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Hotel supply cap 'pointless'

By Stephen Fein and Janpen Upatising

HOTEL operators are lukewarm to an effort by the Thai Hotels Association (THA) to lobby the government to limit the number of new hotel licenses it issues, saying the real problem is the number of accommodation establishments that operate illegally.

Following reports that the association planned to lobby returning Tourism and Sports Minister Chumpol Silpa-archa to help develop the industry by limiting new hotel licenses in popular destinations, Phuket Tourist Association President Somboon Jirayus doubted such a measure could be effective in Phuket under current circumstances.

The main obstacle is the number of guesthouses, serviced apartments and similar establishments operating as hotels on the island without licenses, he said.

He estimated there were "over 50,000" rooms in such establishments – surpassing the number of rooms in registered hotels.



Somboon Jirayus estimates there are more than 50,000 illegal guest rooms on Phuket.

As of June 2011, there were 43,571 registered rooms in Phuket, according to Tourism Authority of Thailand statistics.

Asked how such a situation could have developed he said, "It's hard to explain. I guess you could say we do it 'Thai style'. Those businesses do not comply with regulations, they just build and open."

As the Interior Ministry issues licenses, any effort to crack down on illegal operators would require action from them through the Governor's Office in each province, he said.

If they could solve the "underground hotel" problem, the idea of limiting the number of new licenses would be an attractive one, he said.

"I think we have to accept the fact that now the room supply in Phuket surpasses demand, especially during the green season. So I think the idea to limit the number of new licenses is interesting, but I think you would need a committee to present all the facts relevant to the situation.

"It would be good if the government could do it, but it should match the actual supply and demand situation," he said.

Rival destinations had benefited from similar measures. Authorities in Bali, for example, had successfully limited the number of new hotel licenses issued in certain areas, such as the tourist-busy Kuta Beach.

Whether or not new licenses should be issued is considered by a review panel after a set period of time, such as every three years, he said.

Continued on page 2



Luang Pu Supha's 115th birthday

REVERED monk Luang Pu Supha Khantaseelo marks his 115th birthday on September 17.

During his life, Luang Pu Supha has seen five Thai monarchs ascend the throne.

In honor of his achievements, including being the founder of more than 30 temples, Luang Pu Supha will receive an honorary doctorate degree from Maha Chulalongkorn Rajavidyalaya University during a ceremony starting at 10am on his birthday.

Whether his reverence is the world's oldest man has yet to be ratified by Guinness World Records, who have contacted

his resident temple in Chalong, says Phra Pan Khao, Luang Pu Supha's assistant.

Luang Pu Supha's birth certificate marks that he was born in 1896, but his reverence maintains that he was born almost two years before his birth was registered.

Luang Pu Supha will receive guests and bestow blessings on on September 17 from 8:30am.

Among the festivities to be held to mark the occassion are the release of 119 birds and alms offering to the attending monks. Luang Pu Supha will also hand out scholarships to 250 students.

Bank robbery foiled by closing time

POLICE are still hunting for a man who tried robbing a bank in Phuket Town late on Monday afternoon with what police believe to be a fake bomb strapped to his chest.

The robbery was foiled by the bank closing for business just minutes earlier.

The man, described as dark-skinned and about 30-35 years old, arrived at the Kasikorn Bank branch opposite the Thavorn Grand Hotel, at about 3:35pm.

"The man tried opening the front door of the bank. Our staff were still working inside, but the front door was locked as we had already closed for the day," said branch manager Auttakorn Thitirangsee.

"He shook the door, but staff refused to let him in. He opened his jacket and revealed what looked like a bomb and then jumped and kicked the door many times – but our staff still refused to let him in," he said.

The man, wearing jeans, a green tracksuit jacket and a baseball cap, walked around looking for another way to enter the bank, but failed, said Mr Auttakorn.

Conceding defeat, the man threatened local businesswoman Konaulai Ruanwin, showing her the grenades and stealing her motorbike.

"We are trying to compile a sketch of the man's face, but Ms Konaulai cannot remem-

ber his face because she was too frightened at the time," said Lt Eakapot Sungmian.

At the scene on Monday, Phuket City Police Deputy Superintendent Jumroon Playduong said, "We believe the robber used to work for the bank. We have searched for him at his house, but could not find him. We have also contacted his new place of work. They said he had not turned up at work for the past two days."

"A witness said that two days ago he saw a man riding a motorbike past the bank many times, and that he saw a gun under a helmet in the motorbike's front basket," he added.

– P Choksakulpan / Yodsak Jarana



Frightened into believing the bomb strapped onto the man's chest was real, witnesses failed to give a clear description of the cuplrit.

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This Week

Diplomat dialogue



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Metal sculptor welds together his art and the export trade. Page 10

Education



Eric Haeg assesses what it takes to get a teaching job. Page 15

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Sport



Pariwat scores another first at Phuket Country Club. Page 41

Saturday

Sunday



Monday





Wednesday



Thursday



Soi Dogs opens island's first hospital for felines PHUKET's renowned animal wel-

fare charity Soi Dog Foundation has opened the island's first facility dedicated to providing medical treatment to cats.

The new "Cat Hospital", which cost more than a million baht to build and equip, opened quietly last week and already has 10 cats in

"Previously, cats have had to be kept in small cages, often surrounded by dogs. The new facility will help to reduce stress and promote rapid healing for injured cats. From what we've witnessed so far, the cats are thoroughly enjoying their new surroundings," said SDF's John Dalley.

"The hospital will provide much-needed facilities for the many cats that come to Soi Dog for sterilizing and treatment. The hospital boasts its own operating theater, three separate cat 'suites' and two separate outside runs, with the first occupants already enjoying what is probably the best cat facility in Thailand," he said.

Ten felines currently at the hospital are receiving treatment for a variety of ailments, ranging from bites and injuries sustained from traffic accidents to Feline AIDS virus and Feline leukemia.

"Both of these infectious dis-



One of the first felines to be treated at the new facility. Photo: Cindy Amey

eases, [feline AIDS and leukemia] sadly, are very common in Phuket," Mr Dalley explained.

Construction of the facility was made possible through donations of the many Soi Dog supporters and a generous donation from the registered UK animal welfare charity, the Jeanne Marchig Trust, which donated US\$25,000.

"In addition, the wonderful 5th graders of the American School of the Hague in the Netherlands had a successful fund-raising effort to help towards the fitting out of the hospital, which includes operating tables and large individual fitted cages as well as toys and climbing frames for convalescing cats," said Cindy Amey, volunteer Adoptions Coordinator.

The official opening is planned for January 2012 when Jeanne Marchig is hoped to visit the site in person.

The Soi Dog Foundation has treated 1,476 cats from January 1 through August 31 this year alone. "Most of the cats are brought to us for de-sexing, although treatment for sickness or injuries is required at times," Mr Dalley explained.

Generally, Soi Dog does have felines available for adoption, he added. For more information call Cindy Amey on 081-788 4222.

- Phuket Gazette

Estate manager denies 'blazing gun' charges

POLICE have confiscated the gun struction laborers to stop work. of a housing estate manager accused of firing it to intimidate a construction team into stopping work – because he felt they were being "too noisy".

Police are now investigating whether the gun license he produced is genuine.

Seree Duangsuwan arrived at Phuket City Police Station for questioning last Friday after Swede Mike Hjort and Songkhla native Waleeporn Chinpised filed a complaint on the same day.

The pair claimed that Mr Seree fired a gun into the air after they refused to order their team of con-

"Mr Seree came in for questioning, as did Mr Hjort, but Mr Seree has denied the charges against him, which are threatening people and carrying and firing a firearm in public," said Lt Col Jessada

Mr Seree's gun license was sent to Kathu District Office to be verified, he added.

"Since the shooting, we have not resumed work on the project. We will continue our work [only] if the house owner discusses the situation with the people overseeing the project," Mr Hjort said.

- Atchaa Khamlo

Hotel supply restrictions moot

From page 1

Suchart Hirankanokkul, president of Thai Hotels Association Southern Chapter and managing director of Graceland Hotel, said he was aware of the issues involved but would not be attending the meeting in Bangkok.

The chief problem of the proliferation of unregistered accommodation establishments was not that it created an oversupply situation, but that it eroded standards and compromised safety, he said.

"There are simply no controls on serviced apartments and guesthouses operating illegally as hotels," he said.

The government should come up with a suitable permitting system for such venues to ensure they are at least equipped with basic safety systems. A major fire disaster in such an establishment would ruin Phuket's hotel industry reputation globally.

"Prospective tourists would just hear the word 'hotel'. The would not know whether or not the hotel were legally registered," he said.

Many illegal hotels on the island were built as far back as 30 years ago and the structures do not meet building code requirements. Complete reconstruction would be cost prohibitive, so they opt not to apply for permits at all, he explained.

"But to order them closed would be too cruel,"

Instead, the government should allow a "grandfather clause" to allow them to operate within the law, he added, insisting that the THA did not want to limit new business investment.

"We are not opposed to business competition, but there must be standards in the industry. We want to bring the illegal establishments into the system so that we all operate under the same laws.

"Otherwise, legally-registered hotels will be forced to continue to operate at a competitive disadvantage since all those operators don't have to pay tax or train staff according to the Hotel Act. This allows them to undercut legal hotels on pricing," he said.

The problem would be a topic of discussion at an upcoming meeting with the governor, he said.





Nepalis in fear of freed 'kidnap rapist'

THE Thai-Nepalese Club are considering their options in dealing with the community's fear of reprisals following the release of a man who confessed to multiple counts of kidnapping, imprisonment, and repeated rape and robbery of Nepali women.

The ethnic community's members in Phuket are living in fear of Phakpoom Maneerat, who was released from Phuket Provincial Prison on June 21 based on a decision by the Phuket Provincial Prosecutor's Office.

Thai-Nepalese Club President Phanuphong Limbuprasertkul expressed shock upon learning of the prosecutor's decision to have Phakpoom released.

"Why is it so easy for him to go free? We are still scared that he will attack us for revenge. I myself am scared of what might happen to me because I've spoken out about this," he said.

"At the meeting [last Sunday], I asked the club members – especially one of the rape victim's relatives – 'Why are we silent about this and not pushing this case forward?' But, her relatives didn't say anything," he added.

Many in attendance did not want to speak out, as they may lack proper documents allowing them to legally work in Thailand, Mr Phanuphong said.

"Only about 40 members attended the meeting, so we haven't come to any conclusions. We'll hold another meeting about a month after the Vegetarian Festival [to begin at the end of this month]," Mr Phanuphong said.

The Thai-Nepalese Club has about 3,000 members, including children and adults. About half of them are females, of whom about 150 are young.

Veg Fest 'gods' to carry ID

By Janpen Upatising

The organizers of the upcoming Phuket Vegetarian Festival are calling for Chinese shrines taking part in the annual rituals to issue identity cards to their spirit mediums.

The move to issue the ID cards to the mediums, called *mah song* (literally "body of the gods"), is to preserve the integrity of the spirit-medium community and to stop "fakes" from taking part in the festival, Prasert Fakthongphol, president of Phuket Shrine Association, explained last Friday.

"I am the organizing president at Bang Niaw Shrine, where we have issued identity cards for every *mah song* – a total of 350 – since last year.

"We started here first. We would like to set an example for others to follow," he said.

Each identity card will state the *mah song*'s name, which god possess that particular *mah song*, a unique ID number and a head-shot photograph of the *mah song* clearly showing his or her face.

"This will be useful for the *mah*



The ID cards are to help tell who are real mediums. Photo: Christian Mouchet

song as well because they can use the card to prove that they are real mah song. It is convenient for officials too, so they can tell who are real mah song and which people are fakes," Mr Prasert added.

There are about 2,000 to 3,000 *mah song* in Phuket, he said.

"We are concerned that people may misunderstand spirit mediums. They might have the wrong perception that spirit mediums are just a joke – or worse. We don't want our long heritage to be destroyed by fakes," he added.

Mr Prasert called for help from the public in identifying impostors by taking photographs of any *mah song* joining the festival pierced with unusual objects. Piercings must use weapons stated in the legends only, such as swords and bladed staffs. Examples of unusual piercings were guns and umbrellas, Mr Prasert said.

"Younger *mah song* might do this without thinking. In years past, we took photos of them [with unusual weapons] and spoke with them to explain the legends so they would understand the significance of what they were doing," he said.

"We do not have enough time to keep an eye on all *mah song* joining the festival, so we would like to ask anybody with cameras or mobile phones with cameras to take photographs of *mah song* with unusual weapons and let us know which shrine the *mah song* was representing," said Mr Prasert.

"People can report *mah song* with inappropriate piercings to shrine committee members. We will then report them to the police," Mr Prasert said.

The annual Phuket Vegetarian Festival will be held this year from September 27 through October 5.

Man survives jump off Thepkrasattri Bridge

A MAN was rushed to hospital last Sunday after being plucked from the fast-flowing waters under Thepkrasattri Bridge, which joins Phuket with the mainland.

Sen Sgt Maj Sayan Mesang, stationed at Tha Nun Police Box under the nearby Sarasin Bridge, received reports of a man attempting to jump off the bridge at about 10:45am.

"I rushed to the scene, but by the time I got there the man had already jumped. I found only a motorcycle parked halfway across. The man was already floating away in the channel to the Andaman Sea," he said.

Luckily for the man, 36-year-



Hasun Soduang points to where Mr Thanwat leapt from the bridge.

old rubber plantation worker Thanawat Mingpijan, a fast-acting local boatman living under the bridge and some friends leaped into action, rescuing him halfway between the bridge and the channel's mouth to the Andaman Sea.

After returning the man to shore, an ambulance soon arrived and took Mr Thanawat to Takua Thung Hospital in Phang Nga.

Sen Sgt Maj Sayan said that Mr Thanawat suffered health problems. "His legs and arms are weak, and he was unable to work. He was frustrated, so he decided to drive his motorbike to the middle of the bridge and jump off," he said

Mr Thanawat is now in safe condition, he added.

– Pimwara Choksakulpan

Taxi drivers come in from the cold

THANAWUT Poksakul and Sitthikorn Boonsri, two of the alleged six taxi drivers who beat a driver working for Kok Chang elephant camp as he picked up tourists from the Cape Sienna resort in Kamala, have presented themselves to police for questioning.

"They presented themselves and have posted bail," said Lt Col Anek Mongkol.

The men stand accused of assault. If found guilty, they face a maximum penalty of a fine of no more than 1,000 baht.



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'Sauces' bug prison guards, curry vendor

THINGS aren't always as they seem in Thailand, as prison guards in Songkhla and a curry vendor in Nakhon Sri Thammarat found out this week.

At first glance there was nothing strange about Thanida Suanleng, 40, and her daughter Soraya Sukkaew, 22, who arrived at Songkhla Central Prison to visit an inmate on September 9.

The women, mother-in-law and wife of 32-year-old prisoner Kriangsak Thirachai, were carrying several clear plastic bags of food with them – not unusual for prison visitors in Thailand.

But closer inspection led guards to become suspicious. A bag of *kaeng jeut* – bland curry – was three times the usual size. When the guards opened it, they were greeted with the unmistakeable smell not of soup, but of alcohol.

Indeed, a tasting session revealed that the clear broth – with bits of pork, seaweed and tofu floating about in it – was actually vodka.

QUEER news

And three bags of fruit palm in syrup also turned out to be less than innocent. All four bags contained a total of 75cc of vodka – exactly one bottle.

Guards promptly arrested the pair and sent them to Songkhla Police Station for processing.

The two women told police that Mr Kriangsak, craving booze, had told them to smuggle some into the prison.

Hoping to evade detection, they decided to disguise the vodka in foods with clear sauce – a cunning ploy that has apparently landed them both criminal records.

In another case last week, a curry vendor in Nakhon Sri Thammarat got a lot more than he bargained for with a bottle of soi sauce he purchased at a local market.

When Mr Phong, who didn't want to give his real name, tried to pour the sauce out of the bottle, nothing came out. He said it was as if there was something inside blocking the flow of the liquid.

When he held the bottle to the light, he got a shock. Floating in the tea-colored condiment were several dead cockroaches.

The furious Mr Phong promptly alerted the local media.

Mr Phong said the roaches couldn't have crawled into the bottle after it was capped because the hole in the top was too small for them to crawl through. Neither did he believe other vendors were playing a trick on him.

Mr Phong said he was convinced the insects got in the bottle at manufacturing time and were sealed in. The name of the brand was not reported.

- Sanook News

AIS sets up shop in Phuket Prison

GSM mobile phone operator Advance Info Service (AIS) has set up a temporary sales booth giving away free SIM cards at the entrance to the visiting area at Phuket Prison.

A sales hostess stationed at the booth said the prison was a good place to promote AIS services as there were always large crowds of people facing long waits to see inmates.

The free cards can be used to access Internet services at three baht per hour.

Other services available at the prison-promo include special rates on day and night phone packages.

Wardens at Phuket Prison have had trouble keeping mobile phones out of the hands of inmates in recent months. First, friends of inmates lobbed the phones over the prison walls in the hope of getting them to their comrades.

When wardens adjusted security to eliminate that threat, the unknown malefactors began sewing mobile phones and packages of methamphetamines inside the carcasses of dead rats, which were



The AIS booth at Phuket Prison.

then pitched over the ramparts.

Daunted by the ingenuity of the smugglers, the prison perimeter is soon to be equipped with 12 CCTV cameras in a bid to catch the perpetrators in the act.

Given the prison's stated concerns and ramped up efforts to stop prisoner communication with the outside world, security buffs might wonder how the free availability of the tiny SIM cards right on the premises would fit in with the game plan.

methamphetamines inside the carcasses of dead rats, which were Nichanon was not immediately

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Machete attack puts Burmese men in ICU



The men suffered multiple wounds after being hacked with a machete.

TWO Burmese workers on their way home from a karaoke bar in Thalang were critically injured after they were attacked by machetewielding youths last week.

Police received an anonymous report at 1:10am from a resident in



Srisoonthorn reporting that two heavily bleeding men were lying in an alley near the Baan Manik boxing camp on Srisoonthron Road.

Arriving at the scene with Kusoldharm Foundation workers, Thalang police found the two men, estimated to be in their early 40s, with deep slash wounds to their necks and backs.

Locals told police that the men lived in a nearby workers camp and frequented a neighborhood karaoke bar after work.

As the pair were returning home, they were attacked from behind by two youths on a motorbike.

They ran yelling for help until they collapsed about 100 meters from the main road. Police suspect the victims had an altercation with the youths earlier at the bar.

The men are in intensive care at Vachira Phuket Hospital.

Police said they are investigating the incident.

– Wichai Witthawat

ICEC gets bipartisan support

By Pimwara Choksakulpan

THE Pheu Thai Party has no plan to cut central government funding for the international convention and exhibition center project planned for Phuket, Government spokesman Prompong Nopparit said during a special visit to Phuket last Saturday.

Appearing with Phuket Governor Tri Augkaradacha after meeting with local community leaders, Mr Prompong dismissed as "rumor" media reports that the project's 2.6 million baht in funding would be withheld.

"It is not true that the government will cancel the budget," Mr Prompong said.

He said the project's Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) report was rejected by the Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP) review board for four main reasons: 1) The site is a traditional nesting site for endangered sea turtles; 2) The site is home to natural forest land that should be preserved; 3) Concerns that the project will affect the way of life of local residents; 4) The project's



Residents voiced their support.

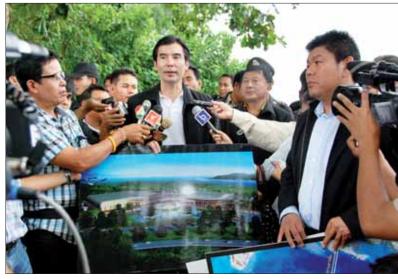
financial benefits don't justify the investment costs.

Despite these serious concerns, he said the Pheu Thai Party "would try and push the project forward so that it can bring benefits to the people of the Andaman region".

"The budget is already approved, the construction design already finished. Though there is no Pheu Thai MP in Phuket, I will help make it a reality because this project would benefit not only the people of the Andaman region, but all of Thailand," he said.

He suggested both government and private sector representatives meet the members of the IEE review panel and ask for an explanation of their findings.

"After discussions with Gov



Spokesman Prompong said there are no plans to withhold project funding.

Tri and community leaders in Mai Khao and Tah Chat Chai this morning, I know that the villagers here agree with the project and have waited about 10 years for it to be built. The government sector, especially the Phuket Treasury Office, should join with private sector leaders and explain this to the panel. If they can get them to agree and subsequently approve both the IEE and Environmental Impact Assessment

in Chino - Portugese Design

reports we will start construction soon," he said.

Mr Prompan's appearance followed an earlier statement by Phuket MP Anchalee Vanich Thepabutr slamming the IEE produced by the ONEP panel.

Mrs Anchalee, a member or the opposition Democrat Party's "shadow cabinet", said the project had been studied for 15 years already and was long overdue.

Phuket needs a world-class

convention center urgently as an integral part of the island's development plan for MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions) tourism in the run-up to the establishment of the ASEAN Economic Community in 2015, which is expected to dramatically increase the number of regional tourists to Phuket, she said.

She rejected outright concerns reportedly stated in the IEE that the project would be in conflict with private-sector investments on the island, saying that no existing facility to accommodate gatherings of 3,000 to 5,000 delegates exist and that no investors were considering investment on such a scale.

"I think the Treasury Department needs to move fast to get them [ONEP] the correct information," she said.

Noting that the same agency approved construction of a convention center in Chiang Mai, she said that if the IEE rejection is not overturned then a case should be lodged with the Administrative Court charging the agency with injustice to the people of the Andaman region.

076 342 554 or 081 844 9600

Big Buddha on its way

THE Big Buddha image in the Nakkerd Hills is scheduled for completion next month, with a nationally-televised prayer ceremony in honor of HM King Bhumibol Adulyadej and HM Queen Sirikit to take place in November, its builders say.

The Mingmongkol Faith 45 Foundation, set up to construct the Big Buddha, made the announcement at a press conference on September 8 at foundation head-quarters in Phuket.

Phra Kru Wisut Kittiyaporn, chief of the Kata Ecclesiastical Council, said a prayer ceremony to mark the birthdays of both Their Majesties will be held on November 27.

The abbot who oversees the south of Thailand has been asked to invite monks from across the region to attend, Phra Kru Wisut said.

"We have already completed the main Buddha image and are now working on the lotus-shaped base and other decorations. We have to



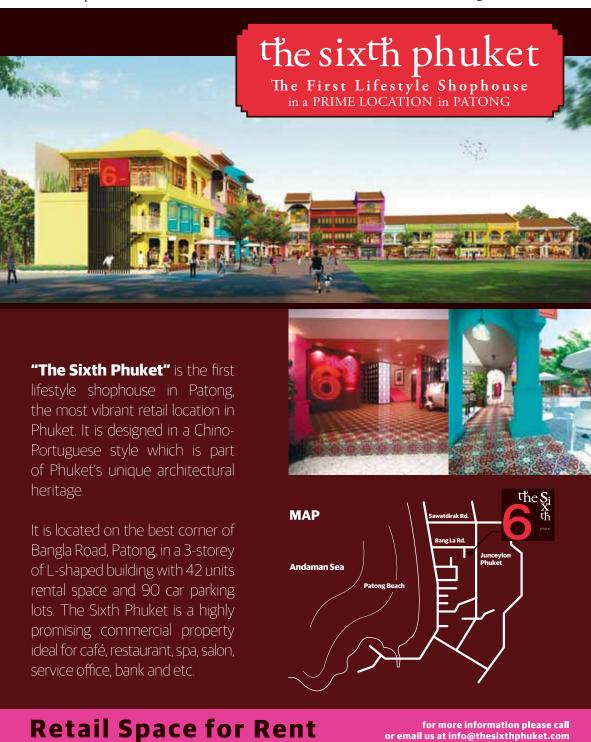
A statue of King Rama V at the Big Buddha image in Phuket.

get everything finished before the end of October," he said.

Suporn Wanitchakul, president of the Mingmongkol Faith 45 Foundation, has extended an invitation to government officers, the media and the public to attend the event.

"The event will allow people to celebrate Their Majesties birthdays and pay respect to the Big Buddha at the same time," he added.





US Amb talks taxis, tourism and refugees

US Ambassador to Thailand Kristie Kenney stopped by the offices of the *Phuket Gazette* during her whirlwind one-day visit to Phuket on September 9. Here, she talks to the *Gazette*'s Nicholas Altstadt about pressing issues she faces as her home country's top envoy to the Kingdom.

Nicholas Altstadt: Do you think Phuket authorities adequately ensure the safety of American residents, tourists and foreign tourists in general?

Ambassador Kenney: They are extremely aware of our interests and the importance of safety for American citizens – residents or visitors.

I visited the commander of Phuket police [Maj Gen Pekad Tantipong] and thanked him for the work he does and reiterated our interest in keeping our citizens safe.

There are scams here – taxis, tuk-tuks, jet-skis – which are not helpful to tourism and we appreciate any effort [Maj Gen Pekad] can give to helping us with that.

Do you think that taxis and tuk-tuks harm Phuket's image? Are they a threat to the tourism industry?

Tourists continue to come here and they need transportation. They need taxis and tuk-tuks and they want to rent jet-skis. I think the more that can be done to make that a better functioning system, one in which there aren't scams, the better. The recent reports of people threatening passengers and bullying don't help. I don't see this as a threat to the industry, but I think it's not helpful. We'd love to take that [warning] sentence out of our [consular] advisory, but we can't do that until the problem is fixed.

Do you foresee a day when obtaining and maintaining a visa or permit to stay in Thailand might be an easier, more standardized process?

We have a good dialogue with the Foreign Ministry here and we keep reminding them of the complications and the difficulties, and whether or not that will have an impact, I can't tell.

We do know it's complicated and not as user friendly as it could be, principally because there are a lot of foreigners who live here, very happily and successfully. I think the Thais appreciate having us here and you would think they'd like to make that easier. What do you see as the most pressing issues facing Phuket and Thailand?

In terms of Phuket, sustainably developing – doing this in a way that builds the tourism industry and other industries, and doesn't destroy the environment, and also that looks at alternatives to tourism.

We were at the Phuket Software Park this morning, and that's actually smart thinking. You want to have tourism, but this is now a big enough province that you can develop more, and should.

For Thailand, certainly what matters to America, is looking for more and better ways to enhance business opportunities and trade. There is going to be an ASEAN



FROM LEFT: US Embassy Spokesperson Walter Braunholer, Phuket Gazette Managing Director Oranee Hildebrand, US Ambassador Kristie Kenney, Phuket Gazette publisher John Magee and Phuket Gazette General Manager Natthira Susangrat at the Gazette offices.

community coming up and for Thailand to really get out in front and maximize these opportunities, we need to look at regulating and harmonizing laws in a way that creates more opportunities.

That would also be good for American businesses too, who would love it to be easier to operate across all of ASEAN.

Earlier this year there were Rohingya refugees that landed in Phuket. Has the US Embassy been involved in this issue? Yes. We are currently the largest donor nation to refugee populations in Thailand. That includes the approximately 150,000 Burmese in camps along the border. We have a section in the embassy that works exclusively with refugee issues.

What we've done on the Rohingya issue, and with all of the refugee populations, is not only talk to the Foreign Ministry, but we also opened a new dialogue with the Thai military, because the Thai Navy, for example, are the ones who find these [Rohingya]. I understand that there are many officials in Thailand and throughout the world who don't deal regularly with refugees and my point to them was that we take these communities very, very seriously. They are vulnerable communities. Thailand has been a host to vulnerable populations for years — a compassionate host — and that really needs to continue.

You know, these are people who do not have other options in their home countries and we need to make sure that they are treated humanely and properly and that people get good access to them. That goes for all these populations.

What I told the Thai authorities is that we are paying close attention, and that we're delighted to talk with them. We want to do it in a way that helps them. The idea is that we care deeply about this and they're going to hear from us about this, so let's see how we can collaborate.

From our point of view there is not a lot of transparency in the handling of the Rohingya, would you say on a diplomatic level that there is cooperation?

Yes, I would. Is it perfect? No.

Part of that, and I'll be slightly sympathetic at this stage, is that these are hard issues to deal with. I do understand that for militaries in particular, these are not issues they are not necessarily trained for. For immigration officials, it's a little bit different because, really, they need to be cognizant of how to deal with that.

There are a lot of actors in these things and what we're trying to do is raise their consciousness level and also try to help them understand what the international standard is and that they have to meet those standards.



South Korean Ambassador visits Phuket Governor on 'farewell tour'

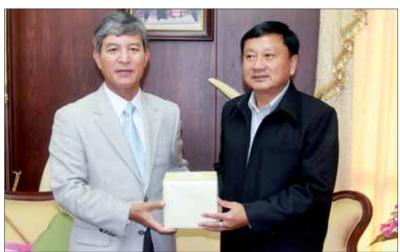
SOUTH Korean Ambassador to Thailand Chung Hae-moon on Monday paid a visit to Phuket Governor Tri Augkaradacha at Provincial Hall to say farewell before his return home.

"I am going back to [South] Korea at the end of this week as I have completed my four-year term in Thailand," Ambassador Chung told the *Phuket Gazette*.

He encouraged more Korean companies to offer to join projects to develop Phuket's overall infrastructure, not only the light-rail system currently proposed.

"We would like to contribute to the development of Phuket in terms of its infrastructure, and we encourage Korean construction companies to assist the Phuket Provincial Government in its efforts to upgrade the island's transportation facilities.

Amb Chung said he requested the governor to hold regular meet-



Amb Chung Hae-Moon and Gov Tri Augkaradacha exchange gifts.

ings with members of the Korean community, "so that their opinions may be shared."

He added that he was happy with the support Phuket's authorities provide for the Korean community on the island, and that he felt Phuket was safe for Koreans to visit. "We have many Korean tourists coming to Phuket, and this is likely to increase with an additional flight possibly being scheduled to assist with the growing demand," said Amb Chung.

- Chutharat Plerin

PM, Thaksin on SE Asia tour

AROUND THE

nation

PRIME Minister Yingluck Shinawatra did the diplomatic rounds last week with one-day visits to Indonesia, Brunei, Laos and Cambodia, hailing her trip to Jakarta as a success that strengthened ties between the two countries.

Mrs Yingluck was not the only Shinawatra traveling in the region last week. Her brother Thaksin was due to arrive in Phnom Penh on Friday.

Mr Thaksin was set to attend the Asian Economic Future Conference and not, Cambodian premier Hun Sen insisted, to discuss the sharing of oil and gas deposits in the Gulf of Thailand.

On Monday, Mrs Yingluck held talks with Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono in Jakarta. The two leaders told a press conference that they had agreed to boost cooperation in trade, energy and agriculture.



PM Yingluck talks with Indonesian President Yudhoyono in Jakarta on September 12. Photo: AFP

Mrs Yingluck said that she and Mr Yudhoyono were pleased with rising bilateral trade, which rose 34 per cent in 2010 to US\$12 billion.

Both sides also pledged to step up cooperation in tackling illegal fishing, combating transnational crime and increasing the number of foreign tourist arrivals, Mr Yudhoyono said.

Mrs Yingluck's visit to Cambodia has been seen as the most important on the week's itinerary.

She was expected to discuss with Hun Sen the long-standing dispute over land surrounding Preah Vihear temple on the Thai-Cambodian border. The conflict has resulted in clashes that killed at least 28 people on both sides this year.

Mrs Yingluck's visit to Phnom Penh was to be followed the next day by that of Mr Thaksin. Hun Sen insisted that Mr Thaksin would not be conducting any negotiations on Thailand's behalf.

"Thaksin has no duty to negotiate on oil and gas deals and other issues with Cambodia at all as it is the duty of the Thai government, not Thaksin," he said.

Cambodia and Thailand entered into a memorandum of understanding regarding their overlapping maritime claims on the continental shelf in 2001, setting out an area to be delimited and an agreed jointdevelopment area. The talks stalled during the administration of former Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva.

Analysts have noted the timing of the two Shinawatras' visits was no accident, pointing out that if they had met in Cambodia, Mrs Yingluck would have been obliged to arrest her brother.

Mr Thaksin has a conviction for abuse of power dating to 2008 but lives abroad to escape a jail term. He claims the conviction was politically motivated.

Floods take 82 lives

FOUR people were killed and one seriously injured when a shop house building in Saraburi collapsed on Monday following three days of heavy rain.

At least 82 people have been killed in Northern and Central Thailand by flash floods and landslides, with 35 provinces covering every Thai region facing flood warnings. At least 23 people have died in Phichit province alone.

The four dead in Saraburi were named as Wilasinee Janda, 38: Chonlada Saneha, 24; Rarin Reunrenu, 28; and her daughter, Rawinwipa Prasesang, 4, according to The Nation.

Mrs Rarin's husband, Sitthichai Prasesang, 28, was rescued and reportedly in stable condition at Saraburi Hospital.

As they removed Mr Sitthichai from the debris, rescuers were struck by the scene of the dead Mrs Rarin hugging her young daughter. Mr Sitthichai was reportedly so



A 'rescue bridge' under construction. Photo: Thanachai Pramarnpanich

overwhelmed with grief that he at first refused to take oxygen from the rescue workers.

The downpours might have softened the soil and caused the land under the building to subside, said Muang Saraburi Police Superintendent Bamrung Khongcheep.

Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Department deputy chief Srisombat Pornprasit reported on Monday that 82 districts in 16 provinces were flooded, affecting 570,142 people and damaging 3,681,912 rai of farmland.

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Leather Seats

Rapist teacher kills self

A FORMER physical education teacher accused of repeatedly raping a young female student over a period of four years hung himself in his police cell in Lampang.

Phayon Udom, 58, allegedly started raping the girl when she was 11 years old. He was accused of filming the rape and using the footage to blackmail the girl into continuing to have sex with him and not telling anyone.

Mr Phayon was found hanging from his cell bars in Thoen Police Station in the northern province of Lampang last Saturday.

Mr Phayon was arrested the day before for abducting the girl, who is now aged 15.

Last year, the accused had been fired from his job and released on bail after the mother of the girl filed rape charges against him.

Last month the girl disappeared and later called her mother to ask her to drop the charges against Mr Phayon, who she said she was living with.

Mr Phayon was arrested in Pathum Thani province in Central Thailand after the girl was spotted buying food.

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It's sink or swim for the ICEC

THE latest obstacle to the never-ending mission to build a worldclass conference and exhibition center in Phuket came with the rejection of the project's Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) by the Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP) review board.

Given all the work and money spent on planning and drawing up the design, the rejection came as a huge blow to the many people in Phuket who support the project.

Perhaps its most ardent supporter, Phuket MP Anchalee Thepabutr slammed the IEE report, insisting that the ONEP panel "was using the wrong information" when it determined that the project was not financially viable. She reportedly even threatened to file a suit with the Administrative Court if the IEE findings were not reviewed.

That the project enjoys strong support locally and regionally is apparent, and it is indeed notable that no environmental group the *Phuket Gazette* is aware of applauded the decision, which many presumed to have been politically influenced.

The popular belief is that Phuket needs such a facility not only to cement its status as a world-class tourist destination, but also to fill the more than 43,000 registered hotel rooms on the island. Although the actual number of rooms for rent here is no more possible to ascertain than the number of Burmese workers, by some official estimates it could be double this figure if all of the unregistered accommodation establishments were accounted for.

As if these weren't enough, thousands more rooms are scheduled to open in the "Greater Phuket" provinces of Phuket and Phang Nga by 2014, the same year Phuket Airport is scheduled to double its annual throughput capacity to 12.5 million passengers.

Adding gravity to what appears to be a rapidly forming black hole to suck in as many tourists as possible was the recent unveiling by the Tourism Authority of Thailand of its latest marketing marvel (we couldn't make this up): "The Miracle Years of Amazing Thailand" – a two-year, half-billion-baht campaign tasked with doubling both tourist arrivals and income by 2014.

Bringing great relief to anyone who feared the island's northern tip would not eventually be covered in concrete was Pheu Thai Party spokesman Prompong Nopparit, who arrived at Tah Chat Chai last weekend to assure local residents that the problematic report was not politically influenced: the Pheu Thai Party had no intention of axing the 2.6-billion-baht budget approved for the project under the previous government's *Thai Khem Khaeng* (Strong Thailand) financial stimulus project, he averred.

With support like that, we can all rest assured that the IEE in its current form will be as long-lived as the local sea turtle population.

- The Editor

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Editor: Parichat Utintu News Manager: Chris Husted News Editor: Stephen Fein Features Editor: Neil Quail

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

Contact us:

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

Telephone: 076 273555 (10 lines) Fax 076 615240

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Building incompetence

Re: Gazette online, Patong Hospital to fight Phuket floods, September 8

It's [flooding at Patong Hospital] an engineering and oversight problem. When a responsible party builds any building, especially a hospital, they set the elevation higher than than the projected "100-year flood".

If the building department did their job, this would have never happened. Now they have to come up with a solution. It's too late to do it right. Is there a building department here?

California John Gazette forum

World-infamous taxis

Re: Gazette online, Phuket taxi bullying continues, September 8

Just a note from South Africa: This tuktuk/taxi news is spreading around here and I personally know of four groups of people who were considering Phuket for their end-of-year holiday but are now looking at Koh Samui or Vietnam as a destination because of these blockades and beatings.

This type of negative news spreads, and rapidly too.

Peter Logan Gazette forum

More than just facts

Re: Gazette online, Phuket estate manager denies gun charges, September 10

Unfortunately, even if the *farang* had video evidence with 10 witnesses and holes in his wall, nothing would be done as the Thai man is wealthy and has friends in the right places.

The only way to have any chance of charging the man is to

Letters

to the Editor

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

expose those friends to a third party: the media.

This is another pathetic example of how things work in the justice system here. The facts are not necessarily important.

skippy Gazette forum

She stole more than his heart

Re: Gazette online, Top Cop: Phuket is car-theft capital of the South, September 8

You can add another stolen car to the list.

A Thai woman used her female charm to get a male tourist in Kata to leave his passport as collateral when renting an SUV for her.

When the Thai woman and the tourist stopped for at a hotel for the evening, he hopped in the shower and she hopped into the SUV and took off. She was never seen again.

After paying 270,000 baht, he has his passport back.

me Gazette forum

On government time

Re: Gazette online, Phuket officials 'reprimand' The Village, September 9

This is a very, very ugly story. It's about peanuts, yet 30 officials went there and wasted tax money while they could have been working on things like drugs, road mayhem, tuk-tuks and scams.

It is very embarrassing that senior government officials would allow themselves to get sucked into something this petty. Imagine Obama going out into the streets and issuing parking tickets.

I have to admire the patience of Christopher Gordon who seems to have handled the matter very well.

> Bart Thornton Gazette forum

Location, location, location

Re: Gazette online, AIS sets up shop at Phuket Prison, September 10

Sounds very charitable, but assuming the intention is to make money, this is hardly a business proposition.

I would have thought the airport would be a better place to give away free SIM cards, especially since the shops there charge 300 baht for one that normally costs 99 baht.

Terry Gazette forum

Them's the rules

Re: Gazette online, Phuket 'Kidnap rapist' freed from jail, Nepali community in fear, Sep 12

Of the 3,000 Nepalese in Phuket, I wonder how many have valid visas and work permits.

They say they have been harassed by police but the fact is that if you're here legally, there are no hassles.

I have been here for 20 years and frankly, my guests and I find the way Nepali shopkeepers accost everyone saying, "my friend", incredibly annoying. The rules apply to everyone!

Ian Kata

Content to rent: the Tips to keep the business of busing tourists coming

FIRST PERSON

PHUKET's state of intra-provincial public mass transport system has not changed for 30 years now, but the cost of living and amount of traffic has increased.

There are about 50 songtaew drivers in the company who serve the same route as me. About 30 – including myself – own a *songtaew*, while the others share and rent them from the company that oversees the route.

The rental rate is about 200 to 300 baht per day. Used songtaews cost between 200,000 to 300,000 baht to buy while new ones can easily cost up to 1 million baht, so drivers always buy used.

All expenses, including maintenance and fuel, are covered by the drivers. We manage our own finances and don't have a fixed salary or other benefits unless we arrange them ourselves.

For my route, we must pay the company 15 baht for each leg we complete and another two baht to the Land Transport Office for each market parking permit. This permit allows us to park at the Phuket Town fresh market where passengers board.

Drivers on my route are entitled to two parking permits per day, but



Aroon Sinkala, a Phuket native, has been a *songtaew* driver for all of his adult life. Born in 1952, he is one of fifty drivers who service the route between Sarasin Bridge and Phuket town. He began this route in the early 1970s [See story on page 14]. Here he explains how Phuket's intra-provincial privately-run public transport system works – more or less unchanged for three decades.

other routes and companies have their own schedules and arrangements with the Transport Office.

A typical day for me will begin time to pick up passengers and at Sarasin in the morning. leave for Sarasin.

leave for Sarasin.

Aside from passengers, I also transport cargo, such as market goods. Once in Sarasin, I pay for two more legs before making my second and last trip of the day. The route schedule changes daily and is coordinated between our

to the bus station to pay for two

parking permits, then to the mar-

ket where I wait for my scheduled

Fares range from 10 to 40 baht per passenger.

company and the Transport

Fuel costs 1,000 baht per day at most. After expenses and fees, I can make a maximum of 1,000 baht per day, but this can drop to little more than 100 baht on the worst days.

I AM a regular visitor to Phuket, and have recently been playing golf and enjoying the seafood in Patong.

It's a generally relaxed place and I'm enjoying how easy it is to get good service at restaurants and retailers, in comparison to other bigger cities in the region.

Personally, I would like to see Phuket grow and become a more viable and preferred holiday destination. Perhaps more could be done to improve some of the island's infrastructure and tourist facilities.

My first concern is the available taxi services. They should be regulated to stop touts pestering hotel guests every time they leave their hotels. It is difficult to differentiate between genuine taxis and those operating illegally.

Safety and security is paramount for travelers and Phuket taxi drivers or their coordinators should be appropriately dressed.

This helps with identification, doesn't arouse suspicion and would also reduce overcharging. Fare rates could be put under a controlled system in which people could move around Phuket safely and at reasonable rates. Tourists want to know they are in safe hands when they explore the island.

Secondly, I would like to comment on the hygiene standards of most restaurants and cafes.

Outside of luxury hotels, stray cats are often allowed to roam freely in these establishments. This is unhealthy and should be stringently controlled. Cats are not the cleanest animals and should

Island View

By Peter Khaw

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



The logo used to show restaurant hygiene certification.

not be allowed into places where people eat.

Some people are allergic to such animals and cats can also be a nuisance when they rub their bodies against people's legs.

Pets should not be allowed into restaurants and the stray cat population should be eradicated.

Smoking should also be prohibited in such venues.

Toilets are usually very dirty in these types of restaurant as well. They are not properly managed and in most restaurants I've visited – particularly the popular ones along Patong Beach – the toilets are shared among numerous restaurants. When wet and dirty toilets are positioned near restaurant kitchens, they can transmit disease and cause food poisoning.

I hope these concerns will be circulated and the right authorities will provide a proper solution.

paying the
first 30
baht for two

legs, I make my first trip to Phuket Town, picking up and dropping off passengers along the way. Once in town, I head straight

Issues & Answers... ...asking the questions that affect you...

Is there a citation for sawing in the city?

Can a neighbor on our residential street near Baan Manik, Thalang, use an industrial-size chainsaw for over a week to cut up an enormous tree – apparently as a business?

About two weeks ago, dump trucks deposited a large amount of raw timber, ten or so three-meter-long sections about half a meter in diameter. Enormous trees.

I called the Tambon Administration Organization (*OrBorTor*), who said call the police, who in turn said call the *OrBorTor*.

Must we endure the noise and the runaround? What is the law? Incidentally, this neighbor

threatened me over my complaint.

Tree Lover Thalang

Suton Doungrit, Permissions Department Journeyman for the Phuket Natural Resources and Environment Office, replies: Send us your queries and we'll ask the right people to respond to them.

Submit your issue at

www.PhuketGazette.net/ IssuesAnswers

The size of the trees is irrelevant as long as they are not teak wood or Keruing hardwood, which are both forbidden from milling without permission under the Forestry Act of 1941.

Two things are checked by our office if milling is reported:

The first is the type of tree and second is the title deed of the land where milling takes place.

According to Natural Resource and Environment ministerial regulations, anyone planning to own a chainsaw with more than two horsepower and a blade longer than 12 inches must apply for a license.

Applicants must have no record of breaking any ministerial regulations, or bankruptcy, to be accepted.

Milling trees on private land with proof of ownership is allowed by law, as long as the type of wood is not illegal. Landowners also have the right to cut trees on their land.

Neighbors who make noise are a part of life in many communities, but if they are doing something unacceptable, you have the right to file a complaint with local authorities.

Roongrawee Bumrungros, an officer with the Srisoonthorn *OrBorTor* Sanitation Department, replies:

If your neighbors are making noise and disturbing you, you are welcome to visit us at the public health office to file a complaint.

You need to visit the office in person because complainants need to identify themselves.

We will need to confirm that you are indeed affected by the noise and then gather information about the case.

Officers will then be sent to investigate the complaint. If we

see that the person is making noise that is over the legal limit, we will send them an official warning letter.

If they do not stop, we will hand the issue over to other authorities as required by law.

Tale of two houses

I would like to know how two houses on the same road can have the same address number.

Soi Kokyang in Rawai has two houses close to each other with the same number. The number is 69/16. How can that be?

It is very frustrating when the postman makes deliveries, I get the other resident's post and he gets mine, even though my post box has my name on it.

Dgp Rawai

Sin Pholrop, Rawai Tambon Chief, replies:

If a new house is built and residents need their property registered, requests can be filed

with their village headman or myself after 80 per cent of the construction has been completed.

The required documentation will be sent to Muang District Office for approval by the district chief and then an address number will be assigned.

In this case, Soi Kokyang falls under my responsibility. I have checked the relevant documentation and the house with that address is registered to a Thai woman.

There are no other houses with that number on that soi registered in the documentation I have.

I suggest that you take a photo of both houses, showing the address numbers, and bring them to me

I will then check the location and file a request with the District Office to make the appropriate changes to give each residence a unique address.

Please contact me at my office opposite Siam Commercial Bank on Sakdidet Road [before you get to the Rawai Beach road] or call 087 234 6180.

Riding works of art

By Chutharat Plerin

A THRIVING little business in Patong called "Metal Arts" produces metal sculptures for customers from Australia, Europe, America and more. Their most recent projects include painstakingly assembled ridable motorcycle sculptures. Currently, there is one at Jungceylon priced at 130,000 baht.

Mr Sornthong Yimyai, owner of Metal Arts, has a vocational certificate in mechanics and has been creating metalwork projects for over 10 years.

"The business is going quite well so far. We receive orders all year round. Right now, we are making a motorcycle sculpture for a customer from Australia," Sornthong said.

In a warehouse in Wichit subdistrict on Chaofa East Road, Metal Arts has created hundreds of metal models, ranging from 10 centime-



MOTORCYCLE ART: For sale at Jungceylon for 130,000 baht. The metalwork artist, Sornthong Yimyai (inset).

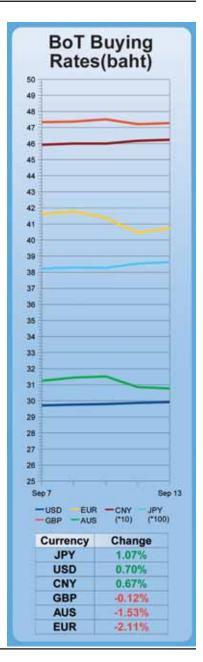
ters to 2.8 meters in size, and costing between 1,000 and 150,000 baht. The shop also takes custom

"Most of our customers are from Australia, and some are from Europe and America. Some of them order the artwork for reselling, while others use them for house or garden decorations. There have been a few orders from Thais, but not many. They're

usually for Thai students who want to study metal construcmethods,"explained tion Sornthong.

Metal Arts uses various brands of secondhand, 125 to 150cc motorbikes to build the metal works of art. The motorbikes have hand clutches. They don't use bikes with automatic transmissions because they would be too heavy to ride after the metal sculpture work is added. It usually takes them about a month to finish due to the high level of detail that goes into each

Asked if it was legal to ride the sculpture on public roads, Sornthong replied, "I could not say this kind of motorbike is legal because it's modified. These are works of art, I don't think police would arrest you for riding them."





BIGGER FLEET: The Airbus 320 is the 21st airplane added to the fleet.

AirAsia adds more BKK-HKT flights

THAI AirAsia will increase daily flights between Phuket and Bangkok as well as other domestic routes starting October 1.

The low-cost carrier recently added a brand new Airbus A320 to its fleet, now 21 planes, enabling the carrier to add more legs to its popular domestic routes.

The new plane will allow eight

daily flights between its Bangkok -Phuket route, six between Bangkok - Hat Yai, four between Bangkok -Krabi and three daily flights on their Bangkok-Udon Thani route.

"The increase in flight frequency is also in preparation for the high tourist season, when travelers from all over the world will visit Thailand," said Tassapon Bijleveld, CEO of Thai AirAsia.

"The flexibility and convenience of our flight times, in combination with our extensive network of destinations will benefit all travelers. We'll be offering attractive promotions and offers and we're confident that our low fares will be met with a positive response," he added.

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3rd Gitano opens in Cherngtalay

EXPATS Lin Prachakrich and enjoy Mexican and Thai cuisine. Miguel Kirjon opened their third Gitano Restaurant & Love across from Tesco Lotus in Cherngtalay earlier this week.

We've had a good response to our Mexican-Thai menu...and we're ready to offer our food and art environment to families and guests [in Cherngtalay] who enjoy a colorful, creative space where all the senses come alive by rich colors, sounds and aromas," said Miguel.

The restaurant walls and ceiling feature Miguel's original art. There's a large area for children to play and create art while parents

Lin and Miguel met at the British International School. They opened the first Gitano in Phuket Town more than ten years ago. It featured Latin American cuisine, art, lively music and fashion events.

Miguel grew up in Colombia and Cuba and studied at the Basel School of Design. He came to Phuket in 1996 and has been a major promoter of music and art events. His wife, Lin, who taught Mandarin at BIS, took time off to have three children, and then wanted to get back to work. Gitano is the labor of love that has resulted.

Petrol names fuel confusion

FILLING up with fuel in Thailand is a lot like ordering food for the first time in a foreign country – you point to the most visually appealing choice and hope for the best.

The types of fuel on sale in Thai gasoline stations – known locally as petrol pumps – are different to what you're used to at home. You may well be bewildered by the wide array of fuel choices that are available in Phuket, and you probably wonder if you're putting the right type of fuel in your car. What makes matters worse, is you can't even speak Thai, nevermind read it.

Wonder no more, the *Phuket Gazette* has put together a guide to fuels on sale at Thai pumps. Want to know your benzene 91 from your gasohol 95? Read on to clear the muddy waters.

For starters, in Thailand gasoline is referred to as petrol. Americans who insist on using the term "gas" when referring to petrol will run into confusion, since "gas" in Thailand refers to NGV (Natural Gas for Vehicles).

Thai fuels have one of two

Research Octane Numbers (RON): 91 or 95. The RON, commonly referred to as the octane rating, correlates with the amount of benzene added to the petrol to prevent the fuel from igniting prematurely or "knocking", as it's called. Your vehicle will have an optimum RON – this should be displayed next to your gas tank fill spout. If you can't find the RON, check your manual. Happily, most vehicles can run on both 91 and 95 fuels, but you are best-advised to use the fuel with the correct RON.

Benzine fuel is unleaded fuel. It contains benzene – rather than lead – as an anti-knock additive.

Gasohol fuel is a blend of gasoline and ethanol, just as its name suggests. Gasohol is generally cheaper than pure benzine fuels because of government subsidies in place to encourage and promote domestic production of ethanol.

Diesel is suitable for diesel vehicles only. Never fill a diesel vehicle with petrol and vice versa.

| Fuel types available in Phuket | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|---|------------|
| Fuel Type | Octane (RON) | Benzene (%) | Ethanol (%) | Description | Color Code |
| Benzine 91 | 91 | 100 | 0 | Regular unleaded | red |
| Benzine 95 | 95 | 100 | 0 | Premium unleaded | yellow |
| Gasohol 91(E10) | 91 | 90 | 10 | Regular unleaded mixed with ethanol. | green |
| Gasohol 95(E10) | 95 | 90 | 10 | Premium unleaded mixed with ethanol. | orange |
| Gasohol 95(E20) | 95 | 80 | 20 | Premium unleaded mixed with ethanol. Only some vehicles can run. Check manual. | |
| Gasohol 95(E85) | 95 | 15 | 85 | Premium unleaded mixed with ethanol. Only available at some stations, only for post 1998, "flexfuel" vehicles. Check your manual. | |

'Chang' water label called into question

WITHDRAWAL of the "Chang" beer trademark on bottled water and soda was called for by the Anti-alcohol Consumption Network, who recently filed an objection with the Intellectual Property Department.

Heading the objection filing was Samarn Futrakul, director of the Public Health Ministry's Office of Alcohol and Tobacco Control, joined by representatives from the Foundation of Media for Youth as well as officials of the Alcohol Beverage Control Act.

Samarn said the Chang beer trademark on other products should not be accepted, as it would create confusion among consumers. The government will also face difficulties enforcing the law if other alcohol beverage producers want to register their trademark for other products.

Thailand's Alcohol Beverage Control Act prohibits alcohol advertisements to be broadcast on television between the hours of 5am and 10pm and tightly regulates the content that can be shown in alcohol advertisements during permitted hours – allowing only certain "permitted activities."

The complaint claims that the Thai Beverage Company – the mother company that produces Chang beer – has circumvented the advertising prohibition by applying its trademark to other products such as water and soda. It pointed out that the duplication and use of an alcohol affiliated logo to market non-alcoholic products is a surreptitious form of advertising.

Pajchima Tanasanti, directorgeneral of the Intellectual Property Department, said last week that the trademark owner could submit its defense against the objection within 60 days before the department starts an investigation.

The Alcohol Beverage Control Act, first a resolution which became effective in 2003, also stipulates the establishment of alcohol advertisement-free zones in a 500 meter radius around educational institutions, national sporting events and cinemas.

In 2007, the Military Junta then-government imposed a ban on the advertisement of alcohol brands in other media including magazines and newspapers. Failure to comply with the regulation poses a penalty of imprisonment of up to a year and/or a fine of up to 100,000 baht.



Malaysia wants a piece of durian pie

MALAYSIA has began to sell durians to China again, hoping to replace Thailand as the number one supplier of durian to China.

According to a report by the *Nation* in May 2011, China had stopped importing fruit from Malaysia in 2003 due to a deadlock in market-entry talks.

The BBC reported that Thailand has dominated the durian export trade for decades, selling 70 million dollars worth of durians to

China last year. China, Asia's largest economy, bought 60 per cent of Thailand's total durian exports.

Despite what Thais think, Malaysians believe their durians are the most delicious in the world, so they are anxious to spread that love to their giant northern neighbor.

The main production areas for durian in Thailand are Chantaburi, Rayong, Trat, Chumporn, Suratthanee and Narathiwat.

Consumer Prices

| | Current | Change % |
|--------------|---------|----------|
| Rice* | 35.9 | 0.00 |
| Eggs** | 40.8 | 0.00 |
| Pork*** | 155 | 0.00 |
| Chicken**** | 77.5 | 0.00 |
| Soy Bean Oil | 53.75 | 0.00 |
| Palm Oil | 41.5 | 0.00 |
| Diesel | 28.43 | 1.43 |
| Benzine 91 | 37.01 | 1.65 |
| Gasohol 91 | 33.98 | 1.80 |
| Gasohol 95 | 37.01 | 1.65 |

"per kg for Jasmin Rice (Malboonkrong brand)
"per dozen as of Sep 14 for class three eggs
""per kg as of Sep 14 for pork tenderion
""the kg as of Sep 14 for gutted whole chicken
Source = Department of Internal Trade
current tend to account for last week's prices





Getting connected



WHEN it comes to Internet connections in Phuket, there are three major considerations: reliability, speed and price. In that order.

It's almost impossible to measure reliability. Why? Because glitches in Internet connections these days tend to be one-off. It's rare to see the whole island go down. Most reliability problems I've seen have to do with poorly strung wires, or technicians who don't know what they're doing, or weather conditions, or animals that love to eat plastic insulation. Sadly, there's just no way to predict when a tokay is going to take out your home's ADSL wire.

Price is easy to compare, although the major ISPs change their packages and prices all the time.

The tough comparison is speed. I'm not talking about the "Up to 100 Mbps" promises of marketing campaigns. I'm talking about day-in and day-out real, measured speeds.

Last week in Live Wire, I went over the speed test that we use at PhuketInternetSpeed.com.

Now that you understand the measurement method and its limitations, I would like to help you figure out which kind of Internet service is best for you and in subsequent columns I'll step you through the specific Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and try to give some suggestions for getting

the most for your money.

In general, there are three different kinds of Internet services offered in Phuket.

Wired

Wired internet involves one of the ISPs stringing a line to your house. You can get ADSL service over a phone line from TOT, CAT, 3BB, or True. You can also get Fiber Optic service in many parts of the island from TOT: they have to lay a fiber optic cable to your doorstep. Several of the Cable TV companies on the island offer Internet service along with the cable.

Rounding out the wired category, there's an odd hybrid technology called DOCSIS, offered by True, that's a little bit like Cable TV and Internet, all wrapped up into one coax line. And there's a TOT service called WiNet or AirMax that's wireless up to the outside of your house, then wired inside.

Wireless

Wireless internet, as its name implies, gives you direct access to the internet much as a mobile phone lets you talk on the phone without any wires. All of the major mobile phone companies -DTAC, 1-2-Call and True – offer old-fashioned wireless internet access known as GPRS or EDGE. It's reliable but painfully slow. CAT offers a reliable but not terribly fast service known as CDMA EV-DO (catchy name, that). CAT insists upon calling their EV-DO network "3G" but it won't work

with your 3G phone or iPad.

The new kids on the wireless block, both offering HSPA (which is real "3G" by most peoples' reckoning) are True and AIS. You can buy a USB "dongle" and run 3G on your PC, laptop or Mac. AIS offers HSPA "3G" service all over the island, but it doesn't work with the iPhone 3GS or iPad 1. Details in my August 9 Live Wire.

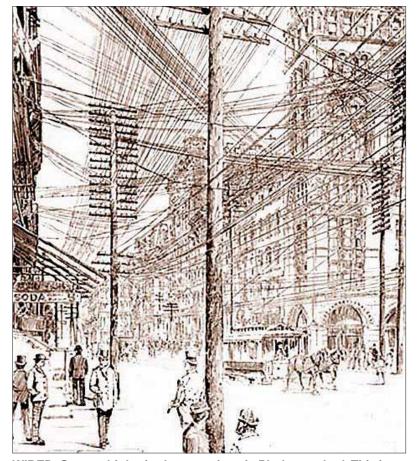
True works with all 3G phones and pads, but it has very limited coverage, as the signal's only available on the extreme west coast of the island, with one additional tower on top of Bangkok Hospital Phuket. That's changing rapidly: True's 3G is about to become TrueMobile-H "3.5G" (oy!). I'll have details when it's fully operational.

Satellite

Finally, satellite service is available in Phuket, but it's notoriously slow and unreliable.

So your first decision in picking Internet service in Phuket is to figure out whether you want a wired or wireless connection. In general, wired connections are faster and less expensive, and wireless connections are more reliable. But individual products vary, as you'll see next week.

If you're going to be moving around – taking your computer to different parts of the island - you really need a wireless connection. If you're usually stationary a wired connection may suit you just fine. It's easier and cheaper



WIRED: So you think wired connections in Phuket are bad. This is an etching of the utility poles in New York City in 1890.

to set up a WiFi base station and a home network with a wired connection. But a wireless connection gives you much more mobility.

Next week I'll look at the different wired connections and show you how to pick the best one for your situation.

By the way, if you are not yet reporting your speeds on PhuketInternetSpeed.com then please drop by and sign up! It's free, only takes a few seconds and the results help everybody figure out what's working and what's not worth the effort.

Remember that all of the data more than 21,000 reported sightings at this point – is immediately available to anybody who wants to download, look at or fiddle with the results. Also remember that the Internet Service Providers are watching the reports. We need your help.

Live Wire is Phuket Gazette columnist Woody Leonhard's weekly snapshot of all things internet in Phuket. Follow him on Twitter: @PhuketPC or visit his free Sunday morning computer clinics at Woody's Sandwich Shoppes.



Is an apocalypse getting ever closer?

This is the third in a three-part article that describes the potential "Economic Apocalypse" approaching us, and what to do if it arrives.

GERMANY was established in installments from the series of agreements leading to the customs union, or Zollverein, to its galvanization as a nation by successful military campaigns against France and Denmark. Despite talks of various secessions

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E-mail: marc@sprayfoamthailand.com Web site: www.sprayfoamthailand.com in 1918, Germany remained together until 1945 and even then successfully re-unified once the Berlin Wall came down. Perhaps this is a good indicator of where the Euro project has gone wrong. The EU has no such ties that bind it: There is no real sense of a single Union within the EU, merely a collection of self-interests that have become fatally interwoven and inter-dependent.

Angela Merkel is aware that the

entire German banking system and economy could ultimately be brought to collapse by a chain reaction of events beginning with Greek or Irish or Portuguese or Spanish or Italian (GIPSI) default right now. Like a row of dominoes, one falling would knock over the next. Yet Merkel also cannot fail to recognize the anger felt by German taxpayers is not far behind that expressed recently by the Greek protesters (whose anger is fueled

Contact: K. Joy

Fax: 076 346 150



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Email: siamint@loxinfo.co.th these problems to intensify throughout 2011. Debt has always been a zero-sum game - the borrowers have to either repay the debt or default to the detriment of the lender. But in the Euro-zone experiment, like in the

by the triple whammy of surging

unemployment, lower wages and

concessions that so upset the

Greek protesters. We expect

Hence the need to wring the

high inflation).

sub-prime madness in the States, this reality was suspended. The problem now is that it is very much back in play and no-one wants to be the loser in this high stakes game. Whatever method is used to unwind it, for example default, restructure, or extend at sub-market rates, will result in an

effective loss to the lenders.

The recent "Cucumber Wars" between Spain and Germany are a sign that tensions between lenders and borrowers are rising while competitive divisions are also appearing between the recipients of bailout funds as each justifies its actions to its own electorate by insisting that it negotiated better terms than its peers had before.

This merely adds extra spice to the merry-go-round of bankrupt countries taking turns to queue up with their hands out.

The day of reckoning for debtors, and therefore the creditors linked to them by the umbilical cord of debt, is getting closer -Irish government debt is just one level above junk with a worsening outlook, and Greek borrowing costs have soared, not just because of recent protests but because of the dawning realization that whatever austerity is now imposed, Greece and the fellow GIPSIs, having spent a decade being force-fed more than they could chew by the ECB, will never be able to repay.

These irreconcilable interests cannot be held together much longer with the sticky tape of more bailouts. The instant that any party in this hugely expensive co-dependency walks away from its perceived obligations, the game is up and the Euro-zone experiment will implode. With stakes continuing to rise, the moment of my Big Fat GIPSI Divorce keeps getting closer and



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Life & style Phuket GAZETTE Life & style People Phuket's time machines



TIME TRAVEL: Transport hasn't progressed much over the decades.

By Steven Layne

PHUKET moves forward into the 21st century, striving and struggling to maintain its name and reputation as a world-renowned destination, island and home.

Along with progress have come problems. A sharp rise in population and increased traffic congestion are among the downsides of rapid urbanization.

One of Phuket's most pressing issues is public mass transport, or lack thereof.

Indeed, the industry remains much the same as it was decades ago - serviced by open air songtaews, converted-pickup trucks that are an icon of Thailand's rural

countryside. For instant time travel into the past, one only has to take a stroll along Ranong Road near the new municipal fresh market in Phuket Town.

Petrol used to cost 2 baht per liter There you will find the island's songtaew terminal, where you can board one to take you to just about any part of the island for 20 to 40 baht.

The *songtaew* queue system at the market has been the same for more than twenty years," explained Aroon Sinkala, a 59-year-old songtaew driver who has plied Phuket roadways since

the early 1970s.

Around 1987, the Transport Company introduced a regular and orderly queuing system for songtaews to accommodate the budding tourism industry.

"Before that, I couldn't park my songtaew at the market," he said, explaining that public transport in Phuket at that time was dictated solely by self-proclaimed "territorial rights".

Aroon doesn't miss the chaos of the 1970s and 1980s, when the Phuket economy was still based largely on tin mining.

As he recalls the situation songtaew drivers faced back then, what he describes sounds a lot like the dilemma facing present-day

> tuk-tuk and taxi consortia on the island.

"Since there was no regular queue or [price] regulation back then, fights between drivers over customers were common and could turn

quite vicious and bloody," he said. "It was every man for himself and you really had to struggle to make ends meet," he added.

'Today, vehicles depart on schedule every 10 to 15 minutes. We drivers must stick to the schedule because if we're late, we'll get penalized," he said, adding that any dispute between



LIFE IN THE SLOW LANE: Aroon has been in zero serious accidents throughout forty years of cautious driving.

drivers today is settled by a special committee.

"If a problem can't be settled between drivers, both will get an automatic suspension [from driving]" he explained.

Asked whether he had ever been suspended, he confessed, "Not long after a committee was established [at about the same time the Ranong Road queue started] I had a dispute with another driver because I didn't stick to the schedule and left late.

"When the other driver caught up with me, he was angry because there were no passengers, since they all boarded my songtaew first. We had a fight and both got suspended for five days. I never had the same problem or got suspended after that," he said.

"Rules and regulations are necessary in the transport industry and things are much better with them now," he added.

Aroon admits that some things were better in the old days, how-

"I remember when a liter of fuel cost 2 to 3 baht for diesel and 7 baht for regular petrol. And there was no traffic at all like today, so it was a lot less stressful to drive," he recalled.

However, he pointed out that the slower-moving traffic and better road conditions make driving much safer than before.

"Luckily I haven't been involved in any major accidents myself, but I've witnessed a lot of fatal accidents. Most of them were caused by people in a rush who are driving too fast," he said.

"Thepkrasattri Road used to be only two lanes, with no median strip. There were often head-on collisions. When it rained, the road often flooded and it was danger-



ON A BUDGET: Songtaews remain popular for student commuters.

"Occasionally there are accidents when speeding motorists hit us from behind when we stop to pick up passengers or let them off. Luckily nothing too serious has

happened though," he said.

ous and difficult to drive on."

Like any form of mass transport, commuters are less enthusiastic about using it during rush hours and tend to prefer driving themselves rather than

compete for space in a crowded songtaew. But the peak hours are when the drivers can rake in the most money.

"More passengers means more money. The schedule is rotated to keep things fair, so our daily income varies. It's enough to get by though," he said. [See First Person on page 9]

Aroon went on to talk about a time when songtaew driving alone was not enough to get by.

"The economy was bad and it became difficult to make ends meet. By 2002, I sold my songtaew and got a new job driving a pas-

senger van for Phuket FantaSea in Kamala. I started off earning about 7,500 baht per month, which included health insurance. After several years driving the van I was making nearly 9,000 baht per month. It was good to have a steady income," he said.

"I decided to take a small house loan for what would be my first and last house. The loan was only for a few hundred thousand baht, and the house was small but simple enough for me, my wife and two sons. However I couldn't afford to pay the monthly interest on the loan and defaulted within the first year. The house was repossessed. In 2009, I couldn't continue driving for FantaSea because I was of retirement age."

Instead of receiving a monthly pension, he chose the option to receive one lump sum payout.

With that money and some other savings, he bought his current songtaew and continued to drive the Sarasin route, just like he did before.



Life & style Foreign teacher's employability: How do they make the grade?

In the Classroom

By Eric Haeg

SOON Thai schools across Phuket will finish this year's first term and break for a bit of respite before the second term begins in late October.

This being the case, prospective teachers will be hitting the pavement in search of a job and this is a perfect time to assess an applicant's chances of employment. While certainly not scientific, the following assessment has been done on a points system, issued based upon common criteria found in Phuket's job ads.

A bachelor's degree is the mandatory requirement to obtain a teacher's license, so a degree is worth five points. A master's degree will impress employers and is therefore worth seven points.

Applicants with a Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) should give themselves eight points, while anyone holding Qualified Teacher Status or a license to teach from the West should proudly award themselves ten points.

In addition to the right education, professional training goes a long way in Phuket's competitive job market. With so many fresh applicants applying throughout the year, schools can afford to be picky and routinely require a minimum of a TEFL certificate.

Whether it's a CELTA or an equivalent TEFL certificate, anyone with this qualification receives three points. Diplomas in TEFL are twice as good and earn applicants six points – and an increased salary.

A native-English speaking teacher is the natural choice for

an English program so genuine native speakers receive four points. However, non-native speakers who are truly fluent in English can find employment and should award themselves two points.

Experience also goes a long way, and is required for betterpaying positions. Award yourself one point for each year of teaching experience. Working in Thailand as a teacher is typically more favorable so for each year of domestic experience, award yourself two points.

Thus far, it would seem that hiring practices in Thailand are similar to those found in the West. However, hiring practices do have a darker side here and it would be remiss to gloss over local realities such as gender, age and race.

Thailand's TEFL profession is saturated with males, so schools love to see female applicants walking through the door. Rightly or wrongly, this is the reality and women have a definite advantage. Final points total in this battle of the sexes: Women 2, Men 0.

As it relates to age, Thai schools place a priority on youth – or at the very least, a youthful appearance. Those under 30 get three points while those aged 30-39 get two points. Applicants in their 40s get one point and anyone aged 50 or more will find it difficult to land a teaching job with a Thai school.

Finally, racial stereotyping does permeate the teacher selection process in Thailand and regardless of one's morals, Caucasians are preferred by Thai employers over those of Asian and African descent regardless of nationality. Without condoning the system, no points are awarded to black appli-



COUNT THEM UP: A bachelor's degree is the mandatory requirement to obtain a teacher's license, so a degree is worth five points. A master's degree will impress employers and is therefore worth seven points. Photo:BotMultichillT

cants, a point goes to Asians and two points go to Caucasians.

Based upon this grading scale, applicants will earn the following marks: A (21 points or more), B (17-20), C (13-16), D (10-12), F (9 or less). Similar to their students, teacher applicants must achieve a passing grade to ensure success and the over achievers will be duly rewarded with the best jobs.

Remember that when applying for jobs, no amount of points will make up for error-ridden CVs, a sloppy appearance or a terrible interview. Rather than resting on factors as basic as nationality, race and age, approach a job interview in Thailand with the same attention to detail as one would for employment in the West.



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MORE EQUAL THAN OTHERS: Thailand's TEFL profession is saturated with males, so schools love to see female applicants walking through the door. Photo:BotMultichillT

Here comes the sun, it's all right

In this second installment in our three-part series about sun exposure, we interview Mr David Martin, co-founder of Sun Spa Esthederm, about how to choose effective sun lotions. Next week we'll discuss how to choose sunglasses.

By Roy McAllum

SUNTANNING is essential for our continuing good health, as we learned last week. Therefore we need to protect our skin so we can extend the length of time we spend in the sun.

We know we need some kind of lotion, but what kind? How do we choose from the myriad of products available. We interview a Sun Spa Esthederm representative about how to choose the right sun lotions.

Roy: Is it better to get tanned or to get protected?

David: The best protection is a tanned skin as the skin has all the inner resources to defend itself against the harmful effects of the sun, but suntanning must be done

So what are the main points to consider when choosing a sun lotion?

There are 3 main points:

- 1. Your skin sensitivity (how your skin reacts to the sunlight).
- 2. How strong the sunlight is (the UV Index). International UV Index cat
 - egories are: low (0 to 2), moderate (3 to 5), high (6 to 7), very high (8 to 10), extreme (11 and over).
- 3. Protection given by the sun products (against UVA, UVB or both).

Because different skins react differently to the sunlight, one should know their skin type before selecting a sun lotion.

For instance, if we apply a sun lotion for normal skin (skin that always tans and rarely burns) on a person that has a sensitive skin



CHOOSING A SUN LOTION: Skin phototype classification depends on your skin's response to sunlight. This is determined by skin color and the result of exposure to ultraviolet radiation (tanning). Once you know your skin phototype and the UV Index, you can choose a suitable lotion.

The European FDA has

its own SPF rating

system which is

different from

the one in the USA.

American SPF numbers

are double that of the

SPF numbers on

European products.

(skin that easily burns) that person will most likely burn when sunbathing.

In the tropics, the sunlight is very strong with a UV index factor above eight so you should select a sun cream that is specifically adapted to this kind of intensity.

You should also make sure that your sun lotion has a broad spectrum protection, which means protection against both UVA and UVB rays to guard your skin from the surface to the deep tissues.

Most of the sun lotions found in the market only provide UVB protection.

What exactly is SPF? Can you explain how it is calculated?

The Sun Protection Factor (SPF) rating system was established by the American Food and Drug Administration (FDA) decades ago.

It is a laboratory measure of the effectiveness of a sunscreen - the higher the SPF, the more protection a sunscreen offers

against the UVB or radiation that causes sunburn.

Unfortunately the SPF factor is not enough information for safe tanning today as it doesn't include UVA, or skin sensitivity, or the different indexes of sun radiation.

The SPF is determined experimentally indoors and is based on the time a person

with pale skin can remain in the sun without getting red and tender. In the lab, the subjects are exposed to a light spectrum meant to mimic the noontime sun of the northern hemisphere.

Another point to consider is that the SPF is tested and rated in the laboratory as 2mg/cm² of sun cream applied to the skin, but studies suggest that in reality people usually only apply 0.5mg/ cm² or less; that's only 20 to 25 per cent of the amount used to determine the SPF value written on the label.

A final point is the European FDA has its own SPF rating system which is different from the one in the USA. American SPF numbers are double that of the SPF numbers on European products. An American SPF 20 is the same as SPF 10 in Europe.

So beyond the SPF number, we should try to learn a little more about sun lotions and what UVA and UVB rays do.

When it comes to choosing a sun block, do you have any specific recommendations?

Choose a sun block that has mineral filters instead of chemical filters. Chemical filters, which absorb the UV rays, are absorbed by the skin and are thought to be metabo-

> lized by the body, sometimes causing allergic reactions in some individuals.

> Mineral filters (also called physical filters) which reflect the UV rays, lie on the surface of the skin and are not absorbed or metabolized by the

body are therefore much more effective than chemical filters.

Mineral filters optimize skin tolerance and are recommended for children and anyone who presents allergic reactions to chemical filters.

Can you give us some tips for holiday makers who want to spend time in the sun?

Once you have selected the right sun care product according to your skin sensitivity and the sun radiation index, there are a few things you should remember:

Always apply your sun products 20 minutes before exposure.

Reapply your sun care often and after swimming.

Prepare your skin before sun exposure: Get a gentle face and body exfoliation (avoid scrubs with salts and oils) before sun exposure. This will help you get rid of a layer of dead cells and your skin will be more receptive to the benefits of the sun and the sun products you use. Make sure that your skin is clean and well hydrated everyday before you apply a sun cream and an after sun lotion.

After sun care: Remove all the sun screen from you skin before applying the after sun. To let your skin profit from the positive effects of the sun, don't forget to comfort, stimulate and energize it with effective after sun care and skin care at the end of the day.

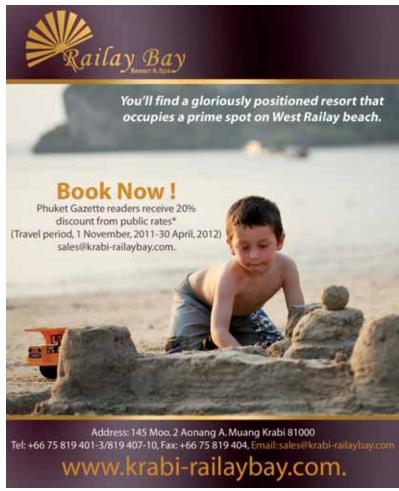
Give your skin a treat: Quality sun products may be costly because of the ingredients and the testing needed. A quality sun product will not only help protect your skin, but will give you the results you earnestly desire. So don't be afraid of spending time and money in choosing the sun lotion that's right for you.

As a conclusion, just remember that your skin is your body's largest organ and it is in direct contact with the external environment. Look after your skin, it's not like you can go shopping for a new one.

This article was made possible thanks to Sun Spa Esthederm, a service provider offering tailored sun care programs for tourists using French high-tech cosmetic brand Institut Esthederm products.

They have a showroom/office





John Magee

JOHN Magee is the publisher of the Phuket Gazette. He retired from a career in international banking in 1993 and moved to Phuket where he had purchased a home in 1989.

"I first visited Phuket in 1976 and loved it – and it was only about three hours from Hong Kong, where I lived, so I came back many weekends over the next 17 years.

"In the mid-80s, it struck me as almost impossible that tourism and the then tiny expat community would not start to grow quickly here. And there was an obvious need for an English-language newspaper that could connect and promote Phuket to these markets."

John grew up in America and became interested in newspapers at an early age.

"My father was a lawyer and very precise about words and grammar. I loved the economical way in which he spoke and wrote and presented things, and noted his addiction to the big newspapers of that era. It made me want to be a journalist."

After graduating from Chicago's Northwestern University, he was offered a job as a 'Cub Reporter' at *Time* magazine in New York, but an offer from Wall Street was more appealing. He joined Chase Manhattan Bank as a management trainee.

"After two years of credit and investment analysis, I was assigned to the international division to promote trade finance and euro-currency loan

By Bruce Stanley

facilities to major American companies in the Midwest where I traveled about a week a month."

In 1965, he was recruited by American Express Bank, where he became a credit and marketing officer for local currency loans extended by the bank's branch network in Europe. Though based in New York, the job involved frequent travel to Europe, where in Denmark he discovered a way to open the first foreign bank in Scandinavia, something many New York banks were eager to do.

"My bosses liked the idea and I was sent to Copenhagen in 1970 to build American Express Bank A/S, from scratch. It was a great experience: building relationships with the government and the major Danish banks, recruiting the staff and launching the operation."

In 1973, he returned to Wall Street for three years as Vice President -Middle East & Africa, during which he opened and developed merchant banking subsidiaries in Beirut and Cairo.

The Middle East was booming and the bank was awash in 'petrodollars', most of which were parked in London. My job was to help recycle those funds into loans and investments. Beirut was a banker's dream for that at the time."

In 1976, John was sent to Hong Kong as General Manager for Southeast Asia, where the bank had eleven branches, owned Shearson Lehman Asia, and held minority investments in several retail banks.

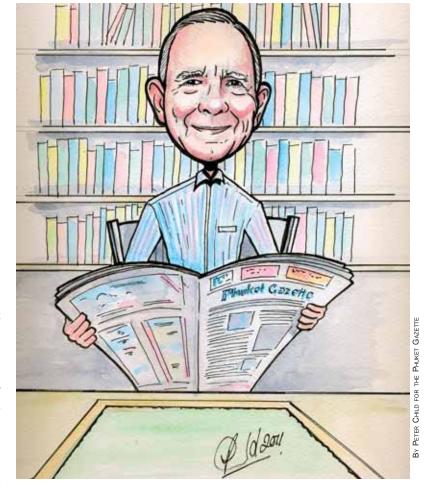
"Hong Kong may have been the only place in the world that could trump Beirut. Everything was right - the economy, the regulatory environment, the ambitions and spirit of the local people.... American Express had been there for 105 years, mostly as a travel operation. The goal was to convert that business, and the travellers cheque float that accompanied it, into loans and investments in the region."

In 1986, John left the bank to become the investment banking partner in the New York-based consulting firm Boyden International. He remained in Hong Kong in that role until moving to Phuket in 1993.

"The economy here has developed the way I thought it would and I still love my hobby, the newspaper. Retirement from it does not appeal."

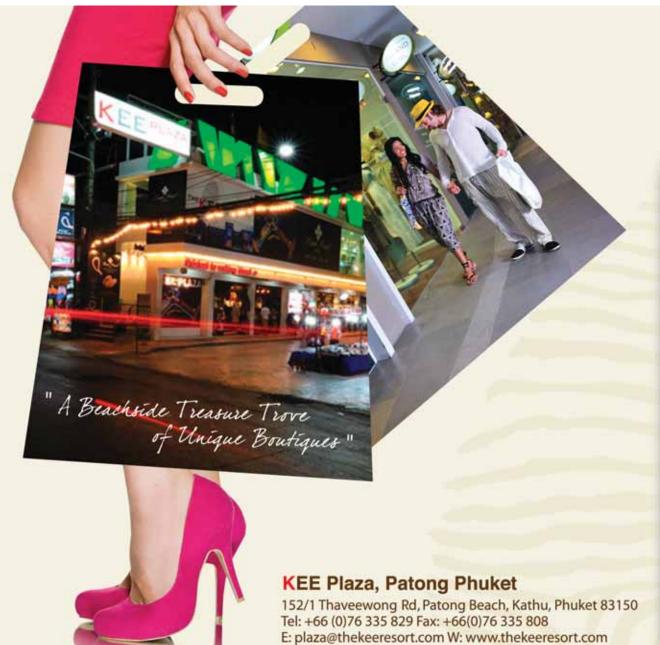
Apart from the 10-12-hour days he spends at the Gazette's striking new offices, John's passions include 'black Chicago jazz', light airplanes, and interior design.

He says his Thai wife Janpen, a 'golf victim", and two teenage boys agree with him and his newspaper's bumper stickers: "We love Phuket".



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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Go with a friend

Friends with Benefits will appeal especially to those who have lived or would like to live under the circumstances implied by its title.

Film

By Scott Phillips

YOU CAN almost hear the echoes of Harry Burns from 1989's When Harry Met Sally cautioning, "Men and women can't be friends because the sex part always gets in the way."

Thankfully for showbiz, the young crowd doesn't heed the wisdom of its elders, so superstar hotties like Justin Timberlake and Mila Kunis get to star in a film in which their characters try to have sex without any emotional attachment.

Never mind that the story itself is almost perfectly predictable from its title alone - it ends up being one of the better romantic comedies offered this year. It starts off fast, builds its characters with surprising insight, has a great soundtrack, and showcases two extremely attractive actors for 90 minutes of raunchy comedy and near-nude sex scenes.

It's a film about the "emotionally unavailable", a term that the characters themselves use within the first two minutes and keep as the thematic core throughout. To keep the film light and entertain-



Friends with **Benefits**

Director Will Gluck

Starring Justin Timberlake, Mila Kunis, Patricia Clarkson, Richard Jenkins, Woody Harrelson

Genre Romantic Comedy

Gazette Rating 3.5/5

Opens September 22

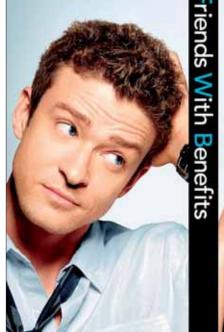
ing, the characters are otherwise satisfied with their lives – both have very lucrative jobs (considering the time and setting) and bubbly personalities. Those two qualities alone make the movie an appealing form of escape -Friends with Benefits is stressfree entertainment that makes no effort to make any social or political commentary. Sometimes, that's exactly what people need when they go to the movies.

Intellectuals might be upset, but

hey, they aren't breaking down the door to see JT and the hot girl from That 70s Show discover they have what it takes to be sex fiends.

Dlyan (Timberlake) and Jamie (Kunis) are both twenty-somethings who get dumped so frequently that it has become somewhat of a ritual. They aren't down on their luck with the opposite sex – as they're both too good looking to ever have trouble picking someone up - but they swear off the emotional side of relationships. This leaves room for emotionless sex – so long as they can each find someone who shares the same sentiment.

The film starts off as a romantic comedy for those with attention deficit hyperactivity issues. Both Dylan and Jamie talk a mile a minute and have a tendency to speak first and ask questions later. To this end, director Will Gluck made a clever move – he shot and edited the film to almost perfectly parallel the characters' personalities. The scenes roll in at just a couple minutes apiece and never let any single moment last more than a few seconds – that is, until the central relationship becomes a bit more serious and a conflict starts to develop.





Justin Timberlake and Mila Kunis are "emotionally unavailable".

Under the guise of two people who "just want to work and [fornicate] - like George Clooney," the film slowly sneaks in an emotional undercurrent that makes it worthwhile. Like most romantic comedies, the playful vices that initially attract the characters to each other end up causing a conflict that forces them to expose their insecurities.

Yes, it's been done in a thousand romantic comedies before it - but though formulaic it may be, its characters are still witty and sincere enough to keep things entertaining.

Justin Timberlake has come a long way since he was plastered on 12-year-old girls' bedroom doors with his heels up in the air alongside the rest of his NSync buddies. Now he's the guy who brought "sexy back" just before launching a film career that is surprisingly solid. He has yet to branch out to very diverse roles, but more importantly - he's only had one or two bad movies, which is appalling for a star making the music-to-movies transition.

Mila Kunis has taken her career from supporting sitcom star to a leading Hollywood actress, thanks to a mix of smart decisions that keep her in the mainstream limelight as well as in critical favor. Her most recent performance in Black Swan earned her a Golden Globe nomination and was her first significant dramatic role that proved she's got talent to go with beauty.

The third act of the film is when the story and the characters set themselves apart from average "rom-coms". The film makes no effort to avoid romantic comedy cliché s, but instead chooses to unapologetically embrace them. This self-awareness permits a completely over-the-top final act that is so shameless that it ends up being far more unique one would expect.

If you're in need of a solid date movie, go see this flick.











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Johnny English Reborn

Release Date 15 September **Director** Douglas McGrath Genre Comedy Starring Sarah Jessica Parker, Greg Kinnear, Pierce Brosnan, Kelsey Grammer A comedy centered on the life of a finance executive who is the breadwinner for her husband and two kids.

Movie releases in Thailand For show times, go to www.phuketgazette.net/movies/ Dates subject to change without notice.

I Don't Know How She Does It

Release Date 15 September **Director** Oliver Parker Genre Action | Comedy Starring Rowan Atkinson, Christina Chong, Gillian Anderson

Rowan Atkinson returns to the role of the improbable secret agent who doesn't know fear or danger.

> **Shark Night 3D** Release Date 15 September **Director** David R. Ellis Genre Thriller Starring Sara Paxton, Chris Carmack, Chris Zylka

A weekend at a lake house in the Louisiana Gulf turns into a nightmare for seven vacationers as they are subjected to freshwater shark attacks.



Life & style Tri Tim': the surprises of dedication

In this second of an eight part series Tim Haddon is on a mission to change his life, and hopefully the lives of others. In six months, Tim, under the guidance of his trainer Darren Hancock aims to change from a man with heart problems and diabetes to a man who can complete the Laguna Phuket Triathlon 2011.

the early days of my training – and the entire period for that matter – are the realizations I came to that really changed the game. To say that I was anxious or had personal doubts about my fitness regime is an understatement.

The anxiety began well before that fateful first day with Darren. It started when my cardiologist gave me the all clear to commence training. In the back of my mind I was half expecting him to say "You are in no condition to attempt this!", but instead he told me "You are in good shape to start getting into shape".

From that moment onwards, the real weight of my daunting task sank in. I was actually going to do it... it was real.

So, here we were, starting from "zero" and, to be honest, all I was thinking about was simply clawing my way through the swim portion of the triathlon, pushing my bike up the hills and then walking the 12 kilometer run with the aim of getting across the line alive.

Then, after a while I transitioned from walking into running, from splashing around in

TIM: What stands out most about the pool to actually swimming laps and from watching a spin class to actually taking part in one. Now, at week 19 of my training I can run 4,000 meters as opposed to 10m, my swimming has improved to where I can complete the 1.8km run without a break and I can cycle for 40km without much fuss.

> There is still a ways to go, but now I am wondering "How long will it take me?" rather than "Can I actually finish this race?".

What really made an impression on me was how much faith Darren had in me, and how much he seemed to actually know what I was capable of. He knew I would be able to take those big initial steps and keep on making them as time went on, so even before day one, I had already convinced myself that to have any chance of success, I would have to take a leap of faith, trust my trainer and put my life into his hands.

Also, the knowledge Darren has passed on to me regarding how the body deals with exercise and the effect of diets has been huge.

That's my first piece of advice for anyone who wants to take a

serious stab at improving their health and fitness. Seek the advice of a professional trainer. Without a plan and the knowledge of how to reach your goal, your training will not be focused and your time will be wasted working on the wrong things. If I had been left to my own devices, my planning for the Laguna Phuket Triathlon would have been way off the mark.

My second piece of advice would be to choose an event as a goal for yourself. A running event, triathlon or duathlon. Without a ticking clock it is just too easy to push your training aside. Remember, training is only exercise if there is no goal attached!

And last of all, take the time to learn about and choose the right equipment. I always thought every pair of running shoes was the same. How wrong I was. The shoes I began my training with were unsuitable, inhibiting my ability to even walk correctly. For the first time in my life, I spent one hour shopping... for a pair of runners.

That's all for now, but we're about to enter the final stretch so check back for an update - only in the Phuket Gazette.



WHEELS IN MOTION: I went from watching a spin class to actually taking part in one. Now, at week 19 of my training I can run 4,000 meters.

DARREN: It was only May when Tim couldn't run and if we had asked him to actually run that first day, he possibly could have had a heart attack within 200 meters. Now, we go out and run 400m 10 times with a 200m recovery and if you think of that from a race perspective he's doing 6km. So, this shows you the progress that has been made. He was already up to race distance last month!

We've already ticked off two major goals, which were making exercise and healthy eating a part of his lifestyle.

We couldn't have bought that success when we first discussed this back in May.

The reason I mention this is because you have to really dig in and commit to training from the start, as Tim and I have done together, to really see proper results. Tim has already related the pleasant success he saw very early on in the training, but as a trainer I have to point out that every step, big or small, was down to dedication and sticking to a plan.

It's possible, no matter how unbelievable.



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If it's important, we put it here – every day.

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September 17 - 23, 2011 PHUKET GAZETTE 21

WHAT'S ON in Phuket

September 12-18. Malibu Event, Mademoiselle Coco Party

Indulge yourself with a Malibu event at the Luna Bar of the Centara Grand Beach Resort Phuket, where you can enjoy exclusive cocktails featuring Malibu liqueur at favorable prices. To kick off this promotion, we will arrange a special "Mademoiselle Coco Party" on the full moon night of September 12 from 5pm to 1am at the Luna Bar with live entertainment and DJ. Contact Cherry at T:076-201234 E:asstprcpbr @chr.co.th or visit W:centarahotel sresorts.com/cpbr/news.asp.

September 16 and October 7. Curry Fridays

From 7pm to 11.30pm, Navrang Mahal Indian Restaurant at Karon Sea Sands Resort & Spa present Curry Fridays twice per month. Here's your chance to enjoy an authentic and lavish Indian curry buffet. Selections include all-time favorite chicken tikka masala, spicy 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! Special discount on beverages as well. Reservations at T:076-286464 ext 4 E:sm@karon seasand.com or visit W:karonseasand.com.

September 16. Friday Night Relax

One of the finest locations on the island, with its stunning views across Chalong Bay at Friendship Beach Resort, invites you to join us on September 16 from 6.30pm to 11pm for the COOL ambient,

September 21-24.
QuikSilver Thailand Surf Competition 2011

The event will be held from September 21 to 24 at the north end of Patong Beach near the Graceland Hotel. While most of the activities will be held on the beach here, some or all surfing heats may be moved up to neighboring Kalim Beach as conditions require. Other than bigger and better prizes, new this year will be a Master's Division for competitors 35 and over. The competition is now part of the Asian Surfing Championship (ASC) tour with contests held in Indonesia, Malaysia, Taiwan, and Thailand. Contact: Puttaraksa at T: 02-6520792-3 E:quiksilverteam@quiksilver.in.th or visit W:quiksilverthailand.com.

Jazz fusion of Rob Davis while enjoying a drink or two from the selection of special promotional prices. Bt 60 Heineken Draught (300 ml); Bt 99 Gordon's Gin; Bt 99 Smirnoff Vodka; Bt 99 Bacardi Rum; Bt 99 House Wine (red or white). We also have a FREE PRIZE DRAW for all attendees! Prices are exclusive of 7% tax and 5% service charge. Contact Charlie Maurer at T:089-7285304 E:info@friendshipbeach.com or visit W:friendshipbeach.com.

September 17 and October 1. Saturday Brunch at Two Chefs

Twice per month on Saturday, Two Chefs host their now-famous Saturday brunch from 12pm to 3pm at Two Chefs Kata Center. The delicious food is inspired by Scandinavian cooking. The buffet is only 395 baht, and if you add another 300 baht you can drink all you want from the free flow options. The Filipino house band will perform live, with MJ & Megan on the microphone and Mr. Ollie on the drums. Only at Two Chefs Kata. Reservations at T:076-330065 E:katacenter @twochefs-phuket.com or visit W:twochefs.com.

September 18. Sunday Night Sundowner

One of the finest locations on the island, with its stunning views across Chalong Bay, invites you to join us from 6.30pm to 11pm at Friendship Beach Resort, Rawai with the upbeat rock, pop, country fusion of 'Tropical Rhythms' while enjoying a drink or two from one of a selection at special promotional prices. Bt 60

Heineken Draught (300 ml); Bt 99 Gordon's Gin; Bt 99 Smirnoff Vodka; Bt 99 Bacardi Rum; Bt 99 House Wine (red or white). We also have a free prize draw for all attendees! Prices are exclusive of 7% tax and 5% service charge. Contact Charlie Maurer at T: 089-7285304 E:chef@friendship beach.com or visit W:friend shipbeach.com.

September 19. Cowboy Night at Two Chefs Kata Center

From 6pm to 2am, there's a large buffet inspired by the Old West. So come on down to Two Chefs in Kata and enjoy the buffet for only 495 baht. With Francis & Ollie performing live music, it can't be anything but a success. Don't miss it. Reservations at T:076-284156 E:info@twochefs-phuket.com or visit W:twochefs.com.

September 19-21. First Aid/CPR Course for Parents & Nannies

If you are a Mom, a Dad, or a Nanny, then this First Aid/CPR Course for Parents & Nannies is for you! Learn how to give primary and secondary first aid care to your loved ones, a simple action that can save a life. This course is taught by Emergency First Responder Instructors and can be offered in English or Thai. Cost: 3,150 baht for TSLC Members, and 3,500 baht for non-members from 8.30am to 2pm at Thanyapura Sports & Leisure Club. Contact Martin Cote at T:076-336000 E:martin.cote @thanyapura.co.th or visit W: thanyapura.com.

September 21. Tex-Mex at Two Chefs Karon Beach

Wednesday night is Tex-Mex Evening from 6pm to 2am at Two Chefs Karon Beach. Possibly the best Tex-Mex Buffet in Phuket. The price is only 495 baht. With great prices on drinks and MJ & Megan on the microphones, there will doubtless be a good party too. Reservations at T:076-286479 E:karon@ twochefs-phuket.com or visit W:twochefs.com.

September 23. Skippers Pub Quiz Nights

Join us for Wednesday Quiz Nights here at Skippers in Royal Phuket Marina, the first of which is September 23. This event will ongoing: October 26, November 30, January 25, February 29, March 28, April 25, May 30 and June 20. The events start at 7:30 pm. Happy Hour prices and prizes! Contact Staff at T: 076-271583 E:pahay@netvigator.com.

Free Computer Clinics

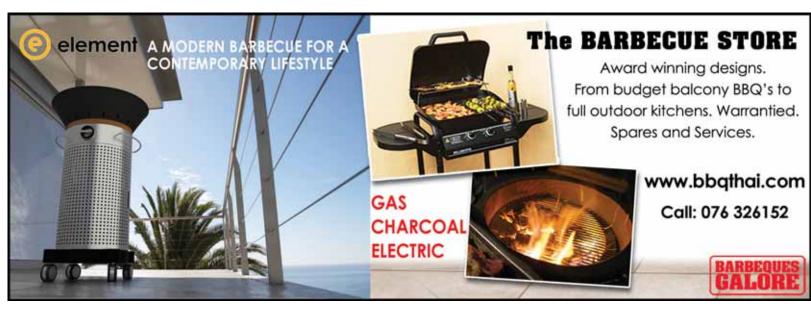
Is Windows driving you nuts? Want to know about the best Internet connections in Phuket? Need help finding a repair shop or a dealer that knows what they're doing? Join *For Dummies...* author and local Windows guru Woody Leonhard in his free weekly seminars. Sponsored by Woody's Sandwich Shoppes and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

September 18 and 25 – Chalong Starts at 10am

For more info contact Woody at T:076–290468







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MEET AND GREET: US Ambassador Kristie Kenney visited Phuket recently and is shown above relaxing seen with PIA students and at the Phuket Gazette office with John Magee and Gazette GM Natthira Susangrat.



SUPERSTAR Christina Aguilar seen here with Wilaiporn Pitimanaaree GM of Central Festival.



ROOM AT THE INN: VIPs and media attended the opening of the new Holiday Inn, Mai Khao Beach.



Associate Justices of the Labour Court Region 8 recently attended a special seminar held at The KEE Resort & Spa.



ON YOUR MARK: The Sabang International Regatta held its Grand Opening Party at the Watermark supported by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Indonesia.





PLAYTIME: SOS Children's Village Phuket at The Courtyard Phuket.



A themed party for the Good Shepherd charity was held at Taste restaurant. Happy 8th birthday at Erawana.











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September 17 - 23, 2011 PHUKET GAZETTE 23





BEACHWEAR BEAUTIES: The 2011 Miss Beach International was held at Jungceylon. Photos by (a lucky) Christian Mouchet















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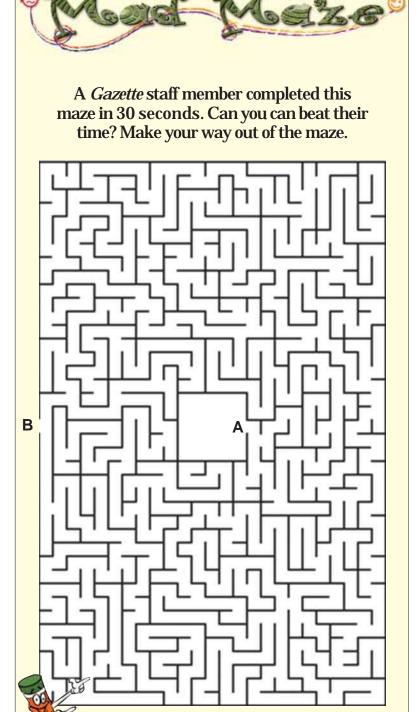






Project Owner: L.H.Muang Mai Co., Ltd. Managing Director: Khun Pitaya Tantipiriyakij Registered Capital: 900 Million Baht (Fully Paid) 88 Land and Houses Phuket, Location: West Chao fa Rd. Chalong sub-district, Ampher Muang. Phuket, Title Deed No: 3901 Project Area 14 Rai, Financial Institution: Siam Commercial Bank Public Co., Ltd. Construction Start: January 2010 Expected Completion: 2013. Operation License No.19/2010 dated 2 December 2010. After full payment is completed transference is made within 7 days.

September 17 - 23, 2011 PHUKET GAZETTE



Across

- 1. _ _ Little Tenderness
- 5. Mends a shoe
- 10. Actor Auberjonois
- 14. Close
- 15. Experiment
- 16. Banned apple spray
- 17. Chipper
- 18. Aggregate of qualities that make good character
- 19. Permanent army post
- 20. Sixth planet
- 22. Building
- 24. Silent assent
- 25. Not = = = many words
- 26. Plunder
- 30. Flavor
- 35. Director Howard
- 36. Craze
- 37. Detest
- 38. Cosmetic blepharoplasty
- 41. Relieve
- 43. Fortune-telling cards
- 44. Female bovine
- 45. Resinous deposit
- 46. Slant
- 47. Most lucid
- 50. Charts
- 53. "Hold On Tight" band
- 54. Lord's estate
- 58. Inn
- 62. Toward the mouth
- 63. Autocratic Russian rulers
- 66. Netman Nastase
- 67. Baseball team
- 68. Lover of Juliet
- 69. Dodge model 70. Actor Connery
- 71. Bar, legally
- 72. Movable barrier

Down

- 1. Cookbook amts.
- 2. Greek fertility goddess, flightless bird
- 3. Mongol tent
- Adjust
- Tie or draw
- Bruins great Bobby 7. Fail to tell the truth
- 8. Consumed

break

- 9. Snow conveyances
- 10. Rabble
- 11. "The Time Machine" race
- 12. Bust maker
- 13. Art Deco designer
- 21. Hold up
- 23. Little bits
- 25. be my pleasure!
- 26. Worries
- 27. Pertaining to a sovereign
- 28. Diciembre follower
- 29. Bran source
- 31. Aladdin's monkey
- 32. Oil source
- 33. Roman garments
- 34. Build

- 39. Chop off
- 40. Units
- 41. "You've got mail" co.
- 42. Sugar apple 44. IV units
- 48. According to
- 49. Roaming 51. Cave
- 52. Mexican money
- 54. Puts on
- 55. Ashtabula's lake
- 56. "Give that _ _ _ cigar!"
- 57. Biblical garden
- 59. Z eno's home
- 60. Civil disturbance
- 61. Branta sandvicensis
- 64. Invoice abbr
- 65. Stutz contemporary

Provided by BestCrosswords.com. Used with permission.

Crossword answers on page 39

VIRGO (August 23-September



23): A certain amount of flattery should get Virgoans where they

want to be this week. The stars show that water signs in particular will be open to your charms. Where romance is concerned, a Cancerian can't hide their feelings any longer. Those celebrating a birthday in the coming week are predicted to be more open to change in the year ahead.

LIBRA (September 24-October

23): Those born under the sign of Libra should be able to buy some time this week. The stars suggest that the deadline for a project that has been giving you a headache can be extended. During the second half of September calculated risk-taking is forecast to pay off, but acting on the spur of the moment is not wellstarred. Glowing days for romance are Wednesday and Thursday. Your lucky color this week is amber.

SCORPIO (October 24-Novem-

ber 22): The going is good for energetic Scorpios this week. There are indications that others will be left behind in a work-related race. Your ability to think outside the box will be useful in different ways, but financial gain is indicated to be a re-

ward during the second half of September. Within the realm of romance, the stars suggest that taking one day at a time is the best approach to a new relationship.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23-December 21): There should be few dull moments this week for

Sagittarians. Those who recently started a new job are forecast to find that responsibilities are more varied than they were led to believe. The stars advise that you find a tactful way to draw lines before this situation gets out of hand - Wednesday is the most fortunate day for a serious discussion.

CAPRICORN (December 22-

January 20): There will be a fine line between being helpful and being

interfering for Capricorns this week. There are hints that an earth sign family member or friend should be left to sort out their own problems. Where work is concerned, an impromptu interview is predicted to put you in a positive light midweek. Money matters improve during the second half of the month.

AQUARIUS (January 21-Febru-

ary 19): The answer to a personal dilemma turns out to have been staring

YOUR horoscope

By Isla Star

you in the face. Aquarians who have been spinning around in circles trying to find answers will be relieved when they know what to do. The second half of September is forecast to be a time when problems can be more easily taken care of. Romance with other air signs is well-starred, but relationships with water signs need a careful approach.

PISCES (February 20-March 20):



The stars indicate that distracted Pisceans could be short-changed

this week. Monday and Tuesday are days when you could be particularly out of tune to what is going on. If a domestic matter is causing worry, there are signs that this will come to a head by the end of September. Relationships with earth signs are harmonious, but air signs are focused on their own agendas. Your lucky color this week is plum.

ARIES (March 21-April 20):



Arians' ability to negotiate stepping stones should yield good

results during the second half of September. The stars suggest that progress made this week will help compensate a shaky start to the month. Where romance is concerned, there are strong indications that lightning could strike twice. Those considering a second attempt at romance with an earth sign may think again after they hear some hot gossip this weekend.

TAURUS (April 21-May 21):



A golden opportunity to put your skills to productive use comes this

week. The stars predict that a fire sign will be keen to make use of Taureans' talents – you are advised not to sell yourself short. Where personal relationships are concerned, an air sign friend appears to be taking too long to decide about something which concerns you too. Wear the color cinnamon to encourage balanced emotions.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21):

The stars indicate that many Geminis will be overwhelmed

choices this week. Money-related issues are best resolved by taking professional advice, and decisions concerning your personal life should be made with the people concerned. Signing documents

should be delayed until the final week of September, if possible. In the realm of romance, another air sign takes distance, but this is only due to problems that don't concern you.

CANCER (June 22-July 23):

Expressing your feelings artistically is forecast to help some Cancerians

offload some troubled emotions this week. Your mood could be due to an unsettled feeling in your romantic life and the stars advise that you should face up to this situation. Sunday is an auspicious day to have an honest conversation with the person concerned. Financial matters are well starred midweek. Wear the color silver to encourage clear

LEO (July 24-August 22):

The astral atmosphere could encourage disruptions in Leos' lives this week. You should expect the unexpected and go with the flow to avoid getting stressed. Those who have put a romantic relationship on hold may be in for a shock this weekend. There are clear signs that the person concerned has grown tired of waiting in the shadows. If you are committed, the stars suggest that your partner has a secret to share.

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

Holiday Inn opens doors in Mai Khao

group by number of rooms recently announced the opening of the Holiday Inn Resort Phuket Mai Khao Beach on the pristine northwest coast of Phuket.

At a recent press conference, Simon Morley, General Manager of the resort, described the hotel as having 246 rooms and suites that either overlook the lush, landscaped gardens or face the Andaman ocean.

Each room features the latest in hospitality technology with such amenities as LCD flat-screen TVs connected to DVD players and iPod docking stations.

"There is free wired and WiFi Internet in the rooms and throughout the resort; while iPads are available for guests' use to keep them connected while relaxing at our facilities." he added.

In line with their recent global brand relaunch, the Holiday Inn

THE WORLD'S largest hotel Resort Phuket Mai Khao Beach is built in a contemporary design offering modern facilities such as a beachfront infinity pool, a Resort Centre for guests to "chill out", a Fitness Centre fitted out with the latest equipment, the Tea Tree Spa and a selection of dining facilities within the resort.

"Unlike many other hotels where rooms have a mini-bar offering a limited selection of snacks and beverages we have a mini-mart on the premises where guests can buy what they want to stock their own fridge" said Mr Morley.

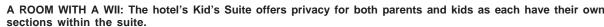
Conveniently located just 10 km away from the Phuket International Airport, and close to popular attractions such as Phang Nga Bay; Sirinath National Park; Splash Jungle Water Park and the Blue Canyon Golf Course, the new hotel differentiates itself with family-friendly offerings.

The hotel's Kid's Suite offers



WELCOME: Vice President-Strategy of Narai Group, Mr Nathee Nithivasin and Holiday Inn Mai Khao General Manager Simon Morley.





privacy for both parents and children with dedicated sections for each within the suite. The kids' section of the suite comes with a bunk bed and a play corner that includes a flat screen TV, DVD player and video game console.

To cater to families with teenagers, the resort also offers a Teen Zone for youngsters to unwind and entertain themselves with video games.

The resort, which is situated

near the national park, is also lauded for its environment-friendly features including an efficient water-recycling system, intuitive energy-saving and the absence of motorized vehicles within the resort.

Located within the 90-square kilometer nature preservation area, the resort also offers a long stretch of white sand beach and unspoiled views of mature trees.

The resort caters to all types of travellers from couples on a quiet,

romantic getaway or families seeking the perfect holiday to those on an executive retreat.

Being so close to the airport Holiday Inn Resort Phuket Mai Khao Beach is conveniently only an hour's flight from Bangkok and is easily reached with frequent direct flights from Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, Japan, Australia and charter flights from Europe, Russia, China, Korea, and the Middle East.





BUILD IT AND THEY WILL COME: A CGI model of how the Phuket's international convention and exhibition center could look if it is built as planned

Of mice and men...and politics

(Meetings, Incentives,

Conference and Exhibi-

tions) is a necessary

component of any

developed market.



THE LATEST political obstacle to the construction of an international convention and exhibition center on the island is a staggering blow to the Phuket tourism industry (see news pages).

Over the past five years, the nation's domestic political infighting has crippled efforts to develop a sustainable plan for tourism in Thailand. As Asia led the world in a post-2008 economic surge, a dynamic shift from foreign to Thai investment in the hotel business has spawned an uncontrolled countrywide surge in the number of new properties being built.

Ranging from feasible to illogical, the influx of new tourist accommodations and the long line of new projects yet to be completed are endangering virtually every destination in the country.

Hotel development has made a

decisions to enter the industry rooms has multiplied on privatewere typically based on sound business criteria. Nowadays, many people pursue the trade as a hobby, secondary line of business or in some cases just to serve as a showcase for friends and family. In many cases, no feasibility study or initial financial projections accompany the investment MICE business

decision. As a result, many of the hotels and resorts cropping up are bulk-standard, mid-scale properties that have few distinctive or unique offerings. What they lack is differentiation.

First-time hotel owners are generally investing in the provision of guest rooms only, with few looking into other demand generators for tourists. New master-planned resorts, with open areas and a wide array of facilities, are increasingly becoming an endangered species.

sector investment, there has been little to no effective governmental regulation of this growth through zoning and other controls. Worse still, government infrastructure projects needed to keep pace with the growth are too often focused on bringing in

ever-more tourists. This is perhaps the very definition of nonsustainability.

There are so many rooms and so many tourists, and what is there for them to

do? Players in Phuket's travel industry often complain about the rising number of less-affluent guests, but what would one expect if all that is available is an seemingly unlimited supply of anonymous 32-square-meter rooms?

At mid-year mark, the island had 43,571 hotel rooms. Another 6,968 were in the pipeline and will open by the end of 2014.

Airport arrivals in 2011 are expected to top a record four million and total airport passenger throughput will near eight million people. An expansion plan to boost the airport's capacity to 12.5 million by 2014 is underway.

With the number of hotel rooms growing and the airport expansion project, it is inevitable that more tourists will come. The clear and present danger is that there is no choice but to be thrust further down the dead-end expressway of volume mass tourism. That is,

An international convention center, be it located in Mai Khao,

rooms to fill at any price.

pay will be catastrophic.

Patong or Phuket Town, would serve as a leading generator to diversify the inbound market and wean it off its growing over-reliance on charter and group tours. Domestic and international

But the price that Phuket will

MICE business (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions) is a necessary component of any developed market – be it Singapore, Hong Kong and even resort islands such as Bali.

In the case of the latter, a new conference center is being built at the Nusa Dua destination resort.

Given recent history, it is illogical to expect that the rejection of the Phuket convention center plan, as an isolated government intervention into the island's tourism future, is part of a changing attitude to get things right.

One has to ask whether this is a case of political agendas colliding, or the shape of change with a greater awareness of planning foresight.

While officials wallow in indecision over tunnels, flyovers, convention centers and public transport, leaving Phuket's future very much a foggy blur, the rest of the world continues to move forward.

Holistic long-term tourism planning is the only way forward: planning that includes stemming the number of new hotels, encouraging renovation and upgrades, strict enforcement of environmental control measures and appropriate and sustainable land zoning.

The key word here is "sustainability", and to finally move toward this goal requires diversification.

To punish Phuket by laying waste to a key and necessary infrastructure boost to the island's tourism economy is a shame. It's that simple.

For now, Phuket has all rooms in the world, but very few places for people staying in them to go.

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

In brief...

Anantara chain launches Avani brand

BILL HEINECKE' S Anantara chain has announced a second upscale brand which will operate one level below the group's core offering.

Christened as Avani Hotels and Resorts, the first development launched under the namesake will be in Sri Lanka later this year.

Minor Group now has a brand stable which also includes the recently acquired Australian chain Oaks which operates mainly in the serviced apartment sector.

Clearly a reshuffle will have branding and advertising agencies grinning as it means new work coming to the table.

PATA appoints new CEO

THAILAND based tourism organization, Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) has appointed Martin Craigs as their new CEO.

Craigs is a leading aviation industry executive who has most recently headed up the Aerospace Forum Asia.

Prior to that he has consulted and advised with a number of related organizations such as AirAsia, IATA, and the Hong Kong government.

With the appointment and a recent overhaul of the Bangkok office PATA is aiming to revitalize its role as a leading advocate for regional tourism.

Nominations open for South East Asia **Property Awards**

LEADING real estate and lifestyle publisher Ensign Media is rolling out nominations for the 2011 South East Asia Property Awards.

The event will be held in Singapore on November 30th, with the international media partner Channel News Asia.

Solar lily pods heading to Phuket

RESEARCH group The Why Factory has made public plans for solar powered 'lily pods' in

Phang Nga Bay is being touted as the ideal location for these giant pods and online renderings (W:inhabitat.com) are shown of these floating flower shaped islands scattered in the sea.

Frankly no one I have spoken with has heard of the project but Architect Winy Maas has listed the island in his upcoming projects.

If any of our readers are able to get any more facts on the progress of the project, please let us know.

- Bill Barnett



108/18, Chalermprakiet Rd (By Pass) , T. Rassada, A. Muang

tel: 076- 261 470 fax: 076- 261 477, email: baansukapun.pk@gmail.com



Cassie's colorful cotton collection

ISLAND BLISS sits next to the upscale wonders of Surin Plaza and features the designs of Cassie McMillan, an Australian who has settled on Phuket for the wonderful island lifestyle.

She is no stranger to Asia as she lived in Hong Kong as a child where her father worked in import/export. She set up her own clothing and interior design boutiques in Phnom Penh and Siem Reap in the 1990s.

"My mother works in fashion and designs for the home and she has been an enduring influence. I took a design course in Melbourne at the Prahran TAFE and opened

my own company, Toujours L'Amour, which featured my own handpainted silk sleepwear and lingerie."

After some time spent traveling in Europe collecting new ideas, she

returned to Australia and worked in retail shops in charge of visual merchandizing, creating the looks that would appeal to customers.

In 1995, she went to visit her father who was then working in Phnom Penh and she immediately saw the possibilities of opening her own store offering beautiful clothing and home dé cor items primarily for the city's considerable population of international women.

"I opened Bliss the follow-

(3)

LUXURY

By Bruce Stanley

"I maintain a small

staff so I can control

quality. There is always

a problem with being

copied by others so

my job is to keep the

designs fresh."

ing year to a hearty reception. I chose the name as I wanted a word that would describe the feeling of someone who bought from my store. I designed and manufactured in Cambodia using only natural fibers that would be lovely to wear."

From a small operation in Phnom Penh's French quarter, she moved Bliss to the trendy

Street 240 in 1998 where she continues to offer the highest quality cotton with her original prints primarily on women's and children's clothing.

In addition, there are hand-

made cotton quilts and even a signature spa upstairs where she formerly lived with her husband and children.

Cassie also imports products from Australia that are popular at her shops including bedding, spa products and cotton underwear.

"I maintain a small staff so I can control quality. There is always a problem with being copied by others so my job is to keep the designs fresh.'

She travels to India each year where she works with a family in Rajasthan who use her original designs and makes the block prints that she uses on her high grade cotton.

Cassie likes to create new environments and products.

With a partner, she opened another boutique, Jasmine, in both Phnom Penh (also on Street 240) and in Siem Reap,

near the elegant FCC compound, offering the highest quality Cambodian silk fashion for women.

In 2008, with her young children in school, she decided to relocate the family to Phuket.

"I spent three years at home and traveling to my shops in Cambodia. I decided to look around for a place in Phuket to open a shop where I could offer the products I create.

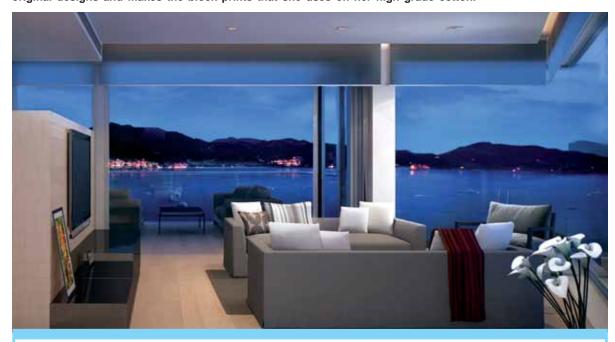
I found an ideal building near the Surin Plaza where I opened Island Bliss nine months ago. I offer a collection of my own creations of leisure and elegant clothing ideal for this tropical beach location."







CORNUCOPIA: Cassie travels to India each year where she works with a family in Rajasthan who use her original designs and makes the block prints that she uses on her high grade cotton.













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BLUEPOINT



BLISSFULLY AWARE: Cassie also imports products from Australia that are popular at her shops including bedding, spa products and cotton underwear.

LOUVER FAÇADE SYSTEM 2009 RAIC INNOVATION IN ARCHITECTURE



WORTHY OF A MONET: Water treatments are spectacular in Asia. If you don't have room for a pond, use a round pot, or follow the instructions here to make your own. Photo: fred_v

Still waters run deep

ASIANS prize water features in their gardens – from the humble pot in the front yard with its mandatory water lily and darting swordtail fish, to the blue fiberglass fish pond with a row of pebbles embedded in its

If you're lucky, you may have a natural pond or *klong* (canal) within the bounds of your property. Unarguably, water adds another dimension to your garden both as an eye-catching feature and because it

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maid's quarters
 private pool



allows the cultivation of plants that otherwise would not be possible.

The simplest version is a large ceramic pot, usually set on a matching ceramic pedestal.

Or you can use a terra-cotta pot, but it must be glazed. Natural terracotta is porous, so the water will

seep out. Furthermore, natural terra-cotta is not healthy for fish. It used to be difficult to find pots without drainage holes but now manufacturers have wised-up to the demand for watertight versions.

A third alternative is perhaps the most attractive option: a do-it-yourself pond.

Select your location – next to a wall is good – and level a suitablesized rectangular plot of ground. It can be a shallow trench, or at ground level.

Then, use large, flattish briquettes to create a supporting wall about twelve or fifteen inches high, add a light layer of sand to the bottom to ensure that there are

no sharp protruding stones and then line the entire construction. including flat the bricks, with a sheet of heavy-

duty, black plastic. Place a final row of bricks on top of the plastic liner, to hold it in place, then trim off the surplus plastic.

Add a ceramic vase to the middle of your new feature. Some of them have a projecting metal nozzle which you can connect to a pump, preferably a submersible one, and, presto, you have a fountain with water cascading down the sides of the vase. The whole process is well illustrated in a CD entitled Bali Garden (price 89 baht) obtainable from bookshops such as Sengho in Phuket Town.

Having a small pump to oxygenate the water is especially desirable if you want small fish to keep the plants company. Submersible pumps are best, but there are

cheaper alternatives. The hardiest fish are guppies and swordtails. There are many others, but these are good starters. They are pretty, lively and will certainly breed. Ensure you let everything in your new pond settle down for a few days before introducing them to their new

As for plants, the list is extensive. Everyone's favorite is the water lily (nymphea), now available in hybrids so exotic they are not yet featured in books. At the recent Saphan Hin plant market, there were huge double blooms on sale in deep Prussian blue, and some with golden centers that are absolutely gorgeous.

Nympheas are sold either in plastic pots which you can submerge straightaway in the water, or as trimmed roots. Whatever style you choose, ensure that the old leaves are removed, and if you buy a root, remember to purchase a few bags of the special mud required for water lilies and

lotuses. Finally and most importantly, ensure that the crown of the root is visible above the surrounding mud. Otherwise, the lily will die from suf-

Some plants, such as elodea or Canadian pond weed barely feature as visible attractions but are excellent as oxygenators for fish, especially if you don't have a pump. Other water plants, such as the lotus, look superb in tall vases but are less suited to the average water feature.

If you have a garden that you would like featured on this page, please email: pcampbell45@gmail.com

Tip of the week



Cymbidium Photo: blumenbiene

Caring for orchids

IN A previous column I suggested that you suspend your potted orchid from a structure such as a trellis or tree. In garden centers, orchids are normally sold in porous plastic pots with wires for hanging. There are also wooden baskets.

I think the husk of a coconut, stapled together to form a natural bowl is best, as it most closely simulates conditions in the wild. As an alternative, you can anchor your orchid vertically to the trunk of a tree – after the manner of a stag-horn fern. Loosely packed coir (coconut fiber) is normally used for potting, though you can use compost, even charcoal.

Some varieties such as cattleya, dendrobium and oncidium only need water during their growing period; others such as cymbidium, vanda, and phalaenopsis should be kept slightly moist. Never water the leaves, and you should feed with a liquid orchid fertilizer as prescribed.





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OCEAN VIEW LAND BANG TAO



Luxury hillside project, over 1,000sqm. Price: 5.9 million baht. Next to river w/ waterfall. Road, utilities. Tel: 084-445 8880 (English). Email: philipagordon@yahoo.com

SEAVIEW LAND/LANTA

Hillside land 17 rai+, road. Good title, sea & mountain view, Co Ltd. 28 million baht. Tel: 089-909 3882. Email: lantamountain@hotmail.com

HOUSE FOR SALE NEAR BIS

Near British Int'l School. Gated estate, 6 bedrooms, maid's room, pool, sala. Please email for info and pic. Email: idwian@hotmail.com

PATONG APT

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

POOL VILLA FOR SALE



In Land & House Park Phuket. 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, fully furnished. Price: 7.6 million baht. Tel: 081-606 2284.

NEW THAI BALI VILLA

Off-plan private pool villas for sale in a green area of Rawai. 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Quality building work at a fantastic price: 10.5 million baht. Negotiable on this off-plan price. Tel: 089-973 1180 (English & Thai). Email: garyfordham@hotmail. com For further details, please see our website at www.phuket rawaivilla.com

NAI HARN HOUSE 2.9 MILLION BAHT

2 bedrooms, quiet location, large plot. 2.9 million baht. Tel: 087-209 5174.

30 RAI IN TOWN

Flat land near Dowroong School in Phuket Town. Tel: 081-691 2526.

HOUSE IN KHAO LAK



Bang Lud, 2 beautiful 3bedroom villas and 3-bay carport and storage. Set on 5 rai including 1 rai lagoon. Lovely view. Located in quiet Westernstyle village with restaurants and shops. Beach only 10 mins' walk. Investment opportunity and/or development. Price: 8.7 million baht. Owner returning to UK. Contact Andy for more info. Tel: 001-44-7715394550. Email: as.ac@hotmail. co.uk

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JINDARIN BEACH CLUB

Eco Resort on Coconut Island has a private pier, spa, grass-roofed village and lap pool. Resort lots start at 1 million baht. Cottage and lot starting price is 2.5 million baht. Tel: 081-396 6060 (English), 083-520 0020 (English & Thai). Email: eam1008@ mac.com For further details, please see our website at www.jindarin.com

BEACHFRONT CONDO

2 bedrooms on top floor. Freehold. North Patong. Price: 8.9 million baht (reduced from 9.7 million baht). Tel: 086-276 5117. For photos, please email jihshand@gmail.com.

CHEAP LAND FOR SALE

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

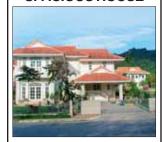
THE BEST PROJECT



Close to nature. Prices range from 5.4 million to 7.4 million baht. "The Grove" by Khirithara Village Co.,Ltd. Tapsakea, Prachup Khiri khan. Includes clubhouse and 24-hour security.

- One-storey house with 2 bedrooms and two-storey house with 4 bedrooms.
- Built-up area: 148sqm. Land size: from 560sqm. Tel: 081-018 3311. Fax: 032-815151. Email: keree_ thara_kae@hotmail.com See our website at www.ktvillage.com

NICE AND SPACIOUS HOUSE



In Heritage project, Kathu. 2 floors, fully furnished, 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 1 maid room. 234sq wah. 18 million baht. Tel: 081-892 0190 (Warit), 089-646 4823 (Rattana). Email: prayoon_jp@hotmail.com

NICE HOUSE 88SQ WAH



4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 aircons, sofa, cable TV. Near Jomthong Village on Khwang Rd. 6.5 million baht. Tel: 086-774 2034. Email: hataimata@hotmail.com

PRIVATE SALE OF HALF A RAI

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

THAI MUEANG LAND

Approx 3 rai, 2km from town center. Good road access and electricity. Very quiet, green area. Urgent sale for just 5 million baht total. Non-negotiable. No agents please. Tel: 089-652 1951 (English & Thai). Email: phuket.pn@gmail.com

ROOM FOR SALE

32sqm, 620,000 baht. Good price, on Chao Fah Rd. Only 10 mins to Central, 15 mins to Kata and Rawai beaches. Complete, ready to move in. Fully furnished, communal swimming pool. Tel: 089-195 1009. Email: pisceanmark@hotmail.com

SURIN BEACH

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

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 AT CHERNG TALAY

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

FULLY FURNISHED HOUSE SALE



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

HOUSE FOR SALE

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

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 IN RAWAI

1 rai with Chanote title. 5 minutes to Rawai Beach in secure area. Contact owner directly. Tel: 089-472 9870. Email: d_chaibut@ yahoo.com

3-BEDROOM HOUSE



3-bedroom house (53sq wah) near the Heroines' Monument. 2 bathrooms, 3 aircons, telephone & internet, curtains, kitchen and full landscaping. Price: 2.95 million baht (negotiable). Contact owner. Tel: 080-520 2989. Email: pakaporns@ yahoo.com

LAND & PROPERTY FOR SALE

6 rai sea and mountain view land for sale in Cherng Talay. Fantastic views and close to Tesco Lotus. Also **BUSINESS PARK for sale** on 1.7 rai near to Laguna. One large modern office 255sqm, with two three-bedroom houses set in landscaped gardens with pool. Located in Pasak on the main road near Laguna, and 20 minutes from the airport. Email: cherngtalay@gmail. com For more information visit www.cherngtalay. weebly.com

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

Property Classifieds

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2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms on 1 rai land in Phang Nga, 20km from Khao Lak. Price: 7.5 million baht. Tel: 083-180 2143. Email: nana1225@gmail.com

TWO TOWNHOUSES



For sale. 2-storey house, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Good location and atmosphere. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-956 2406. Email: phatsarar @gmail.com

LAND FOR SALE

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

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Freehold, 95sqm, 1bed, 1bath, big living room, perfect western kitchen, terrace, pool, own underground car parking, stunning sea and mountain view. 9.4 million baht. Tel: 081-824 1385 (English). Email: jbiwo@csloxinfo.com

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1.89 MILLION BAHT **TOWNHOUSE IN CHALONG**

Two-storey townhouse in Phuket Country Home. Two bedrooms, one bathroom, good location. Tel: 089-469 2173 (English & Thai). Email: korphong@hotmail.com

FREEHOLD CONDO

80sqm, fully furnished, Patong sea view. Pool, car park, balcony. Ready to move in. No agents. Tel: 087-284 9541.

PATONG SEAVIEW CONDO

Freehold,120sqm,11th floor corner, 2 bed, 2 bath, 1 big living room, western kitchen, terrace, pool, car parking, nice sea, mountain and city view.10.4 million baht. Tel: 081-824 1385 (English). Email: jbiwo@csloxinfo.com

KATHU HOUSE FOR SALE

2 floors, 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 6.5 million baht. Tel: 081-956 5650 (English), 089-646 9278 (English & Thai). Email: info@kathu-property. com More details: www.kathuproperty.com

HOUSE AT KATHU FOR SALE

Fully furnished, 4 bedrooms, quiet. Opposite Phuket Country Club, close to the market and shopping mall and not far from the beach. Tel: 081-956 1867 (English & Thai), 089-185 5318 (English & Thai). Email: meilin lyn@hotmail.com

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THE CHERNG' LAY **CONDOS**



Only 1 Unit available, fully furnished, (ready to move in) 196.37sqm with 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms on the second floor. 5 minutes to Layan and Bang Tao Beach. Price: 9.9 million baht/unit. Tel: 084-8485273 (French, English) or 081-7476571 (English, Thai). Email: jessy@phuket asialand.com or michel@ phuketasialand.com Webiste: www.condomi nium-phuket.com

NICE PLOT



Urgent sale. Behind Layan Hill Estate (Manik-Bang Jo Area). 1,364sqm. Original price: 7.2 million baht. Now: 6.9 million baht. Tel: 080-520 2989.

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SEAVIEW LAND AT YAMU

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1-BEDROOM 115SQM **APARTMENT KATA**

Fully furnished. Below marketvalue! Return on investment by rental management company. 5-minute stroll to two beaches. Email: resortgm@gmail.com

SEAVIEW LAND FOR SALE



3 BEDROOM HOUSE

2 floors, 3 bathrooms in Permsap Villa near Cherng Talay. Email: Pktthai1@gmail.com

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Four rai, chanote title at Bang Jo. Nice plot, direct from owner. Price: 15 million baht. Tel: 081-9560 527 (English & Thai). Email: tuenjai1@hotmail.com

4-BEDROOM FAMILY **POOL HOME**

For sale or rent. 5 mins from Laguna Phuket, 1,000sqm land, 330sqm built-up area. Contact for details. Agents welcome. Tel: 087-418 5924 (Thai), 089-875 9609. Email: claudebaltes@ gmail.com

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Newly furnished, 3 bedroom, 3 bathroom penthouse with seaview and private pool. Need to sell ASAP. Email stephan cookca@yahoo.ca for photos.

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Best value house for sale in Chuan Chuen Lagoon. Quiet, safe, good security. 5 mins to British school. 3 bedrooms, 3 aircons, 2 bathrooms. Fully furnished, includes washing machine. 3.95 million baht. Contact Scott. Tel: 081-866 8716. Email: stormbay2@ yahoo.com.sg

GUESTHOUSE NEAR THE BEACH

10-bedroom guesthouse in Patong for sale. 100 meters from the beach. Price: 24.9 million baht. Tel: 089-7247211 (English). Email: julien@phu ketimmo.com

NAI HARN LUXURY CONDO



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

POOL VILLA, SEAVIEW KAMALA

Beautiful 3-bedroom villa. All bedrooms with en-suite bathrooms in Balinese style, 2 salas, a private pool and garage. Price: 9 million baht. Email: imcconnac@aol.com For further details, and lots of pics see website at http:// villakamala.com

3-BED POOL PENTHOUSE, KATA

Seaview, 375sqm rooftop pool and gazebo. Way below market value! Great return on investment by rental management. Email: resortgm@gmail.com

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700-1400sqm for residential. Utilities, road. Build yourself or with our expertise. Tel: 086-267 0157. Fax: 076-325294. Email: bannuaton@yahoo.com For further details, please see our website at http://villabeyond bangtao.com

THE CHERNG' LAY **VILLAS**



Fully furnished. Only 3 units available (ready to move in). 828.12sqm with 4 bedrooms and 4 bathrooms. 5 minutes to Layan and Bang Tao Beach. Price: 24 million baht. Tel: 084-848 5273 (French, English) or 081-747 6571 (English, Thai). Email: jessy@phuketasialand.com or michel@phuketasia land.com Website: www. condominium-phuket.com

KATHU LUXURY POOL VILLA

Near BIS and Patong Beach, 3bedroom villa. Price: 9.5 million baht. Tel: 076-321445, 089-724 7211 (English). Email: info@botanvillage.com For further details, please see our website at www.phuket-cot tages.com

80SQM FREEHOLD CONDO

for sale in Patong at the Haven Lagoon. Fully furnished. Price: 5.6 million baht. Offering 10% rental guarantee for 2 years. Tel: 087-895 0555, 087-895 0999. Website: www.thehavenlagoon.com

PATONG CONDO

Fully furnished, one bedroom with bathroom, kitchen, living room. Mountain View. Swim/ Fitness. Sell: 3.3 million baht Rent: 25,000 baht. Tel: 081-817 7886. Email: wintin2007@ yahoo.com

HOUSE RAWAI 2.6MB AND 50M BEACH



Quick Sale! Completely renovated townhouse, 50m from Rawai beach in quiet & secure dead end street. Chanote title. Freehold-Sold with company no transfer fees. Comes fully furnished. Ready to move in. Tel: 088-451 5540, 088-878 8587. Email: ben@booming box.com For further details, please see our website at www.bbx3.be

Looking for land to buy?

See more classified ads at www.phuketgazette.net

Live in Cherng Talay? Place your GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS at Chaba Supermarket



Simply write out your ad, pay for it and leave it with Khun Na. Tel: 076-325586 or 081-3977307.

GAZETTE CLASSADS - they work because they're PAID! Hundreds of new ads in print every week, all published simultaneously and FREE in the Gazette Online!

The Gazette Online is always on top in Google!

Property Classifieds

Properties For Rent

SUNSET PLAZA KARON



Condos for rent/sale. 1 or 2 bedrooms, fully furnished. Tel: 083-440 0091 (Sona), 086-3029742 (Kae).

HOUSE IN PATONG

Newly furnished modern house with 2 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, spacious dining area and stylish open western kitchen. Living room with balcony. Full aircon. All extras: LCD television, Internet, satellite. Quiet setting. 27,000 baht per month. Please call for more info. Tel: 084-185 8536.

LUXURY 1 BEDROOM

Ground-floor apartment 65sqm. Central Patong, 1 month minimum. Tel: 087-887 9070. Email: ianscondo@yahoo.com

2 BEDROOM RAWAI CONDO

60sqm, fully furnished, top floor, aircon, cable TV, pool. 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 085-039 3784 (English). Email: tominphuket@gmail.com

SEAVIEW 2 BEDROOM CONDO NAI HARN

Fully furnished, quiet area, aircon, pool, TV, Internet, laundry, 2 terraces - 25,000 month. Tel: 088-445 6108. Email: thekimbha@yahoo.com.au

2 RAI WITH HOUSE FOR RENT

Layan, 2 bedrooms, 25,000 baht per month. Tel: 084-714 8391. Email: andreapaoletti1@ hotmail.it

EXCLUSIVE HOUSE NAI HARN

3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, pool, jacuzzi, 800sqm land. For long- or short-term rent. For further details, please see our website at www.phuket qualityhouse.com

PALAI HEAVEN VIEW

We have two apartments for long term rent. Top view, private area, fully furnished and everything is new. Apartment downstairs is 90sqm with two bedrooms, living room, bathroom, kitchen and big garden. Apartment upstairs is 80sqm with two bedrooms, living room, outdoor kitchen and balcony with stunning view. In this house and apartment, you can house two families and everything is secure. Downstairs apartment is for rent at 20,000 baht per month and the upstairs apartment is 17,000 baht per month. Tel: 080-147 1400, 080-147 3025, 706-884995. Email: tomas@tmsengineering.se For further details, please see our website at www.heaven sparesort.com

LUXURY APARTMENT IN PATONG

Fully furnished with swimming pool. Tel: 081-894 4730 (English & Thai), 081-892 5983 (Thai). Fax: 076-292149. Email: nanaivillaphuket@gmail.com For further details, please see our website at www.nanai villa.com

CHEAP KAMALA RENT

1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, aircon, fully furnished, free internet, cable. Long term: 7,000 baht. Tel: 081-826 7287.

2-BED APARTMENT **IN PATONG**

120sqm apartment with 10sqm balcony. Large sunken living/dining room, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Full built-in kitchen, storeroom. European standard. All aircon. Tel, UBC, WiFi, etc. 20,000 baht, long term pref. Tel: 081-185 8536.

READY TO MOVE IN! 14,950B/M



long term only. 5 mins to British School. Fully furnished with modern fitted kitchen, including OVEN. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms with hot showers, full aircon. W/ machine, Shared 12m pool. Tel: 084-690 9144.

COZY HOUSE NEAR NAIHARN



High-grade house, furnished and conveniently located. Minutes from Rawai and Nai Harn Beaches. 2 spacious bedrooms with en-suite bathrooms. 1 guest toilet. Aircons. Large living-dining room. Telephone line with ADSL. Free water supply and garbage removal service. Rent: 20,000 baht per month. Contact K. Nui. Tel: 087-383 0936. Email: hunt17@hotmail.com

4-BEDROOM VILLA WITH POOL

Spacious, fully furnished, fourbedroom villa with pool for longterm rent near Chalong. Price: 55,000 baht/month. Tel: 084-245 8986. Email: take_a_tab@ hotmail.com

12,000 BAHT/ **MONTHLY RENT**



Apartment, pool, fully furnished. WiFi. cable TV. kitchen. Cheap lease with private financing for foreigner 10-30 years. 100,000 baht yearly rent. 200 meters from Rawai Pier. Tel: 089-054 5271. Email: phuket7@yahoo. com Webiste: www.thai dreamvilla.com

THE ONE! **BEACH HOUSE**

At Kamala, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, European style. 75,000 baht/month. Includes all services. Available September 15 until December 15. Tel: 081-894 3839. Email: ayearliken oneother@gmail.com

THAI VILLA AND POOL **NAIHARN**

Soi Naya, Nai Ham. Luxury rent: 40.000 baht per month. Contact for more infor-mation. Tel: 081-270 5126. Email: mervyn.crocker@ vahoo.com

NICE HOUSE IN PA KHLOK



3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, aircons, phone line, furnished, large pool and big garden. Rent: 35,000 baht per month. Tel: 080-531 0697.

HOTEL FOR RENT KATA

Running business, located 200 meters from Kata Beach. Three year contract minimum. 22 fully furnished rooms. Call Sidd for more information. Prime Location. Tel: 082-539 6966, 081-498 5915 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-330503. Email: rajay001@hot mail.com

5 MINUTES FROM LAGUNA

For rent or sale. 4 bedrooms, family pool home, 1,000sqm land, 330sqm built-up area. Contact for details. Agent welcome. Tel: 087-4185924 (Thai), 089-875 9609 (English). Email: claude baltes@gmail.com

PATONG STUDIO 28SQM

Aircon, fridge, TV, DVD and ADSL. 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-971 5664. Email: ronny2507@hotmail.com

SERVICED PATONG 2 BED APTS

Maid, pool, WiFi, cable, gym, 100 sqm. 2 units left. Book today! Tel: 080-052 8082 (English & Thai). Email: solitude001@aol.com

50,000 BAHT YEARLY RENT



condotel, quiet, furnished,

HOUSE PHUKET

B.L. APARTMENT

room, 1 living room, aircon, cable TV, ADSL, hot shower, garden, and car park. Rent: 7,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-692 3163.

CONDO IN PATONG

month. Tel: 081-892 1621.

2-BEDROOM **TWIN HOUSE**



in Phuket Town, 20,000 baht/month.

Surface: 45sq wah (180sqm).

- 2 storeys: ground floor with living room, kitchen, bathroom, terrace, garden
- Top floor with 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, 2 bal-
- Peaceful area in a nice
- Only minutes away from Bangkok Hospital Phuket and Central Festival
- 24-hour security
- Clubhouse with swimming pool

Call 081-868 7676 or 089-868 2268 for more information or house inspection.



or lease, studio at Rawai cable TV, fridge. Cheap lease with private financing for foreigner 10-30 years. 200 meters from Rawai Pier. Tel: 084-242 8914. Email: phuket7@ yahoo.com Website: www.thaidreamvilla.com

NAIYANG BEACH

3 bedrooms, furnished with cable TV and ADSL internet. 5 minutes to Nai Yang beach and Phuket airport. 18,000 baht/ month or for sale at 4.9 million baht. Tel: 089-652 1751 (English & Thai), 089-648 4703 (English & Thai). Email: pietankam@ yahoo.co.th

New in Kathu. Big rooms, 1 bed-

1 bedroom, nicely furnished at Phuket Palace. Pool and parking. Rent: 20,000 baht per



- and parking lot.
- conies and living room
- neighborhood (and uncommonly large roads)

4 Bedrooms Villa for Rent / Sale

Fully Finished, Wi-Fi, Cable TV, Maid, Pool Cleaner, and Gardener are included. ww.PropertySeekByKMD.com, (081) 895-7310

PATONG CONDO FOR RENT/SALE

Great location. Fully furnished, airconditioned, cable tv, high speed internet. Tel: 076-319956. 086-2698758 (English), 085-591 7575 (English & Thai). Email: iimbeckett41@hotmail.com

PATONG 30SQM APARTMENT



Long-term rent, Jacuzzi, internet, TV, safe, kitchen, aircon. 15,000 baht per month. 9 floor building. 5 mins to Bangla Beach. Tel: 083-393 6700. Email: graffi-roberto@gmail.com

HOUSE FOR RENT KAMALA

House for rent in Kamala. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, fully furnished, with TV and computer. Includes large pool. Tel: 086-971 9776. Email: Natacha_phuket@ hotmail.com

POOL VILLA IN RAWAI

Fully furnished, with 3 bedrooms near Lotus Rawai, in quiet and secure area. Tel: 089-472 9870. Email: d_chaibut@ yahoo.com

3-BEDROOM VILLA

Furnished, aircon, TV, garden, located in Land & Houses Park in Chalong. 24-hour security, clubhouse with pool, fitness, spa, restaurant, walking distance. Rent: 25,000 baht per month, long term only. Call for viewing. Tel: 081-846 9981 (English), 081-537 8774 (English & Thai). Email: ursaebi@gmx.net

500 B/DAY OR 10,000 B/MONTH



house. Affordable rates, standard and family room with aircon, fridge, WiFi, cable TV. Car and motorbike for cheap rent. 100 meters from the Rawai Pier. Tel: 076-284716, 081-416 1072. Email: info@ rawaitan.com Website: www.rawaitan.com

THE GREENHOUSE **POOL BUNGALOWS**



In Chalong, 2 bedrooms, fully furnished, cool, green, QUIET with ADSL, cable and aircon. Price: 13,000 baht per month. Contact John. Tel: 081-979 1976.

KAMALA MODERN **TOWNHOUSE**



Good for living in or as office, next to road. 2 bedrooms with aircons, 3 bathrooms. 18,000 baht per month furnished; for sale at 3.5 million baht. Tel:081-397 1303, 087-385 4180.

ONE BEDROOM BUNGALOW

Rawai quiet location, aircon, TV, kitchen. Price 8,000 baht. Tel: 086-279 0837.

KARON HEAVEN SEAVIEW

We have a house and apartment for long term rent. House: top sea view, private area, fully furnished and everything is new. Swimming pool 5x10m. House is 80 sqm with one bedroom, living room, bathroom and outdoor kitchen, balcony with sea view only 5m to pool. Apartment: 55sqm with one bedroom, living room and indoor kitchen, balcony with stunning sea view, waterfall and pool. This house and apartment can accomodate two families and everything is secure. House rental is 25,000 baht/ month and apartment rental is 20,000 baht/month. Tel: 080-147 1400, 080-147 3025 (English & Thai), 706-884995 (English). Email: tomas@tmsengineering. se Forfurther details, please see our website at www.neaven sparesort.com

POOL VILLA IN RAWAI

Fully furnished, with 3 bedrooms near Lotus Rawai, in quiet and secure area. Tel: 089-472 9870. Email: d chaibut@ vahoo.com

RENT OR SALE

New house at Supalai Hill, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, furnished. Long term rent: 18,000 baht per month. 2 storeys. Tel: 083-649 1218. Email: arly_35@ yahoo.com

Property Classifieds

Property Services

HOUSE WANTED CASH BUYER

We have many buyers. List your property free on our website, more than 1,000 hits every hour, MLS Agents website. Tel: 082-974 8359 (English). Email: sales@thailandpropertys.com

PEST CONTROL

ISS Facility Services provides complete pest control solutions for termites, rodents, crawling and flying insects. Tel: 076-610315, 081-958 6879 (English), 083-505 6667 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-610314. Email: scott.d@th.iss world.com

Property Wanted

SMALL HOUSE WANTED

Looking for small house in Chalong, Rawai, Nai Harn or Kathu. Max cost: 2.5 million baht. Email: bengtjansson@ hotmail.com

HOUSE WANTED CASH BUYER

We have many buyers. List your property free at our website, more than 1,000 hits every hour, MLS Agents website. Tel: 082-974 8359 (English). Email: sales@ thailandpropertys.com Forfurther details, see our website at www.thailandpropertys.com

PHUKET AIRPORT LAND

Existing hotel wants to buy or lease additional land within 2km of the airport, 0.5 - 1.0 rai.lf leased, term must be 15-30 years.Commission paid if you find land for us. Email: simon@luttrell.asia

Accommodation Available

PANWA BEACH

At high water, you can swim from my lower terrace. Rent: 15,000 baht per month. Minimum 6 months. Cash payable for the whole period. Contact Gustav. Tel: 080-649 0500.

RENT APARTMENT IN PATONG

Quiet area on Nanai. Rent 55sqm apartment with garden and swimming pool. 15,000 baht per month for long stay. Tel: 076-296312, 080-880 5086 (English). Email: bialaspatrick @yahoo.com

SUPERIOR 4-BED VILLA/POOL

Short daily, weekly or monthly rental – only available now to Dec 2011, then after June 2012. contact for full details. Tel: 076-378361, 081-676 4849, 081-772 2300. Fax: 076-263919. Email: william.amonoo@gmail.com

NEW STUDIO APARTMENTS

Modern design, 54sqm with kitchenette. Quiet location. Rent: 15,000 per month. Tel: 081-085 6715 (English). Email: surlamer05@yahoo.com

ROOM FOR RENT

Hotel for rent 600 baht per night in center of Patong. Tel: 084-245 5716, 087-881 0288 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-377685. Email: bantitar2009@windows live.com

KATA ROOM FOR RENT-PRIVATE

6k WiFi, maid, laundry, cable. Must be quiet & no bringing bar girls/boys home. Tel: 087-888 9089. Email: jaisabai@gmail.com

KATA BEACH

4 mins walk from the beach. Please visit website at www.southernfriedrice.com Guesthouse promotion 15% discounts. Example:

Room for 700 baht, now 595 baht (Low season).

Room for 1,200 baht, now 1,025 baht (High Season).

Room for 1,500 baht, now 1,275 baht (Peak season).

All rooms with aircon, safe, free WiFi and computers. Continental breakfast. If stay 5 nights, free airport pick-up. Food 15% off for guests. Tel: 081-894 8446. Email: sfrkata@hotmail.com

ABSOLUTE BEACH FRONT

4 blocks, 10 min from water's edge, 3 at back lane to beach, Chanote, sell as whole or separate. Please call for more info. Tel: 087-276 0529.

PATONG CONDO

Fully furnished, one bedroom with bathroom, kitchen, living room. Mountain View. Swim/Fitness. Sell 3.3 million baht Rent 25,000 baht. Tel: 081-817 7886. Email: wintin2007@yahoo.com

CONDO FOR SALE/ RENT RAWAI



clean and quiet, 300 meter from beaches. Tel: 086-112 1477. Email: rawaireser vation@yahoo.com

BEAUTIFUL HOUSE

Swimming pool, garden view, 2 beds, aircon, 2 baths, cable TV, DVD, internet, terrace, tropical garden. Close to Nai Ham Beach. Available October 15. Daily rent: 2,600 baht. Tel: 085-787 3046. Email: patrickmeo@gmail.com

FREEDOM APARTMENT

Patong, European style, aircon, wireless internet, cable TV, safe area, bathroom with hot water. 7,500 baht/month. Tel: 084-845 0541, 083-380 6744.

400 B/DAY OR 9,000 B/MONTH



Rawai pool guesthouse. 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, aircon, WiFi, cable TV. Car and motorbike for cheap rent. 300 meter from beach. Tel: 080-328 9986, 084-242 8914. Email: phuket7 @ yahoo.com Website: www.thaidreamvilla.com

KATA SEA FRONT LUXURY VILLA

3-bedroom luxury villa on tip of Kata Beach headland. Built up area: 3,400 square feet.15 meters above sea level, spectacular Andaman seaviews.15m x 6m infinity pool on the edge of rocks overlooking sea. Villa surrounded by dense foliage, spacious balconies, outdoor showers in natural settings, very private and secluded. Thai, Japanese, and Balinese design influences and artifacts. Excellent cook and maid provided. (English). Email: seavest@singnet.com.sgFor further details, please see our website at www.housephu ket.com

Accommodation Wanted

WE WANT TO RENT VILLA

Couple looking for villa to rent for 3 weeks from 1 December 2011. Villa must have a kitchen and be within walking distance to Kamala Beach. Pool and garden would be nice. Looking forward to your offer. Email: alikedive@hotmail.com

VILLA FOR RENT

Iamlooking for a villa from December 20 to February 22. Minimum of 4 bedrooms. Surin, Bangtao or Laguna area. Budget: less than \$34,000. Tel: 081-082 0498, 089-723 0413 (English). Email: anyane@yandex.ru

PHUKET (NOV 14 TO DEC 14)

Arriving in Phuket on Nov 14 and staying until Dec 15. Looking for a flat for a couple anywhere in Phuket, preferably close to the beach. 20,000 baht budget. Please send your information by email: amit@evol.ca

1-BED APARTMENT WANTED

We are looking for a 1 bed apartment in Patong. We are looking to pay around 13,000 baht per month for a place of more than 60sqm with a kitchen. And we are looking for somewhere quiet. Tel: 087-468 4836. Please send your information by email: conlon01 @hotmail.com

NEED 2-BEDROOM HOUSE

Quiet, internet, TV, carpark, garden. Kamala, Bang Tao, Phuket Town. Up to 12,000 baht, long term. Tel: 085-790 8241.

Holiday Homes & Villa Rentals

KAMALA APARTMENT FOR RENT

Private, quiet property with 2 rentals, 2-bed apt 2,000 baht and 1-bed house 1,700 baht. Pool, close to beach. Tel: 076-385909, 086-278 8598. Email: curlyphyl@yahoo.com

Household Items

HANDCRAFTED TEAKWOOD

Futon sofa beds. Unparalleled comfort and durability. Shipping door-to-door anywhere in Thailand. Tel: 087-043 2482. Website: www.bangkokfuton. com

Household Services

DWF HOME SERVICE

Built-in bar, counter, pool, kitchen, pond. Tel: 081-606 5746. Email: dwf_home services@hotmail.com

GREENHOUSE

Construction adviser, renovation, shop fitting, electric, metal and wood work. Tel: 085-654 2244.

PHUKET HOME MAINTENANCE

Renovations, house repairs, painters, tilers, electricians, plumbers, carpenters, construction. Fluent English-speaking boss. Free quotes given. Contact Rin. Tel: 084-193 5124. Email: phukethome maintenance@yahoo.com

Classified Advertisements

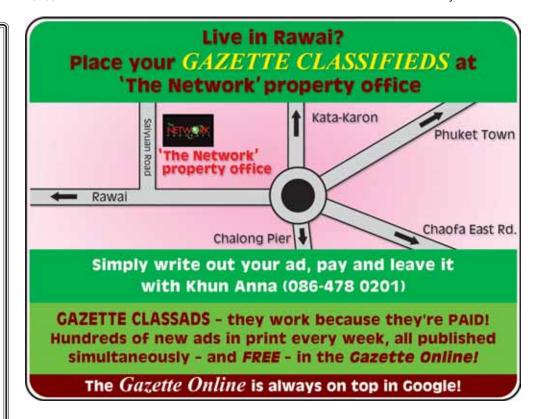
Please use this form to write your classified advertisement.

Then hand it to any of our agents.

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

All advertising must be paid for in advance.

Deadline for Property Gazette page: Friday 3 pm. Deadline for all other ads: Saturday 12 noon.



Looking for land to buy?

See more classified ads at www.phuketgazette.net

Island Job Mart

British International School, Phuket

British International School, Phuket is looking for candidates to fill positions in the following areas:

- System Maintenance
- Steward
- Building Maintenance
- Housekeeping
- Pantry (Cook Helper)

• Teacher's Assistant

Qualifications

- Thai National
- Bachelor's Degree in related field
- Teaching qualifications and experience with child care / teaching experience preferable
- Good command of spoken and written English
- Strong interpersonal and organizational skills
- Love to take care of children

• Primary Secretary Assistant

Qualifications

- Female, Thai national
- Bachelor's Degree in related field
- Excellent English, computer literate and good people skills
 Able to coordinate with other departments in academic
- Able to coordinate with other departments in academic capacity

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



59 Moo 2, Thepkrasattri Road, Koh Kaew, Muang, Phuket 83200 Tel: 076-335555 # 2113, 2110 Fax: 076-335573

Email: patcharakornt@bisphuket.ac.th or sirirats@bisphuket.ac.th

One of Phuket's biggest Dive Centers has free positions in the following departments:

- 1 Accountant, Chalong office, Phuket
- 1 Thai booking staff, Chalong office, Phuket

For the accountant the following qualifications are needed:

- Able to speak and write English
- . Minimum 2 years of working experience in accounting
- Knowledge of QuickBooks an advantage
- Knowledge of official papers as work permits, TAT license and related company papers an advantage.

For the Thai booking staff the following qualifications are needed:

- Knowledge of the English language
- Knowledge of the dive business
- Knowledge of hotel locations on Phuket
- Knowledge of working with a computer
- · Presentable and flexible

Interested candidates are welcome to Email a resume immediately. We will then call you to make an appointment for an interview.

Chalong: Phone: 076-383052
Email: info@scandinavian-divers.com



Phuket Gazette

The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following position:

REPORTER

- ► Thai national (able to read, write, speak fluent Thai)
- ► Ability to communicate clearly in English
- ► Clear thinking in order to identify what makes a good news story
- ▶ Initiative and enthusiasm to track down the story
- ► Photography skills
- ► Able to manage own time effectively
- ► Knowledge of Burmese an advantage
- ► Driver's license

Good salary for the right candidate.

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV by email to Oh@PhuketGazette.net

The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

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

GRAPHIC DESIGNER

New IT Company is seeking Graphic Designers to join our rapidly growing company. A creative mind and willingness to work as part of a team is a must. Skills required: Adobe PhotoShop (HTML not compulsory). Monthly salary is 20,000-35,000 baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 086-951 3478. Email: kirrin.lis iecki @nriteam.com

THAI STAFF NEEDED

Must speak English. Basic salary, commission and contact included. Patong area. Tel: 081-270 1370. Email: m@bayshore projects.com

COOK WANTED

Austrian Captain, 55
years old, is looking for
a very good female
cook and honest
girlfriend. I can offer
you a job as a cook on
my sailing vessel in
Phuket. You must
speak English or
German. Free eating,
drinking, living and
salary 15,000 baht per
month. Call Captain
Frank:

Visit Frank at Big A Resort 67/18 Moo 4,Soi Sermsuk, Rawai.

THE SWEETEST JOB ON PHUKET

We need Thai staff for our candy shops in Kata, Karon and Patong. You must speak basic English, be organized and service-minded. Full time with good salary. Tel: 087-888 1819. Email: marie@phuketgodis.com

FRANCHISE ASSOCIATE

Brokerages available in Phuket and Pattaya to sell businesses and property. Full training and set up given. Fees apply. Tel; 087-034 0568. Email: phil@tsba.info

F&B MANAGER CAPE SIENNA

Seeking a creative, experienced, outgoing professional with great customer service and management skills. Send CV to: frank@cape sienna.com

WEB PROJECT MANAGER/FRENCH

Must have experience in programming, software development and project management. Tel: 086-478 0322. Email: kannika.liva@gmail.com

THAI STAFF NEEDED

Work in the sun. Must speak English. Basic salary, commission and contacts included. Patong area. Contact Mike. Tel: 081-270 1370. Email: m@bayshorepro jects.com

Pre Press

We are a media group with operating activities in Germany, as well as different Asian locations with more than 300 colleagues.

From our headquarters in German. The group-wide strategic orientation is lead and the international business units integrated. For the implementation of our success oriented corporate planning, we rely on colleagues with commitment and vision and are searching for the support and expansion of our team in Thailand/Phuket and Bangladesh/Dhaka, respectively, for the earliest possible start date, one motivated

Media-Production Manager (m/f)

These are your tasks:

- You will take over the operating leadership of a motivated and qualified team of about 50 employees with the responsibility in all production topics
- You will be the interface between the German production planning and control department, the customer service, as well as for the foreign production teams.
- You ensure a smooth process at the production site and are responsible for securing and optimizing the technological processes, as well as taking care of the workforce management in the section media production with focus on image processing
- $\hfill \square$ You are responsible for the planning and optimization of jobs and orders
- $\hfill \square$ You elaborate improvements during faults and process deviations
- $\hfill \Box$ You coordinate product related trainings for the employees

These qualifications you should bring with you:

- You have completed a technical education in a media related field or have an equivalent qualification plus several years experience in the field of media production, particularly in the field of digital image processing
- You have extensive practical experience in dealing with standard programs, in particular Adobe Photoshop, Adobe InDesign and QuarkXPress, and have gained first professional experience in managing teams
- We are looking for a strong motivated and far-sighted leader, who supports us with assertiveness, strong negotiation skill and natural authority in our corporate philosophy
- You have high social competence and enjoy, as well as having the skill in dealing with people of different cultures
 In addition to excellent communication and team skills, initiative, responsibility, flexibility, resilience
- and commitment as well as structured and result-oriented work should describe your strengths

 You are fluent in English

This is what you can expect

- We offer a secure and full-time position. You can expect an interesting, diversified and responsible job with a variety possibilities and freedoms.
- For the production site in Bangladesh, you have the opportunity to build up a young production facility and be a significantly part of the success in the initial phase
- In addition to comprehensive support in relocation (e.g. relocation service, visa) you will get an attractive remuneration package corresponding to the responsibilities of the position

We are looking forward to your application

Your application stating your salary expectations and earliest possible starting date, please direct to the following e-mail bewerbung@schnell-media.de or to SCHNELLmedia GmbH + Co. KG – HR-Department – Winterswykerstr. 120 – 48691Vreden, Germany

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

Phuket Gazette

The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following position:

SUB-EDITOR

- ▶ Able to write news stories in clear, concise English
- ▶ A team player
- ► Willing to work extended hours
- ▶ Naturally curious about the world, especially Phuket and what affects its residents
- ▶ Have the initiative to delve into the facts to make a good
- ▶ Newspaper experience and/or layout skills, especially PageMaker

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV and samples of work published in print or on the internet by email to Oh@PhuketGazette.net

The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

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

PBVC 2 POSITIONS

- Accounting officer
- Receptionist
- Qualifications:
- Hard working
- Ability to speak and understand English
- -Age 25-40
- Positive attitude and able to work under pressure.

Benefits:

- 2 days off/ week
- Uniform and staff meals
- Seaview office and great envi-

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Bangkok Hospital - Phuket City Fri 7 PM

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

Green Man Pub - Chalong Tue, Thu, Sat 1 PM

Stereo Lab Restaurant - Surin Beachfro Mon and Thur 9:30 AM Scandinavian Meeting - Karon Tue and Sat 7 PM (Nov-April) 086-9440460 Swe, 085-4647450 Sw

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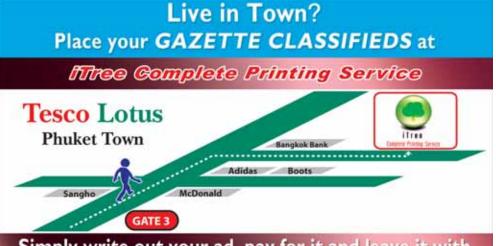
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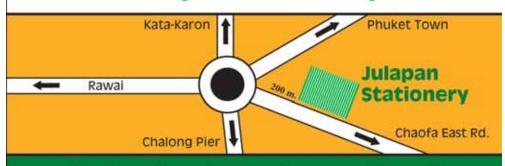
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With 6 double cabins and 105sqm sails, 2009. It's something to do. Price: 800,000 baht.Tel: 087-461 8089.

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TECNAM P-92

- -Price: 1.5 million baht
- -Registration: U-B08 -Year of Manufacturie: 2002
- -Equipment: Full standard equipment
- -Engine: Rotax 912-80HP 350hrs.

Aircraft is based at Klong 15 Contacts: Tharee. Tel: 081-840 8418.

CESSNA 172P

With full IFR for 3 million baht. Everything on the aircraft is new, including Garmin Aera 500. Interior and exterior was redone in 2010. The engine has 700 hours with TBO at 2,000. Dual nav/ dual com, EGT, transponder, etc. Registration: HS-SEX. Cost: 2.8 million baht. Location: Best Ocean Airpark Email: sonny@salient group. net

CORVUS PHANTOM





This is a new, 2-seat, lowwing airplane that is all composite. Certified as ultralight and LSA. It has 17hrs on the airframe and 20 hrs on the Jabiru 3300, a 6-cylinder, 120hp engine with a 3-bladed prop. It has the Dynon FlightDEK-D180 EFIS/EMS glass panel and the Garmin SL40 VHF radio, Garmin GMA 340 audio panel, and Garmin GTX 328 mode S transponder. Analog instruments are Ulma vsi, alt, and compass. The following options are included: extended 110ltr fuel tanks, hydraulic toe brakes on both sides, parking brake, cabin heat, canopy tarpaulin, custom made cover for entire airplane, Garmin 296 GPS, and 2 GCA-4T headsets. Price: 4 million baht. Tel: 089-825 6729.

Aircraft Service

GENERAL AVIATION ISALIVE

Aero Pro Management has new offices, a flight school, and maintenance services opening 15th October at the Best Ocean Air-park, a 45 min drive South of Bangkok. Email: pat@aeropromgr.com For further details, please see our newsletter at www. aeropromgr.com/newsletter/ index-no3.html

Aircraft Sharing

DIAMOND DA-20 KATANA (1/3 SHARE)

1/3rd share for sale at price to be negotiated. Registration: HS-JON. Built 1995. Full standard equipment. Engine is Rotax 912A3 with 638hrs. Aircraft has recently undergone full 600hrs check and has hardly flown since, due to waiting for new registration papers. Propeller: Hoffman V352F. Thai C of A, valid until 2012. Aircraft is based at Thai Flying Club, Bang Phra, Chonburi. Contact Edwin Wouters. Tel: +62 81908424618. Or email: eawouters@yahoo.com

DIAMOND DA-20 KATANA

Registration: HS-AXL, Year: 1995. Equipment: IFR, Dual Nav/Com, ADF. Engine: Rotax 912F3 (700hrs SMOH). Propeller: Hoffman V352F (10hrs SMOH). TTAF: 4.660hrs. Thai C of A, valid until 2012. Price: 2.25 million baht (half share also available). Aircraft currently based at Nok Airfield in Chiang Mai. Tel: 084-222 3945. Email: jonm66 @me.com

Rockwell Commander 114 HS-AWS



Lycoming IO-540-T4B5D (1,300 hours, 700 hours to TBO). Prop: B3D32C419/82NHA-5. Overhauled Feb 2011 (7 years to TBO). C of A Due 11th November 2011. New 5-year Permit. 100 hour check completed 19 Feb 2011.

Specs:

G-BVNL - UK

Horsepower: 260 Top Speed: 166 kts Cruise Speed: 157 kts Stall Speed (dirty): 55 kts Rate Of Climb: 1088 fpm Ceiling: 17,400 ft

Gross Weight: 3140 lbs Empty Weight: 2094 lbs Fuel Capacity: 68.00 gal Usable Range: 700 nm Fuel Av Gas 100LL 1 crew plus 3 passengers

Radio and Navigation Configuration: Fully IFR equipped. 2 Garmin GNS430 VHF/COMM/NAV/GPS/TERRAIN. Garmin GI-106A VOR/LOC/GS/GPS CDI. King KN64 DME. Garmin GTX 320/327 Transponder with Mode C via Ameri-King AK350-30 Height Encoder. Garmin GMA 340 Audio Panel, Bendix King KR-87 ADF, Sandel SN 3308 EHSI. Century IIB Autopilot Dual Axis and S-Tec Altitude Hold, WX-500 Stormscope.

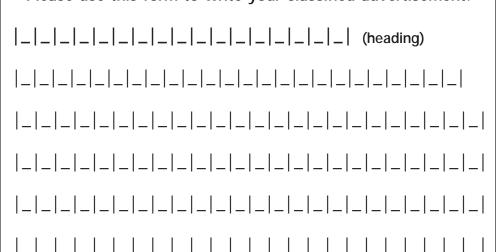
Price: 3.75 million baht. Located at Thai Flying Club, Bang Phra.

Contact Tony Scragg at 081-906 3250, or email tony_scragg@hotmail.com



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Sport ____





Pariwat Pinsawat with Phuket Country Club founder and MD Phummisak Hongyok (right photo, center) after the youngster was named the club's very first 'Brand Ambassador', at age 14.

Pariwat scores a home first

Pariwat Pinsawat returned from Hong Kong last week victorious in the international junior team tournament, The Lion City Cup to claim yet another first.

He was subsequently named the inaugural Brand Ambassador move to create the position

for his home course, Phuket Country Club (PCC).

The nouncement, made last Saturday at a presentation dinner that quickly evolved

into an appreciation event, drew attendance by former Phuket senator Phummisak Hongyok, who as one of the PCC's founders remains the club's managing director, and former Phuket governor Udomsak Usawarangkura.

In their congratulatory addresses, PCC's General Manager Chanwut Hongyok and the

PHUKET's golfing prodigy erations, Keat Lau, both expressed their wonder and appreciation for the rapid rise to sporting success that young Pariwat, just 14 years old, has achieved in such a short time.

Mr Lau explained that the

Brand Ambassador was in line with the philosophy of 'giving back to the community" exemplified by the club's senior founding member, Mr

Phummisak.

"I must thank

Phummisak Hongsyok,

Songwuth, Songpop

and my father and

mother. These people I

cannot forget."

Yet, discussions around the tables was that having Pariwat become the club's Brand Ambassador allowed the PCC to support the youngster's sporting development in his crucial coming years within the tightly regulated and closely monitored rules of amateur sportsmanship.

Much talk on the night cenclub's Director of Special Op- tered on when - not if - Pariwat

will join the professional leagues. Most experts on hand predicted Pariwat to make the move in a couple of years, giving him time to mature and develop his skills.

Given his past performance for improvement, much is expected of the youngster.

He carded 158 in his first round – at age 8. He joined the PCC's junior golf program that year and under the tutelage of his grand uncle and coach Prachuab Subcharoen, who is also the Thai Golf Association Representative for Junior Golf in Southern Thailand, scored his first under-par round at age 12.

Pirawat joined the Thai national squad last year, and last week he returned from Hong Kong where he and junior national squad compatriots Chanachok Deipiratanamongkol. Somprat Rattanasuwan and Aussarassakorn Voramate posted an 869 total to beat Malaysia (873) and Indonesia (888) in the 5th Lion City Cup for junior golfers under 18.

His advice for aspiring young golfers: practice, practice, practice. "I practice three to four hours a day, Monday through Friday and all day on Saturdays and Sundays," Pariwat told the Gazette.

Also critical was concentration, he said.

His next points of training are to focus on are psychology and course management, that is when to attack a course and when to hold back.

To guide him along the course to pro status in these aspects will be grand uncle Prachuab, who last Saturday was signed on to be Pariwat's manager.

While looking forward to improving his game, a modest Pariwat has not forgotten his origins. "I must thank Phummisak Hongsyok, Songwuth, Songpop and my father and mother. These people I cannot forget," Pariwat said in his thank you speech.

"And I look forward to reaching greater heights," he added.

STRENGTH

ACCESSORIES SERVICE & SOLUTIONS

Amateur Tournaments

2009 Thailand Youth Games – Silver medal (age 12) 2010 Optimist Junior World Golf Championship (Florida, **USA)** - 2nd place (age 13)

2010 Asia Pacific Junior World Golf Championship (India) -3rd place (age 13)

2011 Callaway Junior World Golf Championship (San Diego, USA) - 2nd place (age 14)

Professional Tournaments

SPORTathlon

2010 Laguna Phuket Asia Tour 5th place (age 13) 2010 Indonesia Asian Tour – 45th place (age 13)

Rugby Challenge Trophy

THE first Phuket Rugby Challenge Trophy, sponsored by Heineken Thailand, kicks off at Thanyapura Sports and Leisure Club this Saturday, September 17.

A full 15-a-side senior competition will see teams from Hong Kong, Singapore and Thailand play in a round-robin format for the inaugural title.

As part of the flourishing Phuket youth rugby development program, the local under-13 and under-15 Lomas teams will face off against neighboring Krabi RFC for respective junior honors. Below is Saturday's competition schedule, all matches to be held at TSLC.

The awards presentation will take place at the Aussie Bar on Soi Bangla, Patong from 8pm.

10.00 AM - Singapore Bucks V **DEA Tigers**

10.45 AM - Bedok Kings V Phuket Vagabonds

11.30 AM - Phuket Lomas U 13's

V Krabi U 13's

12.15 PM - DEA Tigers V Bedok Kings

13.00 PM - Singapore Bucks V Phuket Vagabonds

13.45 PM - Phuket Lomas U 15's V Krabi U 15's

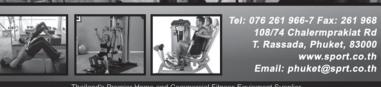
14.30 PM - Phuket Vagabonds V **DEA Tigers**

15.15 PM - Singapore Bucks V Bedok Kings

16.00 PM - Plate Final (teams 3rd

16.45 PM - Cup Final





Sport I

In brief...

International tennis tournament in Phuket

TENNIS fans in Phuket will have an opportunity to witness some of the finest Thai and international players when they compete at Thanyapura Sports and Leisure Club (TSLC) in the Chang International Tennis Federation (ITF) Thailand Pro Circuit 2011.

TSLC will host one round of the prestigious tournament from October 29 to November 12. This will be the first ITF event ever to take place in Phuket.

TSLC will also host the Thanyapura Tennis Challenge 2011 from October 14 to 16, the winner will gain a wild-card entry into the ITF tournament. Prize money of US\$10,000 reflects the competitive nature of this tour and is sure to attract leading professional players from the sa satellite circuit.

The *Phuket Gazette* is a proud sponsor of the ITF event at TSLC.

Surf's up in Patong

QUIKSILVER Thailand Surf Competition 2011 will barrel onto the beaches of Phuket from Wednesday, September 21, lasting through Saturday, September 24 at the north end of Patong Beach near the Graceland Hotel.

Competitions will be held between 9am and 6pm on the scheduled days. Surfing heats may be moved up to neighboring Kalim Beach depending on the required conditions.

Other than bigger and better prizes, new this year will be a Master's Division for competitors over 35 y/o.

The competition is now part of the Asian Surfing Championship (ASC) tour with contests held in Indonesia, Malaysia, Taiwan, and Thailand. For more information, contact Khun Puttaraksa, T: 02 652 0792. The *Phuket Gazette* is a proud sponsor of the QuikSilver Surf Competition.

Irish Times Race Three

AO CHALONG Yacht Club on Sunday will hold the third of seven races for the Irish Times Series Regatta.

After Race two, on corrected time it was *Linda* in Racing category and *Nina* in Multihull category who took top spots.

Race three this Sunday is expected to feature some exciting sailing. As a primer to race three, ACYC will celebrate its 19th birthday on Saturday, starting at 6pm, and includes a buffet and drinks. For more information, visit W: acycphuket.com



ACTION PACKED: Saturday's match was full of scoring attempts by both sides, but it was Phuket who prevailed in the end. Photo: Siam Sports

FC Phuket edge Bangkok

AN EARLY goal by Sarach Yooyen was all FC Phuket needed to secure a 1-0 victory over Thai Premier League Division One rivals Bangkok United in an exciting match at Surakul Stadium on Saturday.

Though the evening's forecast threatened with monsoon downpours, 8,520 fans came to what would be the Southern Sea Kirin's first home match in league play

since June 25 when they hosted Songkhla.

And even though Bangkok has a potential fan base of millions, only about 30 Bangkok United "Angels" fans could be spotted in Surakul's visitor stands on Saturday.

The game came to life shortly after kickoff. Just three minutes into play, crowd favorite and former U-19 Thailand National

team midfielder, Sarach Yooyen beat three Bangkok defenders on the far right wing, dribbling through the line with lightning quickness.

Penetrating deep into Bangkok territory, Sarach launched his shot just in time to avoid being blocked by the final Bangkok challenger.

The shot appeared to get a favorable deflection off the foot of the Bangkok United defender, and

THAI DIVISION

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ONE LEAGUE

Buriram

Chainat

Songkhla

Rajapracha

PTT Rayong

Phuket

Saraburi

AFUTD

CCFC

SCUTD

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with perfect spin was lifted up and toward the far post and into the back of the net. Sarach was later named "man of the match" as the only scorer.

The rest of the game was evenly matched. Possession switched back and forth with near-scoring attacks delivered by both sides. The Angel's major threat and leading goal scorer, Frenchman Romain Gasmi, was unable to beat fellow countryman, Jonathan Matijas, Phuket's recently signed star goalkeeper.

Coming off the bench in the second half, Bangkok's Serbian import Tomas Kozar and Korean Jang Gil Yeong were also unable to achieve an equalizer despite several commendable attempts.

Either Bangkok was overly aggressive in accepting the imminent defeat or Phuket had strategically exploited their advantage, making good use of the time-killing stretcher.

The clock wound down and five minutes of extra time was added as the crowd anxiously watched on until the final whistle was blown, prompting sighs and cheers of relief throughout the stands.

Phuket coach Sompong Wattana expressed satisfaction with the win, saying his 'boys' played well and are determined to climb further up the rankings table.

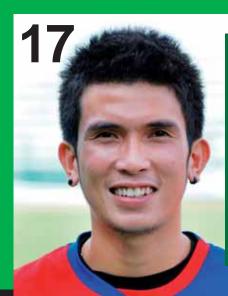
The win gave Phuket 32 points and moves them up into 8th place. Bangkok United remain in fifth place with 37 points. Rajapracha's win over JW Rangsit and PTT Rayong's loss against Chainat sees PTT down to 7th with Rajapracha moving up to 6th place. Chainat maintain in 3rd place with 42 points.

- S Fein and S Layne

| MATCH RESULTS | |
|---|---|
| TPL DIV ONE | SPONSOR THAI PREMIER LEAGUE |
| FC Phuket 1- 0 Bangkok United Bangkok FC 1- 4 Buriram FC Chula United 0- 0 RBAC Rajapracha 1- 0 JW Rangsit Suphanburi 2- 1 Songkhla FC Chainat FC 1- 0 PTT Rayong Airforce Utd 3- 2 Chiang Mai Saraburi FC 0- 0 Samut Prakarn | Chiang Rai Utd BEC Tero Bangkok Glass Chonburi FC Insee Police Utd Khon Kaen Thai Port FC Pattaya Utd 2 - 1 Army Utd Sisaket 1 - 3 TOTSC Royal Navy Sriracha Sriracha Samut Songkhram T O - 0 Osotspa-Saraburi TTM Phichit |
| TOYOTA LEAGUE CUP | S |
| BEC-Tero 1 – 2 Buriram PEA Thai Port FC 3 – 0 Pattalung FC | FIXTURES |
| TOLOUVI | Sentember 17 April |

| Suphanburi 2-1 Songkhla FC Chainat FC 1-0 PTT Rayong Airforce Utd 3-2 Chiang Mai Saraburi FC 0-0 Samut Prakarn | Insee Police Utd 3 – 1 Sriracha Khon Kaen 1 – 2 Samut Songkhram Thai Port FC 0 – 0 Osotspa-Saraburi Pattaya Utd 0 – 1 TTM Phichit |
|--|---|
| TOYOTA LEAGUE CUP | |
| BEC-Tero 1 – 2 Buriram PEA Thai Port FC 3 – 0 Pattalung FC | FIXTURES |
| TPL DIV 1 | September 17 4pm |
| Customs Utd - CT Chantaburi @ Forsa | Stadium, Samut Prakarn |
| Bangkok FC - Airforce Utd @ Chalerm | Prakiet field, Bang Mod |
| Saraburi FC - Rajpracha @ OrBorJor S | ports field, Saraburi 6pm |
| Chiang Mai FC - Chainat FC @ Sompo | t 700 Pi Stadium, Chiang Mai |
| SPONSOR THAI PREMIER LEAGUE | September 17 6pm |
| Army Utd – Otsapha M150 Saraburi | MANUFACTURE CONTRACTOR OF THE PROPERTY OF THE |
| Buriram PEA - Bangkok Glass FC @ N | ew I-mobile Stadium, Buriram |
| Royal Navy - Pattaya Utd @ Royal Nav | y Stadium, Sataheep |
| TPL DIV 1 | September 18 4pm |
| Thai Honda – Buriram PEA @ Lad Krab | oang field, Bangkok |
| RBAC FC – JW Rangsit @ Rattana Bund | lit U., Bangkok |
| Songkhla FC – Phuket @ Din Sulanon | Stadium, Songkhla 6pm |
| PTT Rayong - Suphan Buri @ Mabkha | field, Rayong 6pm |
| Bangkok Utd - BBCU @ Thai-Japanese | |
| SPONSOR THAI PREMIER LEAGUE | September 18 4pm |
| TOTSC - Thai Port FC @ TOT Stadium, E | Bangkok |
| Chiang Rai Utd - BEC Tero @ Mae Fa L | uang U. Stadium 6pm |
| Sri Racha FC - Khon Kaen FC @ Suzuk | i Stadium, Sri Racha |
| Sisaket - Insee Police @ Central Sports | s field, Sisaket |

WE certainly do love our FC Phuket yet little is known about the players off the pitch. Following is this week's player profile and interview for fans to cut out and collect.



BIO

Kornprom "Poon" Jaroonpong
Born: Dec 12, 1988
Position: Midfield
Height: 170 cm
Weight: 60 kg
Nationality: Thai
Goals: 1

Q. Apart from FC Phuket who is your favorite football team?

A. Muang Thong United and Manchester United

Q. What has been the biggest challenge in your career?

A. Placing 5th in the Nike Champion Cup in America when I was 15

Q. What interests do you have outside of your work?

A. Watching TV and playing snooker

Q. If you were not a football player, what would you like to be? A. I cannot imagine myself in any other career.

Q. What do you like about Phuket?

A. I love the beaches here and especially Laem Phromthep Cape.



PHUKET are back on the road this weekend, set to take on fellow southerners Songkhla FC on Sunday evening at Tin Sulanon Stadium in Songkhla Town.

The highly anticipated showdown between Southern Thailand's top two football clubs will be played before what will undoubtedly be the largest crowd Phuket has played in front of all season.

Songkhla boast the highest turnout average for home games, as well as the overall single-game attendance record this season in the whole Thai league – taking into account statistics for both the Sponsor Thai Premier League and TPL Div One.

Songkhla's record was set on August 7 when 36,715 fans packed into the 20,000-capacity, Tin Sulanon Stadium. That standing-room-only match between Songkhla and visiting league leaders Buriram FC ended in a 1-1 draw.

Two weeks later, the "Fighting Bulls" hosted and defeated third place Chainat FC to a contented Songkhla crowd of 21,717 fans.

The last time Phuket and Songkhla met was on June 25 at Surakul Stadium. That scoreless draw was played in front of Phuket's season-high crowd count of about 12,420.

The Songkhla "Fighting Bulls" will be

looking to redeem an away-loss last Sunday against Suphan Buri.

Both Phuket and Songkhla will be aiming for nothing short of victory to keep their promotion campaigns alive.

While the first and second place promotion spots look to be secured by the likes of Buriram FC (51 points) and Big Bang Chula United (50 points), Phuket are only 10 points behind third seeded, Chainat (42 points).

Only the top three teams will be promoted at season's end which concludes in December.

With 38 points from 10 wins, 8 draws, 3 losses and a game in hand, Songkhla's promotion hopes look more promising.

This Sunday, Phuket will have to watch out for Songkhla's star Brazilian-import striker, Cheyene Santos, who currently leads the league with 13 goals.

At home, Songkhla has scored 23 goals and conceded 8, a goal difference of 15. Phuket on the road have scored 11 and conceded 16 goals with a goal difference of -5.

As a primer to Sunday evening's match, FC Phuket fan club, "The Hulk", will be playing a friendly match against Songkhla's fan club at 1pm on Sunday. Be sure to grab a copy of next week's *Gazette* for results.



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