man dead and at least 40 people injured on Tuesday.

Wannee Kesakomon, 52, was one of the few passengers seated on the bottom deck when the coach overturned. She suffered only minor scratches.

"As I was sitting I heard a noise that sounded like a broken clutch. The bus was running down the hill very fast and I was bracing for a crash when it suddenly turned over," she said.

'We left Phuket on March 3 to attend the funeral of Luangta Maha Bua Yannasampanno in Udon Thani. The bus had a problem with its clutch. It also smelled as if something was burning while I was sitting downstairs before we got to Udon Thani," Ms Wannee said.

She confirmed that only one driver operated the vehicle throughout the entire journey, which ended in horror within easy walking distance from their intended final destination.

"On March 4 we all got off at the hotel in Udon Thani and the

driver took the bus for repairs. So we had to take a *songtaew* (pickup with rows of passenger seating in the back) to the funeral, held at Baan Taad Forest Temple," she

The group left Udon Thani on March 5, with an overnight stops in Bangkok and Suphan Buri.

"The driver was doing well. At one point he seemed to be driving too fast, so I asked him to slow down – he did after that," she said.

Ms Wannee's sister, Noy Mongkonbut, 47, was also downstairs when the bus overturned.

She is still at Vachira Phuket Hospital recovering from a broken hand and deep lacerations from broken glass that sheared skin from her hand.

"She underwent surgery last night, but she is not feeling very well and is still in shock," Ms Wannee said.

Winit Sutthiparo, 48, was sitting in a window seat at the front of the upper deck when the bus overturned.

"We had nearly ended our trip. We were just two kilometers from home. We awoke after the bus stopped at a gas station in Phang Nga. Some people washed their faces to freshen up. All of us were looking forward to coming home," he said.



One man died and 40 other passengers were rushed to hospital after the bus overturned. Photo: Atchaa Khamlo

Then the unthinkable happened. "As I wasn't injured or trapped, I and a few others helped people who were stuck. We used whatever we could find to smash the windows so people could get out of the bus," he said.

"The driver, Nuan – a 29-yearold and from Phang Nga - was driving very well. I think the accident was the result of the condition of the bus and its damaged clutch," he said.

The failure of the brakes to slow the speeding vehicle to a stop also indicated mechanical failure, he

On Wednesday morning passengers fit enough to do so collected their luggage at Patong Municipality Child Care Center 2, where it was stored by municipal officers after the crash.

A Patong Police duty officer checked the names of those claiming baggage and asked some

of them to come to the station for questioning.

The bus, operated by the Tiengtham Tour company, was emblazoned with "Unseen in Thailand", one of the slogans used by the Tourism Authority of Thailand.

Cranes removed the wreckage from its hillside perch on Tuesday afternoon and moved it to near Patong Police Station on Phang Muang Road.

#### Teen gunned down in drive-by shooting

By Janpen Upatising

injured from gunshot wounds following a drive-by shooting in Thalang on Monday night.

Thalang Police duty officer Sarit Bootnongsaeng identified the deceased as 19-year-old Khomsan Srirat.

Mr Khomsan was riding a motorbike with a passenger along the road from n Pa Khlok to Muang Mai at about 8pm

when two assailants rode up alongside on another bike and fired at them with then transferred to Vachira Phuket Hos-ONE teenager is dead and another man a homemade shotgun, Lt Col Sarit said. pital in Phuket Town, where doctors

The bike went down immediately and the assailants continued to fire, he said.

Mr Khomsan and his friend, 27-yearold Anusorn Jantawong, fled on foot and found safety in a marshy area inside a nearby golf course.

Witnesses led police and rescue workers to Mr Khomsan, who had sustained a shotgun blast to the chest.

He was rushed to Thalang Hospital, added.

Mr Anusorn is being treated for shotgun wounds to his left knee and fingers.

This shooting follows the January 30 death of 13-year-old Surachai "Neung" Takuasook, who was gunned down while driving a motorbike in Thalang by assailants on another motorbike.

#### St Patrick's Day

**Phuket** discovers the 'Importance of being Irish'

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#### This Week

#### Landless fight for their title

Phuket's poor fight for their right to live on an old dump site.

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#### **Environment**



Leatherbacks paying the ultimate price for human development.

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#### Food



Samero's serves up cool treats in Patong's other parlor. Page 19

#### Culture



🛚 Paul Whittall takes understanding Wat Chalong to a new level.

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#### Classifieds

Everything you need at prices you can afford, from jobs to homes. Pages 31-42

**Sport** 



This year's Pro-Am tournament promises top-quality competitive golf. Page 43

### Saturday

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Monday

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Wednesday



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# Tin mining museum opens to high praise

By Pimwara Choksakulpan

GOVERNOR Tri Augkaradacha stepped up to buy the first entry ticket to the Phuket Mining Museum last Thursday to mark the official opening of the 180-millionbaht attraction.

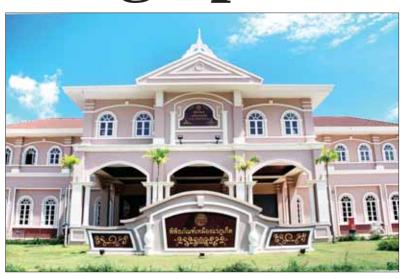
The museum showcases Phuket's tin mining history and the lives of the Chinese miners of the era through indoor and outdoor exhibits in both English and Thai languages.

Outdoor displays include an abandoned mine including rail cars for transporting ore and other machinery used in tin mining.

Inside the main building, designed in the Sino-Portuguese style, are displays depicting Chinese migrant workers panning for tin and engaged in other aspects of their daily lives.

The facility covers 400 rai on Kathu-Koh Kaew Road. It was funded by the Phuket Provincial Office (Bt130mn) and Kathu Municipality (Bt50mn).

Construction at the site, begun in 2006, was completed in mid-2008. Since then, workers at the museum have been busy installing the displays.



The Bt180 million museum received high praise for its depiction of life in Phuket during its renowned tin mining era. Photo: Pimwara Choksakulpan

This Chinese heritage and our history of mining belongs not only to the people of Kathu, but to all of Phuket," said Kathu Mayor Chaianan Suthikul.

"I intend to develop and promote this museum as a cultural tourism attraction, but I still need more experts to help develop the standard of the displays at the museum.

"So please visit the museum and give us your feedback," he

Gov Tri praised the museum: "Natural resources are no longer enough to attract tourists. We need to also develop our cultural attractions. This museum is spot on," he said.

The museum is open daily, 9am to 4pm. Entry costs 100 baht per foreign adult, 50 baht per foreign child (under 15), 50 baht per Thai adult and 20 baht per Thai child. Entry is free for students in uniform, Thais over 60 years old and disabled people.

#### Man dies in fatal fall

after falling from a five-storey apartment block in what police believe was an intentional leap.

Thung Thong Police duty inspector Sakchai Chuyong received a report of the incident at 7:30am last Saturday.

According to reports, Englishman Julien Machie fell to his death from the fifth-floor balcony of his rented room at the Patraburi Mansion, a student housing block located about 100 meters from the Prince of Songkhla University's Phuket Campus in Kathu.

The incident was reported by the victim's 27-year-old girlfriend, identified only as "Miss Yani".

Miss Yani told police she had lived together in the room with Mr

A 37-year-old British man died Machie for about a month. He had been unemployed for several months and spent much of his time looking for work, particularly as an English teacher, she said.

> On the night before his death, he joined Miss Yani and some friends on a camping trip, during which they were to sleep on a beach in Koh Kaew.

> But Mr Machie went home early, leaving them to sleep on the beach and returning to his room.

> The next morning, Miss Yani said, she received a text message on her mobile reading: "Please forgive me. I love you very much."

She rushed back to the apartment to find Mr Machie on the balcony crying. He looked her in the eye and then jumped, she said.

#### **Immigration extends** 90-day reporting period

THE Phuket Provincial Immigration Office (PPIO) has confirmed that the grace period for 90-day reporting for foreigners on 12month permits to stay has been extended.

"We received the official notice from the Immigration Bureau [in Bangkok] to allow foreigners to submit their 90-day report up to 15 days before and up to seven days after the permit expires," an officer at the PPIO told the Gazette on Tuesday.

Previously, foreigners could report up to seven days before and up to seven days after the permit to stay expired.

Kevin Moss of the Volunteer Tourist Police stationed at Phuket

Immigration to assist foreigners said the move has been well received by foreigners.

"We have heard good feedback about the move, which we first heard about on Friday.

"It has been especially helpful for foreigners looking to head home for a short stay but were required to file their 90-day report while they are away," he

An officer at Phuket Immigration asked foreigners to note that the Phuket Immigration office processes 90-day registration reports from 8:30 am to 4pm from Monday to Friday.

The process is free.

- Samaporn Janyanon

#### Call for blood donations for Songkran

PORNTHIP Rattajak, director of the Phuket Regional Blood Center, has called for donations to build up stocks of all blood types in the run-up to the Songkran Festival holiday period, when demand for blood often peaks due to an increase in accidents.

The dates and times of the clinics in Phuket are as follows:

March 14: 1am to 4pm: Diamond Cliff Resort, Patong

**March 15:** 10am to 3pm: Labor Court, Damrong Road, Phuket

March 16: Noon to 6pm: Central Festival Phuket:

March 18: 1pm to 4pm: Absolute Phuket Hotel, Patong



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The site in Thalang has been cleared, ready for construction.

#### Tesco heads north

Tesco-Lotus will open its second large shopping mall and department store complex in Thalang in the third quarter of this year, the Gazette has confirmed.

A reliable source familiar with the chain's expansion in Phuket said the new shopping center, to be located on Thepkrasattri Road northbound opposite Thalang Hospital, will have a typical department store layout.

The department store itself will

THAILAND's leading retailer comprise 5,000 square meters of floor space, with separate cashiers in each department. There will also be supermarket section with a separate bank of checkout counters.

> The entire complex should be open for business by October or November, the source said.

Rumors that the lease has expired on the flagship Tesco-Lotus shopping mall on the bypass road in Rassada were "completely untrue", the source said.

#### Gov to act in Heroines' Festival

GOVERNOR Tri Augkaradacha will make his acting debut in the role of King Rama I in a drama based on the history of Thalang at this year's Heroines' Festival.

The event will take place March 13 to 15 at Thalang Victory Memorial Field in Thepkrasattri.

"I will portray King Buddha ernor in the cast."

Yodfa Chulaloke (Rama I). I am honored to have been invited to play this role. I will give my best possible performance," he said.

Dr Sawit Pongwat, screenwriter and director of the play, said, "This will be the first time this drama has had a sitting gov-

# Police officers face drug testing

By Atchaa Khamlo

THE new Phuket City Police chief this week announced plans to introduce drug testing for Phuket police as part of a nationwide campaign to ensure the force remains

"Police are the last line of defense in society's war on illegal drugs, so if they themselves are involved, then it's 'game over'," Superintendent Chote Chitchai told a press conference on Monday.

Col Chote called on members of the public to report any police officers involved in the drug trade.

"I am pleased to solve this problem. I don't want any police involved with drugs," he said.

"At some time in the future, police will have their urine tested for drug use. This is part of a 'cleaning house' policy by the Commissioner-General of the Royal Thai Police. Meanwhile we will continue to test [members of the public] for drug use," he said.

The press conference was held at the Phuket City Police conference room to show the media eight drug suspects.

The suspects, all males in their twenties, were hauled in for drug offenses over the weekend.

They were identified as Phuket natives Ekkachai Pupphakarn, 25; Patpong Boonyanupong, 26 and Boonlert Rodyod, 28.



Main: Drugs suspects arrested. Inset: Phuket City Police Superintendent Chote Chitchai intends to 'clean house' by drug testing officers.

Also arrested were: 24-year-old Natthachai Thepkunchon from Nakhon Sri Thammarat; Suriya Dee-arsa, 23, and Jirakorn Deearsa, 25, from Songkhla; and Jamlong Yemying, 24, from Krabi.

The seven were caught smoking kratom leaf extract at a home in a residential estate off the bypass road in Rassada. Some were found in possession of other narcotics, so all were taken to Phuket City Police Station for testing.

All confessed to taking drugs. Seized as evidence were a total of 64 ya bah (methamphetamine) pills, three packs of dried marijuana, a water pipe and other

drug-taking paraphernalia.

All were charged with possession of a Category I drug (ya bah) and lesser offenses.

Also presented was 23-year-old Sitthiphon Saejia, caught in possession of 49 ya bah pills and six packets of ya ice (crystal methamphetamine) on New Dowroong Road in Wichit at about 12:30pm last Saturday.

Mr Sittiphon was charged with possession and sale of a Category 1 controlled substance.

He was arrested after being stopped at a police checkpoint on Wirat-Hongyok Road, which runs behind Suan Luang Park.

#### Abandoned road rape victim still in ICU

POLICE are still searching for the two suspects wanted for the brutal roadside assault of a Phuket woman last week.

The victim, 58, was attacked by two men just before dawn as she rode her motorbike to a local market. She was left unconscious with blood running from a wound to her head. Police believe she may have been raped.

Thalang police Lt Col Weerayut Sittirattanakul said the woman's condition was so severe that she re-

mained in the ICU at Vachira Phuket Hospital more than a week later.

"She is now conscious and remembers her children, but she hasn't been able to give any information yet as she is still breathing through a respirator and being fed intravenously," he said.

"We know only there were two men at the scene, one fat and one thin. We are looking for a black Honda Click motorbike that was probably used by the men," he said.







# feasts on blood

RESIDENTS of a village in Phitsanulok province believe they are being stalked by a pret - a "hungry ghost" – following the mysterious deaths of three old villagers in the same week late last month.

Terrified residents of Village 9 in Aranyik subdistrict believe the *pret* is going to kill again.

Last week they performed a Buddhist ritual aimed at appeasing the malevolent spirit and saving themselves from its bloodlust.

According to Thai Buddhist folklore, a pret is a huge, angry ghost with a ravenous appetite that stands as high as a coconut tree. But the ghost is never satisfied, because it has a mouth the size of the eye of a needle.

At least one type of *pret* must be appeased with offerings, or it will feed on blood. It is said that anyone who does harm to their mother or father will come back in the next life as a pret.

The three deaths in Village 9 happened within days of each other late last month.

# news

Relatives said all three people were healthy, not suffering from illnesses of any kind.

Spooked out by the mysterious deaths, one resident went to see a local spirit medium.

The medium said the deaths were almost certainly the work of a pret. It would not stop killing until nine village residents were dead, he predicted.

As a result, last week the local tambon chief and village headman presided over a Buddhist ritual to pacify the ghost and the spirits of other dead village residents.

Villagers made merit and treated monks to food and new robes - all in the hope of convincing the *pret* to spare them and their families.

Nation Breaking News

# 'Hungry' ghost Kicking the habit

By Atchaa Khamlo

ARRESTED under the ongoing nationwide police crackdown on drugs, 82 first-time offenders in Phuket on Monday began a voluntary rehab program as part of their suspended sentences.

The five-day "camp", run by the Heath Office, aims to help first-time offenders convicted of minor charges kick their habits before they become repeat offenders or involved in serious drug

"All of them have been found guilty of minor drug charges and are on probation. Most of them are from Phuket and do not want to be involved in drugs again, so they have volunteered to join the camp," explained nurse Jehaluemoh Phuntarakit.

However, any offenders who choose to not attend the camp must abide by any other conditions laid down by the Phuket Probation Office as a condition of their suspended sentences, she added.

The camp "option" also keeps first-time offenders on minor charges out of the already-overcrowded Phuket Prison.



FIRST-TIMERS: The 'volunteers' before entering the camp.

Instead, the convicts move into a dormitory near the main office of the Office of the Non-Formal and Informal Education near Provincial Hall in Phuket Town.

Day one of the camp began with a sniffer dog searching their belongings for drugs.

"The campers are not allowed to bring in their own medications. Any medicines needed will be provided by health officers running the camp," explained Ms Jehaluemoh.

In the days following, the campers complete a full schedule of mental, physical and spiritual activities to help them steer clear of wayward paths that might lead them back to drugs.

Those who pass the camp will graduate with a certificate confirming they passed the course and have at least five days clean under their belt.



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#### **Crackdown targets** ladyboy meth users

ALMOST half of the ladyboys rounded up in a sweep of Patong's Soi Bangla last weekend tested positive for methamphetamines, police say.

The random testing, led by drug suppression division inspector Akanit Danphithuksdart, targeted transsexuals along Soi Bangla and surrounding areas, including the beach road and Soi Joreoernsup.

Of 40 tested for drug use, 17 turned up positive.

The tests were conducted by Patong Hospital, escorted by about eight Patong Police officers.

The testing began at about 8pm and lasted one hour.

Those testing positive were released pending confirmation of the test results from the Police Regional Forensics Center in Surat Thani province. The results are expected around mid-March.



One of the 17 ladyboy suspects who tested positive.

One of the investigation officers said he didn't expect the suspects to flee in the interim.

They would continue working in the area, he predicted,

In the preceding week, 22 people tested positive for amphetamines in random checks conducted by police, including the 17 ladyboys, the officer said.

- Atchaa Khamlo



# A home to call their own

By Janpen Upatising

FOR 18 years the residents of Klong Koh Phee in Wichit have been living on borrowed time – and borrowed land – but now they are hoping the national government will finally grant them permission to at least live legally on the old dump site they now call home.

The village of 463 people is one of 35 communities across Thailand that the Office of Community Land Title (OCLT) deems qualified to be issued a "community Chanote".

"Klong Koh Phee community is located on 14-2-78 rai of land belonging to the Royal Forestry Department, which a long time ago allowed Phuket City Municipality to use for dumping and incinerating waste," explained Sopon Chomchan, who sits on the OCLT's subcommittee on Law and Regulation.

"The municipality has allowed us to live here since 1993," added Seksan Somnuk, the elected leader of the community.

"Since then we have been managing the community by ourselves: constructing roads, building houses, installing our own power poles and cables," he explained.

"Having a community Chanote can improve our lives a lot. It can be used to certify our rights to live here. We never know if our homes will be demolished or if we will be evicted from this land," he said.

Having proof of address will also help with two of the villagers' biggest ongoing problems: high water and electricity bills. With most of the villagers being poor, paying higher prices for these necessities adds to the pressure of living day to day, Mr Seksan said.

As the land beneath them is toxic, sinking wells for water is not an option. So, apart from the rainwater they catch, villagers must rely on water trucked in by private operators, he explained.

"As for electricity, we pay



The villagers of Klong Koh Phee, who have lived on the old dump site for 18 years, finally have a shot at the title.

higher than the normal rate because the bills are not calculated

"There are four main electricity meters installed for our community. However, what the main meters say and what each individual meter in each house say are not the same.

"The electricity officers read what the main meters say. So the whole community has to pool their money and pay what the main meters say, which means we are paying for more than we actually use," Mr Seksan said.

"Public utilities are what we want the most. A community Chanote can be used to apply for water and electricity supply from relevant authorities. The electricity bills would be cheaper, and more accurate, as the authority would read the meters and issue

bills to each house directly," he to live on the land might not be

While the community Chanote issue has been gaining national attention, namely following ongoing protests by poor communities gathering in Bangkok to pressure Cabinet to issue them, the next step for the Klong Koh Phee community is closer to home.

Mr Sopon of the OCLT explained that having a community Chanote issued depended on the local authority granting permission for villagers to use the land.

"The OCLT cannot force the local government bodies [to give permission to] or to promise residents they will get a community Chanote. We are just a coordinator. It all depends on the local authority's decision," he said.

For Mr Seksan and fellow residents, obtaining formal permission that simple.

Phuket City Deputy Mayor Tavorn Jirapattanasopon told the Gazette, "Phuket City Municipality is only responsible for taking care of the area. It was Phuket Provincial Office that originally signed the contract with the Royal Forestry Department to use the

"So we have to wait for the Phuket Provincial Office to agree to let Phuket City Municipality decide whether or not to allow the Klong Koh Phee villagers to use the area," Mr Tavorn said.

Despite the bureaucratic bungle the approval process is tangled up in, Mr Tavorn remained hopeful.

"For Phuket City Municipality, I think it will not be a problem because we do not use that area,"

"Once Klong Koh Phee is issued a community Chanote, Wichit Municipality will be able to provide the public utilities required since the area is located in Wichit Municipality," he added.

However, if Klong Koh Phee is issued a community Chanote, it will come with strict conditions, warned Saksin Pajjakhapat, head of OCLT's working group on Survey and Examination for Community Land Title - Southern Region.

Although the residents do not need to be Phuket-born for the village to be issued a community Chanote, the document will list the names of all residents and mark the areas where each family lives, he said.

"The community will have to report to us each year any changes of people moving in or out of the community. Also, the land cannot be sold, but rights to live on the land can be handed down through inheritance

"The Chanote will last for 30 years. The community can apply for the Chanote to be extended up to 90 days before it expires. Then we will consider again whether the community still qualifies to retain the title," he explained.

However, Mr Sopon stressed that any moves by villagers to expand their realm will have drastic consequences, he warned.

"If the community expands into areas beyond the boundaries stipulated in the community Chanote, the Chanote will be canceled immediately," he said.

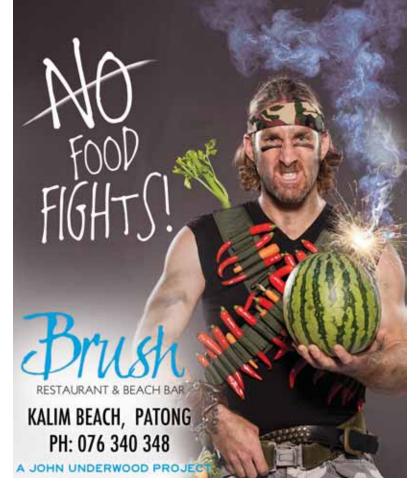


At "Into the Sea", the signature restaurant at the Evason Phuket & Bon Island, chef Thomas Jakobi's Modern Logical Cuisine showcases his latest innovations in the form of new, creative interpretations of a cuisine that has both visual and textural appeal. The taste and focus on fresh, wholesome and local ingredients are paramount.

The wine program, created by our sommelier, Harry Haan, has been granted the Wine Spectator Award of Excellence for the second year in a row.



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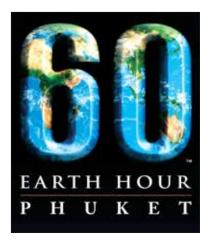








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# Patong chosen as 'landmark' for Earth Hour

THE Royal Paradise Hotel and surrounding businesses in Patong will be plunged into darkness for one hour from 8:30pm on March 26 to mark Earth Hour 2011.

About 500 people in Patong will hand out pamphlets promoting Earth Hour on March 24 to raise awareness of the event, said Meena Panun, who is coordinating the public campaign for Patong Municipality.

Phuket is one of eight provinces officially taking part in Earth Hour this year, she added.

"Patong Municipality will invite Gov Tri to join the event in front of the Royal Paradise Hotel, arriving at 7pm, to officially 'open' Earth Hour and to announce the amount of power saved during the hour of darkness," said Ms Meena.

"Patong probably saved about two megawatts during Earth Hour last year," said Thanom Sukkham, manager of the Phuket Provincial Electricity Authority Patong office.

Nationwide, Thailand saved 73.34MW in 2008, 1,423MW in 2009 and 2,042MW last year, he added.

To pledge your effort to Earth Hour visit earthhourphuket.com

# **Keeping Czech on waste**

SPECIAL REPORT from Prague, Czech Republic

By Pimwara Choksakulpan

IN EUROPE for the upcoming ITB Berlin tourism and travel show, the Phuket delegation took time out of their agenda to talk wastewater.

Led by Paiboon Upatising, president of the Phuket Provincial Administration Organization (*Or-BorJor*), the delegation met with the heads of two companies that installed and operate 13 wastewater treatment plants in the Czech Republic.

CEO of Prague Diamond Invest Dr Jan Kavalirek and Managing Director of Tradeco Praha s.r.o. Petr Brat'ka discussed wastewater treatment technology in the Czech Republic and how it could be used in Phuket.

The meeting was organized by the Czech Republic's Honorary Consul in Phuket, Dr Anurak Tansiriroj.

Among the Phuket representatives were the mayors of Kathu, Chalong, Rawai, Karon, Cherng Talay, Srisoontorn and Thepkrasattri municipalities and the deputy mayors of Pa Khlok and Koh Kaew.

The delegates heard explanations of the companies' "patented water cleaning system", which is claimed to cost less to run and occupy smaller areas, but offers



PHU YAI IN PRAGUE: The Phuket delegation led by Paiboon Upatising (left) with Czech wastewater experts Jan Kavalirek and Petr Brat'ka.

double the efficiency of most conventional systems.

"This system is very interesting. Today they presented only the basic information. They will email us the technical information later," Mr Paiboon said.

"This information will be useful for local administrations in Phuket that do not have their own wastewater treatment systems," he added.

The only areas in Phuket that currently have their own wastewater treatment plants are Patong, Kathu, Karon and Phuket Town, Mr Paiboon said.

Inadequate wastewater treatment in Phuket has come under criticism over the years, especially after the emergence of "red tide" algal blooms in places like Patong where they were never a problem before.

Meanwhile, the quality of water at Phuket's beaches is increasingly scrutinized as the island's officials attempt to gain higher star ratings in the Thai Pollution Control Department's

#### **Experience talks**

The ITB 2011 delegation from Phuket visited the Czech Parliament on Wednesday and learned more about Czech advances in wastewater treatment technology.

The group toured the Chamber of Deputies meeting room, the Czech equivalent of the Thai Cabinet meeting room.

The delegation then met Czech Deputy Environment Minister Rut Bizkova, who gave a presentation on wastewater and trash management issues.

The Czech Republic put more attention on environmental protection after the country introduced a democratic form of government in 1990. Since that time pollution has been reduced by about a third overall, the delegation was told.

annual assessment of beaches throughout Thailand.

The meeting with the wastewater experts comes just one day before ITB Berlin, the world's largest tourism and travel trade show, opens to trade visitors.

The show will be open to the public this Saturday and Sunday.

ITB last year attracted more than 179,000 visitors to its halls, with more than 11,000 exhibitors. More than 7,000 journalists from over 90 countries reported on the event last year.

#### US embassy to hold consular outreach March 16

THE Consular Section of the US embassy in Bangkok will hold an "outreach" clinic at the Hilton Arcadia Resort and Spa in Karon from 8am to midday on March 16 to provide consular outreach services.

The following consular services will be available during the visit:

Notarial services and certified copies (US\$50 or 1,550 baht). This includes income affidavits for retirees in Thailand. Passport renewal applications

(\$110 or 3,410 baht for adult passports, and US\$105 or 3,255 baht for a child's passport).

Extra visa pages (US\$82 or 2,542 baht). Note: The embassy staff can accept applications, but the passports will have to be taken back to the embassy for final processing the next working day.

Prepaid Thailand Post envelopes will be available for purchase at the event for people wanting to have their passports mailed back to them.

Alternatively, applicants can collect their passports in person at the embassy or have a friend collect it by giving them written authorization to present to embassy staff.

Social security, VA, or other federal benefits questions will be received and staff will try to provide forms and answers. If staff cannot answer questions at the outreach, they will send a response later.

Applicants for any services are required to bring exact change.

Consular Reports of Birth cannot be processed during consular outreach trips.

For more information about the outreach call the American Citizen Services Unit at T: 02-205 4049 or E: acsbkk@state.gov.

The next two outreaches planned for Phuket will be on June 16 and September 16.

- Phuket Gazette





#### Squabble erupts as censure debate nears

POLITICIANS are gearing up for a key censure debate next week, though a squabble has broken out over evidence the opposition Pheu Thai Party hopes to use in its arguments against the government.

The government wants a screening panel to vet the evidence, claiming the opposition could submit fabrications.

The debate is tentatively scheduled to take place from March 15-17, with a no-confidence vote on March 18.

Pheu Thai, led in the debate by MP Mingkwan Sangsuwan, will grill Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva and nine other ministers over their performance in government.

The opposition is likely to focus on the killings of red shirt protesters during 10 weeks of anti-government rallies last year.

The opposition will also accuse the government of corruption, failure to rein in soaring commodity prices, failure to adhere to monetary discipline leading to huge public debts, failure to maintain good relations with neighboring countries and failure to solve the insurgency in the Deep South.

At the time of writing, the opposition had yet to make a formal reply to the government proposal, but Pheu Thai MP Jatuporn Prompan indicated dissatisfaction with the idea on grounds that it would let the noconfidence targets gain advance access to the evidence.

- Phuket Gazette



Pheu Thai MPs and party members submit a motion of no confidence. Photo: The Nation

# German HIV pedophile sentenced for Thai abuse

AN HIV-positive former folk music star was sentenced to nine years in prison by a German court for having unprotected sex with hundreds of child prostitutes in Thailand

The 65-year-old German man, who was not named due to privacy laws, abused the girls in the infamous Thai resort town of Pattaya between May 2005 and November 2009, according to Associated Press.

The Lueneburg state court convicted the man on charges of sexually abusing minors and failing to inform them of his HIV status.

Some of the girls were younger than 14 years old. The man knew how old they were, according to the court

Since 1993, German courts have been able to prosecute pedophiles regardless of whether the crimes were committed at home or abroad.

Prosecutor Lars Janssen said the man had shamelessly exploited the wretched circumstances that his young victims lived in, DPA reported.

The judge described the man as an "opportunist", rather than a serial sex offender.

The man had given a comprehensive confession and shown genuine remorse over what he had done, he said.

# Baby killed as violence escalates in Deep South

# nation

INSURGENTS killed six people, including a Buddhist monk and a 14-month-old baby, and injured more in a fresh round of violence in the troubled Deep South last week.

In Pattani, two men on a motorbike shot at three monks as they made their rounds for alms in a busy area in Khok Pho district on Saturday morning.

Monks in the Deep South usually make their daily rounds with a security escort. The victims had gone out unaccompanied because they believed they would not be attacked in such a busy area, according to AFP.

Phra Apichai Rojrangsan, 28, was pronounced dead on arrival at Khok Pho Provincial Hospital, while Phra Suchart Inthankaew, 36, and novice Sakol Semsan, 16, were treated for severe wounds.

On Saturday night in Napradu subdistrict, also in Khok Pho, insurgents hiding in a rubber plantation ambushed six soldiers, spraying them with bullets before fleeing.



A young relative of slain 14-month-old Bunthisa looks on at her funeral in Pattani. About 500 people attended the ceremony. Photo: The Nation

No one was killed in the attack. On Sunday morning in Pattani's Yarang district, masked men on motorcycles shot and killed ex-police officer Sgt Sanan Sangkasunya, 64, as he worked

out on a local road. Four more people were seriously injured, including Muhammad Isris Pathan, 18. Later the same day in Panare district, two men shot a man as he was travelling on a motorcycle with his mother.

Nattakorn Jantip, 23, was killed instantly. His mother, who was not hit, sustained minor injuries from falling off the bike.

Meanwhile in neighboring Narathiwat province, the owner of a motorcycle repair shop was shot and killed.

Two men arrived at the shop in Marue Bo-ok subdistrict and asked to buy a motorcycle tire. When Sulkiflee Uma, 39, went to fetch one, one of the men shot him dead.

On Monday in Pattani, gunmen opened fire on a 62-year-old retired policeman as he drove his car in Paanreh district.

Suphol Klomphol and his 14-month-old granddaughter Bunthisa Malayanont were killed in the attack. Bunthisa died in the arms of her parents after unsuccessful surgery to repair bullet wounds in her shoulder and lung.

The same day in Narathiwat, four policemen and two civilians were injured when insurgents threw a grenade at a grocery shop and detonated a car bomb to ambush a team officers rushing to the first explosion scene.

This year has witnessed an upsurge in violence in the Deep South, where Malay-Muslim separatists are fighting an insurgency against the Thai state.

In January, a roadside bomb killed nine villagers in Yala province, a week after insurgents launched an audacious attack on a military base, killing four soldiers.

- Phuket Gazette





#### Fighting HIV is not tit-for-tat

Re: Phuket Gazette, HIV up among ladyboys, March 5

I worked with the Thai national HIV prevention program for 10 years (1989-99) and would like to provide some perspective to your excellent and alarming report.

Before the massive Thai outbreak of HIV in 1990, surveys showed that sex workers in the brothels of northern Thailand were having an average – average – of four customers per night.

Since most customers only visited the brothel once a month, that average represents 100 different sex partners per month for each brothel worker.

And condom use was less than 25 per cent of episodes in the late 1980s.

That's why the Thai HIV prevention effort focused on low-fee commercial sex.

The Thai campaign was so successful it became a model for other programs around the world

Most people have no idea how bad HIV would have been here without the aggressive Thai response.

However, the focus on lowfee brothels came at the expense of a strong and sustained prevention effort for freelance MSM (men who have sex with men) sex workers and ladyboys.

These people numbered far fewer than their female conterparts.

Thus, HIV prevalence among high-risk MSM have risen to dangerous levels in the past decade.

While condom use has become the norm in Thailand between female sex workers and

# Taking drug cops to a new high

THE *Phuket Gazette* wishes new Phuket City Police Superintendent Chote Chitchai the best of luck in his effort to rid the island of illegal drug use and police corruption: he is certainly going to need it.

It is normal for newly-appointed officers taking up key posts to state policy objectives.

Col Chote's predecessor Col Wanchai Ekpornpit used a creative "scared straight" approach in trying to increase motorcycle crash helmet use among the large, thick-skulled segment of the population who choose to ride without them.

That effort, since extended to every police district in Phuket, has caused a significant increase in helmet use – though there is still a long way to go.

Drugs and official corruption are going to be even harder nuts to crack, however.

That Col Chote is serious about cracking down on illegal drug use is demonstrated by his support of random drug testing among police officers and his encouragement of the public to report extortion attempts to him directly through his personal mobile phone (see Page 3 in this issue and First Person, issue of March 5, 2011, page 9).

The *Gazette* fully agrees with testing for offers because accountability should start at the top, not in "random" nightclubs or selected street corners where prostitutes tend to congregate.

#### **Phuket Gazette**

In fact, the so-called "random" drug testing is anything but. It is common knowledge that many police officers on the island are heavily invested, legally and otherwise, in nightlife venues.

Handing them the authority to launch "random raids" just gives them another unfair advantage over the competition, much like their ability to remain open past the legal closing times.

The underlying root of the problem is the demand for recreational drugs, especially methamphetamines. Well over half the prisoners at the dangerously overcrowded Phuket Prison are drug offenders.

The same situation exists at penal facilities across the country.

What Thailand really needs is a national debate on why the problem is so much worse here than in other countries, and then to look for alternative strategies to the failed ones that have led us to this state.

But the last thing we need is another "war on drugs" like the one launched by the Thaksin government in 2003, which led to extra-judicial killings and justified international condemnation – but, as we know, no long-term impact on drug use.

Yesterday – again – some relatives (one adult and two children) had to pay 400 baht for a tuk-tuk drive from FantaSea to the Marriott hotel in Kamala.

At a guess, that's a maximum distance of about one kilometer. The fares agreed between Governor Tri and the drivers are ridiculous, much more expensive than anywhere else in Thailand, Asia and most countries in Europe.

And the reasons given by Patong Deputy Mayor Chairat Sukhaban make the story even more laughable. To pay the agreed fares is simply insane.

Pattaya is much bigger than Patong, and the city has a oneway system, but you can jump in or out of a tuk-tuk anywhere for the price of 20 baht.

Many years ago, Pattaya had to fight the tuk-tuk and taxi drivers. They really fought. The army was called in. Since then everything has been okay.

All forum and travel guides now tell tourists to avoid tuktuks and taxis in Phuket, but that's of course not always possible.

So let's await the next step, the next decision of our government in Phuket... I mean the "association" for taxis and tuk-tuks.

Md L Patong

#### Weathering changes

What's with the nightly thunderstorms over the past week or so. We're still in early March. Surely this is unusual.

As far as my faltering mind can take me back, I cannot remember such a rainy "dry season".

*Phuket Gazette*, where's the weather report?

Soggy Bottom Rawai

their customers, this may be less the case among MSM, especially for those in sex relationships with trusted partners or lovers.

It is laudable that Phuket's Rajabhat University wants to educate students about HIV risk, but this must not be done at the expense of intensive, targeted prevention programs for the

highest risk individuals: MSM and low-fee sex workers.

In any case, universal precaution (100% condom use) needs to be the standard practice for all who engage in sex with partners whose HIV status is not known.

A Bennett Phuket

Issues & Answers...

#### Being taken for a ride, again

I think the German Honorary Consul Dirk Naumann could be English: His judgment about the agreed fares with the tuk-tuk and taxi drivers is typical of English understatement...

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#### Where's my mail?

I am trying to find out why since moving to Kathu my post does not seem to make it to my house.

I live in The Valley Moo 1, Kathu 83120.

I used to live at the Rock Garden housing estate in Rassada and I never had any issues with receiving my mail there, but so far three parcels sent by my family in the US have not arrived.

Pablo Kathu

#### An officer at Kathu Post Office, replies:

Kathu Valley Moo 1 is in our area of responsibility. Any people wondering about any mail or parcels not delivered to their homes should come to our post office and bring some form of identification with them, such as a passport.

Then our officers can check whether any mail remains undelivered to that person's address.

It is advisable to come to our post office in the morning, between

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

Submit your issue at

www.PhuketGazette.net/ IssuesAnswers

8:30am and 10am, before our postmen go out to deliver the mail.

Kathu Post Office is located on Wichit Songkram Road (Route 4020), opposite the Ketho residential estate.

#### Traffic relief in sight?

The new traffic lights on Thepkrasattri Road in the Bang Khu area of Koh Kaew seem to have achieved nothing more than making traffic worse.

Every morning I pass through there and find myself crawling through at a snail's pace, especially from in front of Boat Lagoon all the way up to the lights across from Phuket Sail.

I have no idea why the traffic jams are so bad there, but as soon as I am past the lights, the traffic is lighter and starts flowing again.

It seems ridiculous to add traffic lights that only add to Phuket's growing traffic problem, especially along a section of road that already has the left lane blocked by parked cars and people tripleparking to stop at the market near the post office. The right lane is always blocked by cars waiting to make U-turns.

Are these new traffic lights to stay permanently? Or have they been installed for a trial period only?

I hope that whatever officials are planning that they will make a move soon to reduce traffic along Phuket's busiest road.

Damien Evans Chalong

Abhichart Deekaewsiang, manager of the Public Works Division at Koh Kaew Tambon Administration Organization (*OrBorTor*), replies:

Our department works together

# Lifeguard contracts Warden's advice wash away talent

### FIRST PERSON

THE old contract for the Phuket Lifeguard Club to patrol Phuket beaches has expired and we are still waiting for the Phuket Provincial Administration Organization (OrBorJor) to contact us about making a new one.

Not having continual "back-toback" contracts affects our lifeguards. Many of them worry about whether they will be out of a job temporarily, until a new contract is made, or permanently.

Some lifeguards work full time, and I worry some of them might leave the club because of this un-

Also, we cannot start any club activities that we have planned for this year since we do not know if we will continue being lifeguards.

The OrBorJor should start taking steps to make a new contract two to three months before any current contract expires. This would ensure lifeguards can continue working right after the old contract ends.

Having "rolling" contracts would make life saving and beach guarding much smoother. Tourists would feel safer too if they saw lifeguards on duty. Accidents in the sea are unpredictable. They can happen any day, any time.

If uncertainty about their jobs prompts lifeguards to quit, then we will have to train new ones. But that cannot be done in one or



Prathaiyuth Chuayuan, 43, is president of the Phuket Lifeguard Club. He has been working as a lifeguard for 23 years. Here he talks about the problems caused by not having a "rolling contract" for lifequards to patrol Phuket beaches.



takes quite some time.

To become a good lifeguard requires not only lifesaving skills, but also long-term experience in real situations. They need experience and to feel confident being in the surf.

For example, being a good swimmer in a pool and being a good swimmer in the sea are not the same. The conditions in the sea change every day. It takes years to become a skillful lifeguard and to be able identify and understand the surf.

Ideally, the best scenario is not two days. It's not that easy and having lifeguards rescuing people

from drowning, but stopping them from getting into dangerous situations at all.

To do this effectively, lifeguards need to know how to save a life, but they also need to know which areas are safe to swim in - and which areas are dangerous.

Only then can lifeguards even know which areas in particular to patrol.

Then comes beach management skills and handling tourists, which is another skill entirely.

All this takes time, and having breaks in service is not helping us do our jobs properly.

# on life and death

THERE are some days I just don't want to answer my cellphone.

Being a warden for the US Embassy can be very rewarding, especially when explaining the sometimes complicated customs for successfully living on Phuket to my sometimes frustrated compatriots from North America.

Hopefully, some words of caution can save them from difficulty.

But some days, the calls are sad. Recently, an American died from a rather long bout of cancer.

He knew months before that he had a short time to live, but still his family was surprised to find him gone one morning.

They were even more surprised to find that they had no idea where his legal will had been left.

He was an American with a Thai wife of many years and children who had assumed that they would be well taken care of in the future.

Fortunately, the couple were legally married and the family home placed in the wife's name.

But his bank accounts, offshore investments and pension funds were only in the deceased American's name.

Within days of the funeral, his children from an earlier marriage in the United States sued for control of their father's estate, leaving his Thai family confused and forced to seek legal protection.

The case is ongoing and could have been prevented if the American had made sure his legal will was notarized by the Embassy and left with a local lawyer who represented his intentions for the disbursement of his estate.

When he discovered he had

#### **Island View**

By Bruce Stanley

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

terminal cancer, his bank accounts should have added his wife's name so she could access their funds to pay for his care and his funeral.

Another American has found himself in trouble by letting his medical insurance lapse.

This fellow is a long term resident loved by many. He had a fall at his home and was taken by ambulance to one of Phuket's international hospitals.

As he's in his 70s, the fall created unforeseen complications which have required a long stay in the Intensive Care Unit.

He has been in and out of critical care for over a month and his combined hospital bills are approaching a million baht, money that has wiped out his savings and put economic strain on his family back in the States.

If he had maintained his health insurance while living abroad, his future would look more certain.

Now it appears he may have to be medi-evacuated to America, where he will be covered by government insurance.

The lessons in these two cases are simple.

Keep a legal will with a local lawyer and maintain your health insurance while living in Thailand.

Your well being, and that of your family, depends upon it.

For more on this topic, see page 10.

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

with the Provincial Highways Office on the road in question, but we are only responsible only for the section that runs through Koh

We have had far fewer serious accidents since we installed the traffic lights along this section of road. We now have heavier traffic than before, but the road is much safer.

So far feedback from local residents has been good, too. Everyone we have spoken said the traffic in now is very heavy, but the road is much safer.

This road is for everybody, not just for people driving through. There are many families living in the side streets around Yaman Nood Mosque.

They have told us that the changes have made them much happier.

#### Reukchai Srikaw, assistant manager at Koh Kaew OrBorTor **Public Works, replies:**

We presented this plan [to install the traffic lights] to Bangkok many years ago. It was finally approved under the Thai Khem



Thepkrasattri road is often host to traffic jams and road deaths.

Kheng (Strong Thailand) scheme about mid-2010.

We started using the new traffic lights in October. So far the feedback has been "fewer accidents". It seems people are learning to obey the traffic signals.

Also, local residents say they are willing to accept the heavy traffic now that safety has improved.

We are still waiting for another

project to be approved. We want to establish white-yellow zones [temporary parking areas] along Thepkrasattri Road through our area so vendors with stalls on three-wheeled motorbikes can stop for a few minutes to sell their wares to local residents.

Locals residents have told us that making this possible would make them very happy.

#### What to do about timeshare touts?

Is there any way the authorities can stop those pests in Patong that continually hassle tourists with, "Hello, can you speak English?" and then persist in trying to offer us some scratch-off lottery type tickets to win prizes?

All these are for is to get the unwary people sucked in to invest in timeshare apartments and condotel investment schemes.

I think it's time the authorities cracked down on it, but I never see any action to stop it. Is there any reason why these touts are permitted to continue their activities? They are very persistent and hassle you all the time.

> Max Beeson Patong

#### A Tourist Police officer in **Patong replies:**

We have posted a billboard in front of Wat Patong to warn tourists in Thai and English about this problem.

The next time you are hassled like this call us at 1155. We will coordinate with local officials and take action immediately.

Our most common complaint about bad timeshare touts is that tourists have paid money for a condo or an apartment but have received nothing in return.

If you have paid any money we will try to get it back for you.

Please understand that it is sometimes difficult to catch the bad timeshare touts as they are always on the move.

#### Sompong Jiumtua of Patong **Municipality replies:**

Patong Municipality collaborated with Region 8 Police and posted signs at three locations in Patong to warn tourists in Thai and English about scam timeshare touts.

Our officers can take action, but we only have the authority to take action on the beach.

To check whether a timeshare company is genuine call us at 076-342079 or Patong Police at 076-342719-20.

# TAT targets yachties in new strategy

PHUKET'S world-class marinas and vibrant yachting community are key to the Tourism Authority of Thailand's new strategy to attract highend tourists to the island.

TAT Governor Suraphon Svetasreni believes the infrastructure in Phuket proves the island has the potential to become a world-class center for marine tourism.

Phuket has a number of marinas suitable for attracting high-end tourists, including Royal Phuket Marina, the Boat Lagoon and Yacht Haven.

With continuing development of the island's facilities, Mr Suraphon believes Phuket can compete with world-class yachting destinations.

"You can see that the TAT has already placed a lot of emphasis on the marine tourism market," he said.

"We've done public relations and taken part in tourism promotion events related to marinas in order to present information to tourists, investors and owners of leisure boats."

The yachting market is growing rapidly, according to Mr Suraphon.

"Previously it was popular with European and American tourists, but now it's more and more popular with Asians,"he said.

Suthinee Poopaka, director of the Office of Industrial Economics in the Ministry of Industry, said the office was exploring the possibility of establishing an information center to support the yachting and yacht repair industry.

- Kom Chad Luek

# Diesel subsidies to stay

THE government confirmed last week that diesel fuel subsidies will continue despite warnings from the Bank of Thailand and the Joint Standing Committee on Commerce, Industry and Banking (JSCCIB).

The government plans to continue capping diesel prices at 30 baht per liter until the end of April, which is five baht cheaper than the market price, *The Nation* reports.

From the start of this month to April 30, the extension will likely cost an additional 18 billion baht.

According to Finance Minister Korn Chatikavanij, the Oil Fund has a cash flow of 35 billion baht, while Energy Minister Wannarat Charnnukul gave a more worrying figure of 21bn baht.

The fund still owes PTT 14.5bn baht in subsidies for natural gas vehicles (NGV) and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), according to *The Nation*.

JSCCIB chairman Payungsak

Chartsutipol said last week that the subsidies would distort the market.

Songtam Pinto, senior director of the Bank of Thailand Office of Macroeconomic Policy and Analysis echoed Mr Payungsak, saying he did not agree to long-term diesel subsidies, suggesting it could "distort the oil-price structure, discourage economic oil consumption and fuel the government's budget burden," MCOT reported.

The selective stabilization of diesel prices could also engender a feeling of unfair treatment among gasoline consumers, he added.

Phuket resident and diesel consumer Preecha Srikaew told the *Phuket Gazette*, "Of course we agree with this policy, but we won't blame the government if they raise diesel prices in the future – we understand the situation. If they don't, they would probably just increase taxes instead."

- Nicholas Altstadt



FUELLING THE DEBATE: Diesel users continue to enjoy cheaper prices.

### In case of death, prepare your assets

MANY who come to retire in Phuket have spent a good portion of their working life abroad and as such may have assets in various countries – some may have their assets already based here. Whatever the situation is, everyone should at least understand what their loved ones would go through if they were to pass on tomorrow.

Estate planning can be very complex. Many people assume that if they put together a will in their home country that everything is sorted out. The reality is that this is quite often not the case.

The first consideration is to understand the laws in each country where you have assets. It is advisable to draft a separate will **Retirement Years** 

By David Mayes

in each country, as it is better to be safe than sorry – you don't want your loved ones to suffer a lengthy court battle if your wishes are contested.

Even if no one contests the will, there can still be lengthy probate procedures in many countries which can sometimes take years before beneficiaries are given custody of the assets.

If someone is dependent on these for daily life, a long wait can create considerable hardship. This can be compounded in situations where, for example, a Thai spouse with limited English language skills or international exposure is forced to hire several lawyers in multiple countries to try and claim the assets their partner intended for them. The costs of this can start to add up very quickly as well – not to mention the possible difficulties in finding out what documentation is needed and obtaining it from authorities overseas.

However, there are many simple ways to avoid situations where your will can be contested or a beneficiary is forced to spend time and money to get what is rightfully coming to them.

Tidying up your estate into a single "vehicle" which bypasses probate can often lead to quick distribution of assets within a few months of passing.

Considering the emotional grieving period is tough to begin with, it would be nice to know on your deathbed that this won't be accompanied with financial worries.

As retiree in a foreign country, you can also look into ways to minimize or avoid taxes on your estate. Inheritance and death taxes in excess of 50 per cent are often levied.

There are many factors that affect this such as the jurisdiction

of the assets, the beneficiaries, where the individual is residing at the time of death and so on.

Many of the ways around these taxes are loopholes which work most of the time but occasionally get contested – the larger the figures, the more likely a tax authority is going to be interested in getting their hands on them.

It is worth speaking to a professional with experience in these matters to see if there are any remedies available for your situation. If a 50 per cent tax can be avoided, the net amount your loved ones will receive is doubled.

It may be that there is not much you can or need to do to tidy up your estate, but if you haven't looked into it, there is a very good chance things will not go as planned when you pass. Many people's aversion to taking risks leads them to a "hands-off" approach to finances. This can often help them avoid incurring losses throughout their investing life, but may not have the same positive results when it comes to estate planning.

David Mayes MBA is a wealth manager for Faramond.
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#### In brief...

#### Phuket's Jan-Feb tourist arrivals up on last year



Tourist numbers are on the rise.

SOARING numbers of international arrivals for Phuket in January and February tallied in at a 27.29 per cent increase over the same two months last year.

Total arrivals at Phuket International Airport, including both overseas and domestic passengers, stood at 833,350.

January's incoming traffic was 420,021 and February 413,329.

#### Air Bagan to launch direct Burma flights

BURMESE airline Air Bagan will launch twice-a-week, direct fights from Phuket to Yangoon on April 11.

"The round-trip tickets for the flights, operating Mondays and Fridays, will cost around 10,900 baht, and include inflight food and drink," said PB Travel Agency Center Managing Director Suranat Taweesap.

Air Bagan will open an office in Phuket Town this month, but the airline is already accepting bookings for the flights, he added.

Passengers will be issued visason-arrival in Burma on providing two passport-sized photographs and paying US\$30. The process will take about 30 minutes, Mr Suranat said.

The Phuket flights will connect with 21 domestic routes within Burma, he added.

#### **Phuket Brewery** pulls another one

BUILDERS are busy refurbishing the site of the old Phuket Brewery, opposite Tesco-Lotus and next to Billion Plaza.

The reconstruction is being funded by The Show Entertainment company, which has Korean investors.

Staff at the site said the owners intend to resume live music concerts when the venue reopens, but said no opening date has been set.

It is the third group to try and run a live-entertainment nightspot at the busy intersection.

The building, with its trademark ship's bow over the main entrance, was run unsuccessfully as the Saengchan nightclub earlier this year until that venture failed from lack of business.

# Yachting ICT online

By Janpen Upatising

A GOVERNMENT website intended to serve as an information portal for the greater Phuket yachting industry will be officially launched by the end of the month, its developers say.

Dubbed "Yachting ICT: Infrastructure and Data Centre" (yacht.coe.psu.ac.th), the website is aimed at creating an online "onestop shop" for a variety of marine services in and around Phuket.

The services listed include repairs, part suppliers, yacht charters, marinas where visiting yachts can berth.

Among the information posted are details of service providers, such as names, descriptions of their services, contact information and web links.

At the time of going to press, the website listed 11 shipyards, among other business, in or near Phuket.

The website follows four months of data collection by researchers from the Faculty of Engineering at the Prince of Songkla University main campus in Haad Yai District.

The researchers, commissioned for the project by the Office of Industrial Economics (OIE), surveyed shipyards, marinas and related facilities in all six Andaman Coast



Somchai Chushome and Suttinee Poopaka, Director-General of the OIE.

provinces: Ranong, Phang Nga, Phuket, Krabi, Trang and Satun.

"The number of yachts visiting the area continues to increase each year," said Suttinee Poopaka, Director-General of the OIE.

According to the Phuket Marine Office, 1,301 yachts arrived in Phuket in 2009, rising to 1,367 last year.

We should support this industry. The local boat-building industry can attract more tourists to generate revenue and support the local economy.

"Tourists arriving on yachts are quite wealthy... and the sailors usually stay here a long time, making use of local hospitals and other tourist services," she said.

Asst Prof Dr Wannarat Suntiamorntut, who is deputy chief of the research team, explained, "To ensure information on the website is kept up to date, shipyard operators listed on the site will be provided

user names and passwords so they can update their own entries.

"Shipyard operators or other marine services providers not listed can email company profiles to yacht@coe.psu.ac.th," she said.
"We will ask the relevant pro-

vincial Industrial Office to verify that the shipyard exists then create a user account for them and notify them of their password to access their account," she said.

Shipyard businesses can also list availability to take on work, number of technicians and engineers currently available, and how long it will take to finish repairing or building a yacht, explained Dr Wannarat.

"In the future we expect that yacht owners will be able to make online bookings with shipyards through the website," she said.

"The Andaman region was chosen to launch the project because the OIE recognizes that these provinces have an advantage [over other areas in Thailand] in terms of having many beautiful tourist attractions," said Dr Wannarat.

If the pilot project for the Andaman provinces is successful, other versions will be launched to support marine operators in the Gulf of Thailand, such as in Chon Buri and Samut Sakhon, she added.



FLIGHT PATH: THAI AirAsia plans to buy 20 aircraft and expand its network. Photo: Andy Mitchell

#### Thai AirAsia projections sky high

THAI Air Asia has a five year business plan to buy 20 new aircraft and spread into all key destinations in the region in response to the "open sky policy" set to start in 2013.

The carrier plans to develop its Bangkok, Phuket and Chiang Mai hubs to strengthen domestic and international travel coverage.

The airline will start purchasing the 20 aircraft next year. The market cost of each aircraft is about 1.5 billion sengers, despite the raise in oil prices. baht each.

Thai AirAsia chief executive officer Tassapon Bijleveld recently revealed plans to expand its network to include Laos, the Philippines and India.

The airline carried 5.8 million passengers last year, making it the largest low-cost carrier in the country.

This year, it projects 15 billion baht in revenue and seven million passengers.

It has already recorded 1.8 million pas-



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#### **Turtle time**

- The leatherback turtle species has survived for more than 100 million years.
- It is the largest marine turtle. Adults average one to two meters in length and can weigh 250 kilograms. The largest ever found was near Wales and measured more than three meters long and weighed 916kg.
- Leatherback turtles are one of the deepest diving marine animals, reaching depths of up to 1,280 meters
- Leatherbacks are also the fastest-moving reptiles, swimming at speeds of up to 35.28 kilometers per hour.
- Scientists once tracked a leatherback turtle that swam 20,000km in 647 days in an epic journey from Indonesia to the United States.

# It's sink or swim for the leatherback

By Alexandra Andersson

A DEAD 200-kilogram leatherback turtle washed up in Phuket last week, amid fears of the Pacific subspecies' imminent extinction.

The male, which had not quite reached full maturity, ingested a plastic bag and died from intestinal blockage, an autopsy by the Phuket Marine Biological Center (PMBC) revealed.

Sixty years ago, Phuket's beaches were host to 400-500 leatherback turtle nests. Last year there were seven nests – this year there have been none.

This does not bode well for the turtle, as February marks the end of nesting season.

The Pacific subspecies of the leatherback is "the world's most endangered marine turtle population", with only an estimated 2,300 females remaining, according to the World Wildlife Foundation (WWF).

Dr Kongkiat Kittiwattanawont from the PMBC explains why the pacific population has suffered so badly:

"There used to be direct hunting of sea turtles here about 40 years ago. Their shells were sold as export products," he said.

"Also, Thai people used to eat the eggs, and that is actually the main factor that destroyed the population," he added.

In the past almost all leatherback eggs laid in Thailand were poached, the WWF reports.

"Now because of awareness campaigns and legal changes the public has become more educated and aware of this issue, and illegal consumption of sea turtles appears to be very rare," he said.

But the damage has been done. The survival of the species seems to have taken an irreparable blow from the years of poaching. Now a variety of new threats have come



TURTLE DEMISE: This turtle washed up dead on Phuket last week. Photo: Yodsak Jarana

about as a byproduct of Thailand's economic development.

"Recently new threats like coastal fishing activities have arisen. We have found many turtles caught in fishing gear.

"Pollution is another reason for the decline. We have found that about five to 10 per cent of sea turtles stranded on the beach have eaten plastic bags or other garbage," Dr Kongkiat said.

Climate change is also playing a role in the demise of the leatherback.

"Last year we saw just a quarter of the usual nesting statistics, and that was because it was very

"Sea turtles prefer to lay eggs

in temperatures of about 29 to 30 degrees in the sand... last year it was an average of 32 degrees under water," Dr Kongkiat explains.

PMBC efforts to raise leatherbacks have proven problematic as the species does not do well in captivity.

"The best thing for us to do is take care of nature. We cannot save the sea turtle on its own, we have to save its habitat as well - like sea grass beds and coral reefs.

"People can help by trying not to destroy the habitat and putting garbage in the sea. If they help preserve the environment, they help preserve sea turtle species as well," Dr Kongkiat says.

#### Coral 'network' can protect Asia-Pacific fish stocks

AN INTERNATIONAL team of researchers has shown that strong links between coral reefs in the south China sea, West Pacific and Coral Triangle hold the key to preserving fish and marine resources in the Asia-Pacific region.

Research by Dr Jonathan Kool of the ARC Centre of Excellence for Coral Reef Studies, has established that the richest marine region on Earth - the Coral Triangle between Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines – depends vitally for its diversity and resilience on coral and fish larvae swept in from the South China Sea and Solomon Islands.

"The currents go in various directions, but the prevailing direction is from East to West, and this carries coral spawn and fish larvae from areas such as round the Spratly Islands in the South China Sea and the Solomons/Papua New Guinea," he explains.

"Maintaining the network of links between reefs, allowing larvae to flow between them and restock depleted areas, is key to saving coral ecosystems threatened by human pressure and climate change.

"The Coral Triangle is home to more than one third of all the world's coral reefs, including over 600 different species of reef-building coral and 3,000 species of reef fish. These coral ecosystems provide food

and income for more than 100 million people working in marine based industries throughout the region," Dr Kool explains.

"Even though coral reef communities may not be connected directly to one another, reefs on the edge of the Coral Triangle have the potential to contribute significant amounts of genetic di-



The Coral Triangle, highlighted in blue.

versity throughout the region," says Dr

"The science shows the region's natural resources are closely interconnected. Nations need to co-operate to look after them – and that begins with recognizing the resources are at risk and that collective action is needed to protect them," he adds.

Six nations within the Coral Triangle are now working together to strengthen coral reef governance and management, under the Coral Triangle Initiative.

- ARC Centre of Excellence





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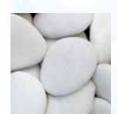
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# Rapid rise for Chicky Net network

By Alexandra Andersson

WHAT started out from a Phuket expat wanting to expand her social circle has grown into a commercial network of its own connecting 1,400 women all over Thailand – in just two years.

Chicky Net was launched in 2009 when Berthe Mandaat, 34, originally of the Netherlands, relocated to Phuket.

The website started off as an online group for Phuket women on the hugely popular Facebook, but has since grown into a Thai social networking force of its own.

Berthe, whose professional background is in graphic design, quickly found that the Facebook format could not accommodate the number of women who were interested. So she founded Chicky Net as a forum for discussion, event organizing and simply meeting friends.

The website experienced unprecedented growth. In addition to the website's stronghold, Phuket, which has a total of 840 members, new network sites were



LADIES ONLY: The networking site Chicky Net is expanding rapidly.

established in Chiang Mai, Bangkok, Koh Samui and Hua Hin.

"Since November we decided to combine the five city networks under the same virtual roof, since having five different networks was time consuming for me and

inconvenient for people who wanted to be members of more than one," Berthe explains.

With at least 10 new members a week, the site now receives 9,000 visits a month.

"Advertising interest has been



Founder Berthe Mandaat

high due to the possibility of targeting the niche market of women who live in Thailand, women who spend their money here and 75 per cent of whom have partners and families who are also indirectly reached," Berthe says.

"But I never set up the site for it to become a business. I just wanted to expand my social circle," she adds.

Berthe says the success of the website has not really been down to a particular business model, it is more because of the demand for such a service.

"As soon as I started it you could see there was such a big need for it. As word got out that there was finally a resource for women to connect, the site grew from word of mouth and spread like a domino effect throughout Thailand," she says.

The members on Chicky Net are all women, about 85 per cent of whom are foreigners. Berthe's next step is to try attract more Thai women into the site, and expand to other cities such as Pattaya.

"I am very happy with the success because one of the main reasons the site was formed was to show women they are not alone, and there are many women sharing similar interests, questions and simply looking to make new friends" she says.

#### Steve Jobs and his second coming with the iPad 2

By Woody Leonhard

APPLE'S Steve Jobs has unveiled his latest version of the fastest-selling electrical product in history – the iPad 2.

The new iPad 2 has both front and rear cameras, a new, faster chip with much hastier graphics, and a newly updated version of iOS, the operating system that's driving both the iPad and iPhone to astounding sales levels.

The iPad 2 is thinner, faster and lighter than its predecessor, and has the same screen and 10-hour battery life. It even sells for the same price of US\$499 (about 15,200 baht) in the US.

in its base model. WiFi-only configuration.

Whether you love or loathe the original, Apple sold almost as much dollar-volume in iPads last year as it did Macs. Yes, you read that correctly. The iPad 2 is nothing revolutionary, but it's poised to, once again, redefine the "tablet" market. Apple's keeping prices down by effectively buying the entire production capacity of China for key components.

The day Steve Jobs announced the iPad 2, Apple cut the price of the original iPad (let's call it the "iPad 1") by US\$ 100,

The iPad 2 appeared on store shelves in the US on March 11. It's scheduled to

arrive in Europe on March 25. But there have been absolutely no announcements about availability or pricing in Thailand. We don't know how much the Ipad 2 will cost, and we don't know when it'll get here.

The day after Steve's announcement, I dropped by the Apple store on the second floor of Central Festival. I was astounded to find that the price of the iPad 1 has also

been cut by about \$100, here in Thai-

arrive or how much it'll cost? Tough question, and I don't have any good answers. But I do know that I'll be buying one or the other.

IN HAND: The iPad 2 is thinner, faster and lighter than the

land. As of last Thursday, you could buy an entry-level iPad 1, 16 GB, WiFi only, for 12,900 baht - or 3,000 baht less than it cost the previous day. Should you pay 12,900 baht for an iPad 1 and get it now, or wait and get the iPad 2 – not knowing when it'll

For more on tech-talk about Phuket, stay tuned to W:phuketgazette.net for Woody's weekly online column, Live Wire.





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# Raise a glass to St Patrick's Day

By Andrew Jennings

THERE are only two kinds of people in the world, The Irish and those who wish they were.

On Thursday, March 17, this wish will be granted the world over as folk from all walks of life become Irish for a day to celebrate St Patrick's Day.

It doesn't matter if you don't have a drop of Irish blood, everybody is Irish on St Patrick's Day.

Being one of the 350 or so displaced Irish beings living in Phuket, "Paddy's Day" marks the biggest celebration day of the year for us. Forget Christmas, New Year's Eve or even Songkran. If you're Irish, this is the daddy of them all.

For such an important day, it's crucial a plan is devised in advance. And who better to give you advice than a bona-fide Irish man.

Anyone acquainted with Ireland knows that the morning of St Patrick's Day consists of the night of March 17, flavored strongly with the following morning.

> Unlike Christmas Eve, where the prospect of bars being closed the next day means people tend to let their

down for the night, the Irish lay low on the eve of St Patrick's Day.

It's really an act of self-preservation, so one is nice and fresh on the morning of the big day. It's about rising fresh and early, folding your shamrock covered pajamas (if you have them) at the end of your leprechaun-clad duvet and plunging head first into the day ahead.

St Patrick's Day is primarily a religious celebration of Christianity, so a visit to Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church in Phuket Town to pray for your sins is a spiritually wholesome way to begin the day. In Ireland, as is the tradition, people greet each other at mass with a big clump of shamrock stuck to their lapel.

The three-leaf clover isn't so plentiful in Phuket, so maybe just pick up one of the shamrock pins on sale in Irish pubs in Patong. Or else, just pick up a handful of really green grass, stick it to your jacket, and arrogantly insist to everyone who asks that it is indeed Ireland's beloved shamrock.

After mass, the stomach will no doubt be rumbling, and nothing kicks off a long day of Emerald Isle merriment like a full Irish breakfast. On Thursday, from 10.30am, The Irish Times Pub in Jungceylon Shopping Center is running a special Paddy's Day breakfast to mark the occasion. It will include "real" Irish sausages and the "pi ce de r sistance": black and white pudding.

With the prayers issued and the belly lined, the fun can begin. Although there are plans afoot for a St Patrick's Day parade in Phuket in the years ahead, at the moment there isn't one, so the places to go are undoubtedly the island's Irish saloons.

O'Malley's in Phuket Town is a popular spot, with plenty of elbow room, and is likely to draw a good mix of locals and tourists. Meanwhile, you have a choice of three in Patong: The Irish Times, Scruffy Murphy's and Molly Malone's. All three will have live Irish traditional music on St Patrick's night.

The Irish Times is run by the Corley family from Dublin and they are pulling out all the stops on Thursday to make customers feel like they're right back at home.

Alongside their breakfast they will be dishing out a delicious Irish stew all day, and will have live music on stage from 6:30pm until late. The owners will be handing out shamrock pins and Irish/Thai flags so everybody can get into the spirit.

They'll have cold pints of the black stuff on tap and it looks like it will be one hell of a party.

Honorary Consul of Ireland, Helene Fallon-Wood, will be the special guest of honor on the night, and speaking to the Phuket Gazette she said:

"Everybody knows March 17 is St Patrick's Day and it's brilliant that the Irish people in Phuket can celebrate with everybody else on a day that still means so much to Irish people."

There will also be a St Patrick's Day Ball at the M evenpick Resort in Karon on March 26 (see the event listing on our What's On, page 23).





1. St Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, was born in Britain around 385AD to Roman parents living in Scotland.

2. Aged 14, he was captured and taken to Ireland where spent six years in slavery herding sheep. He returned to Celtic pagan Ireland as a missionary in his 30s.

3. St Patrick brought the Latin alphabet to Ireland and is said to have used the shamrock clover as a symbol of the holy trinity when preaching.

4. Legend has it he banished all serpents from

5. Wearing green, eating green food and even drinking green beer, is said to commemorate St Patrick's use of the shamrock.

6. He proclaimed that everyone should have a drop of the "hard stuff" on his feast day after

chastising an inn-keeper who served a short measure of whiskey.

7. In the custom dubbed "drowning the shamrock", the shamrock worn on a lapel is put in the last drink of the evening.

8. Boston, Massachusetts was first place to celebrate St Patrick's day in 1737. Around 34 million Americans claim Irish ancestry.

9. It is believed that St Patrick died on March 17, 461AD. It is a national holiday in Ireland, and on the island of Montserrat in the Caribbean, which was founded by Irish

10. Dublin has a parade that attracts hundreds of thousands of people, while the biggest parade is normally held in New York. In Chicago, the river is dyed green for a few

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### **Arnaud Verstraete**

ARNAUD Verstraete is very well known for his work with the Rotary Club of Patong Beach where he has held every office since he became a charter member in 2001. He received Thailand's Prime Minister's Award in 2006, the District Award of Excellence, and a Rotary International Presidential Citation for his work as President of the Patong Beach chapter the year following the 2004 tsunami.

"Our club was very busy during my year as President as we were rebuilding entire villages in Phang Nga, repairing fishing boats, and creating scholarships for kids who lost their homes, and some their parents. We had lots of emergency meetings."

He will serve as Assistant District Governor for area 29, which includes Hua Hin, Koh Samui and Patong, for 2011-12, and he continues to act as Chairperson for the Rotary Foundation which prepares projects in co-ordination with other Rotary Clubs around the world.

He was born in Antwerp, Belgium to a family with a long history of military service. After school, he joined the army cadets at the Royal Military Academy. He was sent to El Paso, Texas to study air defense systems and became a polytechnic engineer. In 1985, he trained as a helicopter pilot and spent the next eight years in Germany, where he was assigned VIP transport duties.

# EXPAT gallery By Bruce Stanley

"My military career was interrupted when I was in a helicopter accident and the fire extinguishing chemicals damaged my eyesight. My helicopter got caught in some power lines which I couldn't see. The maps I had been given for navigation were from 1958 and had not been updated."

As he no longer had eyesight to meet the requirements to fly helicopters, Arnaud was assigned to a desk job, which he didn't like, so he resigned from the military.

In his spare time, Arnaud had joined the Rotary while living in Germany as it had been a family tradition to give service to others. He also trained as a jet-ski enthusiast, becoming the Belgian jet-ski champion on three separate occasions. He trained Nicolas Rius who went on to become the six-time world champion.

Besides jet-skis, Arnaud has always been enthusiastic about computer technology. He worked on digital guidance systems while in the military and became a worldclass web designer, awarded the Golden Web Award by the International Association of Webmasters and Designers.

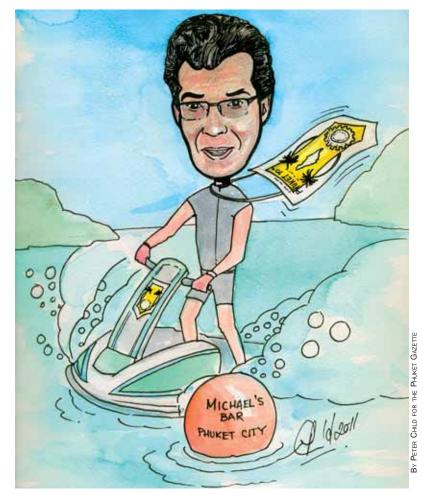
His first visit to Thailand was in 1990 when he came to visit his sister who was managing a resort on Phi Phi Island. After he left the military in 1992, he bought a one-way ticket back to Thailand and settled in Phuket.

Arnaud worked in the local travel industry for the next 10 years. He spent four years with Songserm Travel as the company's IT consultant, and was Director of Sales and Marketing at the Royal Phuket City Hotel. He lived on Koh Samui from 1995 to 1997 and worked as Resident Manager of the Chaweng Buri Resort.

"But I really love Phuket Town. I decided to return and become an independent webmaster and developed Phuket-town.com, which I update every day, about all the great places not only in town but around the island."

These days, Arnaud is officially retired but keeps very busy traveling around Southeast Asia looking at various Rotary projects.

He is a board member of the Phuket Has Been Good to Us foundation and has been a shareholder in Michael's Bar in Phuket City as he likes to support meeting places for expats who have chosen to live in town.



#### **About Expat Gallery**

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



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# Life & style Funked up with Mango music

The Mango House Festival drew big crowds in Koh Lanta but don't worry, the DJs are coming here too...

THE streets of Lanta Old Town, a centuryold Thai-Chinese fishing village on the Krabi island of Koh Lanta, came alive last week with the uplifting, funky sounds of the Mango House Festival 2011. The six-day festival ends tonight (Saturday, March 12) with headliner, London's Ministry of Sound resident DJ 2 Good Souls at Mango House Bar + Restaurant.

"We're very proud of a phenomenal reaction we've had to this event," says event organizer Duane Lennie.

"House music has been around for over 30 years but it's still in its infancy in Asia, so we're very proud of the quality of DJs and the attendance numbers."

Duane estimates that between 300 to 600 people showed up each night for a street party the village won't soon forget. The first two nights saw Phuket House Mafia resident DJs Tazz and Nu Trip grooving the crowd with Irish DJ Colin "Funky' Edwards dropping in for a late-night set.

On Wednesday, the house was packed to see Phuket-based DJ Tommy T from Canada with the driving drums of Koh Samui-based Steve Bray. Thursday and Friday night UK DJs Nick Power and Colin Edwards thrilled audiences to the wee hours of the morning.

"We think this festival is a huge step towards more quality house DJs playing in Asia," said 2 Good Souls.



IN DA LANTA HOUSE: Crowds watch as fireworks go off at the Mango House Festival 2011. The six-day festival drew hundreds of people.

tunity to meet like-minded people [to work with] on future projects plus grow our sound. The locals are very welcoming, with the regional DJs and club owners open to the idea of new ways to entertain their crowd."

For those who missed Nick Power and Colin Edwards they can see them with DJ Tommy T at Indochine's St Tropez Beach Club at Kalim Beach on March 12, from "We saw this festival as a fantastic oppor- 6:00 pm to midnight and at the after party

at Stereo Lab on Surin Beach from to "funking up Asia" by promoting house midnight to late.

The Mango House Festival 2011 was part of The Lanta Lanta Festival, the island's annual cultural event that showcases the town's cultural diversity. Its three distinct ethnic groups - Chinese, Muslim and sea gypsy - have lived in harmony for more than 100 years.

The Mango House Festival is dedicated Festival see www.manghousesessions.com

music events featuring world-class, international and regional DJs. Mango House is also a proud sponsors of the "SSRadio Funks Asia Tour" in Thailand, being held from March 10 to 20 this year.

- Phuket Gazette

For more details about the Mango House

#### Dog whisperer hellbent on tug-of-truck charity challenge

DOG trainer and triathlete Russell Distance Russell is determined to pull a six-tonne truck 100 meters over uneven ground to raise awareness for the Phuket Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) at the Quest Family day at Laguna on March 27.



"I've done some daft things in my time, but this probably takes the cake. I'm sure I can do it but it will be tough, so we need a big crowd of cheering kids and adults to inspire me. Luckily, the PAWS truck won't have any concrete in it, but it will probably be full of kids and parents – so it will still be hard to get moving and cover the 100 meters," Russel said.

Apart from the sponsored truck pull, the aim of Quest Family Day is about having fun, rather than simple fundraising. There will be lots of activities for all to take part in, Russell added.

Informal "fairground" activities include events such as spongethrowing, apple-bobbing, bottle rings, shaving balloons - that's right, see how easy that is - and games such as guess the name of the teddy bear, or the number of jelly beans in a jar, will take place.

Food and beverages will be provided by Gitano Restaurant, The Andaman Wine Club and others.



PUPPY POWER: Russell Distance Russell aims to tug his truck 100 meters.

"We are very grateful to those sponsors who are supporting us. However, we can always do with more for the truck pull – so if you'd like to sponsor me for every meter I pull the truck then please contact me,"said Russell, who last year

Canon

2 Floor, IT Zone Central Festival Phuket

nfo@phuketalpha.com Tel: 076-249750

competitions. As well as all the fun and games, there will also be a live DJ to blast out music throughout the day so kids can break into dance when not pelting mums, dads and their teachers with wet

competed in his very first Laguna

Phuket Triathlon and Ironman

sponges. The event opens at 12pm with focused team events from 2:30pm to 4:30pm, a dog show by the Thailand Canine Academy at 5:30pm, followed by the sponsored truck pull before closing at 6pm.

- Phuket Gazette

Contact Russell at E:canineworld @me.com or T:089-5884050



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# The scoop on 'pad thai' ice cream

By Alexandra Andersson

IF YOU fancy a scoop of Vienna with a Thai twist, the perfect parlor has opened in Patong – and they even serve a "pad that" creation!

Samero's pad thai offering is made from hazelnut and coconut ice cream formed into noodle shapes and topped off with an "egg" (a dollop of whipped cream with juicy mango in the middle) and garnished with peanuts.

This comfortable little spot in the bustling streets of Patong will no doubt sit well with ice cream lovers due to the quality, freshness and affordability of the menu items.

Bursting with ingenious combinations of ice cream, liqueur, piles of fresh fruit and cream, Samero's Viennese style parlor has something to offer all tastes.

The best thing is that no menu item exceeds 200 baht. Prices are kept low due to Austrian owner Wolfgang Samero's "environmentally-friendly, local-produce approach to business".

Mango sorbet, coconut ice



WEIRD BUT WONDERFUL: Samero's parlor serves 'pad thai' ice cream.

cream, coffee from Thai Arabica beans, and sundaes piled high with Chiang Mai strawberries are a few delights Wolfgang sources locally.

"We like to get as many ingredients as possible from Thailand to keep it fresh. Other ice cream brands have been on airplanes and in containers for months by the time you eat them. Here, the ice cream is made on site daily in our open kitchen," Wolfgang explains.

There are a few foreign flavors on the menu: chocolate from Belgium and Switzerland, vanilla beans from Tahiti and Madagascar, and hazelnuts from Italy.

"The ingredients are simple: no coloring, preservatives and flavorings – just milk, cream, sugar and up to 60 per cent fruit or other natural ingredients, depending on rience "eating good ice cream",



AUSTRIAN COOL: Ice cream connoisseur Wolfgang Samero.

the flavor. "Wolfgang says.

"This keeps our ice cream tasty, low in calories and packed with vitamins. If you want your children to get their daily portion of fruit, bring them here!

They get a special scoop for just 25 baht from Samero's - a bargain considering its quality.

With more than 25 years expe-

Wolfgang, a former electronic engineer, also attended the Gelato University in Bologna, Italy, to hone his ice-cream-making skills.

If you would like a cool place to escape to during the midday heat, without stretching your wallet or waistline, head to Samero's.

Find Samero's 200 meters from Patong Hospital at 92 Sainamyen Road.



Mayor Somjai Suwanasupana (right) awarding Katina Hotel the sign. Photo: Atchaa Khamlo

#### 28 restaurants commended for cleanliness

IN ITS push to maintain hygienic standards at local food restaurants and stalls, Phuket City Municipality this year has awarded its "Clean Food Good Taste" signs to 28 more food venues.

Endorsing the project was Phuket City Mayor Somjai Suwanasupana, who handed the signs to restaurateurs. The recipients included Koh Tee Sangkasi on Yaowarat Road, Khao Gaeng Muang Lung on Luangpor Road, Khao Mun Gai Naka on Phunphol Road and Kon Roi Et on Sakdidet Road. The cafeterias serving food at eight schools also received the rating, as did the Katina Hotel on Sakdidet Road in town.

"The project is organized by the Health and Environment Division of Phuket City Municipality. Their officers inspect the restaurants to ensure the high standards of cleanliness at the locations.

"The officers check for Coliform bacteria in food, storage containers, and on people

handling the food," explained Mayor Somjai.

Every two months the municipality's health officers conduct random inspections of venues issued the sign, she said.

"Any venues found to have lapsed in their hygienic food-handling practices are first warned. If they fail to regain the standards required, the sign will be removed.

Currently more than 100 restaurants in Phuket Town have been issued the signs.

- Atchaa Khamlo



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





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# Beauty and the chieftain beast

A journey back in time to when a beautiful woman met the wrath of a powerful chieftain on Langkawi...

SHROUDED in myth and mystery, Langkawi, located just south of Thailand's Tarutao Island, is a place of interest for many historians.

One of the most well-known tales is a tragedy about Mahsuri, a beautiful woman who lived on the island during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Mahsuri's story has been passed down through many generations.

Mahsuri was born to a common family in Langkawi. It is said that her parents, Pandak Maya and Mek Andak Alang, were originally from Phuket and had moved to Langkawi before her birth.

She had a normal upbringing, but as she grew older, her incredible beauty became renowned all over island. People often visited her home just to get a glimpse of her exceptional beauty.

Mahsuri's beauty soon caught the attention of Datuk Seri Kerma Jaya, the powerful chieftain of Langkawi. Curious about the gossip, he went to see Mahsuri. When he reached her house, her parents were not home and Mahsuri had to greet Datuk

#### **Looking Back**

Datuk Kerma quickly decided to marry Mahsuri. It would have been a fairy-tale ending for the couple, if not for the fact that Datuk Kerma already had a wife. Although it is not uncommon for Malay nobles to have more than one wife, his first wife, Mahura objected so fiercely that her husband had to abandon the idea.

But Mahura was not satisfied. In

ever marrying Mahsuri, she arranged for her to be married to their son, Mat Deris. The Datuk reluctantly agreed. Mat Deris was his only son and he felt it

better for an exceptionally beautiful woman like Mahsuri to marry a

brave warrior. He was also a righteous and honest man. Mahsuri happily agreed to marry him. But even after the marriage, Mahura continued to deeply mistrust her husband and Mahsuri.

Eight months after the marriage, Datuk Kerma sent Mat Deris on a mission to Siam. By now Mahsuri was pregnant with their child and although he was reluctant to leave his wife. Mat Deris had to do his duty. What he did not realize was the extent of hatred his mother had developed for his wife.

By now Mahura was deeply unhappy. Because she had ob-

to Mahsuri, now turning cold towards her. She also accused Mahsuri of stealing her son's love from her. Mahura knew she would long as Mahsuri was alive.

When her husband left for Siam, Mahsuri was left alone to fend for herself. It was during this time that she befriended a young man named Deraman. Although their relationship was innocent, Mahsuri and Deraman became close friends and met often. When Mahura learnt of this, she began to spread false rumors that Mahsuri was having an affair with Deraman. Eventually the rumors grew stronger, until finally the villagers began openly accusing Mahsuri of adultery.

Mahsuri pleaded her innocence, but to deaf ears. No one was ready to listen to an adulterous and ungrateful woman. Datuk Kerma, her father-in-law, ordered

her husband was her to be imprisoned. Her parents plead her innocence with Datuk Kerma and begged for his mercy, but to no avail.

BEAUTY: Sirintra Yayee, a direct descendant of Mahsuri, played the part of her ancestor at a festival

in Phuket back in 2005.

Mahsuri was to be executed for her crimes.

She was taken from prison to never be happy as a field and was tied to a tree with her hands behind her back. An executioner was then ordered to stab her shoulder with a spear. Legend has it that the executioner tried many times to stab her to death but the spear could not penetrate her flesh.

> Disgraced and ashamed, Mahsuri had lost the will to live. She told the executioner that in order to kill her, he needed to stab her with her family's "Kris", which was an asymmetrical dagger. Datuk Kerma ordered the weapon to be brought to the scene. The executioner was given the Kris, which he used to stab Mahsuri. Legend told that this time, the dagger penetrated deep into her body, letting out a gush of white blood to the shock of many witnesses. This clearly was

a sign of her innocence and purity, which she maintained till the last moment of her life.

Mahsuri collapsed and in Datuk Kerma decreed that her last dying breath, it was said that she cursed Langkawi and its people for this act of injustice that they shall not prosper for seven generations to come.

> After her death, her parents left for Phuket with Mahsuri's newborn son, never to return to Langkawi again.

A few years later, a conflict erupted and Siamese troops invaded Langkawi and ravaged the land.

Datuk Kerma and his entire family were killed in the war that followed. Rice fields and granaries were set on fire. True to her words, Langkawi never prospered again for centuries.

Today Mahsuri's descendants continue to live in Kamala district in Phuket.

If you have a history story you would like featured, contact Anand Singh at E:as.pkt@hotmail.com

#### By Anand Singh

order to prevent her husband from jected to her husband's marriage

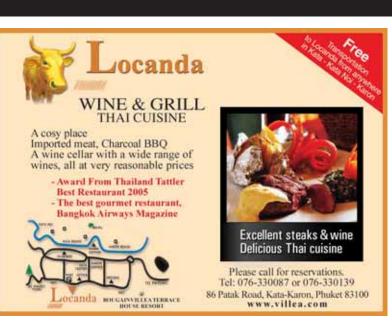
Legend told that this time, the dagger penetrated deep into her body, letting out a gush of white blood to the shock of many witnesses.

noble, rather than a farmer.

It was said that Mat Deris was a







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By Alexandra Andersson

MOST people in Phuket have had a peek at Wat Chalong temple, but few people know it was once the site of a rebellion and once hosted one of the largest funerals in all of southern Thailand. Even deciphering all the meanings of all the paintings, statues and different structures can be tricky.

But for Phuket expat Paul Whittall, who describes himself as "just an English fisherman" the curiosity was just too much. For three years he has researched tirelessly the lesser-known aspects of this glorious temple and condensed the information in layman's terms in his recently published guide book aptly titled *Wat Chalong*.

Extracts of his book and information from the man himself gives us an insight into Wat Chalong, or Wat Chaitararam as it was officially named by King Rama V in 1846.



#### THE HISTORY

It is not known when the original Wat Chalong was built, but records show it was rebuilt and relocated in 1837. There is evidence of the early temple – the remains of a wall – on site. In 1876 Chalong was home to the Ang Yee rebellion, during which migrant Chinese tin mine workers rioted across Phuket over working conditions.

#### THE LEGEND

This is when Phuket's renowned Abbot Luangpor Chaem, now revered across Thailand, came into action. He was Abbot at Wat Chalong for 81 years, from 1827 to 1908.

Paul explains that "he is still very much in Thai people's consciousness, as soon as they enter the temple he is in their mind.

"He became a major figure in the Ang Yee rebellion because he took on the role of both a mediator between the forces and healer, offering the temple as a sanctuary... He encouraged the fightback in time for the king to send an army to relieve Phuket, but he was also conciliatory. This brought him to the attention of King Rama V, who gave him an honorary title," Paul says.

"According to documented accounts, when he died his funeral was a massive affair. People came from all over Thailand and Malaysia, and it was the biggest funeral ever held in southern Thailand. His image appears in many other temples

A statue of him and his legendary walking stick, which is said to have healing powers, can both be found at Wat Chalong.



#### THE ORNATE DETAIL

"My favorite thing about Wat Chalong is all the references to past stories and mythologies that can be found on the buildings," says Paul.

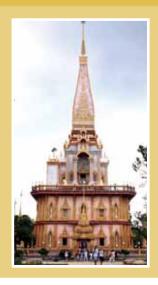
"If you walk around the temple and look at all the buildings you have got all these stories being told to you. If you can recognize the characters you can see that the whole place is like a massive picture book," he explains.

Paul points to some figures above the entrance to the Mondop, identifying them as Vishnu, a Garuda (a winged figure) and a Naga (serpent like figure).

"The Garuda and the Naga have problems," he says. "In Thai and Hindu mythology there is a constant battle

between the Garuda and the Naga, and there it is on the roof – you've got Vishnu standing on top of a Garuda, which is on top of a Naga."

"Everywhere you look there are these references to stories. So apart from being a set of amazing and colorful buildings, everything is layer upon layer of meaning."



#### THE BUILDINGS

There are six buildings at Wat Chalong: the Sala, the Mondop, the Ubosot, the Viharn, the Chedi and the Crematorium.

"Other temples are packed with stuff and it can be a bit overwhelming, whereas this one you can get to grips with it because it's not so enormous and each building is separate and deals with separate aspects," says Paul.

The statue of Luang Por Chaem can be found in the Mondop, where offerings are made.

At 61 meters high, the Chedi is the largest structure. It contains paintings of Buddha's life and his teachings. At the top there is a display which contains a relic: a fragment of the Buddha's bone that was brought to the temple from Sri Lanka in 1999.

The Ubosot is surrounded by eight boundary stones because it is not open to the public. It is the monks' sanctuary, where they are ordained, and where items such as Luang Por Chaem's walking stick are kept safe.



#### THE PAINTINGS

There are two types of paintings at Wat Chalong: those relating to the life of the Buddha, which are in the Chedi and the Sala; and the Jataka tales, which relate the 10 moral precepts and virtues needed to attain enlightenment.

"What is nice about Wat

Chalong's paintings is that they portray little aspects of these massive tales, whereas the other temples cram loads of information into one picture," Paul says. He points out a painting in the Sala of Buddha sitting under a Bodhi Tree, with Nagas around him. In it, Buddha calls on Mae Toranee, the earth godess, to come and witness his determination to attain enlightenment. For more information, contact E:pwhittall@aol.com





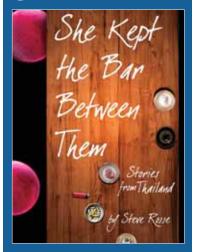




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#### Steve Rosse's third novel goes on e-sale



AUTHOR Steve Rosse's third novel She Kept the Bar Between Them - Stories from Thailand went on sale last week as an e-book on Amazon.

Rosse is the author of two books about Phuket, Expat Days and Thai Vignettes, both available from www.bangkok books.com.

His stories have been translated into French and collected in Trois Autres Thailande, available on Facebook from Editions Gope.

Priced at UK 3.56 (176 baht) on Amazon this book is a must buy for those interested in Thai tales with an expat twist.

## The book's better than the movie.

I PICKED up Thomas Cobb's novel Crazy Heart (Corsair, London, 1987, 248pp) because I did not think I'd have a chance to see the movie. And besides, the novel comes with rapturous reviews from the American media.

Eventually I did see the movie, which won Jeff Bridges a welldeserved Academy Award.

As is often, but not always, the case, the novel is even better than the movie. This is because in the novel we are inside Bad Blake's head, sharing his memories and feelings, whereas in the movie we can only watch him from the outside.

Bad Blake is a former country music star, winner of four gold records, with a Cadillac and swimming pool, backing band and touring bus.

After four wives and many alcoholic binges, he has been reduced to playing in a bar band in Houston and making an annual road trip in a van to play in bars across the West.

The trip is engrossing and by the end the reader is rooting for the old country singer's redemption.

Things begin to look up in Santa Fe, where Blake is booked to play

By James Eckardt

with a band he admires and is interviewed by a reporter, Jean, a divorcee with a young son. He soon strikes up a romance with Jean.

The interview sets up the details of his past life and opinions on country music.

"There really isn't any forbidden territory," he tells Jean about country music.

"You can sing about anything. I mean, we got all these drinkin' and fightin' and lovin' and cheatin' songs. As long as it's something that people feel, it's okay. . . Country music is about people who aren't special kinds of people, who are never going to be.

"They grow up, work, get married, slip around, and they die. And the music is the glamor of that kind of life. Maybe slipping around on your wife or husband ain't the best thing in the world, but for a lot of folks, it's what they got. And the music, it helps."

It's not a lengthy novel (248 pages), yet it reveals much more about Bad Blake than the movie.

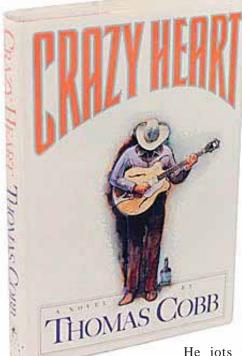
At home in Houston, he is an avid gardener of vegetables and herbs, an accomplished cook and a keen pool player. One evening Blake re-engages a defeated pool player who comments, "Is this going to hurt again," - a line that gives Blake the idea for a song.

The way he comes up with the melody on his guitar is a matter of gritty revelation.

In the movie, all we see is Jeff Bridges hunched over a guitar. In the book, you read:

"He keeps taking routes of the progression, and none of them seem right. . . The simple answer this that the passage moves straightforwardly, I, IV, V, but then not back to I but up to II, then in half steps back down to I again, a three-beat descent.

"He goes back and tries that a couple times. It is simple and clean, more from jazz than from country. He plays it again, adding lyrics as he goes: 'Is this going to hurt again?'



He jots it down and keeps working, getting up only for drinks. It's not, he knows, what he wants,

Other unexpected things that the novel offers are an unsuccessful reunion in California with his embittered long-lost son and the origin of his name Bad.

but it is closer than he has been."

For all the sympathy Bridges evokes in the movie, it hardly compares with the raw emotions experienced by the novel's hero.

I regretted seeing the movie because I lost the suspense of not knowing the plot's outcome.

Still, the movie's conclusion is much more upbeat.





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### Eagle-eyed reader: 'Lawrence of Arabia was not a virgin!'

THE following is a reader's response to our book review "Napolean of the Desert", (Phuket Gazette, February 12, p14). The review, written by James Eckardt, was of the novel Hero, by Michael Korda, chronicling the adventures of one Lawrence of Arabia.

Here's what the reader S. Tsow had to say on the matter.

"There is a disturbance in the farce. Some weeks ago I noticed a glitch in a book review James Eckardt wrote for the Gazette, and it has been nagging me ever since. Hence I now take dynamic action to correct an error, to right a wrong, to boldly go where no human foot hath hitherto trodden, to quell the incipient turmoil in the farce.

In Mr Eckardt's recent review of a book about Lawrence of Arabia, it stated that Lawrence died a virgin. In 1972, while chuffing in an ancient train through the Sind Desert of what was then West Pakistan, I was reading Seven Pillars of Wisdom.

In that glorious tome, Lawrence recounts an incident in which he was captured by the Turks and sodomized by one of their generals.

While sparing us the gory details, he immortalizes his ignominy

in one pregnant line, which has stuck with me ever since because of its understated eloquence:

"I felt that the citadel of my integrity had been irreparably breached".

It appears that, strictly speaking, Lawrence was not, as Mr Eckardt claims, a virgin. And here we must make a fine semantic distinction between what in Thailand is known as a "doot virgin" and a "joo virgin" (in the case of a male) or a "jyim virgin" (in the case of a female).

Lawrence may have been a joo virgin, but, sadly, he does not appear to have been a doot virgin. I believe it is Mr Eckardt's responsibility as a professional journalist to inform readers of this error.

Thank you and good night. Eagle-eyed bin, fact monitor and doot virgin, S. Tsow.

In response to S.Tsow, James Eckardt wrote the following: "O ye tiresome pettifogger! Lawrence might have been raped, but never got laid. That's a virgin."

If you have a view on this issue, then email features @phuketgazette.net

March 12 - 18, 2011 PHUKET GAZETTE 23

#### WHAT'S ON

#### in Phuket

March 7-13. Royal Phuket Marina (RPM) Facebook contest The Royal Phuket Marina (RPM) Facebook Beach Guessing Game runs from March 7 to April 3. This is a free-entry contest on RPM's Facebook page. All you need do to win the fantastic grand prize of a boat trip for two to Koh Phi Phi (including lunch) is to "Like" their Facebook page and guess the names of the beaches which are shown in the pictures. Terms and conditions apply. Contact Mr Fredy Munger at T:089-9734421 E:fredy@bitsiren.com or visit W:royalphuketmarina.com.

#### March 12. Salsa Night @ Les Anges at RPM

Free entrance and free snacks. Dress code: colorful. RPM's Salsa Night Let's go dancing will showcase the best in Cha-cha, Bachata, Samba, Rumba...with DJ Miscaro & Oy. Start 8:30pm. Contact Anna & Didier at T:084-0517455 (Thai, English) or T:084-3062016 (French, English) or Khun Murat at T:081-7973364 E: dance@phuket-dance.com or visit W:phuket-dance.com.

#### March 13. Phuket Yacht Club Kid's Sailing

Get your kids involved in sailing! A number of courses will be held on Sundays at Phuket Yacht Club, Ao Yon on selected dates in March for children aged 7-12 years.

#### March 26. St Patrick's Ball 2011



The Life Home Project will host Phuket's second St Patrick's Ball at M evenpick Resort and Spa Karon Beach on Saturday, March 26. Welcome cocktails will be at 6.30pm, dinner at 8pm, and the ball will continue until midnight. Tickets are 4,000 baht and includes a scrumptious international buffet dinner, wine, and quality champagne. Wear a national costume or black tie. Tickets are available at all three Bake outlets in Chalong, Cherng Talay and BIS. Contact: Joojee at T:081-3979809, E:joojee88@yahoo.com or visit W:lifehomeproject.org

These will be introduction to sailing courses. Contact Donna Stephens at T: 086-1200752 E:phuketyachtclub@gmail.com or visit W:phuket yachtclub.info.

March 16. A seven-course dinner in celebration of Burgundy
Joseph Drouhin has adopted the biological and biodynamic approach. Only natural products are used in the vineyards and all procedures show the utmost respect for the soil, the vine and the environment. This is a seven course dinner with wine at Mom Tri's Kitchen on March 16 at 7pm in Mom Tri's Kitchen at Villa Royale. The price is 3,200 baht++

(not including tax and service

charge). Seating is very limited. Reservations recommended. Contact Sylvie Yaffe at T:076-333569 E:pr@villaroyalephuket.com or visit to W:villa royalephuket.com.

#### March 17. PIWC lunch & AGM

The AGM will be held from 10am to 2pm at Le Meridien Phuket Beach Resort. All are welcome but only members are allowed to vote. This is followed by lunch from 11:30am, and again all are welcome to join both events. The lunch will be 500 baht for members and 650 baht for guests per person. Contact Carole Dux for reservations at T:076-200730 E:info@phuketiwc.com or visit W:phuketiwc.com.

#### March 18. Curry Friday

We present Curry Friday's on alternate Fridays 7pm-11.30pm at Navrang Mahal, Karon Sea Sands Resort & Spa. Here is your chance to enjoy an authentic and lavish Indian curry buffet. Selections include all-time favorite chicken tikka masala, very hot mutton vindaloo, juicy kebabs, goan fish curry, chickpea curry and more... served with nan bread and basmati rice. All you can eat for only 449 baht nett. Draught beer by the glass just 50 baht nett. Special discount on beverages. For reservations, call T:076-286464 ext 4. Contact Seemant Raju at T:081629 5063 E:sm@karonseasand.com or visit W:karonseasand.com.

#### March 19. FREE Facebook 101 seminar

Facebook 101 shows you how to build a Facebook page for your business, charity, organization or club. Starting at the beginning, Able Wanamakok will take you step-by-step through setting up a Facebook presence, building a solid page, bringing people to the page and enticing them to return. Three consecutive Saturday mornings. Class is limited to 20 participants. Go to http:// Facebook.com/SandwichShoppe and on the left, click the link that says Facebook Seminar. Sponsored by Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppes, the Phuket Gazette, AW PR & Marketing, and onsite.in.th.

The next one will be 10:00 am - 11:00 am at the Sandwich Shoppe Laguna. Contact Woody Leonhard T:076-290468 E:Woody@Khun Woody.com or visit W:Khun Woody.com for more information.

#### March 19. Belly Dance Party

Join us for a magical evening of live belly dance performances. Bring your dancing shoes and prepare to have a fabulous time at our Arabian dance party. The audience can participate in the interactive portion of this show. Local belly dancer Natalia will teach you the hottest moves. Come early for dinner and drinks, then shake and shimmy to mesmerizing Middle Eastern beats. March 19, show begins at 8:30 pm to 10.30 pm in Les Anges, Marina Boardwalk. For reservations and inquiries, please contact Natalia at T: 085-4817023 or Murat T:081-79 73364, E:muratc@ royalphuket marina.com or visit W:royalphuket marina.com for more information.

#### March 25. Six of the Best

Six of the top chefs from Phuket's premier resorts, will create a spectacular six course "Modern Flavours" dining experience matched with fine wine. Executive chefs from The Paresa Resort, Amanpuri, Anantara, Banyan Tree, Dusit Laguna and Sheraton will join forces. This intimate dinner is priced 4,000 baht nett, including dinner, cocktails and fine wine and will be hosted from 6.30 pm to 11.30pm. Only 9 seats left! All proceeds will be donated to the Good Shepherd Sisters charity. This event is sponsored by the Phuket Gazette. Contact Chantal Fernandes at T:089-8742942 E:chantal.fernandes@gmail.com or visit W:paresaresorts.com.

#### **Free Computer Clinics**

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24 PHUKET GAZETTE March 12 - 18, 2011



# Grumpies' 'rally' good day out

By Marc Mulloy

EARLY on a Sunday morning you might assume that most of the island's "Grumpy Old Men" would be enjoying a lie-in after a boozy Saturday night.

But not only were the Phuket GOMS (Grumpy Old Men Society) up and about last Sunday, they were burning off some "overly priced" benzine in the inaugural, 145-kilometer, GOMS charity Car Rally Treasure Hunt.

A total of 28 teams gathered at Chalong Beer Garden, with competitors pitching up in all manner of vehicles for the event.

A Subaru Impreza, driven by former Thai cross-country rally champion Wichai "Lop" Wattananawisuth was there, as was a Toyota Camry with an all-Russian crew.

Despite the ageist and sexist "issues" some might expect would be associated with the

GOMS, there were also several all-Thai ladies teams' taking part in the competition.

The morning route (95 kms) took the teams past Laguna to Nai Thon, then to the East coast and to co-sponsor Patong Go-Kart Speedway. There, they ate lunch, had a go-kart race and did a series of driving and parking tests.

After lunch the teams headed towards Koh Sireh for a round trip of 45 kms before returning to the finish armed with photographic evidence to prove they had completed the course.

While the stewards totted up the scores based on times, driving tests and the 10 obligatory photos – as this was not a race – the weary drivers enjoyed a Thai meal at Kan Eang@Pier restaurant.

After dinner, the clerk of the course, Jum Ali Khan announced the results: First place overall was won by Number 18: Team Katie's crew of David McGregor and







Photos: Christian Mouchet

Glen who received their trophy from Jim Goldsmith, General Manager of Land Rover Thailand - the main event sponsor.

Second Place went to Number 23: The Mufflers crew of Tom and Eileen Scarffe – who also won the "width-judging test". Presentation of their trophy was made by Yasuko Norris of Da Vinci restaurant - a co-sponsor of the event.

Third place went to Number 25: 91.5 FM crewed by Byron, Lung Jones and Paul Norris who were also first in the parking bays test. The trophy presentation was by Khun Ply of KanEang @Pier – a

co-sponsor of the rally.

The evening ended with an auction of a Donald Campbell Bluebird painting, conducted by GOMS chairman Warren Crowe.

The painting eventually sold to top bidders Karen and David Liddell of the Miss Saigon team for 7,000 baht.

Event organizer John Devenport told the *Phuket Gazette*, "We are delighted that so many people enjoyed themselves while raising money for charity. We would like to thank everyone for taking part; competitors, sponsors and helpers and hope we'll be back next year".





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#### ZEN MOMENT:

Musician Ricky Zen celebrated his "40-something" birthday (not disclosed), last Saturday night at his Rick 'n' Roll bar in Kata. Joining the crowds of well-wishers was the Prodigal Sons' lead singer and a host of

YOUR

**Phuket** 

other musicians who played at the Blues Rock Festival a week prior. A mix of old and new rock songs rang out late into the night as Ricky, in his usual enigmatic manner, performed for most of the night. On this showing, the former Las Vegas singer hasn't lost his touch one bit.

Photo: Fraser Morton

# Brush opens in style

BRUSH restaurant in Kalim held its Grand Opening party last Saturday, with hundreds of expats cramming in for a night of fashion, cocktails and fire shows.

Owned by Australian artist John Underwood, the restaurant was formerly Hung Fats, but following a dramatic transformation, Brush is set to become one of the trendiest restaurant-bars on the glitter strip of Kalim Beach. Here's a little of what went on...



BRUSH RUSH: From left are Panatta Bunthanom (Mam), John Underwood, Judy Underwood, Cassandra, Avery Johnson, Kim White, Justyna Korczynska, Hutch Morochi and Julia Dennis



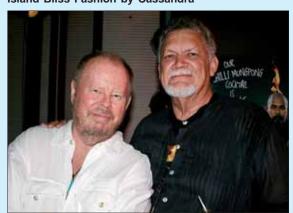
Tal Derhy, Hannah Pearce, Panatta Bunthanom (Mam), Carlos Julio Miguel Salas and Yin



Michael Venezuela and Julia Dennis



CATWALK: Avery Johnson and Nicci Crisp wearing Island Bliss Fashion by Cassandra



Jim Newport and John Underwood

ไซเอน ริสอร์ก

CYAN RESORTS

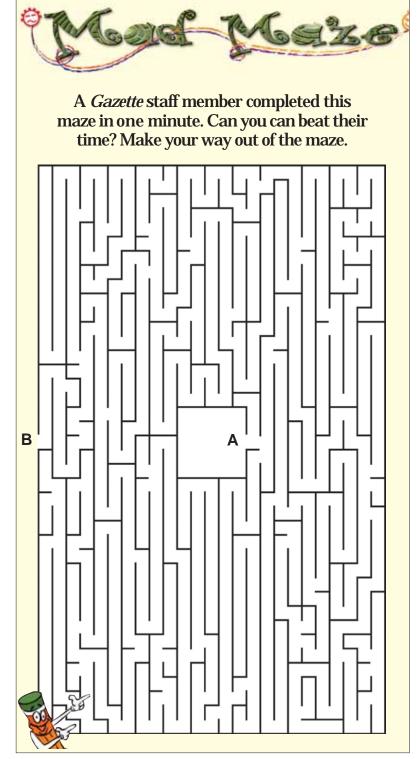
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FOR SALE

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March 12 - 18, 2011 PHUKET GAZETTE



#### Across

- Roster
- 14. Cry \_ \_ \_ River
- 15. Composer Khachaturian
- 16. Predatory
- 17. Remuneration
- 18. California wine region

- 23. All The Way To -, song by

- 36. Diaphanous
- 40. Charge
- 41. Satisfied
- 45. Aromatic herb
- 46. Candy bar filling
- 51. Battery size
- 56. First approximations
- 59. Aztec god of rain
- 62. Beer buy
- 63. Big bang cause 64. Duplicity
- 65. Some are pale
- 66. Fair-hiring abbr.
- 67. Takes by theft
- 68. Fishing gear

- 3. Declines
- 4. Hindu princess
- 6. Rhino relative
- 7. Fine fiddle

- angutans
- 11. Actress Tyler

- 1. Apr. addressee
- 8. Rhododendron kin

- 19. Facile
- 20. Additional
- **REM**
- 24. Whiskey type
- 25. PM
- 28. Excessively
- 30. Capable of being dissolved
- 33. Absence of ovulation

- 42. Psychokinesis

- 52. Impassive
- 55. Deodorant brand

- 69. Hwy.

#### Down

- 1. Disclose
- Person with a book, perhaps

- 5. Speech
- 8. Intoxicating liquor
- Member of a Nguni people 10. Gorillas, chimpanzees and or-

#### 26. Floating ice 27. Look after 29. Anorak 31. Cow catcher

32. Respect for Acting author Hagen

21. Avoid responsibility, with

break

- 34. Important
- 35. Flight formation

12. Chemical ending

13. \_ \_ Lingus

"out"

25. Slightly

22. Flows out

36. Portico

- 37. Mother of Ares
- 38. Z eno's home
- 39. Hospital readout
- 43. Six-legged creatures
- 44. Engraved
- 47. Country bordered by Canada and Mexico
- 48. Water channel
- 49. Playground retort 50. Exam taker
- 53. Academy award
- 54. Author Calvino
- 56. Entreaty
- 57. Agitate 58. Imbroglio
- 59. NFL scores abbr.
- 60. Court call
- 61. "\_ \_ \_ Ventura" played by Jim

Provided by BestCrosswords.com. Used with permission.

Puzzle solutions on page 37

#### **PISCES** (February 20-March 20): As far as possible, it will be best to follow your moods this week. Forcing yourself to do anything that your heart's not in could prompt negative energy. There are indications that a power struggle at work burns out before damage is done. Those Pisceans with a

birthday in the week ahead will

have better luck in love in the

coming year. Lucky days for

finances are Wednesday and

**ARIES** (March 21-April 20): The stars advise that

you could be persuaded

Thursday.

to commit to something this week that will cause regrets at a later date. Smooth talk from a water sign midweek might lead to this situation. Romance is positive – your charm should work wonders on an earth sign. A dream you have this weekend could hold clues regarding a problem at work. The number eight can bring good fortune early next week.

**TAURUS** (April 21-May 21): The stars advise those born under the sign of Taurus to give themselves adequate time and space to learn new skills. If you are not ready to take on a new responsibility, it will be immediately obvious. Another earth sign can give useful advice this weekend. Your romantic outlook is mild – it appears that a water sign can't make up their mind and you may not want to wait around for them to do so.



GEMINI (May 22-June 21): Hot-tempered Geminis are advised to maintain a dignified silence when

someone's actions or words are irritating early next week. Business affairs are subject to ups and downs until the end of this month, but there will be more positive developments in April. In the realm of romance, someone close to your heart needs more of your attention this weekend. Wear the color watermelon red to stimulate your senses.

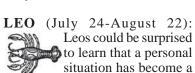
Clearing cobwebs from your head will enable Cancerians to move ahead. As March progresses, there are astral hints that at least some of your hidden talents will be revealed. This is predicted to ensure a smoother ride to the right destination where employment is concerned. Where romance is concerned, a partner has a sur-

prise in store this weekend. The

CANCER (June 22-July 23):

#### YOUR horoscope By Isla Star

number nine can bring good luck early next week.



hot topic for others this week. Another fire sign's jealousy could have prompted this gossip. Your career becomes more important during the second half of March those who have been considering a change of employment should take advantage of benevolent astral conditions. Dress to impress for job interviews -wearing the color navy blue will inspire self confidence.

VIRGO (August 23-September 23): The more impatient you become waiting for something to happen, the longer it will seem to take. Cosmic conditions should provide more support for Virgoans during the second half of March and you will see improvement in both financial and personal areas of

your life. Where romance is concerned, the stars advise against keeping secrets from someone you want to impress. Lucky days for love are Sunday and Monday.

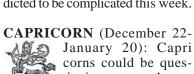


LIBRA (September 24-October 23): Librans who have been avoiding a certain

person may not be able to do so for much longer. However, the astral atmosphere will encourage better understanding this week. Even if you are not destined to be close again, it should be possible to establish a calm relationship. Your luck in financial affairs continues to be good – this is an auspicious week to remind people of their debts to you.

SCORPIO (October 24-November 22): Your suspicions prove to be unfounded this week. Where finances are concerned, the stars predict encouraging news concerning investments during the second half of March. In the realm of romance, an air sign has your best interests at heart, but you may find their words hard to listen to this

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 23-December 21): Ideas start to germinate this week and Sagittarians are advised to give priority to what seems practical and possible. There are signs that an earth sign friend or colleague could encourage you to pursue a scheme that has failure written all over it. Romance is predicted to be complicated this week.



tioning someone's motives this week when a water sign goes out of their way to be helpful. Tuesday is the best day for an honest talk about this situation. A romantic relationship could start to go off track when you learn something more about the person in question. The stars advise no rushed decisions until you have shared your feelings about this matter. The number five brings good luck this weekend.

AQUARIUS (January 21-Febru-



ary 19): Aquarians are advised not to become too involved in other

people's problems this week as there are signs that you could lose sight of your own goals in the process. The second half of March is an auspicious time to succeed in business. In romance, opposites don't attract as much as you hoped, but another air sign is set to make an appearance.

March 12 - 18, 2011 PHUKET GAZETTE

# **PROPERTY**

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

# Tinidee clubs together golf and holidays

LOCH Palm and Red Mountain Engineering & Design Co Ltd. are considered two of the finest golf courses in Thailand. Discerning golfers from around the world choose these destinations as "must play" venues.

The recent construction and opening of Tinidee Hotel@Phuket, on the grounds of Loch Palm Golf Club in Kathu, offers this very particular clientele the ideal location for a family holiday and enjoyment of their sport.

The resort opened in November last year, with construction costs reaching more than 60 million baht. The resort took just eight months to complete by A.C.

Manager of Tinidee Hotel@ Phuket, Arunya Sirigul, described the hotel's layout and features.

"Four separate buildings incorporate 47 rooms, which are categorized as either superior or deluxe," Ms Sirigul said.

"For our golfing guests, there is also purpose-built storage for valuable bags and equipment in each room," she explained.

"All our rooms have a balcony that affords guests a peaceful lake and waterfall view," she added.

Guests can also use kayaks from the hotel to further explore and enjoy the surrounding area.



Manager of Tinidee Hotel@Phuket, Arunya Sirigul, at the resort.



WELL SITUATED: Tinidee Hotel offer guests a variety of activities.

Tinidee's design is influenced by both the decorative style of southern Thailand and modern architecture. This style and concept is a collaboration between owner MBK Resort Public Company Limited and designers P49Deesign & Associates Co Ltd.

"The next stage of development will include a spa and wellness center, which will be located opposite the hotel, by the Crystal Lake," Ms Sirikul explained.

Managed by MBK Hospitality Management, Tinidee Hotel provides international and Thai visitors an elegant environment alongside one of Asia's most prominent golf

Special packages are available which include accommodation and green fees for both Red Mountain and Loch Palm golf clubs.

- Phuket Gazette

#### Boonthavorn moves to redevelop Samkong plot

A HUGE Boonthavorn home shopping mall is coming to Samkong on the 32-rai plot of vacant land on the northeast quarter of Samkong Junction.

Two rows of single-storey shophouses along the north side of Yaowarat Road will reportedly be leveled to make way for the Boonthavorn complex, which will face stiff competition from similar outlets in the area, namely: HomePro, located in the Tesco Mall, HomeWorks, opposite Central Festival, Bangkok Hardware, at Samkong three-way junction, House and Home, on Chao Fa West Road in Wichit, and Keehin home supply center, on the bypass road northbound in Rassada.



The already-vacated shops across from Tesco will be leveled to make way for the new retail complex.

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Laguna Village. Phuket.



NATIONAL PRIDE: Malaysia is proving to be a formidable competitor to Thailand in the number of foreigners retiring there. Photo:Jim Welch

Property Watch

By Bill Barnett

THAILAND'S expat web forums host raging word wars on a regular basis over changes – both real and imagined – to the country's retirement visa program. In a nutshell, anyone 50 years of age or older can apply annually for a oneyear Type O-A retirement visa.

The basic requirements are a Thai bank account holding at least 800,000 baht, or proof of monthly income of at least 65,000 baht, and paperwork including a medical certificate and background check showing you do not have a criminal record in your home country.

A retirement visa will allow you to import household goods taxfree and you can include your spouse on it as well, assuming they qualify under the same guidelines. However, employment of any kind is prohibited.

Each succeeding year, permitto-stay renewals must be applied for and proof of funds provided. It remains at the discretion of the Immigration Office to approve permit-to-stay renewals.

I decided to check the facts on the most up-to-date rules and regulations with a Google search and ended up on a caterpillar-like gravy train of "legal service provider"

websites and expat-focused infomercials. Finally, I arrived at the

Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) website (www.mfa.go.th) which provided only the most rudimentary details.

Clearly someone from the MFA marketing department didn't get the memo when they were organizing the website. With more questions than answers, it occurred to me: perhaps there wasn't a marketing department.

A yard stick or comparison is always helpful in decision making, be it for selecting future life partners or second home countries.

Glancing up from my keyboard,

I spotted a giant blow-up balloon bottle of tequila floating by and decided to head south of the border - though in this instance, it was Malaysia.

A few more strokes on my keyboard brought up "Malaysia My

> Second Home Programme" (www.mm2h. gov.my).

So again,

marketing didn't get invited to the domain name working lunch, but with the aid of my friends at Google, I now have a well-laidout resource to whack over the head with my teak measuring

Malaysia's "let's make a deal" starts at the golden age of 50 (there are stricter rules for retirees under 50). The requirements are similar to Thailand for getting a retirement visa, as you must either have an initial fixed bank deposit of about 1.4 million baht, or a monthly pension of 95,000 baht.

Malaysia's scheme differs from Thailand's in that after the first year, you can withdraw about 475,000 baht to use for purchasing property or qualified expenses. From that point on, you must maintain an account balance of about 950,000 baht.

Bells and whistles include the possibility of full property ownership in Malaysia. A minimum price of about 4.7mn baht per property applies, though in certain through www.c9hotelworks.com.

What makes us different?

sales tax, is also a perk.

is allowed for each retirement visa application. For those who have children under the age of 21, dependents are eligible. There is also the ability to work part-time or set up your own company, provided a number of qualifications and conditions are met.

Perhaps the best feature is the ability to either apply directly with the government agency or through qualified firms that have been approved by the Ministry of Tourism.

On initial inspection, Malaysia seems like an overall formidable competitor to "brand Thailand's" retirement initiative.

Making things easy helps, and while we have so much going for ourselves here in Phuket, the ability to tap into a broader overseas investment base of people who will come to live and buy property here is sorely needed.

There are important lessons to be learned from the guys down south. Let's hope the marketing department actually does exist and is included in the process.

Bill Barnett is Managing Director of C9 Hotelworks and can be contacted

states the threshold is lower and land holding rules vary. Importation of a car, or local purchase with a waiver of excise duty and

Additionally, one foreign maid

**Kata Group expands** 

offering.

In brief...

THE first phase of The Pelican

condominiums has been launched

The developer is Thai-based Perry Group International, headed by Chairman Phonchai "Perry"

With 96 units configured with

Units range from 80 square

Located in the premium resort

district of Klong Muang, the site

is near the Sofitel Phokeethra, Sheraton, Amari and Phulay Bay,

A rental pool is on offer boasting a full-range of resort facilities. For those participating in the rental

pool, five per cent guaranteed re-

turns are on offer during the first

From Phang Nga to

RICHARD Li's Pacific Century

Premium Developments (PCPD),

who are behind the 1,000 rai Tai

Muang destination resort in Phang

Nga, will develop a new mixed-

area of Hokkaido, both hotels and

condominiums will be part of the

Bel-Air residences and Cyperport

projects in Hong Kong.

Located in the prime ski-resort

PCPD are best known for their

While the Tai Muang resort is

rumored to be the next Laguna-

type, master-planned development

in Southern Thailand, the project

is still in the planning stages.

use project in Japan's Niseko.

three years of the contract.

Japan with PCPD

one, two and three bedrooms, prices range from five to 16 mil-

in Krabi.

lion baht.

Ngamsappasilp.

meters up to 180sqm.

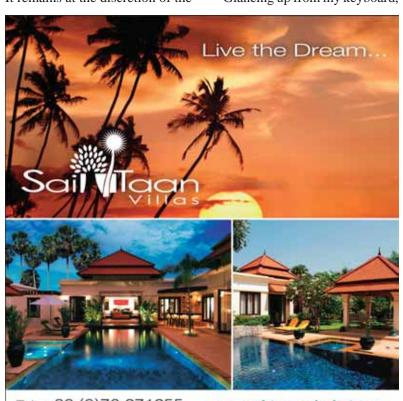
a Ritz-Carlton Reserve.

PHUKET-BASED Kata Group will open a new resort in Khao Lak this November.

Named Khao Lak Cassaway Resort & Spa, the one-billion-bahtplus project will be the fifth property under the operator's ownership. Other properties are in Kata, Karon and Koh Samui. Financing for the resort has been provided by Thai financial institution Kasikornbank.

Do you have any breaking news about Phuket property? Email property@phuketgazette.net





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## To let, or not to let?

MANY foreigners who have bought residential property in Thailand consider renting it out due to the attractive yields often achieved in prime tourist destinations such as Phuket.

When a property owner decides to rent out his or her property, one of the first questions is how to professionally market the property and find the ideal tenant - someone who will be able to keep up the rent payments and take care of the home as if it were his own.

Appointing a property agent who specializes in rentals is helpful in finding potential tenants who the landlord finds acceptable.

Obviously, such professional assistance is subject to payment of a commission, which should be agreed to in writing before the agent starts marketing the property to prospective tenants.

Another important consideration is what legal paperwork should be signed in connection with the tenancy. Typically, this is a lease agreement describing the legal relationship between the property owner, as the landlord, and tenant.

The lease should be carefully drafted, covering all points that may be relevant in the letting of a specific property. It should con-

#### **Property Legal**

By International Law Office

sider both parties' individual needs and requirements and ideally not be a poorly-drafted "standard document", which often describes a slightly different case or is onesided in favor of either party.

Therefore, it is always preferable to sign a professionally drafted lease agreement tailored for a specific tenancy.

Ultimately, it is best for both landlord and tenant to sign a lease that is fair and well balanced. This helps to avoid disputes and foster a long-lasting business relationship, from which both sides will benefit.

More specifically, a lease agreement should describe and identify the property for rent, stipulate the rental fee, applicable terms of payment and the term of the lease.

Any lease longer than three years must be registered at the local Land Office in order to ensure its legal validity.

Also, the purpose of the lease should be stated. This means describing the limitations of the use of the leased property. For instance, a residential lease should

specify that the tenant cannot run a business on the premises as such, may be prohibited by applicable "project rules and regulations", or cause damage to the property itself or disturb the neighbors.

If the property is part of a managed estate or complex, the lease should clarify each party's responsibilities for payment of fees (if any) for management of common areas. It should also be agreed who pays for the utility expenses consumed in connection with the property.

These responsibilities are negotiable and subject to individual agreement between the parties. However, traditionally the landlord pays the management fees and the tenant pays the utility expenses.

Most leases require the tenant to pay a security deposit to provide the landlord with protection in case the tenant causes damage to the property other than regular wear and tear, or not pay utility expenses consumed within the property.

Upon expiry or termination of the lease, the security deposit, less applicable deductions, should be returned to the tenant without delay. Landlord and tenant should further discuss and agree that proper insurances be taken out providing sufficient cover for po-



ON THE MARKET: Renting your Phuket property is one way to bring in attractive returns on your investment. Photo: Phuket Gazette

tential damages of both structure and contents of the property.

The lease may stipulate who shall be required to contract which insurance coverage and provide the relevant policy to the other party upon request.

The lease should also include provisions providing appropriate remedy and a dispute resolution mechanism for breach of the agreement by either party.

Finally, the parties should keep in mind that establishing and maintaining a tenancy arrangement may generate tax liabilities.

In this respect, both parties should consult with a tax adviser before signing a lease.

This article was written by the International Law Office Patong Beach Co Ltd. Email Michael Greth, Consultant, at michael@ilophuket.com.



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# Learning how to read your palm

fan-shaped leaves.

Gardening

Whatever their appearance,

from the towering Royal Palm, or

the Coco de Mer (which grows

only in the Seychelles and pro-

duces the largest fruit of any plant

- up to 20 kilograms in weight),

to small varieties such as the

Ruffled Fan Palm, Licuala

Grandis, which only grow a meter

or so tall, the range is enormous.

vide both variety and shade, so

gardeners can take their pick.

cane palm or *Dypsis Lutescens*.

And in your garden they will pro-

One fine choice is the golden

The cane palm can be

grown in pots in-

By Patrick Campbell

A PHUKET garden without palms would be difficult to imagine. After all, these exotic, graceful and restless trees are synonymous with the tropics. Whether they have immensely tall trunks, or are lowgrowing and fan-like, there is a palm to suit any garden, large or small.

The Arecaceae genus is huge—with about 4,000 different species—many of which are found on the island. Originally cultivated for food such as dates, oil, ivory nuts, palm syrup and sago, their main function these days is as ornamental additions to city avenues or rural gardens.

Their visual impact is immediate wherever they are planted. Most palms are characterized by a crown of large frond-like evergreen leaves that sit atop slender and unbranched stems.



spaces where it will grow in thick, bushy clumps with three to six slim stems that curve attractively outwards.

Often a deep green in shade, the fronds will turn golden when exposed to full sun. An ornamental addition to any garden, it can be used as a screen, or in beds along with smaller plants.

In the right conditions, the yellow cane palm will attain several meters, but generally it is of manageable proportions, and does not exceed four meters in height.

There are two points to consider: One, remove unsightly and dying fronds by pulling them sharply away from the stem, and two, remember that this palm has a large and tough root system, so don't plant small shrubs in the immediate vicinity, or they will be deprived of food and moisture. Propagate by means of rooted offshoots.

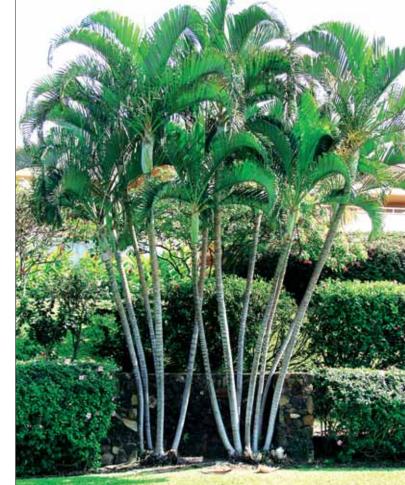
If the cane palm is serviceable rather than spectacular, the Bismarck palm (*Bismarckia Nobilis*) is a real head-turner.

Like the cane palm, it comes from Madagascar, but Phuket's climate suits it down to the ground. If you need ocular proof, drive along the back road to Nai Harn Lake, where there is a splendid row of mature palms close to the road.

What makes them

so distinctive is their arresting color – a compelling shade of silvery blue-grey rare in the plant world.

Bismarks are noble and substantial trees. The neatly symmetrical and fan-shaped leaves are produced at the end of rigid stems that sprout from a massive central trunk, and



The cane palm can grow several meters high. Photo: Forest & Kim Starr

may be as much as a meter in diameter. So give it plenty of space.

It can be propagated from

Another unusual palm and eyecatching variety is the sealing wax or lipstick palm (*Cyrtostachys Renda*) so called on account of bright red stems reminiscent of Chinese sealing wax.

These uniquely colored sheaths provide an attractive contrast to the dark-green, feathery foliage.

This palm has a neat, upright appearance and like its golden-leaved relative, it is a tufted palm.

This means it produces offshoots from its base which develop into a group of slender trunks, each with its own crown of leaves.

It is a good choice for a small garden because it is tall rather than broad, rarely exceeding five meters in height.

In common with most palms it enjoys plenty of sun, but, it is more fastidious about soil and water requirements than the more popular golden palm, and consequently tends to be expensive to buy in garden centers.

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



# Tip of the week

#### **Pruning**

WHILE pruning is not essential for the majority of trees and shrubs, gardeners may decide it's necessary for a number of reasons.

Aesthetically, it may help combat straggly or leggy growth, or encourage a fine floral display.

However, some shrubs, such as bougainvillea or ixora, flower on new growth, so heavy clipping may inhibit the formation of blossom.

Pruning may also be required to remove dead or diseased wood, or if the shrub or tree is outgrowing its allotted space.

This trimming back is often necessary with large, fast growers such as thevetia, oleander or bougainvillea.

In general though, careful placement at planting time is an easier option. And remember that drastic clipping of one part of a shrub/tree will encourage growth elsewhere, dramatically altering its overall appearance.



www.beautifulworldthailand.com



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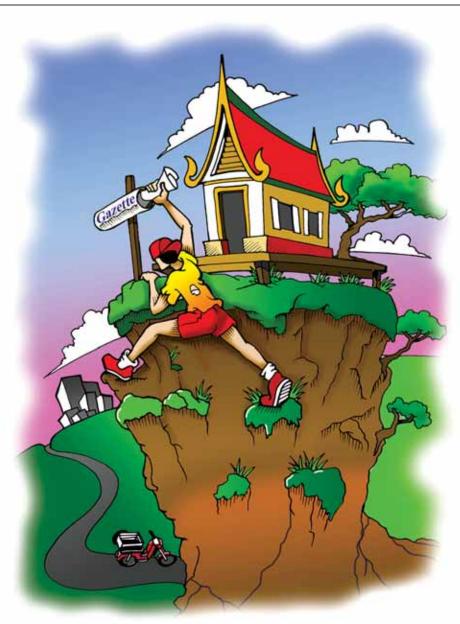
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2-3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 111sqm. From 4.5 million baht. Must see. Tel: 084-993 7308. For further details, please see our website at www. amphaiseabreeze.com

#### **4 BED IN RAWAI** 5.7 MILLION BAHT



360sqm, 4 aircons, 3 bathrooms, filter system, storage area. Easy walk to shop and beach. Tel: 084-424 7688.

#### **SEAVIEW LAND FOR SALE**

13 rai 3 ngan in Layan. Price: 5 million baht per rai or best offer. Please call. Tel: 086-272 6508 (English), 085-782 1579 (Thai).

#### **GOLF VIEW LAND** IN KATHU

For sale, 17 rai with view of Loch Palm golf course, connects with the main road, Nor Sor 3 Kor. Price: 65 million baht. Tel: 089-724 7211 (English). Email: julien@phuketimmo.com

#### LAND NEAR LAYAN **HILL ESTATE**

rai, quiet location, easy access, near Laguna. Price: 2.35 million baht. Tel: 081-078 0014. Email: homeinphuket@live.com

#### **BRAND-NEW CONDO**

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

#### All classifieds in these pages are



- vour assurance that whatever's advertised here is seriously for sale.

Gazette Classads - they work! ....because they're real.

#### **HOUSE & FURNITURE**

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

#### LAND FOR SALE

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

#### CHEAP LAND FOR SALE

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

#### LAND AT PA KHLOK

1 rai 13.6sq wah with Chanote. Located on Tha Ruea-Pa Khlok-Muang Mai Rd.11 km from Heroines Monument, near Mission Hill. Price: 3.9 million baht. Tel: 089-4729118.

#### **LOFT SEAVIEW** VILLA



2 bedrooms beachfront, panoramic view. All facilities, including fitness clubhouse. Price: 37 million baht.Tel: 084-837 4429. www.choke chaiproperty.com

#### **AUCTION SALE BEST OFFER**



It has 4 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, a studio apartment, 2 car garages, and a pool. Land: 700sqm. House: 380sqm. Tel: 084-850 0568.

#### **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-

#### **LANDAT CHERNG TALAY**

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

#### **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@ gmail.com

#### THAI TRADITIONAL PRIVAT POOL VILLA



For sale. 3 bedrooms, with 24 hours security. Just 3 minutes to Nai Harn Beach. Please visit www. chokechaiproperty.com

#### **PENTHOUSE** FOR SALE

210 sqm in the Kamala hills. Infinity plunge pool with deck, 2 bedrooms., 2 bathrooms, Western kitchen. Beautiful development with landscaped garden. 2 common pools with waterfall. Must see to appreciate. For urgent sale. Only 11.5 million baht. Tel: 02-158 5168, 089-137 5325 (English). Email: mbdettmann@yahoo.com

#### **SEAVIEW LAND** FOR SALE

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

#### **3-BEDROOM HOUSE**

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

#### LAND FOR SALE **BY OWNER**

Cape Yamu: 1.5 rai. Mission Hills: 1 rai. Both Chanote. Price negotiable. Tel: 076-239432, 081-087 9237 (English & Thai), 086-270 8727. Email: crob58@gmail.com For further details, please see our website at http://samuivillafor sale.com/phuket-land

#### 2-STORY HOUSE **IN PATONG**



4-bedroom with balconies. 2 bathroom, aircon, fully furnished. Chanote. Price 17 million bahtono. Tel: 087-270 9093. Email: a.pueng@ amail.com

#### 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** 







# tomilindigoRE.com

#### 2MB REDUCED **AT 1.4MB**



Rawai Beach. 28-year lease. Pool villa on 92sqm plot + 15sqm parking. Furnished. Tel: 084-242 8914. Email: phuket7@yahoo.com

#### **GREAT LIVING HOME**



Single house for sale or rent located at Phanason 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

#### **58 RAI IN TAKUAPA**

Palm oil farm, with house, 10year-old trees. Price: 10 million baht. Tel: 089-594 4017.

#### **STUNNING SEAVIEWS**

House on cape heights at Yamu. 4-bedroom luxury villa set in gardens with a pool. Price: 25 million baht. Financing available. Tel: 086-279 6283.

#### **POOL VILLA RAWAI**

Pool villa for sale in Rawai. 3-4 bedrooms, with full aircon, a fully equipped kitchen, very big rooms and a large garden. Tel: 087-893 8747.

#### **NEWLY BUILT BIG POOL VILLA**

Newly built and fully furnished in Cherngtalay, close to the Laguna area. Exclusive architectdesigned villa with large pool. Ready to move in. 320sqm on 500sqm land. Large living room and kitchen in open plan. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Large glass sliding doors to the garden from all rooms. Garage for 2 cars. Motorized gate and wall around the plot. Price: 12.9 million baht. Tel: 082-807 2392 (English). Email: info@hyrahusphuket.se For further details, please see our website at www.hyrahus phuket.se/Objekttillsalu 19.html

#### **GREAT VILLA DEALS**

2-floor villa in secured estate, with 3 or 4 bedrooms. 327sqm living area, big garden, aircondi tioned, fully equipped kitchen, high-quality materials and finish. Price: 11.9 million baht. More great deals are available. Contact builder. Tel: 087-893 8747.

#### 1,400SQM **SEAVIEW LAND**

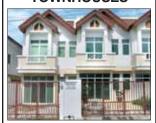
Bang Tao. All utilities. Safe community. 6.9 million baht. Tel: 086-267 0157 (English), 089-590 3665 (Thai). Fax: 076-325294. Email: bannuaton@yahoo.com

#### **NICE AND SPACIOUS HOUSE**



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

#### TWO TOWNHOUSES



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

#### BEAUTIFUL NAI YANG LAND



9.5 rai, beachfront. 5 minutes to Phuket airport. Asking price: 120 million baht. Chanote. Must see. No agents. Email: allservices 29@gmail.com

#### **SEA VIEW VILLA**

Well maintained villa, fully furnished, modern and comfortable. A location like this property has is hard to find, close to shopping, night life and the beach. Located in a very quiet area with a sea view to die for. The land plot of 680sqm has a Chanote title. Price: 19.9 million baht. Tel: 083-394 8337 (English), 080-141 4577 (English & Thai). Email: mattias@zionproperty.com For further details, please see our website at (object nr: 312) www.zionproperty.com

#### **HOUSE IN KATHU**

In a nice and quiet area. With Chanote title. Price: 4.8 million baht. Tel: 080-893 0647. Email: sn@swedenpro.se

#### TWO PLOTS MISSION HILLS

206sq wah plot. Flat land with a mountain view on small development with Chanote title and electricity. Price: 1.6 million baht. 6-Rai hilltop land with sea and mountain views, including Chanote title. Price: 4 million baht per rai. Tel: 087-978 5804.

#### VILLA, 4 BED

High-quality build and finish. Large rooms, fully equipped and airconditioned. Located in a quiet secure estate. Great price! Call owner. Tel: 087-893 8747.

#### **SALE DOWN PAYMENT**

Phanason City (the Phanason) single house with 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, plus extra land. Price: 1.1 million baht. Tel: 081-737 0885.

#### **PATONG TOWER**

Free hold apartments for sale. Contact Sumornman as above for more information. Tel: 080-692 6114 (English). Emaii: orsorealestate@gmail.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

#### BAAN SAIYUAN



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

#### 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' representative. No agents please. Tel: 080-520 2989. Email: pakaporns@yahoo.com

#### 2-BEDROOM PATONG CONDO

High floor, 100sqm, fully furnished. The project has a gym, 2 pools, 2 km to town. Going quickly – call today! Tel: 080-052 8082 (English). Email: solitude001@aol.com

#### **30 RAI IN TOWN**

Flat land near Dowroong School in Phuket Town. Tel: 081-691 2526.

#### TWIN VILLAS AT NAI YANG



Only 600 meters from beautiful Nai Yang beach, this modem pool villa is perfectly located. Featuring a chic, clean-cut design coupled with a choice selection of quality materials and furniture, this villa is a promising investment for holiday seekers and permanent residents. Price: Bt10.2mil. Contact Khun Penprapa. Tel: 087-898 9646. Email: pen prapa2526@gmail.com

#### BANG JO LAND FOR SALE

Four rai, chanote title at Bang Jo. Nice plot, direct from owner. Price: 15 million baht. Tel: 081-956 0527 (English & Thai). Email: tuenjai1@hotmail.com

#### SONGKHLA, YO ISLAND

Best location, 4 rai, 212 sqw. Former restaurant, villa, house. View lake, town, bridge. Tel: 054-223039, 084-608 3240 (English), 089-997 6606 (English & Thai). Fax: 054-323217. Email: gemballa\_baldur@yahoo.com

#### POOL VILLA RAWAI

for sale. 3-4 bedrooms, with full aircon, a fully equipped kitchen, very big rooms and a large garden. Tel: 087-893 8747.

#### KATA BEACH POOL VILLAS

One at US\$ 480,000 with 3 rental apartments. One at US\$ 520,000 with 6 bedrooms and bathrooms. Call Stein for more information. Tel: 081-091 8908 (English). Email: giepp969@ hotmail.com

#### **GOLF VILLA**

Two-storey villa with a stunning mountain view and an open and modem design. Aperfect location in the center of everything you need. 5-10 minutes drive for shopping, 15 minutes to the beach and walking distance to one of the best golf courses on the island. Price: 4.75 million baht. Tel: 083-8339483 (English), 080-141 4577 (English & Thai). Email: mattias @zionproperty.com For further details, please see our website at (object nr:309) www.zionproperty.com

#### KOH YAO NOI

perfect land for development. Size: 11-0-78 or 17,912sqm, with Chanote title. Tel: 080-144 7800, 080-144 7801 (Thai). For further details, please see our website at www.piyathanara. com/koh.html

#### 676SQM AT NAITHON BEACH

676sqm. Flat land near Nai Thon Beach. Sale price: 1.8 million baht. Tel: 089-871 7130 (English & Thai). Email: thipkamols 633@gmail.com

#### PATONG LUXURY APARTMENT

In the middle of Bangla Road. A very quiet bedroom apartment for sale. With Jacuzzi in the bathroom and rooftop swimming pool. Bar, restaurant. 3 minutes' walk to the beach and 1 minutes to entertainment area. Tel: 081-894 8446. Email: sfrkata@hotmail.com Website:www.banglasuites.com

#### OCEANFRONT PLOTS FOR SALE



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

#### GROUND FLOOR APARTMENT



1-bedroom unit with swimming pool for 2.2 million baht. In Saiyuan, Rawai. Tel: 085-788 5214.

#### **HOUSE FOR SALE**

2-storey house. 231sq wah. 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms in Cherng talay. Price: 10.5 million baht. Call Khun Thip. Tel: 089-105 5086. Email: roxem@yahoo.com

#### LAND AND HYDRO FARM

For sale. 17 rai (Nor Sor 3 Gor). Price: 6.8 million baht. 30 minutes from airport. Tel: 087-020 0191.

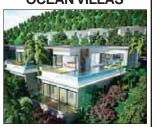
#### **KATHU SHOPHOUSE**

Next to waterski at a good location. Lock Palm Golf is just 1km away. Many possibilities for business. Tel: 086-689 3411.

#### **SURIN BEACH**

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

#### THE SUNRISE OCEAN VILLAS



Overlooking the ocean in the exclusive Ao Por area on the East Coast of Phuket, the luxurious Sunrise Ocean Villas, located only 60m from the beach, offer breathtaking panoramic views of Phang Nga Bay. You will find the most beautiful untouched island, with white sand beaches only a few minutes away.



Just 15 minutes from Phuket International Airport, 25 minutes from the major shopping centers and 3 minutes from the Grand Marina, Ao Por attracts a growing number of investors seeking an exclusive and affordable alternative to the West Coast with a more authentic environment.



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:  $montha\_phuket@$ 

#### **3-BEDROOM HOUSE**

yahoo.com or

thesunrisevillas@yahoo.

com

for sale in Chuan Chuen Lagoon Koh Keaw. Very close to British school. Fully furnished, with 2 bathrooms, 3 aircons, 2 living areas. Includes washing mashine. 65sq wah. Price: 3.95 million baht. Contact Scott. Tel: 081-866 8716.

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Mail: AdPower@PhuketGazette.Net

#### Property Classifieds

#### Properties For Rent

#### 25,000 BAHT **MONTHLY RENT**



On Rawai Beach, Sale for 30-year-lease. A villa with 6 bedrooms and 6 bathrooms. Paid over 15 years, 6 million baht in total. Tel: 084-242 8914. Email: phuket7@ yahoo.com

#### **HEAVENLY SEAVIEW**

Amazing place to spend your holiday. We have 2 apartments for rent with seaview. Long-term only 25,000 baht per month for each apartment. Tel: +46-706-884995 (English), 080-147 1400 (English & Thai). Email: tomas@ tmsengineering.se

#### **BEACHFRONT:** 2 BEDROOM

Serviced condo on top floor. Rent: 45.000 baht per month. Tel: 086-276 5117. Email: jihshand@gmail.com

#### **PHUKET VILLA DOWROONG**



House for rent, 55sq wah, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, no phone line, unfurnished. 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-270 9093.

#### **LUXURY VILLA POOL**

By Laguna. Has everything. At a quiet, secluded location. With jacuzzi and spa. Rent: 24,000. Tel: 089-594 4067.

#### **PATONG BAY SOUTH END**

In Baan Suan Kamnan, a clean, green residential area on the hill at the south end of Patong. Anice, completely upgraded apartment. New tiles, bathroom, kitchen, furniture. Flatscreen TV and DVD player. It is not large (55/60 sqm), but very nice in a green atmosphere, with large balcony. 25,000 baht a month. Long Term only. Tel: 086-786 6350 (English). Email: buurmanb@ hotmail.com

#### 3 BEDROOMS **IN PATONG**

Great, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, in gated community. 2 minutes to Soi Nana and mall. Rent: 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-478 0201. Email: gm@thenetworkproperty.com

#### **PATONG RENT**

Close to beach. With aircon. cable, kitchen and fridge. 2,000 baht per day. 1,000 baht per day on a long-term stay. Tel: 085-757 3240.

#### **APARTMENTS**



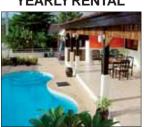
The Royal Place Condo, 1 bedroom, kitchen, bathroom and living room, swimming pool, etc. From 13,000 baht per month. We can also supply motorcycle and truck. Tel: 081-539 9612, 087-633 1472. Email: chrispalmer56@ gmail.com

#### **NAI HARN 3 BEDROOM**



house near the beach, Lowseason rent from March 15 to Nov 30: 20,000 baht, including common pool. Call for details.Tel: 083-388 8036, 089-972 5378 (Thai). www.phuketquality

#### 300,000 BAHT



Rawai Beach. 400sqm, guesthouse, 6 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms. 30-year lease 7.2 million baht paid over 10 years. Tel: 084-242 8914. Émail: phuket7@ vahoo.com

#### **CHALONG HOUSE**

4864.

#### **KATHU GOLF VIEW PENTHOUSE VILLA**

for rent. 3 bedrooms, 3 and half bathrooms, quite on a private hill. 330sqm, grand view on Loch Palm Golf, Valley, lake. Big pool, furnished. Long-term 65,000 baht per month. Contact Noi. Available on March 1, 2011. Tel: 087-269 8492.

#### Classified Advertisements

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

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with a minimum of 4 lines (heading included) per ad. All adverti sing must be paid for in advance.

Deadline for Property Gazette page: Friday 3 pm. Deadline for all other ads: Saturday 12 noon.



house.com

#### YEARLY RENTAL



Close to the sea. Brand new house. 2 bedrooms and 3 bedrooms with aircon, Large walled garden. 17,000 per month or sale 2.1 million baht. Tel: 089-817

#### STYLISH PHUKET **TOWNHOUSE**

Teak-furnished, modern-style townhouse with 2-floors and 2 bedrooms, a large kitchen, flatscreen TV, 1.5 bathrooms and a garden in a quiet neighborhood in the heart of Samkong, the food capital of Phuket. Rent: 14,000 baht per month. Move in from April 1. Contact Nicholas. Tel: 081-892 5335 (English & Thai), 084-494 5725 (English). Email: arutsu@gmail.com

#### **BEAUTIFUL HOUSE**

With splash pool. Rent: 13,500 baht per month. For rent from April 1 - December 1, 2011. Located in Chalong-Rama Park area. In-out kitchen. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, and big living area, Dishwashing machine and washing machine. Tel: 076-244399.

#### **NAIHARN 2 BEDROOM**



house near the beach. Lowseason rent from March 15 until Oct 31: 18,000 baht per month, including common pool. Call for details. Tel: 083-388 8036, 089-972 5378 (Thai). www.phuket qualityhouse.com

#### **NICE HOUSE NEAR LAGUNA**



Fully furnished, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, with aircon and hot water. WiFicable TV. 10 mins to the beach, 15 mins to school & town. Rent: 15,000 baht/ month. Tel: 089-795 6363, 089-874 2960. Email: pwarunee@hotmail.com

#### **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

#### **SURIN BEACH HOUSE**

4-bedroom, en-suites, with private pool, garden, maid service, UBC cable TV, Internet, security gate. Available for short- or long-term rent: 85,000 baht per month. Call Sara. Tel: +44 7802 202048. Email: sara.nujaree@gmail.com

#### **CHALONG POOL VILLA**

3 bedroom pool villa close to Villa Market for long-or shortterm rent. Tel: 089-652 1473 (English). Email: ananda estates@yahoo.com

#### **CONDO IN PATONG**

Nicely furnished 1-bedroom unit at Phuket Palace with pool and parking for 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-892 1621.

#### **POOL VILLA RAWAI**

Fully furnished with aircon, ADSL, private pool, big garden. In a quiet area near the beach. 24-hour security. 3 or 4 bedrooms. For long-term or shortterm rent or sale. Call owner. Tel: 087-893 8747.

#### **LUXURY 2 & 3 BEDROOM**

Apartment in Marina, with large private pool and garage. 10 minutes to Central, 25 minutes to airport. Rent: from \$ 200. Tel: 087-840 8163.

#### **PATONG 3 BED TOWNHOUSE**

New 3 bedroom, 3 bathroom townhouse, fully furnished with internet and pool. In Patong, Nanai road area. Price: 32,000 baht. Tel: 082-498 0872 (English). Email: shetz66@hotmail.com

#### **PATONG TOWER SEAVIEW CONDO**

Luxury apartment with Internet and all modern conveniences. Affordable rates. Tel: +45-50-285700. Email: ptvacations@ gmail.com Full info at www. patong-tower.net

#### **LUXURY APT PATONG**

With sea view and big pool and WiFi.1-bedroom unit with large European kitchen. Email: bricothaiand2@hotmail.com

#### **3 BEDROOM HOUSE IN KATHU**

Furnished, for long-term rent or sale, on a private quiet road, aircon, fitted kitchen, etc. Tel: 081-477 2929 (English & Thai), 089-875 2532 (English). Fax: 076-323663. Email: paulstrong23 @hotmail.com

#### **BEAUTIFUL SEA VIEWS**

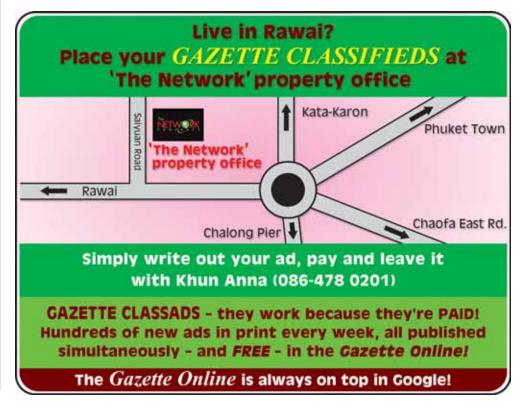
Charming 4-bedroom, 3-bathroom villa, with the most amazing seaviews. Furnished to a high standard. With own private garden. 10 minutess to PIA/ BIS schools. At Cape Heights Yamu. Rent: 70,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-279 6283.

#### **PRIVATE VILLA FOR RENT**

Short-time rent or long-term lease in Cherng Talay, Phuket. 220sqm, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, kitchen, living room, dining area, laundry, AV, 2 car parks. Includes WiFi, aircon, satellite TV, pool, tennis court. Fully furnished. At a secure and quiet location. rent: 45,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-874 3040. Email: taibowman@ hotmail.com

#### **PHUKET VILLA 5 FOR RENT**

A detached house with 3 bedrooms, 2 bahtrooms, a kitchen and a car park. Central location. Long-term rent: 16,000 baht per month. Call to see. Tel: 087-270 9093.



#### Property Wanted

#### **WANT TO BUY LAND**

0.5-1.5 rai plot on waterfront. With Chanote only. Fast payment. No agents please. Email: mihails@hotmail.com

#### **POOL VILLA WANTED**

We are looking for investors from Sweden for pool villas with 2-3 bedrooms in Rawai. Price: from 5 to 10 million baht. Please send email to offers. Email: sales@chokechaiproperty.com

#### SEEKING WALLED HOUSE

to rent or buy. Only in Kata, Nai Harn, Karon or Chalong. Our first priority: Our dog must be welcome! Small garden would be wonderful. Long-term rent for one year or longer (start next April). Maximum price for rent 15,000 baht per month incl everything with cable and ADSL or 3.2 million baht for quick buy (Freehold - we are Thai/German). We are back on Phuket on March 22. Contract can be made directly in March. Tel: +49-61247276693 (we will call you back). Email: baankata@ web.de

#### HOUSE/APARTMENT WANTED

I am looking to buy a house or apartment. I would consider a new or pre-owned property. Must be near the beach with amenities, etc. I would like to spend around 10-15 million baht in total. I would like to pay cash plus my house, valued at 6 million baht, in Koh Samui, Hua Thanon area, 200 meters from the beach. This is a 2-bedroon villa with shared pool. Email: jezkasler@hot mail.com

#### Accommodation Available

#### UNIQUE SEAVIEW HOUSE

140sqm, 3 rooms, 2 bathrooms. 50m from the sea. 18,000 baht/month. Long-term rent only. Tel: 089-729 3466 (English), 081-273 8679 (Thai). Email: brunyth@yahoo.fr

#### LOFT STYLE - KATHU

Suitable for a home or office, secure, 11,500 baht/month. Tel: 086-664 5575. Email: hkmsn@yahoo.com

#### CONDO FOR SALE/ RENT RAWAI

Best price on the island, both for sale and long term rent. Tel: 080-078 0931 (English), 086-112 1477 (Thai). Email: rawaireservation@yahoo.com

#### **PATONG LUXURY**

At a very quiet place. 60sqm apartment with jacuzzi. Daily rent from 2,500 baht. Monthly rent: 35,000 baht. 4 minutes' walk to beach, 2 minutes to entertainment venues. Tel: 081-894 8446. See: www.banglasuites.com

#### 4-BEDROOM VILLA WITH LARG POOL

in Land & Houses Park available for long or short-term resident, or for daily holiday rental. Email for full details. Tel: 076-378361, 081-676 4849, 081-772 2300. Fax: 076-263919. Email: william.amonoo@gmail.com

#### HOUSE FOR RENT 8,500 BAHT

Furnished 2 bedroom house with living room, kitchen, garden, car park, internet. Price for rent: 8,500 baht/month, and 3 bedroom at 12,000 baht/month. Tel: 086-476 9598, 084-051 1955, 080-521 9888 (English & Thai). Email: sornin\_s@yahoo.com

Classified Advertisements

#### LUXURY KATA APARTMENT

Central location, pool, Internet, etc. One bedroom. For rent weekly or monthly. Tel: 084-063 9223, 086-941 7733 (English). Email: eburneday @gmail.com

#### **PATONG TOWNHOUSE**

Nanai Road 9 hillside. 2 bedrooms fully furnished with WiFi and cable TV. Price: 20,000 baht/month long term. Tel: 081-270 5374 (English & Thai). Email: alex@alexmalcolm.com

#### KARON CONDO FOR SALE OR RENT

2 bedroom, 2 bath condo overlooking Karon Beach. Available Feb 21. Short or long term. Condo also for sale. Reasonable rent to mature persons. Email: rtj1111@yahoo.com

#### HOUSE NEAR CHALONG

Fully furnished house with 2-bed, 2 bath. Long-term rent (min 1 year): 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-026 1362. Email: cjitsomboon @hotmail.com

#### **PATONG SEAVIEW**

With kitchen and DVD/cable. Rent: 800 baht per day, or 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-532 7708.

#### 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. Email: cssmyth@ hotmail.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. Tel: 084-185 8536.

#### FREEDOM APARTMENT Small kitchen, fridge, cooker,

Small kitchen, fridge, cooker, fully furnished, aircon, high-speed internet, cable TV, bathroom with hot and cold water. 400 baht per day. Tel: 084-845 0541, 083-380 6744.

#### LOVELY PATONG GUESTHOUSE

Near Carrefour. Rooms for rent. Has pool, fitness, sauna, garden etc. Tel: 081-084 3415. Website: unter-palmen.ch

#### **PATONG CONDO**

Fully furnished - 700 meters from Patong Beach. Tel: 081-817 7886 (English & Thai). Email: wintin 2007 @yahoo.com

#### LUXURY APARTMENT IN PATONG

Room for rent with swimming pool. Daily and monthly. Email: mori @phuket.ksc.co.th Website: www.nanaivilla.com

#### 2 HUGE SEAVIEW CONDOS

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

#### BEDROOM IN LARGE HOUSE

Kitchen, laundry, WiFi, TV. Expat male or female, long term. Secure and safe. Chalong. Tel: 087-077 9816. Email: williet98248@hotmail.com

#### HOUSE NEAR CHALONG

Fully furnished house with 2-bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Long-term rent (min 1 year): 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-026 1362. Email : cjitsomboon@hotmail.com

#### APARTMENT & ROOM IN PATONG

Apartment for long term rent. 8,000-20,000 baht per month. Room from 800-1,500 baht per night. Tel: 076-512151, 089-290 9567. Email: info@brommathai house.com For further details, please see our website at www.brommathaihouse.com

#### A SMALL HOUSE FOR SALE



2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, small garden, TV 21", sofa washing machine, indoor carpark, water filter, big kitchen, fully furnished. In Varanee Village, behind Soho Roast Duck. Asking price 1.65 million baht. Tel: 084-084 7474. Email: kasina\_navamachiti@yahoo.com

#### Accommodation Wanted

#### ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Wanted: 2 bed apartment/villa within 200 meters of a beach on Phuket. Any beach except Patong. Must have usual kitchen facilities + fridge. Also require aircon and showers. For period Dec 9, 2011 to Jan 2, 2012. Email: coakleyger@gmail.com

#### 1/2 BEDROOM HOUSE /APARTMENT

Looking for a 1 or 2 bedroom house or apartment. Need the following: Internet, aircon, kitchen. Long-term rental. Price about 15,000 baht a month. Email: khun.ab@hotmail.com

#### APARTMENT FOR RENT

1-bedroom apartment with kitchen and some flair. Should be close to the beach but NOT in a tourist area. I like some lifestyle with good shopping opportunities. 1-3 month rental. Max budget: 10,000 baht a month. I' maretired Italian guy. Tel: 087-114 0060. Email: dianarosmarino@gmx.net

#### RENTAL NEAR SURIN/ BANG TAO

Seeking fully furnished rental property near Surin/Bang tao/Laguna (not Cherng talay). 1-3 beds, 2-3 bath, small garden for small dog, ADSL, cable TV. Budget: 20-30,000 baht per month. Reliable tenants with full time jobs. Required April/May 2011 for 12 months. Tel: 080-471 8713 (English), 087-040 7049 (Thai). Email: jhlifeofwine@gmail.com

#### PHUKET CITY OR NEARBY

I will be studying with my partner at ECC in Muang, Phuket City, and I am looking for a comfortable apartment/house that is close by or commutable. Dates: May 7- June 7 2011. Email: patrickoldfield@yahoo.co.uk

#### KATA BEACHAREA

I would like to rent 2 bedroom villa or house at Kata Beach with pool, from June 26 for approx 1 month. Please email for more details at: apneal@xtra.co.nz

#### Holiday Homes & Villa Rentals

#### PHUKETS FINEST VILLAS

Finest luxury villas for rent from US\$ 500 per night. Villa owners -add your villas, we get over 50 enquiries per day. Email: info@digitalvillas.com Website: www.digitalvillas.com

#### Household Items

#### **OIL PAINTING**

Unique oil painting from China with Chinese Garden picture. Size 100cm x 100cm. In good condition. Asking 4,000 baht. Tel: 089-150 2909. Email: artandpaula@gmail.com

#### **REFRIGERATOR**

220-240V Homax fridge. 86L with small freezer box. 450 x 450 x 817mm, white, 1 year old and in very good condition. 2,500 baht. Tel: 083-388 3145, 082-539 8974. Email: sy.tombatu@gmail.com

#### IRON AND IRONING BOARD

Philips Teflon steam iron and heat resistant covered board (100cm high x 120cm long). 1,000 baht for both. Tel: 085470 3410, 080-697 7502. Email: philipandyvette@gmail.com

#### **GOING AWAY SALE**

Many household items for sale, from books all the way to ovens and barbecues. If interested, please contact for a full list of all the items. Everything must go. Tel: 083-504 3218. Email: beccatooley@gmail.com

#### SAMSUNG WASHING MACHINE

Only 6 months old. Bought from HomePro. 5-year warranty. 6.5kg model. 3,000 baht o.n.o. Needs to go as soon as possible. Tel: 085-908 0594. Email: jorjaclare@gmail.com

#### **FRIDGE**

220-240 V Homax Refrigerator. 86L with small freezer box. 450 x 450 x 817mm, white, 1 year old and in very good condition. 3,000 baht. Tel: 083-388 3145. Email: sy.tombatu @gmail.com

#### ORIGINAL WYLAND PAINTING

80cm x 72cm. Beautiful underwater scene: 7 dolphins, turtles, orange tang, clown fish. Black frame and blue velvet. Tel: 081-477 4884. Email: getfitwithallan @gmail.com

#### FAGOR WASHING MACHINE

Yamaha subwoofer, Kemflo reverse osmosis filter, teak bed, teak side tables, lamps, glass frames with sea maps, etc. Email for list and prices. Email: homeinphuket@live.com

#### Household Services

#### **DWF HOME SERVICES**

Built-in bars, counters, pools, kitchens, ponds, etc. Tel: 081-606 5746. Email: DWF\_homeservices@ hotmail.com

#### Looking for land to buy?

See more classified ads at www.phuketgazette.net

#### 

Deadline for Property Gazette page: Friday 3 pm.

Deadline for all other ads: Saturday 12 noon.







#### SPEEDBOAT FOR SALE

19 Rib with 4-stroke engine built for coastal waters. Excellent for snorkeling, fishing and family outings. Safe and economical. Comes with a trailer and many extras. Price: 595,000 baht. Tel: 082-814 9912. Email: alistair @aimdb. net

#### WOODWORK FOR BOAT & HOUSE

All for wood and more!

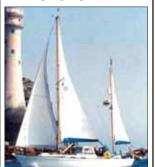
- Full hull repairs
- Internal woodwork
- Teak wood work and decking
- Teak wood accessories
- Fiberglass repairs
- Spray painting
- Antifouling
- Super Yacht repairs
- Built-in furniture for homes, kitchens, flooring, decking, wardrobes
- Concrete waterproofing and more.

Tel: 076-238947, 081-968 3118 (English), 081-271 3228 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-238947. Email: info@procarpentering.com

#### 18FT DORY

18ft dory style boat with bimini, trailer, life jackets etc. Very low hour 60Hp Mercury + 6 Hp Mercury. Thai registered. Tel: 089-290 6925 (English). Please send email for more infomation at: rayb100@hotmail.co.uk

#### MOTORSAILER



33' ketch. New paint and varnish. Sailed single-handed from UK. Many new parts. Bluewater cruiser. Tel: 081-968 1437 (English). Email: bobedward1@hotmail.com

#### VAN DE STADT 38' YACHT

Ashore at Langkawi Port, due for inspection in March. Photos and spec on request. Price: US\$ 45,000. Tel: +60-125-531 4030 (English). Contact for more details at email: brianralph goodwin@ yahoo.com

#### CHALOMARK DINGHY



40Hp and 5Hp engine. Can carry 8 persons. Like new. Price: 230,000 baht. Tel: 089-658 5664.

#### SPEEDBOAT FOR SALE

With 2 company work permits. Building B&B. Boat length: 27'. Year: 2007. GPR Fiberglass capacity: 35 knots. Engine: Honda 225MP. Price: 960,000 baht. Negotiable. Tel: 087-518 1347.

#### SWISS CATAMARAN 24 FEET

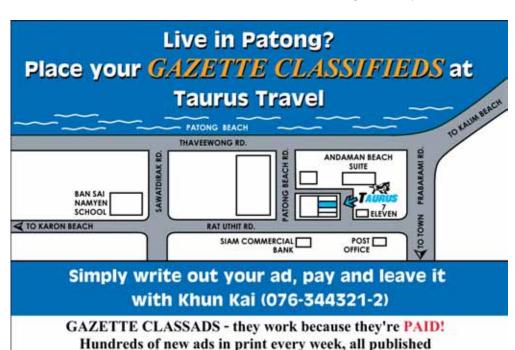
A perfect fishing boat made of fiberglass. Comes with 2 Honda 4 stroke engines, each 50 Hp. It has a hydraulic system, a Simrad navigation GPS chart plotter and electric Ankerwinsch plus toilet. Phuket registration. With 4-wheel aluminium trailer. Price: 600,000 baht. Contact Khun Aree. Tel: 089-474 5168.

#### ROYAL PHUKET MARINA BERTH

20m front line Royal Phuket Marina berth to let by private owner. On flexible terms and greatly discounted rates. Email: james@shayler.com

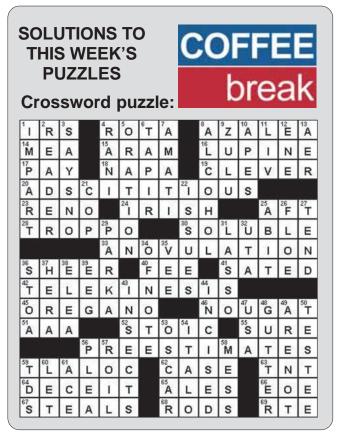
#### 35 FOOT POWER CAT FOR SALE

Brand new fiber glass with flybridge. Email: jgkg24@ hotmail.com



simultaneously - and FREE - in the Gazette Online!

The Gazette is always on top in Google!



# pump.Asking price: 975,000 baht or o.n.o. (Original price: 1.3 million baht, in April 2010). Tel: 089-770 3234. Email: jeremy.ayre@awrl loyd.com POWER CAT FOR SALE Brand-new, 35 feet, fiberglass with fly bridge. Email: jgkg24@hotmail.com 55-FOOT CATAMARAN 6 double cabins, 105sqm.

5.8 RIGID

**INFLATABLE BOAT** 

For sale. 10-month old,

5.8m long. Cholamark RIB power by 2x60hp Evinrude

engines (operating hours). Includes bimini, raymarine

57D chartplotter/depth

sounder, 170 liter stainless

steel fuel tank, and bilge

Sails, in composite. Ready to

sail! Price: 1.5 million baht.

Contact for more details. Tel:

087-461 8089.

#### **PROJECT MANAGER REQUIRED**

Project Manager needed urgently. Qualifications: Minimum 2 years experience in the construction industry or real estate management. Bachelor's degree or diploma in engineering. Candidates with construction experience will be more considered favorably. Good command of Thai and English, 30-55 years old. Tel: 076-234775, 087-815 3777. Please send CV/resume to email: phuketimperial @yahoo.com

#### **TEACHERS NEEDED**

For English Program & International Program. Satree Phuket School Phuket, Thailand. We are urgently seeking 12 full-time teachers, both native Englishspeakers and Thais, to begin work in May 2011 in the following posi-

- 2 mathematics teachers: both native English-speaking and Thai teachers.
- 1 science teacher: both native English-speaking and Thai teachers.
- 1 social studies teacher.
- 1 Thai history teacher: both native English-speaking and Thai
- 1 Health and Physical Education teacher
- 1 Arts teacher
- -1 Computer teacher with technician and website qualification
- 3 English teachers
- 1 ASEAN Studies teacher: native English-speaking in social studies with ASEAN

country qualification or related field and project work.

Thai applicants must have completed M.A. degree abroad.

General Job Descriptions:

- -Teach full-time (18-20 hours per week) to secondary students (ages 13-18)
- Holidays: 10 personal holidays: 7 days of sick leave.
- Salary:
- + General B.A. degree: 30,000 baht per month, plus 3,000 baht for housing.
- + Specialized B.A. major degree: 35,000 baht per month, plus 3,000 baht for housing.
- + General M.A. degree: 35,000 baht per month, plus 3,000 baht for housing.
- + Specialized M.A. major degree
- + Work permit (valid non-immigrant B visa required)
- + Health insurance after three months probation.

If you are interested, please send contact details and positions you are applying for with your CV and TEFL or CELTA certificate from now until 10<sup>th</sup> March 2010. Tel: 076-211034 ext. 144. Email: spk2011.staffrecruitment@ gmail.com

#### **CYPRUS SEASON** 2011

Sales people required for Panaretti Resorts, the largest timeshare company in Cyprus. Sales person & OPC's required, British Germans, Scandinavians, Russians. Flight and accommodation provided. Contact Sales.Tel: Jacquest 35-79 7682698. Email: a.hoefer@rovalcoral bay.com or marketing Email: kevsw@hotmail.co.uk

#### **CHIEF ENGINEER**

Chief Engineer/Assistant Service Manager at a Yacht Dealership Company based in Phuket, Thailand is looking for a young enthusiastic Marine Engineer with an excellent knowledge in electronics and hydraulics, preferably with superyacht experience. The successful applicant needs to be competent and experienced in working with: Besenzoni systems. Naviop., Furlanet, Gi8, Twin Disc & BCS. Work is shore based. Fluent English and excellent computer and internet skills required. For more information please contact Anthony Gates. Tel: 081-968 5119. Email: anthony@leemarine.com

#### **MARKETING MANAGER WANTED**

Business development manager for hotel contracting wanted by Thai Oriental Tours travel agency. Thai national with good English and hotel work experience. Tel: 076-629 3225, 082-323 9315 (English). Send CV with expected salary to andre@thaiorientaltours.com For further details, please see our website at www.thai orientaltours.com

#### **PART TIME ADMIN**

Part time administration work from your own home. High degree of English and computer skills required. Tel: 085-258 0006. Email: pat@aeropromgr.com

#### **PADI DIVING INSTRUCTOR**

Required for dive center on Phi Phi island. For futher details, please send email to: jgkg24@hotmail.com

#### **PHOTOGRAPHER**

We are looking for a keen amateur photographer to join our event team, preferably a Scandinavian. You need to be computer literate and have strong organizing skills as well. Tel: 081-891 5428 (English & Thai, 087-897 1761 (English). Email: info@lamoet.com

#### The Sponsorship Experts Paul Poole (South East Asia )Co.,Ltd

is looking for Sales/Marketing Executives to join there growing Bangkok based team. The successful applicant must have experience and a strong command of both spoken and written English/ Thai

Tel: 02-622 0605-7, Email: admin@paulpoole.co.th





The Privilege At BayCliff Co Ltd is and exclusive real estate company located at Prabaramee Road. We are urgently looking for professional and qualified and candidates to join our team in Phuket. Must have the following qualifications:

#### Sales Manager

- Preferably 30-40 years old
- Minimum 2-3 years experience in sales or/marketing
- Good negotiation and English Communication skills
- Self-motivated and dynamic, service-minded and result-oriented
- Pro-active and well organized
- . Pleasant personality
- . Computer literate
- Car driving license with own car will be an advantage

Please e-mail your resume to: niramon@thebaycliff.com or contact us at 076 342 696, Attn: Khun Niramon

#### **STAFF WANTED**

Nightshift receptionist for Patong guesthouse. Must speak some English. For more information. Tel: 083-388

#### **DTW BLOG EDITOR**

Blog editor: 30 hours or 40 hours per week, depending on skills. Excellent English and good writing ability. Ability to learn some simple html for blog editing. Salary dependent on skills and time commitment. Please send your CV to info@dive-the-world.com

#### **ACCOUNTANT WANTED URGENTLY**

We need a professional accountant. Qualifications as below:

- 1) Bachelor degree or diploma in accounting
- 2) Expert in express software 3) Minimum experience of 2 years in accounting will be con-

Tel: 087-815 3777. Please kindly send your CV or resume by email to: phuketimperial @yahoo.com For further details, please see our website at www.phuket-stainlessservice.com

#### **ADMIN ASSIST**

Thai national assistant needed for office work with good command of English. No previous experience is needed. Salary + commission. Tel: 088-168 5032. Email: B\_Gholami@hotmail.com

#### SECRETARY/ **PERSONAL ASSISTANT**

Tropical Properties, one of Phuket's leading real estate agencies, is looking for a secretary / personal assistant. Must be able to work independently. Good knowledge of English and Microsoft office is a must. Experience in real estate is not essential. Tel: 087-882 2856. Email: luc@phukettropical-realestate.com

#### **HOUSE MAID WANTED**

To clean pool villa. Easy work. No previous experience is necessary. Tel: 083-641 9327.

#### **GRADE 1 TEACHER**

International school is looking for a homeroom teacher for grade 1 (6 to 7-year-olds). Only native English speakers with appropriate degree should apply. Please send application to phuketprimary@mail.com

#### LIMITLESS DISCOVERY AWAITS

Le Méridien Phuket Beach Resort, a member of Starwood Hotels and Resorts, invites candidates for the following

- Sports & Recreations Manager
- Assistant Food & Beverage Manager
- Assistant Laundry Manager
- Italian Chef
- Chef de Partie (European Cuisine)

An exciting career awaits creative professionals along with a competitive benefits package.

Send resume with recent photo to: manit.pimparien@lemeridien.com

 $\mathscr{L}\!e$  MERIDIEN

Soi Karon Nui, Karon, Muang Phuket 83100, Thailand +66 76 370 100 F +66 76 340 479

CHIC

DISCOVERY

CULTURED

Joe Conrad the Magic Theatre is opening in Patong at the Jungceylon Center. The 700-seat theatre will be Phuket's first and only show offering Las Vegas style illusions and magic entertainment on a nightly basis. If you have an interest in the entertainment industry or you have experience in it already, we need talented, experienced and motivated people to join the team!

We are now looking for the following positions:

#### Office Team

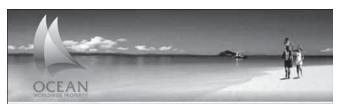
- Sales Manager & Sales Representatives HR Manager & HR Support Call Center Supervisor/Agents Financial Analysts

#### **Theatre Team**

- Box Office Manager
- Ticket Booth Agents **Usher & Ticket Takers**
- Cashiers Food/Drink/Gifts
- Magic Demonstrators
- Maintenance Engineer IT Engineer

ASIA'S PREMIER MAGIC SPECTACULAR

Email: hr@joeconrad.com, www.joeconradmagictheatre.com



#### Real Estate, Phuket

Ocean Worldwide is a leading real estate agency that offers a proven international marketing system balanced with dedicated personnel who are committed to maintaining the highest standards of conduct and professionalism. An opportunity is available for an individual to work with our international clients to proficiently communicate information on our recommended Phuket properties. We are looking for a conscientious and ambitious person to join out team.

#### Sales Support Executive

You must be enthusiastic, have a positive attitude and possess above average communication skills. You will be expected to liaise with existing and new clients in person, on the telephone and through email correspondence. You will enjoy a dynamic lifestyle with high earning and advancement capabilities. Basic Salary + Commission + International travel expenses for property exhibitions. Thai female nationality.

#### Administrator

Thai Nationality. Enthusiastic and well organized candidate required. Basic office skill including computer database, good command of spoken and written English, good interpersonal skills, team player and service-minded.

Email your CV, with references to sandra.oneill@oceanwwp.com

Ocean Worldwide Company Limited 382/76 Lagoon Road.,Cherngtalay

Thalang, Phuket 83110 Thailand Tel: +66 76 325 986 Fax:+66 76 325 988 www.oceanwwp.com

Looking for a job? Looking for a better candidate? Find more Recruitment Classifieds at www.hlatchatte.Net!

#### Paradise Koh Yao



#### island hideaway near phuket

The Paradise Koh Yao, a contemporary 72 room Boutique Resort is located on Koh Yao Noi island, a 60 minute boat trip from Phuket. Catering to the experienced traveler looking for unspoiled nature, 'bare foot' luxury - away from the crowded tourist spots of Phuket and Krabi - NOW complimented with our Yoga and Wellbeing Center.

We are seeking a candidate with an outstanding personality to be the leader of our motivated team with commitment to personalized, superior customer service.

#### **GENERAL MANAGER**

Covering all aspects of the operations, finance, local marketing - responsibility on bottom line results. Based at the resort on Koh Yao with regular visits to the Phuket office.

- At least 3-5 years experience in 5 or 4 star Resort/Hotel in similar assignment
- Front line person, strong customer relation skills
- · Leader personality, Motivator
- · Results / Marketing oriented
- Previous assignment in Thailand / Asia an advantage
- Foreign or Thai National 30 50 years of age

Comprehensive remuneration / incentive package will be offered to the right candidate Send your resume with recent photo, references and salary expectations to:

The Paradise Koh Yao – Boutique Beach Resort & Spa joeraess@theparadise.biz www.theparadise.biz



#### BE W. WE'RE INTERESTED IN YOU.

**POSITION:** Property Sales Manager

**RESPONSIBILITIES:** Manage all aspects of the on-site property sales operation and customer service. Report directly to the Managing Director:

#### **OUALIFICATIONS:**

- Successful track record of selling residential propety or luxury products.
- Very good presentation, negotiation and communications skills.
- · Highly motivated and able to work under pressure.
- Excellent command of the English language.

Interested candidates are invited to submit their resume, a covering letter, (including details of current and expected salary and commission, and reasons for applying) and recent photograph before 15 March 2011.

W RESIDENCES - KOH SAMUI

4/I Moo I,Tambol Maenam, Koh Samui, Surat Thani 84330 Thailand

T +66 (0) 77 915999 F +66 (0) 77 915998 Email auditions@whotels.com

www.kohsamuiresidences.com



#### Tropical Homes Real Estate, Phuket

We are one of Phuket's leading real estate companies with two branches in Phuket. For our Cherng Talay office we are inviting applicants for the following position:

Receptionist/Administrator; Minimum 3-5 years of administrative experience, good personality and service minded, excellent computer skills including Photoshop and Illustrator, basic accounting and tax skills, ready to start immediately.

We value our staff and offer competitive salaries and bonuses. Thai females with excellent English literacy should send an introductory email together with current resume or CV and a recent photograph.

Please send all inquiries to: info@tropical-homes.net

Tropical Homes Real Estate Co. Ltd. 100/27 Moo 5, Cherngtalay, Thalang, Phuket 83110

#### YACHT SALES EXECUTIVE

Requirements: Experience in sales & brokerage of luxury yachts, knowledge of boats, and technical issues, fluent in English and excellent computer and internet skills. Tel: 081-979 9911. Email: vrit@boatlagoon yachting.co.th For further details, please see our website at www.boatlagoonyachting.co.th

#### SALES & MARKETING MANAGER

Requirements: Over 4 years experience as a sales & marketing manager of a business selling high-end luxury products. Fluent in English and Thai, excellent marketing skills and knowledge, and excellent computer and internet skills. Tel: 081-979 9911. Email: vrit@boatlagoonyachting.co.th

#### MASSAGE THERAPIST JOBS

Massage therapists to work in fitness clubs in Russia. Good pay, free round-trip airfare and a free apartment. Tel: +1-602-904 5716. Email: Wall.lawoffices@gmail.com For further details, please see our website at www.fitnes.ru/content/ru/club-2009-02-18-15-46-06.html

#### HOUSE MAID WANTED

To clean pool villa. Easy work. No previous experience is necessary. Tel: 083-641 9327.

#### FRONT DESK & BOOKEEPER

Accounting & English skills. 1-9pm. Thai national. Experience required. Tel: 080-052 8082 (English). Send email: solitude001@aol.com

# One of Phuket's biggest Dive Centers has an available position in the booking department: The following qualifications are needed: Excellent skills in spoken and written Thai Good skills in spoken and written English Knowledge of the dive business Knowledge in working with a computer Presentable and flexible Interested candidates, who fit the above profiles, please email your resume immediately. We will then call you to make an appointment for an interview. Chalong: Phone: 076-383 052 Email: info@scandinavian-divers.com

**Scandinavian-Divers** 

#### PHUKET WATER SKI PARK STAFF

Looking for a Thai person with good English for a temporary job. Distribution of our advertising material and contracts to travel agencies. Payment: salary + commisstion. Please send your CV to phuketcableski@ yahoo.com

#### GENERAL HANDYMAN REQUIRED

Thai national, live-in position if needed. Must have experience, Surin area. Call Apple. Tel: 085-789 8443. Email: info@villachangrajang.com

#### WEB DEVELOPER HELP NEED

Looking for a person who can do PHP, mySQL, CSS3, SEO, Googlemap API v3, HTML5, Web optimization (size, on both Images and code, caching for fast loading speeds). Tel: 076-239820. Email: noinah @latitude1maritime.com

#### **CAFE STAFF WANTED**

Thai staff for a gourmet cafe in Rawai. Good personality, some English. Day work. Please contact Sandy. Tel: 080-695 3380. Or send email: sanduquin@gmail.com

### MY STORAGE

Secure, Clean & Cost Effective Self Storage

MY STORAGE — Thailand's No.1 Self Storage facility located at Jungceylon Shopping Center, Patong, Phuket — is seeking an enthusiastic, motivated and result driven Sales professional.

#### Sales Executive

- Bachelor's degree or related field
- Thai national 25 35 years old, fluent in English (written and spoken)
- Minimum of 3-5 years sales experience in the same field or position
- Computer literate with good knowledge of Microsoft Office
- Excellent administrative office skills and a good telephone manner
- Good presentation, negotiation and communication skills
- Advanced customer service skills
- Honest, proactive and well organized
- Pleasant personality and service-minded
- Positive attitude, enthusiastic and able to work under pressure
- Car driving license with own car will be advantage
- This is a full time position which may involve some weekend work/shift and flexible hours
- Salary & benefits plus commission great earning potential!

Submit your CV with recent photo and a covering letter in English to hr@mystorageasia.com or call 076 29 29 09 for further information.

Want to know more about MY STORAGE? Visit mystorageasia.com

#### SALE EXECUTIVE NEEDED

Sale Executive needed urgently in Phuket Town.

Qualifications: Aged between 25-45 years, male or female. Good command of English in writing and speaking skills. Minimum 2 years of experience as sales officer, any construction experience will be considered favorably. Salary: 8,500-12,000 baht not including commission. Tel: 0878153777 or phuketimperial@yahoo.com For further details, please see our website at www.phuketstainless-service.com

#### Employment Wanted

#### WEB DESIGNER EMPLOYMENT

for full-time employment. Developing and maintaining websites, SEO, e-marketing. Send email: claudstrey@gmail.com

#### EXPAT ENGINEER (MECHANICAL)

searching for employment or partnership in a company – 25 yrs experience. Email: jobphuket@hotmail.com

Gazette Online Classifieds – 10,000 readers every day!

#### **General Classifieds**

#### **XBOX360 GAMES**

steering wheels price 12,000 Baht (New) and 2008 Honda dream price: 20,000 baht. Tel: 082-288 3261.

#### WHEELCHAIR SALE

Can walk again after 7 months in fantastic wheelchair. Tel: 080-649 0500.

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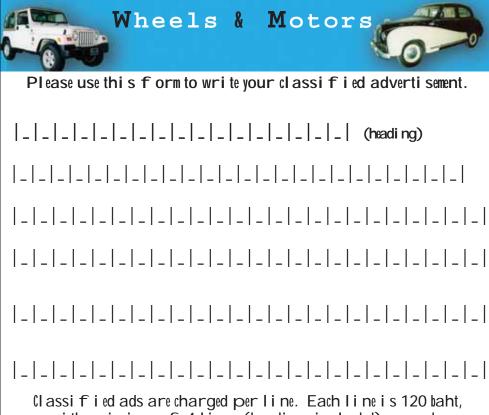
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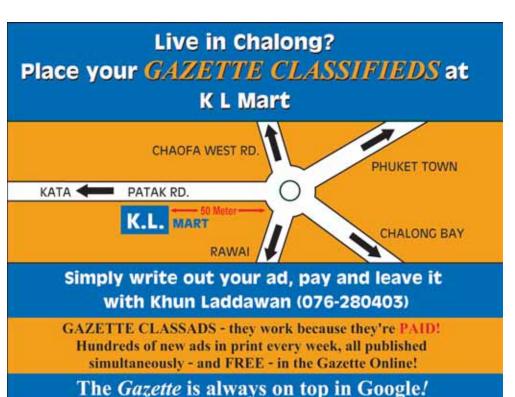
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# Sport \_\_\_\_

# Pro-Am returns for second round



SWINGING IN AGAIN: Five-time Asian Tour winner Simon Yates will return this year to take part in the Pro-Am. Photo: Event Media

AFTER a successful sell-out event last year, Phuket's Pro-Am charity golf event returns this year on June 17.

The Phuket Property Dot Com Pro-Am Invitational will be played at the award-winning Laguna Phuket Golf Club.

The 2011 event will build on the success of the inaugural event.

A field of amateur golfers from the region including Hong Kong, Singapore, Bangkok and Phuket will be taking part. A total of 120 players are expected – 90 amateurs and 30 touring professionals.

Organizers told the *Phuket Gazette* that they expect the event to attract top players on the Asian Tour, as well as several players from the newly formed OneAsia tour.

The mid-June date has been chosen for good reason. There are two separate professional tours playing in Thailand on alternate

weekends – the Asian Tour and the OneAsia tour. This year's event is scheduled between the two, which will ensure that a strong field of touring professionals will be in the area and able to attend.

Already confirmed is five-time Asian Tour winner Simon Yates, 2010 winner Thai pro Udorn Duangdecha, as well as Andy Leadbetter (son of David Leadbetter, one of the world's leading golf instructors), and his LPGA star mother Kelly Leadbetter.

Thai Professional Udorn Duangdecha and his team of amateurs were the stars last year, taking the overall team trophy.

But with amateur slots filling up fast and a number of top pros soon to be confirmed, the bar is set to be raised for this year's Pro-Am. The Pro-Am is a charity event, with money raised going to the Phuket Has Been Good To Us foundation.

The 2010 event raised 500,000 baht for the foundation.

Organizers have already indicated that sponsorship interest for 2011 is high and the aim is again to raise as much money as possible for this worthy cause.

The golf is followed by predinner cocktails and a lavish gala dinner with live and silent auctions offering some fantastic prizes.

The entry fee is 6,000 baht for Laguna Phuket Golf Club members, and 8,000 baht for non-members. The *Phuket Gazette* and *PGTV* are sponsors of this event.

- Phuket Gazette

To book, or for more details, contact E:golf@phukethasbeengoodtous.org, or visit W:proam-phuket.com

### Laguna CC stumps all in Phuket Cricket League

THE sixth year of the Island Furniture Senior Cricket League began in November and has seen the introduction of a 20/20 competition being played in conjunction with the league's usual 35-over version of the game.

All teams have played three matches in both competitions, this being the half way stage in Phuket's cricket season.

Laguna CC leads the 35-over competition with 57 points while Patong CC are 12 points adrift.

Phuket Development CC is in third place trailing by a further 22 points, effectively making the competition a two-horse race.

Phuket Development CC is comprised entirely of Thai schoolchildren who have been introduced to the sport of cricket and are regularly coached by club volunteers. The main focus is not results but seeing the Thai youngsters competing in and enjoying, for them, a completely new sport.

Struggling at the bottom of the 35-over competition table is Island CC on nine points.

However, this does not reflect their ability in the shorter 20/20 format, where Island CC tops the table with six points from their three games.

Laguna CC and Patong CC are still in the hunt, with four and two points respectively.

Having two games each remaining, the 20/20 title race is not over yet.

The 35-over final will be contested in April between Laguna CC – looking for their first cup win and Patong CC – hoping to de-

club volunteers. The main focus fend their title for the second year is not results but seeing the Thai

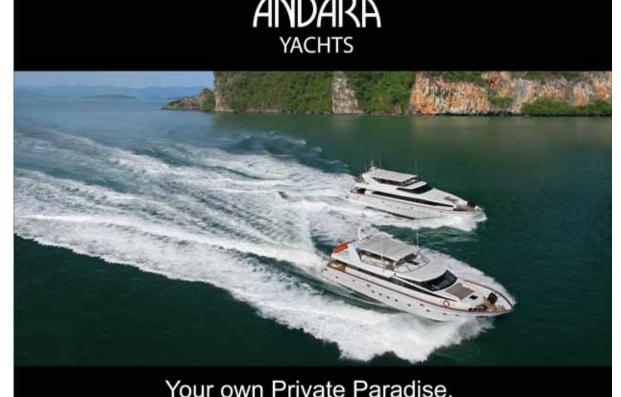
If anyone is interested in being part of Phuket cricket in any capacity, then contact the Phuket Cricket Group Honorary Secretary Anthony Van Blerk at T:080-0417227 or E:avanblerk79@gmail.com for more information.

– Phuket Gazette



BATTING DOWN THE COMPETITION: Cricket is gaining popularity in Phuket.





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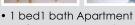












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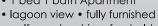


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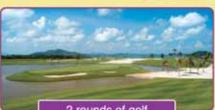
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