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Governor Tri Augkaradacha

Tourism floats despite floods

WHILE much of Thailand suffers from serious flooding, tourists are still heading to Phuket in record numbers.

A total of 8.2 million passengers have passed through Phuket International Airport since the beginning of the year.

"Many places in the country are suffering from serious flooding, but Phuket has sustained only minor effects, small floods and landslides in some areas, together having only a small effect on tourism," Phuket Governor Tri Augkaradacha said on Tuesday.

Gov Tri pointed out that the number of tourist arrivals to date this year easily surpassed the 6.5 million people who passed through the airport during the same period last year.

He attributed the island hosting major international events as part of Phuket's success in attracting record numbers.

See 'Tourism unaffected by crisis' on page 11

Patong residents win with landslide victory

By Atchaa Khamlo

RESIDENTS living in the Kok Makham community in Patong were blessed with the developer of a nearby construction project on Wednesday voluntarily agreeing to pay for damages to their homes and to clean up their streets.

Chaianan Ananthanawat, 62, registered with Patong Municipality as the "project owner" of the site, also vowed to have retaining walls built along any steep parts of the area to ensure against any future landslides.

The residents were again inundated with water and mud during the heavy rains last week. It was the third time the community had been inundated with "mud, sand and rocks" since construction began at the site, said Chatchapol Khamintong, 48, who once served as the community's elected leader.

The most recent slide damaged homes and left behind sediment about one meter deep covering the yards and streets, Mr Chatchapol said.

Angry over inaction against the



Officials inspect the site high above Patong, where the statue will stand 47 meters tall and measure 60m across at its base. Photo: Atchaa Khamlo

developer, about 100 residents staged a protest last Friday, which resulted in a joint inspection of the site by top local officials on Wednesday.

At the site, Mr Chaianan told

the press directly, "We will protect against future landslides by covering embankments with cement and by growing trees on areas already excavated.

"We will also pay for all dam-

ages to the villagers' homes and also clear away the debris left behind by the dirt that slid from our site," he added.

However, in his company's defense, he said, "We have permission to start the project and we have done everything according to the regulations."

Work on the safety measures is expected to start within weeks.

"It will take about three days to draw up the plans and then they have to be approved by Patong Municipality engineers. It will take a week for the plans to be confirmed before construction to protect against landslides can begin," Mr Chatchapol explained.

Mr Chaianan said that installing the barriers would take about three months.

"We will then continue with our project," he said.

Mr Chaianan is managing director of Thepcharoen Property Co, which is named as the landowner of the 10-rai site.

The company was commissioned by the Maha Bodhisattva Avalokitesvara (Guanyin) Founda-

Continued on page 2

Phuket lends a hand with flood relief efforts

THE flood-relief effort continues in Phuket, where local tuk-tuk drivers were among those donating boats and other necessities to people affected by the worst flooding in Thailand in decades.

Karon vendors and Kata-Karon Tuk-Tuk and Taxi Club members presented Phuket Vice Governor Somkiet Sangkaosutthirak with 13 fiberglass boats, life-jackets, clothing and other goods to be sent to flood-affected areas.

"Thank you everyone who participated in this donation. Thank you for showing your kindness. This shows that Phuket people don't neglect those who are suffer-

ing and are in need. We'll hurry to get these items to flood victims as soon as possible," V/Gov Somkiet said.

Eleven of the boats were donated by vendors at Karon Plaza and two by the Kata-Karon Tuk-Tuk and Taxi Club.

Donations to the flood-relief effort may be made at any local administration organization in Phuket from Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 4:30pm.

The Thai Red Cross Phuket Chapter is also accepting donations.

Phuket Governor Tri Augkaradacha said, "We welcome any kind of donation, but after talking to governors of flooded provinces,

they prefer to have cash."

Phuket Provincial Office has opened a "Phuket Aid for Flood Victims" account with Krungthai Bank to accept monetary donations. The account number is 805-0-39733-5.

The Phuket Regional Blood Center is also calling for urgent blood donations.

Pornthip Rattajak, director of the Red Cross Phuket Regional Blood Center, said blood donations are needed for patients in flood-affected areas, especially Ayutthaya, Nakhon Sawan, Lop Buri, Sing Buri, Ang Thong and Phitsanuloke provinces, where hospitals have been forced to close.



Flood relief boats were dispatched this week.

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First Person



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Business



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Alexandra Fuller's second volet of African memoirs. **Page 18**

Property



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Fickle winds at play in Phuket Dinghy Series at Nai Yang. **Page 41**

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Sarasin Bridge vendors force first area cleanup

By Warisa Temram

THE popularity of the recently revamped Sarasin Bridge as a tourist attraction is forcing local authorities to address the growing number of mobile vendors who have set up operations at both ends of the span.

Conversion of the bridge into a pedestrian promenade has attracted a great many visitors and is a popular attraction for motorists traveling both on and off the island, Phuket Provincial Highways Office chief Arun Sanae told the *Gazette*.

The renovations were completed in August and the span was opened to pedestrians later that month.

"Any place where there are lots of tourists in Thailand, vendors are sure to follow. In the case of the Sarasin Bridge, as many as 50 mobile vending operations have been set up already, some on the Phuket side and others on the Phang Nga side at Tha Thanoon.

"This mars the otherwise beautiful scenery," Mr Arun said.

Mr Arun said he would ask the relevant tambon administration organizations (*OrBorTor*) to coordinate with the vendors.

"We will allow them to continue



Phuket's Sarasin Bridge viewpoint is particularly popular at dusk, when it affords stunning views of the setting sun. Photo: Warisa Temram

selling food, drinks and other products, but we need to organize proper places and facilities for them so that the beautiful scenery remains beautiful," said Director Arun.

Another visual distraction were the number of defunct lighting fixtures along the walkway, he said.

"During my latest inspection I found several that were missing or broken. I have already ordered the construction company [Italian-

Thai Development Plc] who built the bridge to check it and take care of the problem," he said.

In a somewhat ironic note, the overnight success of the Sarasin Bridge promenade instantly eclipsed that of the 46-million-baht Phuket Gateway, located a few kilometers to the south.

Intended to serve as the iconic first stop on the island, the Welcome Gate has been largely ignored since it opened in 2007.

Goddess of Mercy smiles on Patong's mud-sick residents

From page 1

tion (*Bud Jor Patong*) to build a monumental statue of the Chinese goddess Guanyin, also known as the "Goddess of Mercy".

The statue, once completed, will stand 47 meters tall and measure 60 meters across at its base.

"It will be the biggest in Asia," said Mr Chaianan.

He added that 27 million baht had already been spent on the project.

"The entire development is expected to cost about 500 million baht," he said.

The statue of the goddess will be covered from head to toe in



Chaianan Ananthanawat

jade, explained Mr Chaianan.

"It will be about the same size as the Big Buddha, but we will not allow any resorts or other building to be built up there," he added.

Gunman kills 'man in motion'

A MAN driving his wife home from her job at Phuket Airport was gunned down in Sakoo late last Sunday night.

Thachatchai Police were notified of the murder on the Sakoo-Nai Yang Road just after midnight.

They identified the deceased as 29-year-old Nipon Thaiprasert, a resident of Sakoo Village 3.

Mr Nipon died from a single gun shot that entered his skull under his right ear and exited near the left eyebrow. The caliber of the bullet has yet to be determined.

Saiyut Khongkraphan, Mr Nipon's 28-year-old wife, was riding pillion on his motorcycle at the time of the shooting.

She told police her husband picked her up as normal after she



Kusoldharm rescue workers at the scene. Photo: Wichai Witthawat

finished her shift at the airport at about 10pm.

However, as they drove home they were trailed by another motorbike.

When Mr Nipon turned to see

who was following them, the man pulled out a gun and shot him once in the head before driving off.

Thachatchai Police are continuing their investigation and have yet to identify possible motives.



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Motorists make their way past the problematic section of Patong Hill road. Photo: Ulf Mikaelsson

Patong Hill slides continue

EFFORTS by Phuket authorities to shore up Patong Hill road took a turn for the worse on Wednesday, when the dirt foundation under a recently "repaired" section of road slid away, taking the breakdown lane with it.

The latest slide, from beneath a section that had been covered with blacktop just days before, exposed more soil and increased the chances of further erosion and slippage.

It also contorted a long section of heavy-duty guardrail.

The endangered section of road is on the Patong side of the hilltop, some 200 meters down slope to the west of the Chinese shrine.

Motorists were urged to exercise extreme caution and keep as far right as possible when passing the area, which is marked with traffic cones, sandbags and metal barriers.

They are also advised that workers from the Provincial Electricity Authority are working on the hill, trying to replace power poles damaged from the recent landslides.

— Stephen Fein

Mutiny ends in murder

By Warisa Temram

A MUTINOUS Burmese fishing crewman has confessed to Phuket Police that he hacked to death the ship's "cruel" Thai captain before attacking the vessel's technician, who jumped overboard and is presumed dead.

The crew of seven Burmese were found on October 14 aboard the fishing vessel *Wor Suphaporn*, stranded off Mai Thon island.

"Nud", 25, confessed to Phuket Police that on October 12 he murdered Pattani native Boonlue "Lue" Charoenphol, 46, captain of the vessel, with a butcher's knife and dumped his body in the sea.

He then turned his attention on Kajon "Lek" Kaanking, 44, from Trang, the ship's Thai-national technician, and "caused his death" by attacking him and forcing him to jump overboard in Indonesian waters.

The owner of the *Wor Suphaporn*, sailing out of Kantang, Trang Province, reported to Marine Police Division 8 Panya Chaichana that they lost contact with the vessel on October 13.

Fearing a pirate attack, Lt Col Panya launched a search for the vessel. It was soon spotted off the southern end of Mai Thon Island, between Phuket and Phi Phi Island.

When police boarded the ship, they found the seven Burmese crew members but no sign of the captain or technician.

Upon investigation, police found bloodstains in the cabin and control room.

The crew was brought to Phuket for further questioning by Phuket Provincial Police Commander Peadar Tantipong, Phuket City Police Superintendent Chote Chitchai and Marine Police Officers.

Nud, the helmsman of *Wor Suphaporn*, confessed to the mur-



'Nud' points to the cleaver he confessed to using to hack Capt Boonlue to death before attacking the ship's technician. Photo: Warisa Temram



The 'Wor Suphaporn' fishing boat

der of Mr Boonlue and Mr Kajon.

He killed the captain because he was constantly abusive, verbally and physically. He couldn't take it anymore, so he grabbed the cleaver and hacked Mr Lue to death, police quoted him saying.

Burmese migrant workers make up a large percentage of labor in the Thai fishing industry, many of whom have reported

abuse and murder at the hands of their superiors while at sea.

After murdering the pair, the crew headed for Phuket, where Nud planned to go ashore and disappear into the huge population of Burmese migrant workers.

"Mr Nud's intention was to stop in Phuket and run, but he mistakenly landed the boat at Mai Thon island, thinking it was Phuket. Luckily, we spotted him right as he approached shore," Lt Col Panya said.

The *Wor Suphaporn* had been at sea in Indonesian waters for about five months.

Arrested along with Rangoon-native Nud were Burmese crew members Kala, 20, Piang, 22, Main, 24, Nu, 24, Wane, 25, and Dun, 30.

Phuket City Police Duty Officer Jessada Saengsuree told the *Phuket Gazette* that "although Mr Nud confessed to the murder, we can only charge him with attempted murder and illegal entry [into Thailand] because the bodies are still missing. Once we find the bodies, we will add more charges."

The other six men were charged only with illegal entry, he added.

Earlier this year, the captain of Thai fishing boat *Muang Dam 2* was seriously injured and his First Mate killed, when nine Burmese crew members mutinied during a fishing expedition about 40 miles off the coast of Phang Nga.

A tour boat found Capt Chalermphorn Phosung floating adrift with serious stab wounds.

After the incident was reported to the Royal Thai Navy Third Naval Area Command at Cape Panwa, two Thai Navy vessels were sent to hunt for the mutineers.

About 4 pm, the Navy patrol boats sighted *Muang Dam 2* west of the Similan Islands and ordered the vessel to stop. The Burmese crew members, who were then in control of the boat, ignored the order.

According to a Royal Thai Navy press release, they also then killed the boat's Thai First Mate, identified only as K. Sri. The ship's mechanic, whose name was not released, managed to jump ship and was later picked up by another vessel.

The mutineers then set the boat ablaze and abandoned ship. The Navy were able to detain two of the men, who were later handed over to police.

The fate of the other seven remains unknown, a source at the Third Naval Area Command told the *Gazette*.

Governor Tri transfer rumors 'unconfirmed'

THE Governor's Office has told the *Gazette* they could neither confirm nor deny rumors that Phuket Governor Tri Augkaradacha will be transferred out of the province this month.

"Our office has yet to be informed of any transfer orders regarding the governor or his deputies," said Manas Nurak, personal secretary to Governor.

"The central government in Bangkok has not announced any transfers yet. Right now they have their hands full with the flooding situation," he said.

October 1 marks the beginning of the Thai fiscal year. Government ministries, including the Interior Ministry which appoints governors, typically announce transfers and promotion orders at this time of year.

"We expect to be notified at the end of this month or the start of November," said Mr Manas.

"Usually we are notified of any transfers regarding the governor first, and then we are notified of any transfers involving vice-governors about a week later," he added.

However, Mr Manas did confirm that the governor will not be retiring this year.

The mandatory age for government officers to retire is 60, and Governor Tri celebrated his 60th birthday on October 7.

However, Mr Manas explained, "As his birthday is after October 1, he will not retire until October 2012."

In his "Letter from the Governor" column printed in the *Phuket Gazette* in July, Governor Tri also dismissed rumors that he would be transferred for reasons related to the Pheu Thai Party's winning of the general election on July 3.

— Pimwara Choksakulpan

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Drunk monk loses way during joyride

THE annual Buddhist Lent sees Thai monks across the country retreat to their temples for around three months of quiet study and meditation.

The period ends in October on Awk Pansa Day, the traditional end of the annual Rains Retreat when monks shave their heads and eyebrows, don fresh robes, leave their temples and travel throughout the countryside.

One clergy member who reportedly got more than a little excited about the prospect of leaving cloister was Phra Prasert Sutthithammo, a 53-year-old cleric at Wat Nason in Nakhon Sri Thammarat Province.

Phra Prasert celebrated his release by driving with his religious students to the annual "Monk Boat Festival" in Pak Phanang District, where they proceeded to get exceedingly drunk on *lao khao* (a usually cheap rice wine), the Thai government news agency reported.

Early the next morning, after polishing off several bottles of the heady spirit, the students realized



they were far too drunk to safely drive home to the temple and decided not to return, opting to sober up before making the journey.

Phra Prasert, however, gamely took the wheel and attempted to make the journey back to Wat Nason.

The drunken monk became hopelessly lost and at some point parked his car at the side of the road and fell asleep.

He was eventually spotted by a local villager, who dutifully called the police.

Officers arrived at the scene to find Phra Prasert in an incoherent state.

They promptly took him to the police station to await the arrival of his abbot – and an almost certain defrocking.

– MCOT

Beach operators asked to protect Patong tourists

PATONG Police plan to recruit beach-front workers as their eyes and ears in protecting Phuket tourists this high season, in addition to installing more closed-circuit televisions (CCTV) cameras.

"Usually, there are a lot of robberies during the high season. We don't really have enough officers to take care of all the tourists during peak season," explained Patong Police Superintendent Arayapan Pukbuakao.

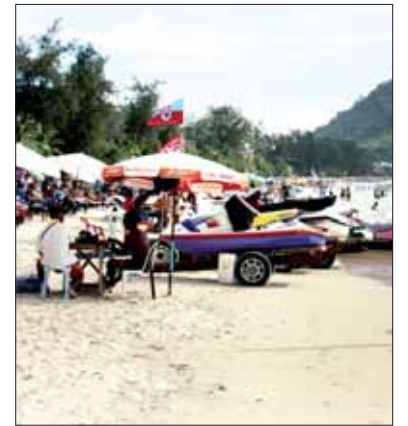
The recruitment of motorcycle taxi drivers, jet-ski rental operators, beach-front shop owners and other people who work along the beach front as Civil Protection Volunteers is part of Patong Police Station's plan to gear up for the onset of peak tourist season in November.

"I plan to recruit about 50 volunteers to help keep watch in Patong. Whenever volunteers see something wrong, they can report it directly to the police, who will be there right on time – before anything worse happens," said Col Arayapan.

Patong Police also plan to spend



Patong Police Superintendent Arayapan Pukbuakao (left) is calling on beach vendors and jet-ski operators (right) to 'help keep watch in Patong'.



15 million baht on installing more than 100 CCTV cameras.

"Currently, we have only 16 functioning cameras along Soi Bangla. Originally we had 36 cameras in the Patong area, but many of them are not working," Col Arayapan said.

He added that more powerful "pan-able" cameras were needed in three locations that had never been monitored with CCTV before: near the Kalim Police Box,

the Patong Hill intersection and on the road between Patong and Karon.

"We need only standard CCTV cameras in other areas and about 100 cameras in total to cover the whole Patong area," he said.

The installation of the CCTV cameras and the recruitment of beach-front workers as volunteers is expected to help police monitor Patong and make it more tourist friendly, he added.

Dutch tourist slashed by deranged vagrant

A DUTCH tourist is recovering from neck lacerations sustained in a knife attack by a deranged homeless drifter in front of a McDonald's outlet in Ao Nang, Krabi Province.

Krabi Police raced to the scene at Ao Nang Beach on October 13.

When they arrived shortly after 11am they found 29-year-old Dutch tourist Reiner Fleaf lying on the sidewalk in a pool of his own blood.

He suffered a deep cut to the back of his neck measuring 20 centimeters long and about 2cm deep.

Mr Fleaf was rushed to Krabi Hospital, where he arrived in stable condition and has since been released.

According to eyewitness accounts, the attack appeared to be completely unprovoked.

"Mr Reiner Fleaf was on his way to look for something to eat. He left the hotel and started looking for a restaurant.

"Some witnesses saw a deranged-looking man run up behind him and use a knife to slash the back of his neck before running away," said Lt Col Thongchai Sengrod, an investigator with the Muang Krabi District Police.

Fearing more attacks, police conducted a manhunt in the area hoping to quickly apprehend the suspect.

The search ended at 3pm the same day with the arrest of 33-

year-old Sompong Kongpipit, known locally by the nickname "Bang Mhan".

Originally from the town of Padang Besar in Songkhla – on the Malaysian border – Mr Sompong's wild hair and filthy clothes matched eyewitness descriptions, which said he appeared to be mentally ill.

Whether the result of mental illness or sheer stupidity, the suspect reportedly made no effort to dispose of the weapon he used to attack the unsuspecting Dutchman or any other incriminating evidence.

"We arrested Bang Mhan as he walked along Ao Nang beach. He was holding a knife ten centimeters long. His hands were still covered with blood. He spoke as if confused, like he didn't know what was going on," Lt Col Thongchai said.

The attack was not the first by the vagrant.

"After we arrested Bang Mhan, we received a report that he had slashed the head of a Burmese worker in the Ao Nang area just a few days earlier," he added.

Col Thongchai said he expects the court to order a full psychiatric evaluation as part of the justice process in this case.

At the time of writing, Sompong was being held in a cell at Muang District Police Station in Krabi, where officers were preparing assault charges against him.

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Tourist survives beating

Italian tourist Marco Bassoli underwent surgery at Phuket International Hospital last week to reduce brain swelling and repair damage suffered during an altercation on Patong's infamous Soi Sea Dragon with a group of Thai men, one of whom allegedly smashed him over the head with a golf club. *Phuket Gazette* news editor Stephen Fein reports.

THE lead story in the October 18 edition of a local Thai language newspaper read "*Farang meets Muay Thai, gets 15 stitches*" and ran with an image of a foreign man lying on the ground, his head covered in blood as he is tended to by rescue workers and another foreigner.

The report went on to explain how the man, identified as 38-year-old Italian "Marco Ottato", got his comeuppance after showing off his tattooed physique to bar girls and trying to impress them with his mastery of *muay Thai*, which it said he was on the island to study.

It ended with him saying that he didn't want to press charges against his assailants and that "it was all a mistake".

To try and find out what really happened that night, the *Gazette* spoke with Giordano Ferrari, the owner of a guesthouse in Patong who was among the first people to come to the aid of the victim, whose real name is Marco Bassoli.

A 40-year-old Divemaster from Venice, Mr Bassoli was in Phuket on a dive holiday, not to study martial arts, as reported in the Thai press, he said.

His injuries were also far more serious than reported in the Thai press. According to medical reports provided by the hospital, Mr Bassoli suffered a compound skull fracture to his left temporal bone, as well as a small contusion to his temporal lobe.

Local businessman Dr Francensco Pensato, who was visiting Mr Bassoli at the request of the Italian Embassy, said doctors had to perform a partial craniectomy [removal of skull bone] to stop bleeding and relieve swelling of the brain.

Although clearly in great pain, Mr Bassoli appeared alert as staff at the hospital prepared to move him to a private room from the ICU at noon on Wednesday. However he had no recollection of the events of that night or how he ended up in hospital.

"He just keeps asking why he is in the hospital and why they won't let him leave," said Mr

Ferrari, who added that his hospital bill was already about 200,000 baht.

Mr Bassoli had no insurance, but fortunately his friend Mirko Frison offered his credit card to the PIH staff as surety of payment.

Mr Bassoli would need to stay at least another week for observations, as he had impaired movement and memory.

However, his chances for a complete recovery are good and he might be able to catch his return flight at the end of the month, said PIH Foreign Coordinator Kingkarn Wongkhom.

Speaking from the ICU at Phuket International Hospital, Mr Ferrari said he was first made aware of the attack at about 4am when he saw an Italian man, 35-year-old Alessio Pelliccia, running up Soi Bangla.

Mr Pelliccia told him that they had been attacked on Soi Sea Dragon, where his drinking partner Mr Bassoli was lying unconscious after being struck on the head.

Mr Ferrari said he had been out celebrating with the two men a few hours earlier that night at the Erotica club on Soi Sea Dragon, before splitting up.

"At Erotica he was a little drunk and accidentally knocked over a table, which might have made people mad at him, but I am not sure if that had anything to do with it," said Mr Ferrari.

Mr Alessio told him that he and Mr Bassoli were walking down Soi Sea Dragon toward the Kee Plaza just before the attack.

As they neared the end of the row of bars that line the middle of the street, Mr Bassoli broke a bottle. Both men were then set upon by a group of "about 20" Thai men outside the Suzy Wong bar.

Although they focused their anger on Mr Bassoli, Mr Pelliccia also suffered two blows to the back and had a bruise 35 centimeters long down the center of his back as well as a contusion on the lower left side of his back, Mr Ferrari said.

As for what prompted the attack, Mr Ferrari said he didn't



Italian tourist Marco Bassoli in the ICU at Phuket International Hospital with friends (from left) Giordano Ferrari, Mirko Frison and Salvatore Parisi. Mr Bassoli suffered serious head injuries in an altercation in Patong.

know. Mr Bassoli was still suffering from memory loss and the only person who might be able to explain it was Mr Pelliccia, he said.

However, when the *Gazette* contacted Mr Pelliccia on Wednesday afternoon he said he was still too weak and upset to talk about it.

All he said was that he had only just recently met Mr Bassoli and that the pair had earlier had an altercation with an Australian man before they were set upon.

Patong Police hoped to review CCTV footage from the Suzy Wong and Diablo bars as part of their investigation Mr Ferrari said.

The *Gazette* also spoke with Patong Police duty officer Kittipong Klaikaew, who said on Tuesday that initial questioning revealed that Mr Bassoli got drunk and started to act violently, intentionally breaking a bottle.

"At the bar nearby, there was a group of Thai youths playing pool who saw what happened.

"They disliked the way that the Italian behaved, so they had an argument that ended with a fight," he said.

According to Lt Col Kittipong there were only two or three Thai men involved in the attack, not 20.

They fled the scene by the time police arrived and found Mr Bassoli lying unconscious and covered with blood, they said.

According to one report in the local press, Patong Police know that the man who inflicted the serious blows was a security guard for a club on Soi Sea Dragon. He used a golf club to carry out the attack, according to the report.

At the time of writing, Patong police were calling on the bar owner to turn over the guard for prosecution.

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Rod Palmer recovering in hospital.
Photo: Bob Mott / ACYC

Aussie expat recovers from balcony fall

AUSTRALIAN national and long-term Phuket resident Rod Palmer has been released from the intensive care unit (ICU) and is now in a general recovery room at Bangkok Hospital Phuket.

Mr Palmer fell off a balcony at his home in Rawai last week. He sustained three fractured vertebrae, five fractured ribs, a head injury and other cuts and abrasions in the fall.

After being released from the ICU last Thursday, Mr Palmer is now welcome to receive visitors at room 706 at the hospital, said friend Bob Mott of the Ao Chalong Yacht Club (ACYC).

"He is in good spirits... looking towards a recovery," said Mr Mott.

Mr Mott explained that Mr Palmer fell while leaning over the first-floor balcony so he could break off an "annoying" branch from a tree.

"Rod overbalanced and beat the branch to the ground," he said.

Mr Palmer is happy to receive visitors, said Mr Mott.

"However, doctors have informed him that it will be some three or so weeks before he can consider flying back to Australia [where he runs a taxi business]," he added.

— *Phuket Gazette*

Splashing into child safety

By Pimwara Choksakulpan

IN A bid to save local children from drowning, a new project by the Phuket Lifeguard Club, Laguna Phuket and Chong Talay Municipality aims to teach students in Thalang District how to identify dangerous swimming conditions.

The students will even learn how to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

Held over two school semesters, the project will be open to all students in Matthayom 1-3 (age 12-15) from seven schools in Thalang.

The selected schools are Chongtalay Wittayakom School, Baan Bang Tao School, Wat Srisoonthorn School, Hongyokbunrung School, Werasatree Anusorn School, Thalang Phranangsrang School and Muang Thalang School.

The half-day classes will be free of charge, with the first course comprising 22 classes to be held from November 25 to February 18.

A second course will be held during the first semester of the 2012 academic year, though precise dates have yet to be set, said Niyom Tassaneetipagorn, Senior Assistant Vice President, Laguna Resorts & Hotels.

Some classes will be held on school days and others on weekends, he added.



Learning how to float is one of the many water-safety skills the students will learn. Photo: Laguna Hotels & Resorts

During the classes student will be taught how to recognize the dangers around them while swimming, how to assist a swimmer in distress, how to escape a rip current and how to float to conserve energy, among other skills.

"Each class will have 35 to 70 students, with the training conducted at Laguna Beach, Chong Talay Municipal Pool and at the Thanyapura sports complex," said Mr Niyom.

According to statistics from the Ministry of Public Health, about

1,500 children drown in Thailand each year – an average of about four children a day, he said.

Although the drowning deaths of children in Phuket has fallen in recent years – three deaths in 2008, four in 2007 and six in 2006 – the project aims to reduce the number of fatalities even further.

"We would like parents to be aware of this problem and we want children to learn survival skills for when they are in the water.

"There are 2,612 students who can take part in this project, re-

Tragic toll for 2011

This year Phuket has already had more drowning deaths of children than the national average.

• September 25: Two boys aged 5 and 7 drown in Klong Mudong canal on Phuket's east coast.

• June 6: Seven-year-old boy drowns while bathing beside his father's fishing boat in Mai Khao.

• April 22: Mother watches helplessly as son drowns in tin mine lagoon behind the family home north of Phuket Town. The boy developed a leg cramp while swimming across the lagoon.

That same day, three teenage girls were rescued from a strong rip tide at Nai Harn Beach.

gardless of whether or not they are able to swim. We expect 90 per cent of them to participate, but I would like them all to join the training," Mr Niyom said.

"We will not be teaching students how to swim, just survival skills.

"For example, we will teach them how to identify which locations are safe to swim, what the different lifeguard beach flags mean, first aid and CPR, how to float safely after they have fallen into the water, and how they can best assist a person who is drowning," he explained.

New policy means no police bail for gamblers

FOURTEEN people arrested for gambling this week spent a night behind bars following the introduction of new police policy aimed at cracking down on underground gambling dens.

The raid, at 5pm on Wednesday, followed a tipoff that a home on Toh Sae Hill Road in Rassada was serving as a gambling den.

All 14 suspects were arrested and about 12,000 baht in cash seized in the raid. Also taken as evidence were a die, a dice shaker, a

notebook with game winner details and gambling chips.

"The operation was hosted and operated by Montien Chalie. We arrested them on their first day of operation," said Phuket City Police Deputy Superintendent Wajak Tarom.

All of the gamblers were held in prison without the possibility of police bail, which is part of a new national police policy aimed at eliminating all unauthorized gambling activities.

"We put them in jail for one night, then sent them to Phuket Court the next day. It is now up to the Court what they will be charged with and whether they will be eligible for bail," said Lt Col Wajak.

Under the new policy, police bail will be denied when gambling activities involve 10 or more people. For smaller groups, the decision will remain the discretion of the superintendent of individual each police district, he said.

Road work causes major delays

MOTORISTS heading northbound on Thepkasattri Road in Koh Kaew are advised to plan for delays or use shortcuts, as resurfacing work continues along the busy stretch of road.

During the evening rush hour on Tuesday the work caused a tailback several kilometers long on Thepkasattri Road, extending all the way south into Sapam near Sapam Shrine.

The work also affected southbound traffic, causing a tailback from the Bangkhu junction (north end of the bypass road) past the Boat Lagoon Marina and Muslim Withaya School.

The work is part of a three-month, 42-million-baht contract to improve the road from near the Seventh Day Adventist Church at the Phuket Town border to Srisoonthorn Temple, 12 kilometers to the north.

Phuket Highways District Deputy General Manager Sathaporn Sornchana said the work should be completed by the



THE Highways office says the resurfacing of Thepkasattri Road, the first in 13 years, is needed to improve tyre traction.

end of October and the upgraded road surface should last 10 years.

Meanwhile, the Highways office is also asking motorists to slow down and exercise caution when passing work on the airport road.

Arun Saneh, head of the regional Highways Department that covers Phuket and parts of Phang Nga, said work on the 120-million-baht project to widen a 4.6-kilometer stretch of the road from two lanes to four is proceeding according to schedule. The

work began in July and is scheduled for completion in January.

The project contractor is currently excavating and grading the site to widen the road, Route 4026, from the Thepkasattri Road junction eastward.

The project is needed to accommodate an expected increase in passenger traffic at Phuket Airport to 12.5 million annually by 2018.

Mr Saneh said motorists' patience will be rewarded in the long-term, as travel through the area will be "more efficient" once the work is completed.

Travel should also be made safer, as overtaking vehicles will no longer need to dodge oncoming traffic. The road has been the site of several fatal accidents over the years, many involving tourists and taxi drivers rushing to make outbound flights.

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Thaksin's brother-in-law gets police chief job

EXILED former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra's brother-in-law, Pol General Priewpan Damapong, is set to be nominated as the new national police chief.

"Having Priewpan permanently installed in his post officially will make the Royal Thai Police function more effectively," said Deputy Prime Minister Chalermsak Yooamrungsak.

Gen Priewpan currently serves as acting police chief following the transfer of former chief Gen Wichean Potephosree to the post of secretary-general of the National Security Council.

Gen Priewpan is the older brother of

Khunying Pojaman na Pombejra, ex-wife of Mr Thaksin, who is the controversial older brother of current premier Yingluck Shinawatra.

Gen Priewpan, who was police drug-suppression chief in 2000, made his name during the Thaksin government's infamous "war on drugs", which resulted in the extra-judicial killings of at least 2,000 drugs suspects around the country.

From being 5th assistant police chief, Gen Priewpan jumped to become deputy chief. Critics claimed that his ascendancy was because of his relationship with Mr Thaksin.

Gen Priewpan was removed from the post of deputy police chief after the 2006 coup, but returned to the job in 2008 during the Samak Sundaravej government. He has only one year left before retirement.

The job of the country's top police officer became available after members of the Yingluck administration persuaded Gen Wichean to step down.

Gen Wichean was appointed by former PM Abhisit Vejjajiva last year. His performance came into question after evidence emerged that Bangkok police were tolerating the presence of illegal casinos in the city.



Gen Wichean (left) and Gen Priewpan (right). Photo: The Nation

Flood tactics draw fire

THE government has come under sharp criticism for issuing conflicting messages about the devastating floods that have brought parts of Central Thailand to its knees.

It also faces questions about whether the extent of the disaster was exacerbated by an inappropriate water storage strategy throughout the rainy season.

Attracting much of the barrage has been Science and Technology Minister Plodprasop Suraswadi.

Last Thursday evening, Mr Plodprasop issued a televised flood evacuation alert for parts of Bangkok's northern suburbs, throwing many residents into panic.

It turned out to be a false alarm, forcing Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra to try to reassure Bangkok residents that the situation was under control.

"Minister Plodprasop wanted to update the people about the situation because he was concerned that they were anxious about it," Mrs Yingluck told reporters.

"So he just reported on the possibility of what might happen to the people, and nothing happened. Everything was normal," she said.

Bangkok Governor MR Sukhumbhand Paribatra, from the opposition Democrat Party, responded by telling Bangkokians to

AROUND THE nation

listen to flood updates "from him only".

However, the government said that public announcements about the flood were to come only from Justice Minister Pracha Promnok. The Ministry of Information Communications and Technology also warned that those spreading "rumors" could face jail time, *The Nation* reported.

Meanwhile, some critics have questioned whether the floods, which are particularly severe in the Central provinces of Ayutthaya, Pathum Thani and Nakhon Sawan, could have been averted entirely.

Much of the flooding in Central Thailand has been attributed to water runoff from the North, which was hit by floods earlier in the wet season.

In particular, two of Thailand's major dams – Bhumibol Dam and Sirikit Dam – have been forced to release huge quantities of water into rivers after becoming full.

Critics have questioned why the dams were allowed to get so

full early in the rainy season when there was so much more rain still to come.

Boonin Chuenchavalit, who oversees the operation of Bhumibol Dam for state-run Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand, told Bloomberg that the dam had retained most of its water prior to August to ensure sufficient supply for irrigating crops in the dry season.

"We were aware rainfall would increase this year, but didn't anticipate it would be a massive amount," he said.

Democrat spokesman Chavanond Intarakomalyasut accused the government of complacency over the issue: "The government had information about the water situation at all dams but complacency has led to a situation in which it is now trying to catch up with the problem instead of devising measures to cope with it beforehand."

Nevertheless, as well-known political blogger Bangkok Pundit pointed out, the current government didn't take power until August this year.

"Perhaps Chavanond may want to look closer to home about the water situation," he added, noting that Mr Chavanond's party was the one in power during the earlier part of the rainy season.



A woman wades through floodwater pulling a boat with a dog and a boy in it in Nonthaburi, a suburb of Bangkok. Photo: Pornchai Kittiwongsakul/AFP

Qantas engine fails

A QANTAS Airways flight carrying 356 passengers from Bangkok to Sydney, Australia was forced to return to Suvarnabhumi Airport after one of its engines failed.

Witnesses reported hearing a "bang" around one hour into the flight on Sunday.

"About one hour after take-off, there was a bang and some vibrations were felt through the aircraft," a Qantas spokesman said.

"There were some white sparks shooting out of the engine and then they informed us of what was going on, that the engine had been shut down and we were returning to Bangkok," one passenger told Macquarie Radio

Network, according to AFP.

Another passenger praised the reactions of the flight's air crew.

"There was at least one passenger near me who was visibly distressed and Qantas cabin crew did all they could to comfort her," he said.

The Australian reported that the engine was the same type as six others that have failed over the past two years in similar circumstances.

"The Rolls-Royce RB211 is on an accelerated overhaul program at Qantas because blades in the high-pressure compressors of engines across the worldwide fleet are failing at three times the rate predicted by the manufacturer," the paper reported.

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Police volunteers need close scrutiny

THE safety of tourists visiting Phuket is always a key concern among local officials, and nowhere on the island is the issue more important than in Patong, which has the island's highest density of hotels and visitors.

Several agencies play roles in tourist safety there, but none assume greater responsibility than the Patong Police, who currently have 180 officers on active duty.

This is hardly enough for the town's registered population of about 20,000, not to mention untold numbers of migrant workers from other parts of Thailand, Burma, Nepal, Cambodia and who knows where else – as well as a large and robust population of expats.

Added to this are the droves of tourists who fill the 14,821 rooms in the 264 registered accommodation establishments in Patong. (The actual number of rooms available there is probably at least twice that figure.)

Even by conservative estimates, the number of people in Patong will likely exceed 100,000 this coming high season. Given that police work regular shifts, one must presume that at any given time only one-third are on active duty – about 1,666 people per officer.

This is hardly an encouraging ratio given the activities that go on in the town, especially the high volume of alcohol and methamphetamine abuse.

Factor in the widespread publicity that accompanies the seemingly endless violence reports, particularly those detailing disputes between tourists and private transport operators, and the need for Patong Police to source as much help as they can get becomes obvious.

Patong Police do enjoy support from 40 "volunteer officers", half of whom are foreigners, as well as a small contingent of Tourist Police and their Patong-based volunteers.

But all tallied, the current manpower will hardly be enough to ensure adequate security in the coming high season when record-breaking tourist arrivals are expected.

Well aware of this, Patong Police Superintendent Arayapan Pukbuakao recently announced plans to install 100 more closed-circuit television cameras and to recruit about 50 beachfront workers, including motorcycle taxi drivers and jet-ski rental operators, as "civil protection volunteers".

The *Phuket Gazette* agrees in principle with making better use of civilian volunteers, especially those on the "front lines" who spend a great deal of time among tourists.

However, we would urge the police to conduct, as credibly as possible under the circumstances, background checks to make sure that those who apply for the positions are not themselves former criminals or otherwise likely to abuse their role for personal gain.

Patong might already have more than its fair share of individuals who would fit into one or both of these rudimentary categories.



Stop slave-monkey madness

Last week I saw a monkey chained to a pickup truck full of green coconuts. It wasn't until several days later that I found out that it was a slave-monkey forced by its owner to climb trees and retrieve coconuts and was chained up during its "free time".

I think it is cruel to force a monkey to work in this way and I can't imagine the living conditions a slave-monkey is kept in. I wish some organization like PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) would look into this and stop people from taking advantage of these poor monkeys.

I've seen people climb trees, so why don't the owners of these monkeys actually climb up there and do the work themselves instead of this slave-monkey madness!

Tony Kleinschmidt
Chalong

Fish-eater with feelings

I am a huge fan of food, especially seafood. There isn't a better fish than a fish that goes straight from the boat to the grill.

The prawns in Phuket are huge, the muscles succulent (if properly prepared), and the lobster are always worth the price, but I've recently read magazine articles asking people around the world to stop buying wild-caught seafood from a lot of Southeast Asian countries, including Thailand.

The articles claim that not enough of the profits find their way back to the actual fishermen. I understand the international community's concerns, but going without fresh Thai seafood seems far

Letters to the Editor

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

too sinful to me, so I've started buying fresh seafood from the Sea Gypsies near Rawai pier – it's been great!

Just wanted to pass the idea on to any other socially-conscious seafood aficionados out there.

Greg Kilgore
Rawai

Tuk-tuk hope

Re: *Phuket tuk-tuks join Thai flood-relief effort*, October 16

I am no fan of the tuk-tuks, however they have made a donation and therefore should be accepted in good faith – public relations [stunt] or not. I believe that to just alienate them further helps no-one. A problem exists and bringing them into a properly regulated system that is 'enforced' will only help Phuket. I live in hope.

Dan Garrett
Gazette online

Flooding pockets

Re: *Gazette online, Patong disaster officers launch flood-relief campaign*, October 14

While charitable gestures are always welcome, Thailand is already receiving substantial donations in flood-relief from other nations such as China.

I know this is going to sound pretty cynical, but with the daily news about corruption, I would imagine that most people will be wary of donating cash since it

may very likely disappear into somebody's back pocket rather than be given to those who really need it.

Terry
Gazette forum

Tunnel building out of love

Re: *Gazette online, Phuket rains rip another tear in Patong Hill road*, October 14

With the technology available for tunnel boring machines it is possible to tunnel through anything. Patong Hill, with granite and weathered granite, would be a challenge. It would also be an expensive investment which would eventually pay for itself with a toll.

There are quite a few tunneling experts that live in Phuket that could take out the Patong Hill fairground ride and make this tunnel for love...

Steve G
Phuket

Climber finds cliff

I have noticed that people think the island is void of rock climbing spots and that I should go to Krabi to climb, which I will.

However, I have been spending my free time along the waterfront and driving around back roads trying to find some decent bouldering or climbing.

I am happy to report that there is a decent stretch of climbable granite between Nai Harn beach and Ya Nui. It is by no means the most exciting or safest place to climb, but it sure beats doing pull ups on house beams.

Ginny de la Souza
Phuket Town

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Female sleuth equal among Phuket police

FIRST PERSON

I STARTED work in October of 2007 as part of the investigation department of Prachachuen Police Station in Bangkok and moved to Phuket in May of this year.

Being a detective is challenging and interesting. I've had many experiences that I don't think I could have gotten from any other career. My work has taught me about Dharmic truths and human nature. I learned a lot when I had the chance to work in Klong Prem prison, which Prachachuen Police Station is responsible for – it was a good experience for me.

One of the biggest challenges a detective faces is the fact that every case is different. Even if the charges being brought against a suspect are the same as those faced by another, everything is different because every suspect has their own habits, traits and practices.

When we study law in our classes it is easy to figure out how to apply the law because the facts were clear and consistent.

In real-world cases it is different – the facts can be twisted.

The most stressful cases for me are ones that involve physical violence or families. In most cases that we deal with, both parties have valid points. I have learned



Captain Nucharee Longkaew is the only female police detective in Phuket. The single, 27-year-old native of Nakhon Sri Thammarat has been working for the investigations department of Phuket City Police since May of this year and is also working on a master's degree in law. Here she talks about the life lessons she has learned and what it is like working in a male-dominated career.

that nobody is a 100 per cent right.

People will come to us furious with each other and won't listen to anyone. Then, when a few days have passed, the two parties will have calmed down and not want to take legal action. But sometimes

work. I don't know if other women would have the same experience at other stations.

I feel lucky that Phuket City Police Superintendent Chote Chitchai and Deputy Superintendent Jumroon Playduong and other detectives allow me the power to make decisions about my cases and to work freely.

Col Chote and Lt Col Jumroon always check on me to see how my work is going and to make sure I'm not too stressed. They tell me that if I have any problems I can always talk with them – it makes me feel even better about working here.

I don't feel subordinate to any of the men I work with. Some of them have a lot more experience than me and see situations very clearly, so I ask them for help when I need it – I think of them as brothers.

the legal process has to continue. I feel sorry for them, but the law is the law.

I am happy working in Phuket. Everyone treats me well. It doesn't bother me to be working with men – we just pay attention to our



Capt Nucharee Longkaew said she feels comfortable and is happy working at Phuket City Police Station.

Raping the beaches and bagging profits



Sandbags on Phuket beaches are an eyesore.

THERE were some positive elements to the 2004 tsunami.

For a brief period the beaches were returned to their natural, pristine state – free of restaurants, bars, souvenir shops, massage pavilions, and vendors. However, since that life-shattering event, encroachment on the beaches of Phuket has only become worse and worse every year. So what did Phuket learn?

One of the most disturbing trends in the last few years has been the use of plastic rice sacks as sandbags to stake one's claim to a plot of beach. They are usually used as a levy wall to keep the annoying tide at bay and to help to create a nice flat area for serving food and drinks to tourists. Often these levy walls leave little or no room to walk or sit on the beach at high tide.

However, the real crime occurs when the greedy beach vendors pack up and leave with their profits at the end of the high season to return to their provinces. The plastic sacks are left behind to slowly decompose in the sunlight, shredding into millions of small pieces that litter Phuket's beaches.

So, who is in charge here? Why

Island View

By Kelvin Billington

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

is this practice allowed to go on? Is anyone in Phuket actually responsible for the health of Phuket's beaches? Or is it just open season? Rape and pillage until one day the tourists stop coming because Phuket's beaches have been ruined beyond the point of no return?

On one hand the Phuket government is making efforts to stop the widespread use of plastic bags in shops, but on the other hand huge plastic sacks are being used to create ugly, environmentally-damaging levy walls on the beaches, right under the noses of tourists! What message does this send to our international visitors?

Maybe Phuket needs another tsunami to resolve this problem?

Unfortunately, I suspect Phuket will continue to be the basket case of Thailand, serving only the greedy self-interests of its misguided merchants of power.

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

When is a gun a gun?

I have come across information online stating that according to Thai law, any firearm that can fire a projectile – even if it's propelled by a spring or compressed gas – requires registration, which cannot be done by a non-Thai citizen.

Paintball guns, BB guns, airsoft guns, and even many children's "toys" seem to be covered by the broad definition of this law, but these items clearly do not require registration and are openly sold.

When does a pellet air-gun cross the line from a non-registered firearm to one requiring registration? Is it muzzle velocity, form of air compression, or some other measurement or standard?

As a non-Thai national, would I be legally allowed to import and own a .22-caliber pre-charged air rifle without registration?

The gun would be used for controlling rodents and small pest animals on my property.

*Farmer Giles
Rural Thailand*

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

Submit your issue at

www.PhuketGazette.net/IssuesAnswers

Wilairat Kwanchien, head of the Muang District Office Public Administration Section, replies:

Paintball guns, BB guns and airsoft guns are not considered firearms, so it is legal to possess them without having a permit or registering them. However the owner must comply with the following conditions:

- The gun hasn't been modified to use CO2.
- Only plastic bullets are used – no metal bullets or marbles may be fired.
- When carrying the gun outside of the owner's property it must be packed in a safe case or box. It is not allowed to be carried in shirt or trouser pockets, nor

can it be left out in the open.

- The gun can't be used to commit a crime or torture animals.

The gun becomes illegal if any of these rules are broken.

When importing an air gun, either for personal use or for trade, it is considered a "real gun" in the eyes of the law.

It is then necessary to have an import permit from the local authorities and to show the permit to the customs officer at the airport.

There are many requirements for a civilian, both Thai and non-Thai, to possess or import a real gun or air gun.

Please contact the public administration section of the district office in your area for more information.

You can call Muang District office at 076 211171, Kathu District Office at 076 321133 or Thalung District Office at 076 311297.

Scorpion hunter

What is the best way to get rid of scorpions around my house?

At night I can easily spot twenty or thirty of them near boulders and holes in the ground. I am concerned for the safety of my kid. I tried to catch them with barbecue tongs and a flashlight, but they hide under rocks when I approach.

*Orchmuto the Ruff
Patong*

A Patong City Municipality office replies:

You are welcome to come to Patong City Municipality Office and file a complaint regarding the scorpions around your house. You can either contact the information desk or come to the Disease Control and Prevention Division. Once we receive a complaint, we will send our expert team to your house to take care of the problem.

For more information, please call 076-344275 or contact the Disease Control and Prevention Division directly at 076 344106 (Thai language preferred) or you can visit patongcity.go.th

A pest control expert from 7 Pest Control Service, Phuket replies:

We have a chemical that we usually use for controlling ants, rats, and termites, but killing scorpions is very different. They are strong and have a hard exoskeleton. To kill them we have to spray a large quantity of chemicals on the lawn. Though this may kill them, it may also kill all of your plants.

For more information call 076 221740, 076 216544, 076 218971, 081 607 2390. You can also email sevenpest@hotmail.com or visit 7pest.com.

The owner of the Gowit Agricultural Products store in Phuket Town replies:

We have one specific chemical, Cypermethrin, that can effectively kill scorpions if applied directly to the scorpion's body, otherwise it won't die. If you only want to prevent scorpions from getting into your house you can spread lime (calcium hydroxide) around your house, but it is a lot of work.

You can call Gowit at 076-234-689 for more information and directions to his store, located at 42/4 Mae Luan Road.

Manufacturing and production halted by floods

THE ongoing flood crisis is costing Thailand's production and manufacturing economy billions, with the closure of industrial estates having serious implications on both regional and global supply chains.

At the time of going to press, the disaster is believed to have already caused up to 150 billion baht (almost US\$5 billion) in damage; the figure continues to rise with no clear end in sight.

Deputy Prime Minister and Commerce Minister Kittiratt Na-Ranong has said the disaster will shave between 1 and 1.7% of Thailand's gross domestic product this year.

The floods, described as the worst in half a century, have killed 315 people and affected 61 of Thailand's 77 provinces, plus Bangkok.

According to a CNN report, the floods have inundated an area of more than 500,000 square kilometers – about the size of Spain – across Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam and Laos.

Most severely affected have been the central Thai provinces of Ayutthaya, Pathum Thani and Nakhon Sawan – Thailand's industrial heartland – putting the country's status as a regional production hub in serious jeopardy.

Four large industrial estates in Ayutthaya have already been engulfed, with hundreds of factories being forced to close.

On the morning of October 15, the Factory Land estate was swamped by 1.5 meters of water, becoming the fifth industrial park in Ayutthaya to be flooded.

The day before, floodwater burst into the Bang Pa-In Industrial Estate following frantic efforts by the authorities to boost defenses.

The Saha Rattana Nakorn, Rojana and Hi-Tech estates have also been flooded, which when combined with Bang Pa-In have a combined investment value of 194 billion baht.

At the time of writing, the huge Nava Nakorn Industrial Estate in Pathum Thani, on the north side of Bangkok, was completely swamped, forcing workers and nearby residents to flee the area. The park is home to 227 plants, employing more than 180,000 and estimated to be worth more than 100 billion baht.

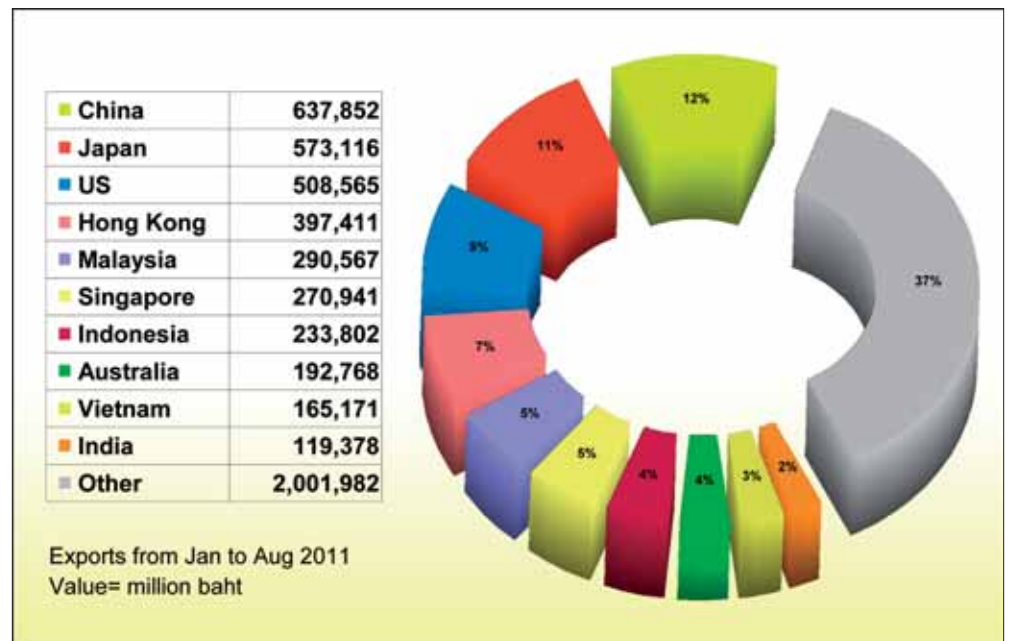
Three huge hard disk manufacturing companies were forced to shut down factories due to flooding in Bangkok last week, and are expected to remain shut for at least several more days. This includes the world's two biggest hard disk manufacturers – Western Digital, and Seagate – as well as fourth-ranked Toshiba.

Most of the businesses affected have been electronics and car parts manufacturers, with Japanese-controlled firms making up 70% of the affected investors – providing another devastating blow to the recovering Japanese economy.

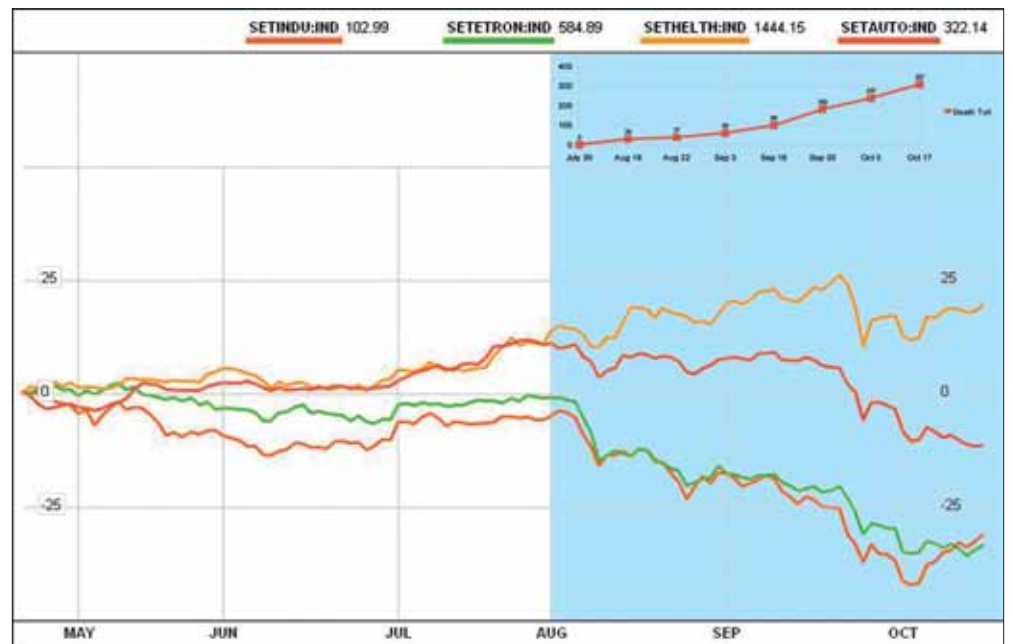
Honda's plant in Rojana Industrial Park, which produces 240,000 vehicles per year, 5% of global production, closed on October 4. Ford, Toyota and Isuzu have also ceased production, as well as Nikon, Canon and chip makers ON Semiconductor Corp and Microsemi Corp.

The disaster is expected to hit the global supply chain, already weakened because of the earthquake and tsunami that devastated parts of Japan in March.

The chairman of the Federation of Thai Industries, Payungsak Chatsuthipol, told the



SUPPLY CHAIN IMPACT? The pie graph and table above lists the top countries and respective values Thailand exported to from January to August, 2011. Source: Ministry of Commerce



GAIN FROM LOSS: While the industrial, automobile and electronic indices of the SET experienced losses due to the flood crisis, the Health Care sector continued to gain. Source: Bloomberg, SET

AFP that the damage was also affecting factories in countries abroad because many Thai plants supply parts to foreign producers.

"It's like the impact from the tsunami in Japan earlier this year which also had an impact on factories in Thailand because of a shortage of parts," he said.

The scale of the devastation has led industry groups to demand that the gov-

ernment delay its plans to raise daily minimum wages to 300 baht, a policy currently set to be rolled out in Phuket and six other provinces on January 1.

Employers have asked for a six-month delay on a decision on the policy to help them cope with the impact of the disaster.

– *Phuket Gazette*

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Paul Poole to market TSLC

THANYAPURA Sports and Leisure Club (TSLC) have announced that leading independent marketing consultants firm Paul Poole Co Ltd (South East Asia) will manage all sponsorship and marketing operations for the

sports facility in 2012 and 2013.

The Sponsorship Experts team, led by Managing Director Paul Poole, will work with TSLC to provide brand and business alignments for the two-year period.

Paul Poole has packaged, sold

and managed sponsorship and partnership opportunities for a wide range of rights' holders. He has worked with many of the world's leading brands to source and engage the right sponsorships and partnerships for them to maximize.

Paul Poole spoke of his enthusiasm for the opportunity to work with TSLC:

"I am delighted to be part of the team helping to develop such a fantastic center and club as well as support the development of children through sports and creative activities.

We have no doubt that with our support TSLC will thrive even further through carefully man-

aged partnerships and sponsorships with sought after brands and businesses."

Robert Hauck, President of TSLC spoke of his hopes for the partnership.

"We are all very pleased that Paul Poole and his team will be using their expertise to open sponsorship and marketing opportunities for TSLC throughout 2012 and 2013. We are all hugely excited to be able to work with such a knowl-

edgeable and innovative team."

TSLC facilities include an Olympic competition standard pool, fitness center, athletics track, tennis courts, synthetic rugby pitch and a modern performing arts center.



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Tourism unaffected by crisis

WHILE the flooding crisis' toll on Thailand's economy continues to worsen, Phuket's tourism sector appears to be relatively unaffected, for now.

Governor Tri Augkaradacha announced earlier this week that tourists are still heading to Phuket in droves, with the island registering 8.2 million arrivals since the beginning of the year.

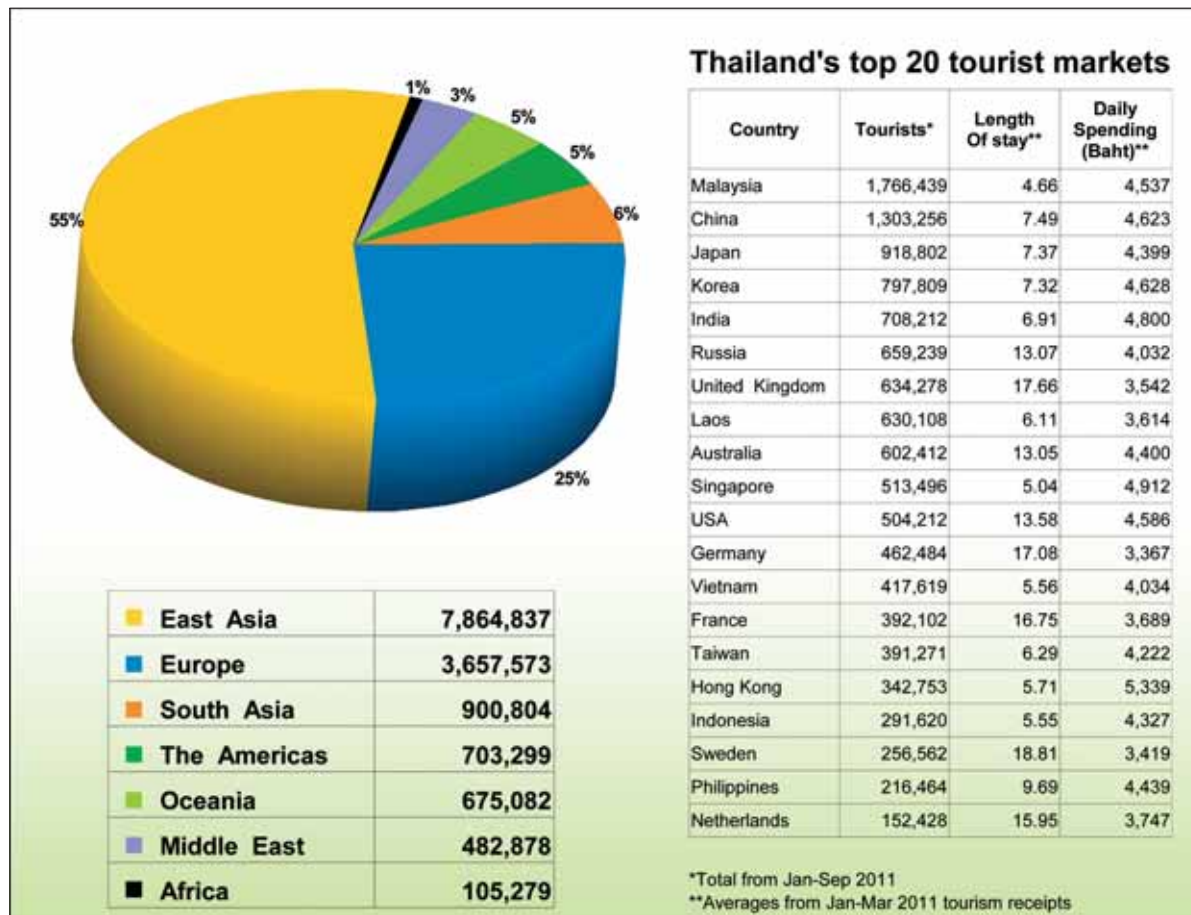
"...Phuket has sustained only minor effects, small floods and landslides in some areas, together having only a small effect on tourism," he said, pointing out that the number of tourist arrivals to date this year outstrips the 6.5 million arrivals during the same period last year.

Gov Tri emphasized the importance of Phuket hosting major events as part of the reason for the ongoing boom and highlighted upcoming events such as the FIVB beach volleyball competition next month, the King's Cup Regatta the following month and the Asian Beach Games, planned for 2014.

He added that having a variety of different events not being canceled helped to build tourist confidence in coming to Phuket and in Phuket being a safe place to visit.

Meanwhile, tourism associations in five provinces along the Andaman Sea board announced a joint marketing campaign that will aim to lure more European tourists to the region, and extend their average lengths of stay.

The Andaman Explorer campaign is the brainchild of the tourism associations of five provinces that body the Office of



INCOMING: The pie graph and table on the left compare tourist stats by region and volume. The table on the right lists the top 20 tourist markets by volume, length of stay and daily spending. Source = Immigration

Strategic Management (OSM) overlooking the Thai-Andaman Region. These include Phuket, Krabi, Phang Nga, Trang and Ranong; Satun is the only other Thai-Andaman province which does not body the OSM.

Ittirit Kinglake, chairman of the Krabi Tourism Association, said that the campaign would start by updating tourism promotion literature which is distributed to travel agents in Eu-

rope, especially in Scandinavian countries.

He said that the updates will include additions of cultural sites and activities in Trang as well as 'medical tourism' sites in Ranong which include natural hot springs.

The move is aimed at helping agents design a greater variety of packages featuring a diversity of products, Mr Ittirit said.

It is also hoped that the additional attractions will help to ease

overbooking in Phuket during peak season, Ittirit said, adding that the five associations expect tourism receipts and holiday lengths to double next year.

Chidchai Sakornbadee, vice president of the Association of Thai Travel Agents, said tour operators would start promoting the campaign in March to international agents for the following high season.

— Nation/Phuket Gazette

5 more estates given approval

SUBURBAN sprawl continues apace in Phuket, with the provincial land allocation committee giving the go-ahead for construction of five new housing estate projects in this month alone.

Governor Tri Augkaradacha recently chaired the committee's fifth meeting of the year, where representatives from Phuket's land, public works, town planning and environment offices and other relevant experts examined applications for building new housing estates on the island.

The committee approved five small housing estates in various parts of Phuket.

Somboonsap Village, by developer KTT Phuket, will be built on 21 rai in Srisoonthorn Subdistrict. It will feature a total of 161 units, including 39 single houses, 70 duplexes, 40 townhouses and 12 plots of land. Units will be priced at 2.2-3.4 million baht.

Ban Salil by Siam Pickpack (Phuket) will be built in Ban Bangjo, also in Srisoonthorn Subdistrict, and will feature 16

duplexes starting at 1.69mn baht.

Phuket Rueanthong's Ban Sabai (*Songkhun*) is a townhouse estate that will be built on 3.1 rai divided into 26 plots of land on Soi Songkhun in Chalong Subdistrict. Units start at 1.7 million baht.

Meanwhile, Highland's Phuket Thani 3 (*Sakdidej*) will be constructed on Sakdidej Road in Phuket Municipality on 18 rai. It will feature shophouses, single homes, duplexes and open spaces.

The committee approved Ban Salil, Ban Sabai and Phuket Thani 3 projects on the condition that the 3 developers submit a letter that guarantees public utilities within 30 days.

The committee also requested changes to a fifth approved project by developer Plan Estate, requesting that its 28 two-story homes be changed to single-story homes.

It also examined complaints from buyers of various other housing projects.



SPRAWL: Phuket's open spaces are being filled by new developments.

Petrol prices

	PTT	Shell	Esso
Gasohol 95 E10	36.37	36.67	36.37
Gasohol 91 E10	33.34	33.64	33.34
Benzine 91	36.37	36.37	36.37
Diesel	27.99	27.99	27.99

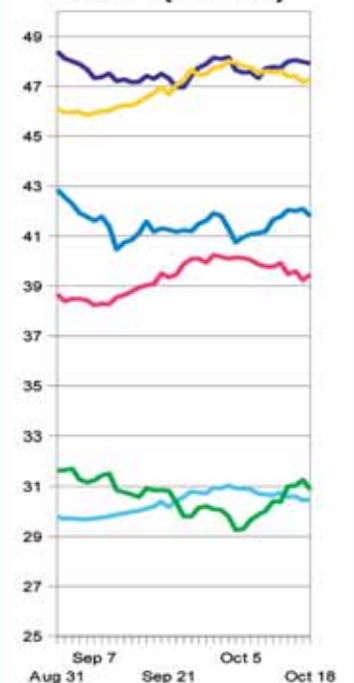
For PTT and Esso, prices are as of Oct 10; for Shell, Oct 13. Central Thailand prices listed. For Phuket prices, add up to .75 Baht transport surcharge. Source = Energy Policy and Planning Office

Gold prices

Date	Buy	Sell
Oct 19, 2011	24,000	24,100
Oct 15	24,400	24,500
Oct 12	24,500	24,600
Oct 19, 2010	19,250	19,350

*price per Baht unit (15.244 grams) for bar of Thai gold 99.5%
Source = Thailand Gold Traders Association

BoT buying rates(Baht)



Currency	Change %
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USD	2.25
JPY	2.02
GBP	-1.01
AUD	-2.43
EUR	-2.52

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Ten tips on how to sign up for Phuket internet service: part 2



LAST week I started a list of ten tips for getting a new Internet Service Provider (ISP) in Phuket. I only got up to tip two, to-wit:

1. If you already have an ISP, check to make sure how much they'll charge for breaking your contract, and see if they'll give you any discounts on other services they offer.

2. Once you know which internet package you want, go to the ISP's business office. Last week I mentioned many of the offices in Phuket, and gave you a synopsis of the evaluations I've heard about each office's capabilities. Not all offices are created equal.

On to the rest of the ten.

3. When you go to the ISP's office to get your new service, take your passport (or ID card if you're a Thai national). Different ISPs have different requirements for specific packages, and the rules change. Keep in mind that if you're looking for a post-paid account – where you don't pay for the service in advance – you're actually asking for credit. Some ISPs will require either a work permit (for a *farang*) or the signature of a Thai national before they will give you credit. Other ISPs may give you credit if you're here on a retirement visa. If there's any chance that you're going to want credit, take your work permit. If you don't have a work permit, take a Thai national with you. They may have to sign your application: if you skip town, they're on the hook for your bills.

4. If you want to register the line in the name of a company, all of the usual com-

pany requirements pertain. You'll need a recent copy of the company's registration, and a certified list of directors/shareholders. One of the directors will have to sign the paperwork.

5. If you want to have the charges billed automatically to a bank account, bring the bank book. Be aware of the fact that you'll have to get a form from the ISP, which you take to your "home" bank branch, have it endorsed, and return the endorsed form back to the ISP.

Some people strongly advise against having any Internet account billed automatically. I've had problems in the past getting automatic charges canceled, but usually a trip to the bank (not just the ISP) will cut the connection.

6. It doesn't hurt to bring a map with you, along with the precise address of your location, written in Thai. At the TOT office, they'll look up your location with Google Earth, so you might even want to take a KMZ location file, which can be generated by Google Maps or Google Earth (put a pin on the location, right-click on the pin and choose Save Place As...).

7. If at all possible, take a translator. The general level of English capability has improved immeasurably since I got my first Internet line 11 years ago, but it still isn't perfect – and the clerks have to deal with an enormous variety of English accents.

8. If you're going for a wireless connection, take the device – the PC, iPad, phone, whatever – that you're trying to get connected. It will take an hour or two to get your new connection working, so plan on spending some time shopping, walking around or running errands. Stick around until the connection is working to



In Google Earth it's very easy to create a KMZ file, which will help savvy ISPs pinpoint your location, and figure out which services you can get.

your satisfaction.

CAT, in particular, understands that their wireless network signal doesn't carry to all parts of the island. You can take your PC to CAT early in the morning, take it back home and test it. If the connection doesn't work, you can return the dongle later in the afternoon for a full refund.

9. If you're getting a wired connection, make sure somebody will be home when the installer shows up. Yes, installers in Thailand are frequently late – it happens all over the world. But if they show up and you aren't around, it can take a long time to get rescheduled, particularly if there's a communication gap.

10. Understand that the ISP isn't necessarily responsible for wiring inside your house. An extra hundred baht or two and a jai yen yen approach can make a world of difference.

Believe me, getting a line now is infinitely easier than it was a decade ago, when bribes and incompetent technicians were just part of the experience. Nowadays, with the exception of the language barrier, getting a good line isn't appreciably more difficult in Phuket than it is anywhere else in the world. It's easier, actually, because of the crowdsourcing feedback on PhuketInternetSpeed.com.

Besides, as I'm fond of saying, a slow line in Phuket is better than a fast line anywhere else.

Live Wire is Phuket Gazette columnist Woody Leonhard's weekly snapshot of all things internet in Phuket. Follow him on Twitter: @PhuketLiveWire, "like" his page at [facebook.com/SandwichShoppes](https://www.facebook.com/SandwichShoppes), or visit his free Sunday morning computer clinics at Woody's Sandwich Shoppes.

Going Dutch: the Tulip trend fund

Retirement Years

By David Mayes

THERE is a great aggressive trend following fund called "Tulip Trend Fund" which I would like to write about this week, following up on last week's article about the

Dighton blow up.

This fund has delivered steady returns for many years, with a cumulative compound average rate of return of between 25-30 per cent. As part of a balanced portfolio, funds like these can help smooth out year on year returns, as they tend to do best when stock markets

crash. Tulip returned almost 60% in 2008, and then gave back 29% in 2009 when stocks rebounded, one of only two negative years ever for the fund since it began trading in 1994. The other down year was relatively small, about 5% in 1999, a year when the stock market element of a portfolio would have done extremely well.

I used to live only a couple of blocks away from them while I was studying in Rotterdam, Holland. Hence the name "Tulip"; it really is more about being Dutch than about the old Tulip Bubble. Unfortunately I never knew about them back in those days so I have not seen the insides of their offices. I believe part or most of their operation has since moved to Switzerland.

The fund is currently in a drawdown of about 20% for the year at the time of writing. The previous maximum drawdown was 21.69%, so it is likely a good time to invest in this fund. Investing in a fund during drawdown is a way to reduce the risk, since it becomes more likely

that you will get a good initial period of performance if it has just been through a poor one. Averages are just that, averages. Most of the best years are followed by poor years, so you greatly decrease the odds of timing your investments well if you always buy the funds which have just had an outstanding year or are in the middle of an unprecedented winning streak. Of course there is no guarantee a fund will not greatly exceed its previous maximum drawdown, but it is human nature to invest in something when it looks at its best and this usually leads to underperformance.

Tulip as a stand-alone investment has a relatively high minimum, even within an offshore portfolio bond. HSBC however, have a small fund of funds which I like and which has a small minimum. It is spread across seven funds in total. Exposure to Tulip for your average investor can thus be achieved at levels which are acceptable as well as diversified; as the other six funds are equally worthy of an individual

article but that is for another day.

Many retirees in today's markets are forced to accept more risk than they probably would like to, as investments in safe investments such as money markets and fixed deposits do not provide sufficient return. This dilemma will eventually resolve itself, but for now investors need to make difficult choices. Although I try to convince retired people to wait out this period of low rates largely in cash (as I personally feel safety is always preferable) if one needs to go into risk assets I would balance the risk between funds such as Tulip and traditional stock market funds. This is to avoid a potential train wreck if the world economy isn't able to come out of the current troubles and we see another crash in global equities.

David Mayes MBA resides in Phuket and provides wealth management services to expats around the globe, specializing in UK pension transfers. He can be reached at david.m@faramond.com



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SSI brings dive training online



CONFORMITY CRITICAL: All dive operators must all comply rigorously with SSI standards to be part of their network.

SCUBA Schools International (SSI) is the second largest school-based diving certification agency in the world, and it's growing at a rapid rate. It's one of only two diving agencies that holds a global ISO rating, it has been training divers for over 40 years, and it's the only diving agency that offers free online training. Operating in over 130 countries and with more than 2,400 SSI Dive Centers, SSI training materials are

available in over 25 languages, including Thai.

Their commitment to service is more important to them than brand marketing. SSI have, as a result, seen an annual growth of over 35 per cent year-on-year across the region, and, since opening an Area Office in Thailand in 2002, they now employ 25 staff in five full service centres (two in Thailand, Malaysia, Philippines, Indonesia), and also have certi-

cation card printing facilities in 18 locations across eight countries with at least six more planned before the end of the year.

SSI Thailand has grown to 11 full-time staff, plus four experienced Dive Medical Technicians who emphasize and ensure diver safety. In fact, they regularly visit dive operations under the SSI umbrella and conduct assessments in all areas to ensure that safety standards are maintained.



SEA BEES: Liveaboard safaris and day trips have been offered for 20 years.

High quality operators are critical to their success – they already work closely with 20 dive operators in Southern Thailand who have all had to comply rigorously with SSI standards in order to be part of the SSI network.

Sea Bees Diving, in Chalong, was the first dive operator in Thailand to be awarded the prestigious SSI Diamond Instructor Training Centre. With over 20 years experience in recreational diving, through day trips and liveaboard safaris, it's also a training center for those who wish to become professional instructors. They have dive centers in Phuket, Khao Lak, Pak Meng and Koh Phi Phi.

Gary Hawkes, SSI International Training Director, states: "Sea Bees Diving reflects the quality of diving operations that SSI likes to partner with. They ensure SSI divers new and old are given the very best in service and standards available in the diving industry."

"For Sea Bees Diving, SSI allows us to link our philosophy of diving together with an agency that has an established and reliable worldwide network and is a relationship that benefits all – whether they're customers or dive professionals" says Holger Schwab, Managing Director of Sea Bees Diving.

Their free online training at www.diveSSI.com is part of the social networking features of SSI's global website and online divers network which has over half a million regular users.

Earlier this year they advertised their free online training to gap-year students across Europe using the slogan "Start online today... do your dives in Paradise". Several thousand signed up, a few thousand of whom have already completed their courses in the region and they expect SSI dive centres in Phuket and across the west coast to benefit from this new influx during the coming high season.

But it's not always about diving – supporting and funding locally based ecological projects directly is an equally important part of their operations. Assisting with illegal wildlife trading, beach and dive site cleanups on Koh Phi Phi, artificial dive sites in Koh Tao and environmental projects involving local schools throughout Thailand are just some of the projects SSI are actively involved with.

For more information on SSI dive services, or to sign up for dive classes, contact Sea Bees Diving T: +66 (0) 76 381 765 or W: <http://www.sea-bees.com>

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Phuket's still got the blues for you

THE PHUKET International Blues Rock Festival this year will be held at Laguna Phuket for the first time in the event's seven-year history. The charity event, taking place on the last weekend of February, will again be raising funds for organizations dedicated to ensuring the education of Phuket children.

"With 1,300 hotel rooms and a large expat village in the immediate neighborhood, as well as easy access from anywhere in the north of the island, Laguna is the perfect place to stage such an event," said Andy Anderson, the event's founder and organizer.

Headlining the upcoming event will be Chris Thomas King, well known for his contribution of 'Hard Time Killing Floor Blues' to the Grammy-winning soundtrack for the film *O Brother, Where Art Thou*. The soundtrack reached number one on the billboard charts and has sold over ten million copies. Chris Thomas King has sold more records and appeared in more successful films than any other blues artist this century. Over the past ten years we've seen the multi-talented King in over a dozen Hollywood films including the Oscar winning 'Ray' in which he played the band leader Lowell Folsom and helped score the

film's Grammy winning music.

Rich Harper, John Meyer, and AkashA will all be returning to the stage by popular demand. A variety of newcomers from the US, UK, and Asia, as well as local Phuket-based acts, have also been recruited for the event.

This will be the seventh year the two-day event will be held since it was first launched at the Hilton Arcadia in Karon in December 2005 to show the world that Phuket is capable of staging world class international music events.

The *Phuket Gazette* has sponsored the Phuket International Blues Rock Festival since its inception and will continue to do so again this year.

Appealing to tourist and expat blues music lovers as well as a burgeoning local market the performances have featured great artists from the region and professional international acts.

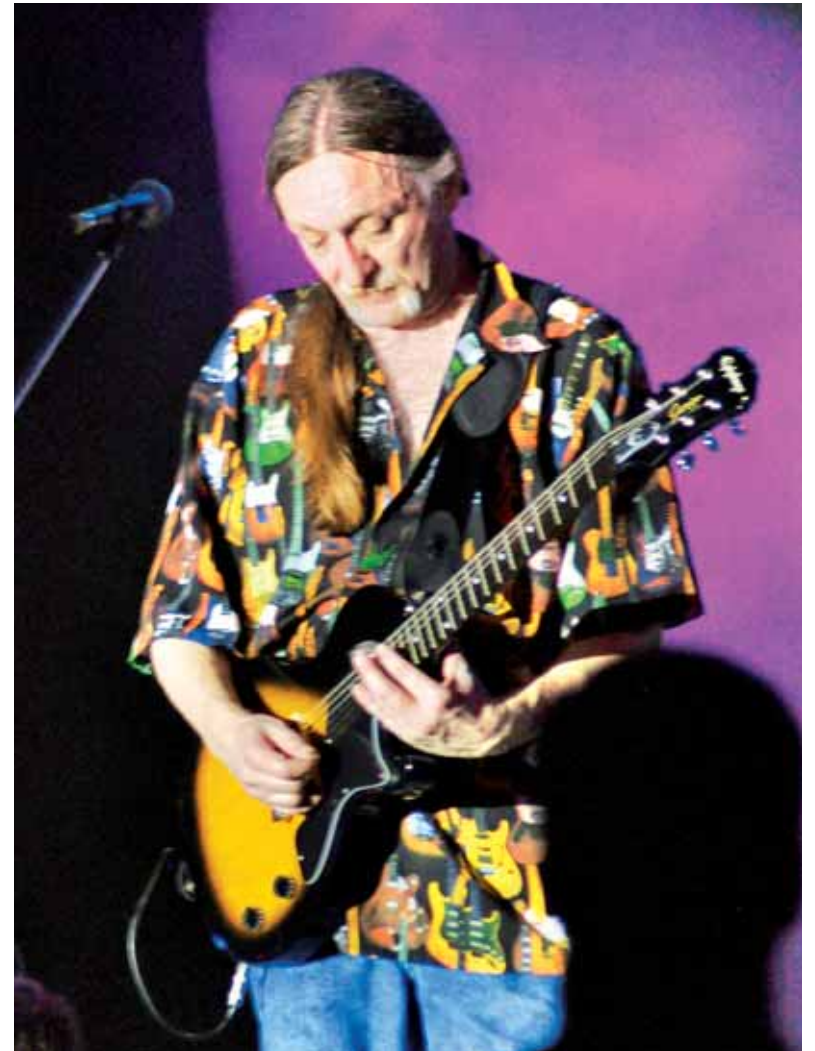
However Andy has a case of the blues for another reason: sponsorship or the lack thereof. Despite being a charity event, with funds being donated every year to worthy organizations dedicated to Phuket's children's education, the global downturn in the economy has meant that finding main sponsors has not

been easy.

"Sponsoring such a worthwhile event is a huge branding opportunity. There will be coverage in local, national, regional and international newspapers and magazines plus TV and Radio. Sponsors and Partners will have the right to associate with the festival by entertaining target audiences such as customers, consumers, suppliers and employees. Phuket attracts over 5-600,000 visitors in February which, combined with the large local and expat population on the island, offers sponsors huge opportunities to promote products and services and associate with the festival," says Andy.

Despite the lack of sponsorship thus far Andy insists that the show must go on and readers are advised to keep these dates (February 24 and 25) in their diaries and show up in droves to support a great music event that's now getting even bigger and better with its move to Laguna.

For sponsorship information, call *Phuket Music Production Co Ltd*: T: 0866822639, or E: phuketmusic@yahoo.com
For ticket information visit : W: PhuketBluesFestival.com.



SPONSORSHIP BLUES: Perennial favorite Rich Harper is set to return.

3 legs, 2 heads, 1 aim

GAZETTE columnist Russell Distance Russell (*the Dog Whisperer*) and his close friend, DJ, Jay "Le Shark" Walker, are set to become even closer this December as they intend to spend 24 hours strapped together while walking 100.13 kilometers.

The three legged charity walk aims to raise funds for the Phuket Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) and achieve worldwide fame and fortune along the way by getting into the *Guinness Book of World Records*.

Mr 'Distance' and Mr 'Walker' (we're not making this up) will start by circling the Thanyapura Sports and Leisure Club running track at Thalung at 1pm on Saturday, December 10 and from there walk the 15 kilometers to the Laguna Phuket "Y-junction" to finish at the Quest Family Fun Day which is being held in honor of PAWS.

The entire walk will be videotaped and two independent witnesses must sign off on the authenticity of the walk and the considerable paperwork required by the *Guinness Book of World Records* to eligible for a world record. The current record is 100.3km set by Steven and Suzanne Eltis in Brisbane, Australia in 2008.



THREE LEGGED FRIENDS: Russell with his paw-challenged dog 'Sasha'.

Russell and Jay will be able to take breaks along the way but at all times will have their ankles tied together with a specially made, cushioned, velcro ankle strap made for the occasion.

Russell, who is also training for this year's Laguna Phuket Ironman, and Jay are training now twice a week to get the gait and rhythm right. "We're both getting into the groove now and growing ever

more confident of smashing the world record," said Russell.

"Of course, it's not just for glory - we're doing this to raise money and awareness for PAWS," he added.

If you'd like to sponsor them, go to W:pawspuket.com, click donate and you can fill in the forms on line - or give him a call T: 089 588 4050, or E: canineworld@me.com





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Cyclists make the Big Push

By Chris Husted

TEN riders representing the Royal British Legion and the Thai War Veterans Organization on Thursday were to set off on a 855-kilometer bike ride from Bangkok to Phuket in a bid to raise 500,000 baht for charity.

Completing the ride, called the "SpiceRoads Royal British Legion Big Push", are British ex-servicefolk, the oldest of whom is Tony Margetts at 64.

Just last Sunday Tony received the results of an MRI saying that he had chronic degeneration of the neck bones (spine), but that hasn't stopped his training.

"Cycling in Bangkok is even more challenging because of the flooding. Roads have become rivers," he said.

"I had to cross two rivers like this today while out on my cycling practice. Yesterday was even worse, the water reached half way up my cycle wheel on my way to Bang Tan Chang Station," he said.

Dave Haddon, 63, has also put in miles of preparation. He pedaled 3,168km in 130 hours in training – the equivalent of cycling from Bangkok to Phuket and back more than three times, at an average speed of 24kph.

Comparatively, 17-year-old Thai student Nattapongpan "Chang" Ponphol – nicknamed "The Young Gun" – notched up 2,127km in 93 hours with an average speed of 23kph.

"Many of the riders have little to no bicycle riding experience, and the nine-month training schedule which began at the start of this year was the first time they had ridden since childhood, making this a monumental charity



Big Push training for the big race, Peter Werby in front (left); the route they will take (right).

challenge that honors the families of British and Thai war veterans killed or wounded in battle, for whom the money is being raised," said Antony Bell, Team Manager.

Duncan Diaper was at first daunted by the challenge. "Not having ridden a bike in or around Bangkok before, it did at first seem a bit daunting. I mean Bangkok would not be your choice destination for biking. But as soon as you get on the bike and head through the city, whether you are on the main roads, in



the narrow side streets, or as we have done on most of the rides at some point gone through markets bustling with people...I suppose the best way to describe it is as a great sense of freedom," he said.

"I consider myself very lucky being able to do this trip. It'll be hard I'm sure, but I am riding with a great bunch of people and for a cause that is very close to my heart.

"Having lost friends in both Iraq and Afghanistan serving their country, there is no

better motivator for me to see that we all get to the finish line while making as much money as we can to help support the men and women who have served our country," Duncan added.

Peter Werby is keen to point out the added benefit of seeing Thailand by cycle. "If you have ever wanted to see a country I can suggest cycling – whizzing past things in a bus just won't cut it for me anymore.

"On a bike we have the sounds and the smells, we have the shouted greetings, we have a sense of achievement, and we have a camaraderie. Try it, you will like it," he said.

"Cycling has never been a passion of mine, but when Antony approached me for this, the desire to achieve something dramatically outweighed my inexperience as a cyclist. I mean it's as easy as riding a bike... right? Well, yes, it is in a sense. We can all ride a bike, but can we sit in the saddle for five hours with legs pumping like pistons in tropical heat?

"At the start, the answer to this was a resounding 'No', but as time went on, and the kilos fell off and stamina increased, the goal became more attainable. Failure is not an option. People are relying on me, teammates, sponsors, and more importantly the people that need the money we are raising, the ex-service men and women who need help and are overlooked by the government while they happily splash taxpayers' money on people and projects that really should not be having tax payers' money spent on them," he said.

For more details on The Big Push and making donations to the Royal British Legion, visit W:www.spiceroads-rbl-bigpush.com

Helping to save Phang Nga Bay ecosystem

MORE than 200 men, women and children gathered recently at pristine Phang Nga Bay to release 200,000 baby shrimp into the sea

to enhance the local ecosystem.

Phang Nga Bay is marine conservation zone that encompasses the Phuket, Phang Nga and Krabi.

The Phang Nga Bay ecosystem includes mangroves, coral reefs, sea grass, shrimp, squid, molluscs, small fish and other marine life.

Movie stars, marine biologists, local and Bangkok media, newlyweds, officials and all kinds of locals all gathered at this event organized by Quiksilver to promote visibility of the ecosystem, so it will remain a protected area.

"In the past there were problems with the fishing equipment. The nets were dragged across the bottom of the seabed which killed the sea grass," explained Mr Pitul Panchaiyabum, Director of Marine and Coastal Resources, Conservation Center 5 (Phuket). "We solved this problem. A new conservation law was passed that banned the use of nets."

The sea grass must be protected because it acts as a nursery for baby sea life. It provides a place for the smaller marine life to hide, so they won't be eaten by larger fish. This protected area is significant to everyone involved in the fishing industry in Phuket. Mr Pitul remarked, "Tourism is not the only important industry in Phuket. This area needs to remain protected because it's a feeding area for small fish and squid."



THE FOCUS: The sea grass is integral to the ecosystem. Photos: E Doberer



One of the newlyweds who won a free trip to Phuket to take part in the shrimp release (left); Danai Jarujinda gave the event his approval (right).

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The legend of Wat Pranang Sang

WAT PRANANG Sang is the oldest surviving temple on Phuket Island. It has a long and fascinating history, serving as an important center of Buddhism for the townspeople of Thalang for centuries.

When the Burmese invaded the island in 1785, the temple served as a rallying point for Siamese soldiers who gathered to defend the town.

The history of the temple itself is quite muddled. No one really knows how old it is exactly. Legend has it that the temple was built by Pranang Lueat-khao, a name that translates simply as the 'White Blooded Noble Lady'.

Pranang Lueat-khao was the wife of a local ruler. She was accused of having an affair with a page. Although Pranang Lueat-khao maintained that she was innocent, no one believed her. She was sentenced to death and was sentenced to be beheaded.

Being a devout Buddhist, her final wish was to be able to travel to Sri Lanka so that she could pay her respects to the relic of the Buddha. Her wish was granted by the ruler.

On her way back from Sri Lanka, the noble lady stopped to build Buddhist temples in different towns along the route including Thalang town, where she built a temple that would later be called Wat Pranang Sang, which means the 'Temple built by the Noble Lady'.

When she returned to her home city, she was taken to the execution ground. She insisted on her innocence until the final moment of her life. When the executioner's blade struck her, a stream of white blood flowed from her lifeless body. The miracle, witnessed by hundreds of onlookers, was a sign that the noble lady was indeed innocent and that she had been punished for a crime for which she had been wrongly accused.

The story of Pranang Lueat-khao closely resembled a popular legend from the nearby Langkawi Island. Lady Mahsuri, the wife of the prince of Langkawi was accused of adultery by her jealous mother-in-law when her husband was absent.

Despite her plea of innocence, she was sentenced to death. In this case too, when she was stabbed, a stream of white blood flowed from the fatal wound. With her dying breath, she cursed the island of Langkawi to seven generations of tribulation and misfortune.

The story of Lady Mahsuri is

Looking Back

By Anand Singh

well known in Phuket as it is believed that after her death, Mahsuri's family fled Langkawi and came to Phuket. It is however unclear how her tragic story came to be associated with Wat Pranang Sang. It is unlikely that she ever visited Thalang or built this temple. Mahsuri was Muslim and so were her descendants and as such would not have asked for a Buddhist temple to be built in her memory.

Phra Kru Vichit Supakarn, a resident monk at Wat Pranang Sang said that the temple was built around five centuries ago and was originally called Wat Na Sang, or Wat Takien. According to the monk, historical records about Thalang have credited the renovation of the temple to the ruler of

Nakhon-Sri-Thammarat and his wife.

The ruler of Nakhon-Sri-Thammarat was on pilgrimage to Sri Lanka when, on the way, their ship

stopped at Thalang. Upon visiting the run down temple in Thalang, the ruler ordered it to be renovated and renamed Wat Pranang Sang, in honor of his noble wife.

Wat Pranang Sang is now home to one of Phuket's most important historical artifacts. The temple's oldest building houses three Buddha images made entirely out of tin. They are the largest tin Buddha images in the world.

According to Phra Kru Vichit, when the Burmese invaded the island in 1785, Wat Pranang Sang was used as a rallying point for soldiers and locals who gathered to defend Thalang.

Because tin was a semi-precious metal at that time, the locals were afraid that what was then known as 'the Three Kings' Buddha images would be plundered by Burmese soldiers if the town fell, which then seemed very likely.

The townspeople therefore planned to hide the tin Buddha images from the enemy. They built three large hollow Buddha images out of cement.

The plan was to hide the three precious Buddha images, the town's most important treasures, inside the larger cement Buddha. The tin Buddha images were therefore placed in the belly of the larger images and sealed away.



TIME CAPSULE: The three tin buddha images are hidden inside the largest cement buddha image (above).

Phra Kru Vichit said that the townspeople also inscribed a coded text on the outside of the cement Buddha to indicate the treasure that was contained within.

In time the tin Buddha images were forgotten, until one day somebody managed to decode the inscription. Suspecting that there might be something inside the hollow Buddha, they made a small opening in one of the cement images. Sure enough they found a tin Buddha in the larger

Buddha's abdomen.

The excavators could only remove the heads of the three tin Buddha images from their casing. Attempting to remove all three tin images would risk permanently damaging the cement Buddha casings, which are historical artifacts in their own right.


It was decided then that the three original Buddha images would remain inside their casings. Today they also sometimes referred to as 'Phra-Nai-Pung',

which literally means the 'Buddha in the Abdomen' because they sit inside the larger Buddha's cement belly.

Visitors are welcome to pay their respects to what may be one of Phuket's most mystical and cherished historical artifacts.

Wat Phra Nang Sang is located on Thepkasatri Road, just before the main junction at Thalang, on the left hand side if heading away from Phuket City.










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An 'awful' book

Books

By James Eckardt

IN 2001, Alexandra Fuller wrote the best memoir of the decade: *Don't Let's Go to the Dogs Tonight*. This was a funny, tender, brutal, harrowing, lyrical account of her childhood growing up on a farm in Rhodesia on the border of Mozambique in the middle of a war between white farmers and black insurgents. She followed this with a darker book about the white veterans of that war, *Scribbling the Cat*.

A decade after her astonishing debut, she is back with a rollicking book about her mother, 'Nicola Fuller of Central Africa', who is a bred-to-the-bone white African, and who thoroughly despised her daughter's memoir, referring to it as "That awful book".

In *Cocktail Hour Under the Tree of Forgetfulness* (The Penguin Press, New York, 2011, pp235), the author goes back to her mother's bloody and batty Scottish ancestors and to her glorious childhood in colonial Kenya, complete with horse races, polo games, costume balls and hunts with riding to hounds. The cover photo dates back to 1946 and shows a blond two-year-old Nicola Fuller hand-in-hand with her best friend, Stephen Foster, a baby chimpanzee wearing a matching blue top. They



Alexandra Fuller Photo: Larry Moore

had tea parties together and took turns on the chimp's tricycle. Many years later, her daughter asked her if she were not afraid of the chimp biting her.

"Mum gives me a look as if I have just called Winnie-the-Pooh a pedophile. 'Stephen? Bite me? Not at all, we were best friends. He was a very, very nice, very civilized chimpanzee.'"

She had a charmed young adulthood too. Married at 19 to Tim Fuller, a recently arrived English jack-of-all-trades who had bounced from jobs in Canada to Montserrat in Spain to Barbados. She set up house in a

beautiful sprawling bungalow and won a shelf full of jumping trophies with her thoroughbred champion 'Violet'. Later the horse would die a horrible death when another horse drove her into a barbed wire fence.

This was also the time when the *Mau Mau* rebels were agitating for independence from Britain. The uprising, which began in

1952, spelled the end of an idyllic life.

"Kenya, in Mum's telling, was a land of such sepia loveliness, such fecundity, such fulfillment that it was worth dying for if you were white. (If you were black and you wanted to die for Kenya, that was another matter altogether. Then you were an 'unpleasant, uppity *Kikuyu* anarchist'). Mum made it clear that leaving Kenya was one of the great shocks of her life. 'I never



A KENYAN LOVE AFFAIR: The tale of a woman who was raised in colonial Kenya. Photo: Derlangemarkus

thought I would leave,' she says. 'I had such a magical childhood, filled with such magical people.'"

So the couple settled in Rhodesia, just in time for another uprising of independence. This period is covered in Alexandra Fuller's great memoir and it's really necessary to read this if one is to derive maximum pleasure from this sequel.

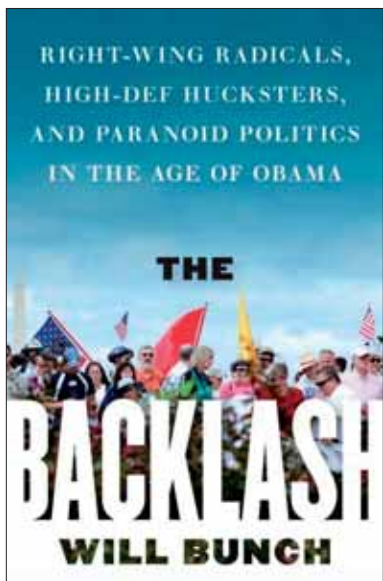
The author went on to marry an American and settle in Wyoming. Her parents lived in Malawi for a year and then moved to Zambia to set up a fish farm and a banana plantation. They are still there today.

"People often ask me why my parents haven't left Africa. Simply put, they have been possessed by this land. Land is Mum's

love affair and Dad's religion."

Mum paid a steep price. Three of her five children died in Africa and she was thrown into such deep depressions that she was hospitalized for catatonia. But she always bounced back. Africa was both the disease and the cure: "We longed for the warmth and the freedom, the real open spaces, the wild animals, the sky at night."

Mum is the star throughout. She loves drinking, dancing, dogs and horses. She is quirky, prickly, headstrong, and full of wild energy. Her two daughters often find her exasperating, but delight in swapping stories about her. The results are hilarious set pieces about their wildly eccentric childhood, and yet another 'awful book'.



LAST year we introduced you to *The Backlash: Right-Wing Radicals, High-Def Hucksters and Paranoid Politics in the Age of Obama*. This is a thoroughly re-

searched, informative and intriguing book about the Tea Party's emergence, written by Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter, and *Media Matters for America* senior fellow, Will Bunch.

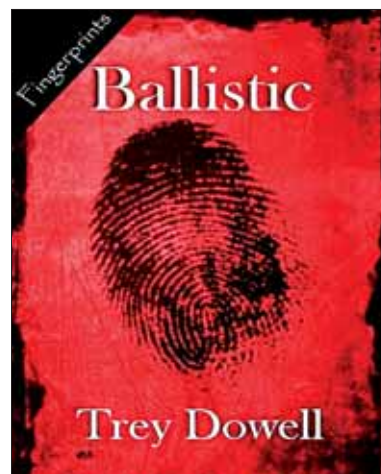
The Backlash was just released in paperback and is now available online.

In *The Backlash*, Bunch examines the political conditions, personalities, right-wing machinery and media activity that shaped the Tea Party. Indeed, during the past few years Media Matters has demonstrated that the commercial news media – most notoriously Fox News – had a significant role in fueling and sustaining the Tea Party. But now, a year after *The Backlash* was released, some parts of the landscape have changed.

Thanks in part to your efforts, one of the Tea Party's loudest cheerleaders, Glenn Beck, no

longer has a national TV platform to promote the Tea Party. Further, in a recent interview with *Newsweek*, Fox News executives reportedly admitted that the network took a sharp turn to the right during a period overlapping with the Tea Party's growth. Yet, *The Backlash*'s insights remain valuable, especially since its central arguments have withstood the test of hindsight.

The Backlash is the definitive book for anyone who wants to understand what the Tea Party is really all about and how the media helped cultivate it.



CELEBRATED St. Louis writer Trey Dowell takes you through the smoke and fire of a hit gone bad in *Ballistic*, a pulse-pounding short story now available through *Untreed Reads*.

Murder can be an act of rage, but it can also be a job. When professional-killer Danny prepares an unreliable accountant for his final

audit he realizes this is no normal day at the office.

Trapped in a run-down hotel with a hysterical mark and a growing realization of how badly he's screwed up, Danny has two .45s and his wits to see him through. Facing multiple killers he has to move fast and shoot faster. Worse, the leader of the hit squad – the legend who trained him – lies somewhere in the depths of the hotel...waiting. A short work of crime fiction from their *Fingerprints* line.

Trey has won Grand Prize and Honorable Mention honors several times, including both Writer's Digest's Annual Writing Competition and their Popular Fiction Awards.



ORIGINALLY published in 1994, Barbara Metzger's award-nominated Regency Romance is now available as an eBook. *An Angel for the Earl* follows on the heels of the recently re-released House

of Cards Trilogy and is among ten backlist titles soon to be released by *Untreed Reads*.

Lucinda's life was tragically cut short in a most scandalous manner, and her only means of entering Heaven lies in saving Lord Stanford from Hell. Perhaps while guiding the notorious rake onto a virtuous path, she can show him how true love will save his immortal soul...

Barbara Metzger is the author of over three dozen books and a dozen novellas. She has also been an editor, a proofreader, a greeting card verse-writer and an artist. When not painting, writing romances or reading them, she volunteers at the local library, gardens and goes beachcombing and 'yard-saling'.

Her novels, mostly set in Regency-era England, have won numerous awards, including the Romance Writers of America RITA, the National Reader's Choice Award and the Madcap award for humor in romance writing. In addition, Barbara has won two Career Achievement Awards from *Romantic Times Magazine*.

Works by *Untreed Reads* represent a variety of electronic formats, including ePub, the new industry standard. Titles like *An Angel for the Earl* are downloadable to computers, mobile devices, and dedicated ebook readers, including the iPad, nook and Kindle. You can purchase the titles through *UntreedReads.com* and everywhere ebooks are sold, including Amazon and Asia Books.

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Zhu Naumann

INTERIOR designer Zhu Naumann used to scooter between Bangkok and Phuket at the time when her husband Dirk, the German Honorary Consul for Phuket, was taking up his diplomatic posting here. She admits to being a city girl and the thought of living in the country terrified her.

That was five years ago. Now Zhu, who moved to Phuket permanently in 2007, lives and works here very happily. Her business, Lifestyle Etcetera, on the top floor of the building which also houses the German Consulate, is chock full of fine Asian antiques and art objects.

Zhu used to be an antique dealer before she met her husband 15 years ago. Her family owns antique shops in the River City Mall in Bangkok and also at Chatujak weekend market. It was at the River City Mall that she met her husband who also managed a shop there dealing with old prints and maps. He shared his passion for the art of cartography with Zhu and the pair, both connoisseurs of antiques and fine art, found that they had much in common.

"Dirk is very knowledgeable. He introduced me to ancient and modern European art. I already knew something about Asian art, so he bridged the gap quite perfectly."

They got married and lived in Bangkok until Dirk was offered his present position in Phuket. Sensing



that her life was about to change, Zhu enrolled in an interior design course at Chanapat Interior Design Institute in Bangkok after which, she went on to further her studies in London and Milan.

"I discovered that I had a knack for arranging things in space. Because of the line of business I was in and that I appreciate art and design, interior decoration was decidedly the profession for me."

Her first project in Phuket was the couple's own home, which Zhu decorated in the style of 'Southeast Asian Contemporary', where exquisite art objects fill the living space.

"We decided to buy the house behind Wat Chalong because of its proximity to the temple. Every morning we can hear monks chanting. Where else in the world can you do that?" Zhu asks, smiling.

She has also been commissioned for works on large real estate projects and private homes in Phuket. By her own admission though, Zhu prefers to design homes for individuals.

"My designs are very much hu-

man-oriented; they have to work with both the human body and the psyche. For my projects to be successful I have to learn a lot about my clients and what makes them tick. The reward is you are connected with your clients on a personal level. To see them happy with the result is another big plus."

Zhu doesn't take her work lightly. She believes that interior design is not dissimilar to a good painting, which must have a main focus, good proportion, structure, and a working colour combination.

When not busy designing other people's homes, Zhu creates her own work. She often acquires defunct Sino-Portuguese buildings in town, and renovates them to their former glory. The project is featured in her blog; thezndecor.blogspot.com.

"I'd like to think that what I do is a mixture of business and pleasure: financial reward has to be countered by one's passion, and in my case it's design."

Being collectors of fine art objects, the couple ensure that they see works of art frequently. In particular, Zhu likes modern Vietnamese paintings. Florence is on the top of her list for 16th Century Renaissance works.

For a city girl like Zhu, Phuket has become home and a place where she can let her creativity and imagination flow.



About Thai Gallery

The individuals profiled in "Thai Gallery" are chosen on the basis of their contributions to Phuket as an international community, and, often, for having made those contributions through successful social and/or working relationships with foreigners. This implies some foreign language skills and an interest in interacting with different cultures. They are people who in our experience help make the lives of expats far more enjoyable here than might be the case without them.

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WHAT'S ON in Phuket

October 21 - 30. The Phuket Youth Sailing Course (PYSC)

PYSC will be running an intensive 10-day course from October 21-30 (during the Thai school holidays) from 10am to 4pm at PYSC clubhouse, Ao Yon Beach. This advanced sailing course will be led by a national coach from the Royal Thai Navy facility in Sattahip, Chonburi. Alongside the advanced course, the club will also be running a beginners course. The beginners course is free of charge and is open to local Thai children between 8 and 12 years old who live nearby. Places are limited. This event is sponsored by PGTV and the *Phuket Gazette*. Contact: Aey (Thai) at T:081-3735447 or Katy (English) at T:085-2159185 E: phuketyouthsailing@gmail.com or visit W:phuketyouthsailing.org.

October 22. Salsa Night

Salsa Night will be held from 8pm to midnight. Due to the overwhelming success of our previous Salsa Night, we are delighted to invite you to the Royal Phuket Marina for another evening of dancing. Dance Cha-cha, Bachata, Samba and Rumba to the sounds of our resident DJ. Live on the boardwalk outside Les Anges. By customer request, a snack buffet. Entrance is free of charge. Dress: Colorful. Contact: Murat at T:081-7973364. E: muratc@royalphuketmarina.com or visit W:royalphuketmarina.com.

October 23. Chulalongkorn Day
Commemorates the reign of Rama V, who is best-remembered for abolishing slavery in Thailand.

November 1. Melbourne Cup 2011 SDF Fundraiser

Time to get your race attire out, hats on
and get down to Andara Resort and Villas, Kamala
from 9am to 4pm,
to celebrate the Melbourne Cup in style!

Doors open at 9am with the race broadcast live
at 11am.

Plenty of action on the day with sweepstakes,
Fashion on the Fields, our very own
Garry Holden as MC and
Jay Leshark spinning the tunes.
The ticket price is 1,800 baht per person,
including a scrumptious buffet brunch and welcome drinks.
Book your table of 10 now!
Dress to impress as great prizes are up for grabs!
This event is sponsored by PGTV and the *Phuket Gazette*.

Contact: Cristy at T:084-0544367
e:cristy@soidog.org or visit W:soidog.org.

October 23. A Special Talk by Dr Matthieu Ricard

Thanyapura Mind Centre (TMC) welcomes back world-renowned academic-turned-Buddhist monk Matthieu Ricard for an exclusive visit and discussion. On October 23, Venerable Matthieu Ricard will deliver a professional development session for visitors on the subject "Toward an Education for the 21st century". The session on creating an education based on cooperation and the cultivation of fundamental human values will discuss how to bring contemplative practices to modern education in a skillful way, a challenge that many people have been thinking about. Free Entry. for all. From 6 to 9pm at The View,

in Thanyapura Sports & Leisure Club. Contact: Weena at T:076-336000 E:mtc@thanyapura.co.th or visit W:thanyapura.com.

October 24. Cowboy Night

From 6pm to 2am, there's a large buffet inspired by the Old West. So come on down to Two Chefs in Kata. 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.

October 26. Skippers Quiz Nights

Join us for our Wednesday Quiz Nights at Skippers in Royal Phuket Marina. This event will be ongoing: November 30, January 25, February 29, March 28, April 25, May 30 and June 20. Start at 7:30pm. Happy Hour prices and prizes! Reservation at T: 076-271583 E:pahay@netvigator.com.

October 29 - November 12. The Chang ITF Thailand Pro Circuit 2011 (Men's)

For the first time in Phuket, the Chang ITF Thailand Pro Circuit 2011 (Men's) will take place at the newly opened Thanyapura Sports and Leisure Club. TSLC's six ITF standard-approved 'Plexicushion' tennis courts, with a "Cool-Lite"

roof system covering four of them, is the perfect venue to host these elite players. The competition will be intense as all the players fight for ranking points and prize money. Venue: Thanyapura Sports & Leisure Club from 8am to 7pm. Admission Fees: Starting from 50 baht. This event is sponsored by the *Phuket Gazette*. Contact: Virapol or Napapen at T:076-336000 E:virapol@thanyapura.co.th or visit W:thanyapura.com.

October 30. IronKids Practice

TSLC IronKids Practice Race. A chance for kids between the ages of 6 and 15 years practice their skills from 6 to 9:30 am at Thanyapura Sports & Leisure Club before the official race on December 3. Contact: Claire at T: 076-336000 E:tslc@thanyapura.co.th or visit W:ironkidsphuket.com.

October 30. Bikes Ride Koh Yao Noi Charity

Phuket's Amazing Bike Tours will be organizing a charity bike ride in Koh Yao Noi from 8:30am to 5pm at Koh Yao Noi, Phang Nga. The aim of this bike ride is to raise money for the Koh Yao Children's Community Center. The ride is a gentle 30km cycling trip around the island and includes lunch at a beachside restaurant. All cyclists joining this charity bike ride are required to make a minimum donation of 2,000 baht. Sabai Corner Restaurant and Bungalows are co-sponsoring the event and will be providing a delicious Thai lunch and drinks for all the hungry riders joining us. This event is also sponsored by the *Phuket Gazette*. Contact: James Hembrow at T:087-2632031 E:info@amazingbike-toursthailand.asia or visit W: AmazingBikeToursThailand.asia.

October 30. Halloween Costume

Featuring performances by Coco the Magic Clown from 1:30 to 10pm at Friendship Beach Resort. Treats for all the kids. Fun games with prizes. Best costume contest. Family Time starts at 1:30 to 5pm. Adult Party from 5:30pm, with Live Music 6:30 to 10pm. Note: SCE Cards not valid on this day. Contact: Charlie at T:089-7285304 E:chef@friendshipbeach.com or visit W:friendshipbeach.com.

October 31. Halloween Party

Halloween can be very scary or very funny. If you want funny, you should join us at Two Chefs Kata Center from 6pm to 2:30am. We're setting up a big buffet with a lot of great food. Our famous house band is going to entertain us all night long. Of course we will have a costume competition too, with a lot of great prizes. All this for only 595 baht. Based on our previous experiences, we know that it will be crowded, hurry up. Reservations at T:076-330065 E:katacenter@twochefs.com or visit W:twochefs.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*.

October 23 and 30. - Chalong
November 6. - Patong
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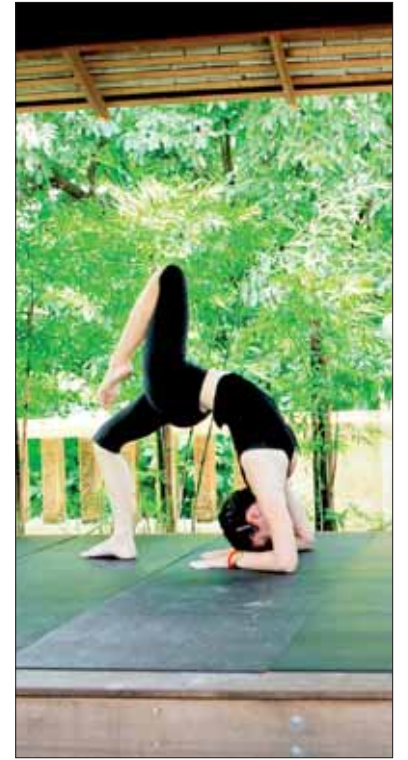
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ALL ABOARD: Vice Admiral Taratorn Kajitsuwan (right) this week took his position as the new Commander of the Third Naval Area Command.



TALL ORDER: Ex-NBA player, LA Laker and Head Coach of Top Flight Basketball Academy in Bangkok, Ike Nwankwo was in Phuket recently as a guest speaker for IBAP. In front of him (left to right) are Kofi Firth, Som Noiladtee, Pin Kongjinda, Rin Insumran, Took Firth and Butsa Khethil. Photo: Dan Miles



NAMASTE: At the Grand Opening of Sala Suddhavasana Internal Arts Centre were Sifu Adam (in white) and Ajhan Kim seated left and photo top right.



FAMILY FUN: The Kotchapakdi family celebrate a birthday at 'White House'.



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Rockin' Angels help flood victims with charity jam



GIVIN' AND SHARIN': Phuket's musicians young and old came together for two nights of rock, blues and soul at Rockin' Angels in Phuket Town to raise money for Thai flood victims. Photos: Marc Mulloy



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The Impossibly Possible Quiz

General Knowledge

1. What is the three-word motto of the Olympic Games?
2. In Roman mythology, who is the God of Wine?
3. The song Yesterday was released on which Beatles album?
4. Who said: "I'm the president of the United States and I'm not going to eat any more broccoli"?
5. This game evolved in the Spanish-Basque region in the 17th century. The ball used in this game sometimes reaches speeds of 150 miles per hour. It is sometimes called pelota, but more commonly known as what?
6. In which decade of the twentieth century did bra burning reach its height?
7. What do you call the wild dogs, nocturnal hunters, native to Australia?
8. What civil rights leader did Dorothy Parker leave the bulk of her estate to?
9. Which country, former member of the British empire, celebrated its 50th anniversary as an independent country on August 15, 1997?
10. In Greek mythology, who is the mythological Goddess of Love and Beauty?
11. Which South American city's name means river of January?

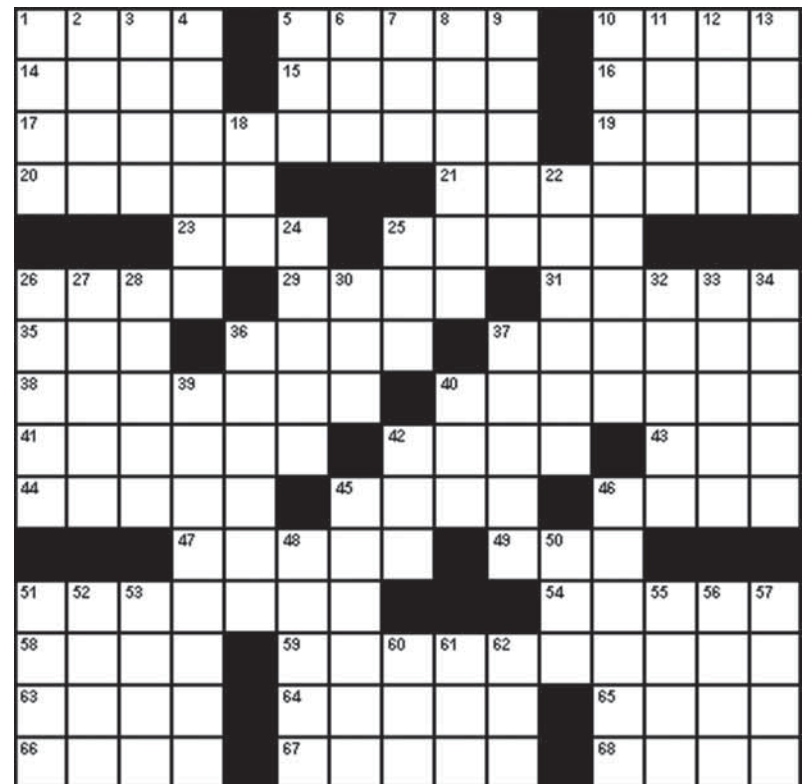
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Quiz answers on page 39

Across

1. Slang expert Partridge
5. Compact
10. Petty quarrel
14. Caribbean dance music
15. Single things
16. Anise-flavored liqueur
17. Temperature control device
19. — Bator, Mongolia
20. Discourage
21. Effective
23. Airport abbr.
25. Existing in an untamed state
26. Revenuers, for short
29. Undesirable plant
31. Employ again
35. Director Howard
36. Golfer Ballesteros
37. Bivalve mollusk
38. Item
40. Cathedral
41. Labyrinthine
42. Ashy substance
43. Hot time in Paris
44. Aluminum-bronze coin of Iceland
45. Learned
46. Goad
47. Group of eight
49. Hwy.
51. An Irish girl
54. Superior of a monastery
58. Busy as —
59. Ursa Minor
63. Campus mil. group
64. France's longest river
65. — majeste
66. Annoyance
67. Move stealthily
68. Kitchen addition

Down

1. Cornerstone abbr.
2. Architect Mies van der —
3. Rapper born Tracy Marrow
4. Sway
5. Pair
6. Nav. officer
7. It may be picked
8. Declared
9. Aromatic compound



10. Lacking spirit
11. Hungarian sheepdog
12. Islamic call to prayer
13. Chinese secret society
18. Mohawk-sporting actor
22. Voicebox
24. Reside
25. Charge
26. Commerce
27. Tropical eel
28. Computer key
30. Holiday start
32. Absolute
33. Handle
34. Made a mistake

36. Rarely encountered
37. Crude carrier
39. Person's individual speech pattern
40. Barker and Bell
42. El — (Spanish hero)
45. Curse
46. Small stone
48. Informs
50. — kwon do
51. Complain
52. It's blown among the reeds
53. Permits
55. Sugar source
56. Kiln for drying hops
57. Corner
60. Bind
61. Song syllable
62. Albanian coin;

Provided by BestCrosswords.com.
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Puzzle solutions on page 39

SCORPIO (October 24-November 22): The stars indicate that some Scorpions will learn that a work-related situation might be as good as it gets. Those who have been hoping for an opportunity to advance will be disappointed, but there are also signs that November will bring an unusual chance to try something different. Those celebrating a birthday in the week ahead should find that love is easier to understand than it has been during the past year.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23-December 21): Reading between the lines can help your understanding of an official appointment early next week. The stars indicate that a flexible attitude will improve your chances of getting what you need. There are signs that washing your hands of a water sign friend's problems is advisable. In the realm of romance, single Sagittarians interest in an earth sign wanes, but another fire sign has what it takes to spark off a relationship.

CAPRICORN (December 22-January 20): The stars advise Capricorns that it won't be worth sweating the small stuff this week. A series of minor problems could leave you wondering if it is worth perse-

vering with a business-oriented goal, but the big picture remains positive. In the social sphere, keeping up appearances should not be your main focus. Real friends will appreciate you for who you are, not what you are. Lucky days for romance are Wednesday and Thursday.

AQUARIUS (January 21-February 19): Aquarians are predicted to get a clearer idea of what is going on in their lives this week your suspicions that there can be no smoke without fire should prove to be justified. Where affairs of the heart are concerned, first impressions of a water sign could be misleading. The stars suggest that a romance with this person could be just what single Aquarians have been hoping for.

PISCES (February 20-March 20): Keeping the peace on the home front is forecast to cost Pisceans extra energy this week. Your sympathy for an air sign relative is about to run out, but finding a practical solution to help this person will prove a challenge. Set time aside this weekend for a family conference and emphasize that you can only carry so much responsibility. In the world of work, a red herring is forecast to put you on the wrong track.

YOUR horoscope

By Isla Star

ARIES (March 21-April 20): The stars advise Arians that extending themselves further financially could be asking for trouble. A temptation to invest or lend money is forecast to catch you in a vulnerable mood early next week. Where your social life is concerned, sour grapes could cause you to take distance from an earth sign acquaintance. Those who have no love interest at the moment are forecast to be impressed with another fire sign this weekend.

TAURUS (April 21-May 21): Certain Taureans could be regretting commitments made in the heat of the moment. A busy work schedule will allow little free time this week, but progress is strongly highlighted as others are finally ready to be accommodating. A midweek encounter encourages you to see that your problems are nothing compared to what other people are contending with. Romance with another earth sign

is well-starred, but an air sign's jealousy gets your goat.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21): Those born under the sign of Gemini are advised to adopt a more guarded approach to business this week. The stars suggest that giving information away for no good reason will be cause for regret, with emphasis on your trust in a fire sign being abused. Where romance is concerned, emotions could get in the way of an honest discussion this weekend. Lucky days for finances are Monday and Tuesday.

CANCER (June 22-July 23): Cancerians are likely to draw a short straw at work this week. Your tendency to go along too easily with others way of thinking needs to be addressed. An earth sign is forecast to take your agreement for granted on Tuesday or Wednesday and this could result in some heated moments later in the week. Romance is well-starred during the last week of October, with many Cancerians prepared to take more chances than usual.

LEO (July 24-August 22): The stars suggest that Leos' memories may be unreliable during the last

week of October. This is predicted to lead to misunderstandings, whether at work or on a personal level. Within the realm of romance, there are indications that a partner took your casual comments to heart recently backing out of this situation will take a creative approach. Your luckiest days for money matters are Sunday and Monday.

VIRGO (August 23-September 23): Virgoans will have to dig a little deeper for answers this week. Where business is concerned, there are signs that another earth sign is not telling the whole story Tuesday is the most auspicious day to get to the bottom of this issue. Romance could also be affected by these astral conditions expect a water sign partner to be reluctant to tell you what's on their mind this weekend.

LIBRA (September 24-October 23): Librans are likely to be putting the cart before the horse this week. Your impatience to get started on something new is likely to cause friction at work. An earth sign in particular is forecast to dig their heels in firmly if you try to rush them. The stars advise that burning the candle at both ends could cause you to be irritable this weekend and a romantic partner will take distance from your scratchy mood.

PROPERTY Gazette

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Kathu welcomes Sansiri dCondo

BANGKOK developer, Sansiri, has expanded its investment portfolio to Phuket by starting their first project 'dCondo' at Kathu which will be followed by semi-detached houses of 'Habitia' and 'Habitown', two-storey houses in Koh Kaew.

The dCondo project is located on Vichitsongkram Road in Kathu, and comprises three low rise eight-storey buildings. A 560-million baht investment on a 14-rai plot will include 556 units each with an area of 29-30 square meters.

Each studio unit is designed to maximize floor space and will be decorated with high-quality furniture from Modernform.

The project includes a range of facilities such as a green area, fitness room, swimming pool, CCTV,

and key card security access.

Mr. Suriya Wannabut, Executive Vice President of Project Management and Marketing Department of the Sansiri Public Co Ltd, said, "The one-to-three-million baht condominium market in Phuket is a segment of high demand offering continuous growth among Thai customers and business operators with a

desire for a modern living lifestyle. "Sansiri chose Kathu as its first investment for condos because it lies between Muang and Patong. Customers will enjoy convenient access to shopping centers, markets, offering them a good life style," he added.

The starting price for dCondo units is 999,000 baht.

For more information: W:sansiri.com



Sino Village continues unique Phuket heritage

By Chutharat Plerin

SINO Portuguese architecture is a signature of Phuket's heritage and, with the announcement of construction plans for Sino Village, this style continues to influence building design throughout the island.

Piriya Tantipiriyakij, T Places Managing Director, presented the Sino Village project details during a press conference on October 11 at the site sales office located on Thepkrasattri Road next to Big C.

"Sino Village was designed in response to a market need for this type of architecture combined with all the amenities of a modern Phuket lifestyle community.

"The Sino Portuguese style used in Phuket old town will be developed as an integral concept to the Sino Village community and accommodation," Mr Piriya explained.

Sino village will be built on a nine-rai plot in two phases.

The budget for phase one is 255 million baht. Phase one comprises 52 units on a seven-rai, one-ngan area of land, and is scheduled for completion in 18 months.

The project has two build-types. Premium Sino Townhome is a two-storey building on an area of 150 square meters with three bedrooms, three bathrooms and a central sky-



Sino Village Home Office: A CGI of the entrance to the new project.

light. There is also a 3x6 meter covered carport. Prices start at 3.19 million baht.

The second build type is Premium Sino Home Office. This is a three-storey-unit. It has three bedrooms and four bathrooms over a 226-sqm area. Prices start at 7.29mn baht. 18 units of this type will be built. Over 50 parking spots have been allocated for the Premium Sino Home Office units.

Condominiums or serviced apartments are to be considered for phase two of construction.

As part of the modern Phuket

lifestyle community design, an energy saving concept has been incorporated by way of the central skylight and ventilation grills.

Sino Village designers have also reproduced the clock tower at Surin circle, opposite the Metropole Hotel, as a landmark for the project.

Pre-sales began at the end of September and 32 units have already been purchased. A grand opening will be held on October 28.

For more information contact Jirachat Taephobgsorat, Project Engineer T: 076 621 102.

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My life as a paper lion



Property Watch

By Bill Barnett

I FORGET what madness ever drove me to start writing this column in the first place. Our lifelines are so often blurred between what really happened and the auto adjust of reality.

Even witnesses to the crazed act are hard to put my finger on, in order to tap into their sense of recollection. Those Ancient Egyptians had court reporters taking notes for prosperity, or was that the Greeks?

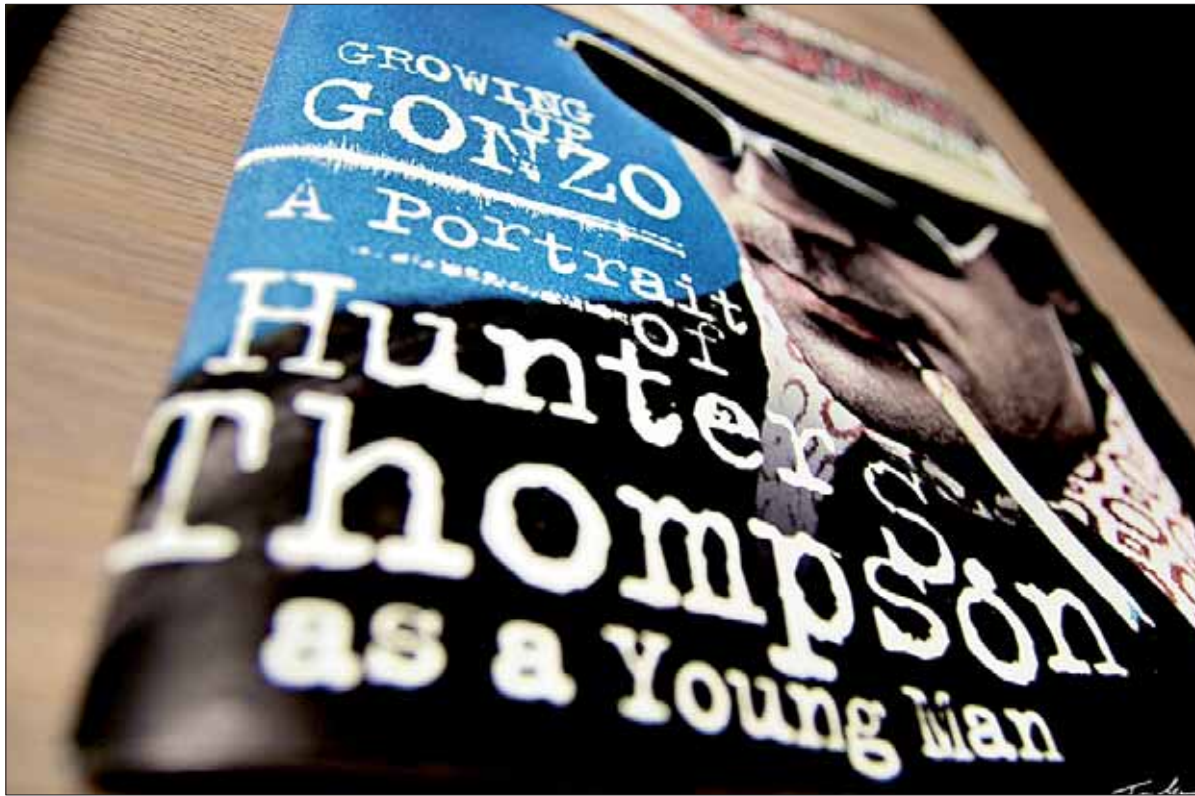
Obviously animal scrolls couldn't fit into my nifty HP ink jet printer. Or trying to erect a pyramid to house the library of the ill-advised moments of my life would mimic the same insane thinking I undertook in trying to construct my own home here in paradise. Hah! The gods of fortune all are still laughing over the misadventures on that particular journey with no end.

Never mind, what's past is gone, like the air from the tires on my dormant bicycle.

Note to disparaging readers, if you have gotten this far and think I am about to somehow throw in the towel and wind up *Property Watch*, please stop reading now – you won't be getting rid of me that easy.

Friends, acquaintances and strangers who sometimes e-mail or strike up a conversation at the counter when I'm ordering my *latte* often get glassy eyed and say "how hard it must be to think of ideas for new columns..."

In reality, the truth be known, it's not hard at all. There are literally thousands of untold stories on this island, ranging from the mundane to the riveting, but most of them occupying the area of no man's land, in the large space of gray that lies between the black and the white lines.



THE DEAN OF GONZO JOURNALISM: Hunter S. Thompson. Photo: Ian Munroe

I've always respected great writing be it Ernest Hemingway, Somerset Maugham, Joseph Conrad, Paul Theroux or the dean of 'gonzo journalism' himself who is so sadly missing from our presence – Hunter S. Thompson.

It remains incomprehensible and astonishing to me that they possessed such craft, vocabulary, wit, insight and the ability to tell stories. But in life we work with what we have, and I muddle through as best I can, to the angst of more editors than I can remember, with typos, grammatical blunders and more moving violations than a repeat offender.

My excuse, if in fact there is one, remains that I am a columnist and not a writer. Rules do not

therefore apply and the urban-staccato, train-of-thought writing is indeed a little appreciated craft or customary style.

This of course is a very lame excuse. I lay no claim to being a journalist and, as so many have pointed out, the columns often resemble a protracted drunken sprawl of late night SMS-ing from a prison. Alone with my thoughts, I am free to rant, opine and hold court.

There have of course been some attempts at property features, thoughtfully researched and put into form. More losers than winners here, I am afraid, but some points have been scored.

I have always had a lot going on in my head and the journey my own consulting business has taken – in

Tomorrow I will wake up and some strange idea will crop up as I batter the keys on my PC, dodging typos like water buffaloes on an expressway.

hotels, property and tourism – allows for many unique opportunities and access to data and information.

The quest to somehow put something back into the island that I have called home for nearly a decade remains important. Perhaps I'm being naive here but at least let me wallow in this passionate pursuit.

So that's it, in what appears to be like a marriage on the rocks we seem to be stuck together, waiting for the kids to grow up and move out, until we can pursue separate lives and a broken union of columnist and reader.

Tomorrow I will wake up and some strange idea will crop up as I batter the keys on my PC, dodging typos like water buffaloes on an expressway. It won't always be pretty but hopefully some small points of interest will keep you coming back for more.

Bill Barnett is managing director of C9 Hotelworks and can be contacted through www.c9hotelworks.com

In brief...

New multi-million dollar Andara project

HONG Kong Entrepreneur Allan Zeman is rolling out the 13-ultra-villa estate Andara Signature.

Located on Millionaires' Mile near Ayara Kamala, the offering has been eagerly anticipated by the marketplace.

Villa plots will range from two to three rai, and built up areas are luxuriously spacious with 2,600 square meters of living space.

Anxious investors are expected to snap up the offering, given the spectacular capital appreciation of the first project. The 'Andara effect' saw a number of resales double in value. Details on pricing and availability are expected to be announced this high season.

Meanwhile the second Plaza Surin boutique shopping mall will be coming on to the market soon with over 60 upscale retail shops that are expected to command high demand and premium pricing.

Air Asia boom: flying Miss Daisy

WITH a reported 50 per cent of all global Boeing and Airbus aircraft orders now headed to Asia, an acute shortage of skilled pilots is being forecasted.

Recent quotes by Boeing estimate that over 180,000 new pilots would be required in the Asia Pacific region during the next 20 years.

Demand is fast outpacing supply as the recruitment process is becoming tougher given many Asians consider the line of work too ordinary as a career.

Expect a continuous stream of foreign nationals from the economically challenged North American and European sectors to provide experienced professionals in the skies above.

Most wanted: 30 million tourists in four years

SUCCUMBING to the numbers game, Thailand's Tourism and Sports Ministry is aiming to hit the 30 million arrivals marker by 2015.

The knock on economic benefit is expected to generate 12 trillion baht in resulting revenue.

Putting things into perspective, this year's forecast is calling for 19 million with 700 billion baht in revenue according to comments by the presiding Minister Chumpol Silapa-archa.

Certainly the air is thin up in the forecasting department and as many tourism analysts understand the higher the number goes, the lower the multiplier goes given an ever-growing base.

Anyway at the end of the day, with 30 million arrivals at least Bangkok does finally have a hope to fill all of those new hotel rooms.

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Patong Promenade set for December opening

By Stephen Fein

THE EVER-CHANGING face of Patong will have another new aspect in early December, when the Patong Promenade lifestyle, shopping and entertainment complex is scheduled to open in the famous Soi Bangla nightlife entertainment area.

Pattanapong Aikwanich, General Manager of the Baan Sukothai Company that owns the 10-rai plot on which the project is located, said his company is one of five groups invested in the project.

"We closed our Baan Sukothai Hotel to develop the new Patong Promenade complex. It will open, hopefully, by the end of the year," he said.

The closure of the Baan Sukothai marks the end of an era for the developers. Opened in 1982 as a 14-unit bungalow colony, it developed into an 85-room resort with 11 villas before its closure in August last year to make way for Patong Promenade.

"We are going to have a lifestyle entertainment complex with nightclubs, bars, shopping arcades, entertainment places and restaurants. I think it will be one thing that can change Patong a little bit...a walking street on a plot of land al-

most 10 rai, right on the corner of Soi Bangla," said Mr Pattanapong, a veteran hotelier and former president of the Phuket Tourist Association.

Baan Sukothai Company alone has invested about 250 million baht in the project, its part of which will be a three-storey complex with about 2,000 square meters of parking space available in the basement parking area.

Other tenants will include two well-known entertainment firms already operating in the area: The Tiger Group and Seduction, which operates as SK Group in Finland and Europe.

Tiger has invested about 150 million baht in its "Tiger Live Band" part of the complex, which will feature a disco, pool bar and restaurants.

Seduction, which operates a disco by the same name across the street, has also invested about 150 million baht to develop its 10,000 square meter "Rock Star" nightclub with a rooftop beach club. Seduction already operates The Factory Bar nightclub in the same area under a rental agreement with Baan Sukothai.

The third partner is the Lux's Manor Company, which will develop its The Sixth Phuket shophouse complex in the Sino-Portuguese architectural style. Lux's Manor GM

Sarawee Bodharojtham said work on The Sixth Phuket is now 90% complete, with rents in remaining units ranging from 40,000 baht to 550,000 baht monthly depending on size and location.

About 80% of available units have already been reserved. Tenants who have already signed contracts include a day spa, a nail salon, Moroccan restaurant, currency exchange service, sandwich bar, art gallery, German sausage outlet, imported chocolate shop and much more, she said.

The final investor, with about 4,000sqm of space, is the Summer Winds group, which already operates the well-known Margaritas bar in the same area.

Mr Pattanapong's nephew Karn Aikwanich, who is overseeing day-to-day construction, told the *Gazette* "Each partner group will develop their properties in their own unique style, which together will form Patong Promenade, Patong's first walking street complex under the theme 'shopping, dining and entertainment'."

The complex will have over 40,000 square meters of usable space and five entrances, including two from Soi Bangla, Mr Karn said.

Construction work began in November last year and is now about



BIRDS' EYE VIEW: A computer graphic artist's conception of how the project will appear upon completion.



Work on The Sixth Phuket shophouse part of the Phuket Promenade project is now 90% complete, its developers say. File Photo

80% complete. Room remains for second-phase expansion work along the side soi near where the Pizza

Company is now located, he added. The scheduled opening date for the entire project is December 1.

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Construction commences Q2 2010 and Completion during Q2 2012



UNFORTUNATE NAME: *Pisonia alba* (left), an effective verdant screen; magnificent *Pisonia grandis* (middle) trees dot our island; variegated *Pisonia alba* (far right) is now available.

A sticky note for gardeners



Gardening
By Patrick Campbell

DESPITE its unfortunate name, pisonia is a most unusual and spectacular plant. It's unusual because it's grown as a garden shrub or small tree entirely for its distinctive foliage which is sometimes a brilliant light green, but often a luminous golden yellow; it's spectacular because no other shrub has leaves of quite the same hue.

An unlikely member of the *bougainvillea* family, it occurs widely in tropical regions of the world with most of the species hailing from America. But *Pisonia grandis*, which can grow into a large tree, is now found on many islands in the Indian and Pacific Oceans where it forms dense thickets.

Perhaps that's why one variety seems to be so at home here in Phuket. There are magnificent examples dotted around the island,

mostly in front yards, especially in the Nai Harn and Rawai areas. These are specimens of *Pisonia alba*, a cultivar known in Thailand as *saeng chan*, a shrubby tree which produces the most showy and translucent leaves – hence its popular names of 'lettuce tree' or 'moonlight tree'.

The sticky seeds are relatively insignificant. Although they trap insects, apparently they do not absorb or ingest the creatures, unlike the carnivorous pitcher plant I described last week. Interestingly, these seeds account for its other name of 'catchbirdtree', since they supposedly trap birds in their gummy embrace. This may be a fascinating idea, but it's highly improb-

able. Anyway, in Phuket at least, it produces very few sticky seeds.

Pisonia alba is a tricky shrub to establish since it requires well-drained, sandy, slightly acidic soil. However, once *pisonia* gets going, it grows rapidly and soon provides a striking contrast to nearby shrubs.

Because it produces such dense foliage, it's particularly effective as a verdant screen next to a lawn. It's readily available here as a container plant in nurseries. It's best situated in a dryish part of the garden where drainage is good, and where it will get plenty of sun. It will survive as a container plant, but it tends to get leggy, and is happier in the open garden. You can propagate from fresh seeds or cuttings. Variegated forms are now being developed, but *pisonia* remains a shrub that is more or less ignored in books on gardening. I find this to be a strange omission.

On a side note, the story continues on *Lavender* – the subject of my last article. You may recall that a reader asked if *Lavender* could be grown in Phuket, to which my answer was a resound-

ing "no". Just recently, one of our readers kindly pointed out the fact that *Lavender* is being grown at the Royal Agricultural Station on Doi Ang Khang in Chiang Mai.

Actually, lavender potpourri is being sold under the Doi Khan brand, and lavender water (eau de toilette) will be marketed soon. Of course, the growing site is higher

and much cooler than Phuket. But at least it is being given a run here in Thailand, as many other subtropical plants should be.

After all, you never know until you try.

If you have a question, or a garden that you would like featured, E: drpaccampbell@gmail.com

Tip of the week

Oases of Shade



SHADY CHARACTER: Anthurium thrives in shade. Photo: Rameshng

RECENTLY we discussed how to create areas of shade in your pristine garden. Trees such as golden cane palms, and sturdy evergreen shrubs grow so rapidly, they can provide pools of shade more speedily than you ever believed possible. My garden, all of three years old, now has more shady than sunny spots.

No problem. The intensity of the Phuket sun is such that none of the tropical plants object to living in partial or filtered shade – what the Italians poetically call

chiaroscuro. So out and out sun-seekers including the popular *ixoras*, *cacti*, *euphorbias*, *durantas*, *acalyphas*, *adeniums*, and *allamandas* will do equally well in semi-shade, so long as their root systems are in well-drained soil.

On the other hand, all of those rainforest understory plants, such as *bromeliads*, *aglaonemas*, *dieffenbachias*, *philodendrons*, *anthuriums*, and indeed, most twining climbers, will appreciate the newly secluded parts of the garden.

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Property Classifieds

Properties For Sale

LAKEFRONT LUXURY ESTATE



New custom built 2 storey villa offers 88sqm pool, sundeck, jacuzzi, floating private dock, sala and guest house. Land of 2 rai & built area of 653sqm. Indoor boasts top notch kitchen, spacious dining and living areas, home theater, study and tailored bar with pool table. 3 bedrooms with en-suite, a walk-in wardrobe and heaps of built-in wooden furniture. With lake and lotus wetlands on 3 sides & views of green rolling hills it is totally serene, yet only 10 mins to Laguna and 15 mins to the airport. Tel: 089-892 4970 (English). Fax: 076-627 4101. Email: henrik.monefeldt@gmail.com www.phuketlakehouse.com

OFFICE FOR SALE

The office of your Dreams for sale in Rawai Area. Office space of 376sqm + outside area, conference room, customers' waiting area, accounting area, main office, office, secretary's office, manager's office, 2 stock rooms, kitchen and 3 toilets. Chanote paper. 10 million baht. Tel: 081-968 5963. Email: m@bayshoreprojects.com

POOL VILLAS RAWAI

2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, furnished, 60% finance, 0% interest, 40% deposit. Tel: 083-641 9327. Email: rawaipoolvillas@hotmail.com

3-BED POOL PENTHOUSE KATA

Sea-view, f/f, foreign freehold less than 5 minutes walk to 2 beaches. Great ROI. Email: resortgm@gmail.com

LAND AND HOUSE

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All 3 Western-style apartments in one brand-new, stand-alone building. Spacious garden with many mature trees in and around it, so nice, shady & cool garden, but plenty of sun on the terrace around its huge private pool. Green and quiet hillside area at the north end of Patong. Remote-controlled gate for the private garage for 3 cars, storage rooms & 30,000-liter watertank filled from own well. Garden level 2 separate 1-bedroom and 1-bathroom apartments of 85sqm. Top floor: "owners" apartment 170sqm with 2 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. Nor Sor 3 Gor land. Also ideal to be used as one large private villa. Interesting object for investment for rental market thanks to location and design. Electrical & water supplies functional. Tabien baan delivered. Will be completely finished October 2011. Due to health reasons from the owner priced for quick sale at 16.5 million baht for 469sqm, which makes 35,000 baht a sqm. Great value for money & R.O.I. Finance available. Tel: 086-7866350 (English), 084-447 1978 (English & Thai), 084-441 9786. Email: buurmanb@hotmail.com

NEW VILLA AT CHERNG TALAY



Near Laguna, fully furnished, 3 bedrooms, on 500sqm land. Chanote title, freehold or leasehold. Sale price: 12.9 million baht. Call owner. Tel: 080-698 3028. Email: sucha da_villas@hotmail.com

POOL VILLA FOR SALE



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

SUPERB NAI HARN VILLA



Best location in centre of Nai Ham. 220sqm. Minutes walk to everything. Cedar roof, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, laundry, pool, waterfall, garage. Many others major benefits: ADSL, WiFi, Cable TV, 5 aircons Private sale. Was 17.5 million baht, now for quick sales 14.9 million baht. Tel: 087-470 7570.

HOUSE IN KHAO LAK



Bang Lud, 2 beautiful 3-bedroom villas and 3-bay carport and storage. Set on 5 rai including 1 rai lagoon. Lovely view. Located in quiet Western-style 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

PATONG TOWER 1 BED, RENOVATED

All new renovated. 68sqm. Large balcony facing the mountains. 7th floor. 4.8 million baht. Tel: 052-393777 (English). Email: deherder@hotmail.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.

30 RAI IN TOWN

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

LAND SALE AT NAI YANG BEACH

3 plots: 400sqm each. 5 mins from the beach. Chanote title. 2.6 million baht per plot. Contact Khun Nan. Tel: 087-091 8331. Email: chiangmaibeltrade@hotmail.com

BEAUTIFUL LAND NEAR BEACH

3 rai 40sq wah in Nai Yang. 6 million baht per rai. Contact Khun Nan. Tel: 087-091 8331. Email: chiangmaibeltrade@hotmail.com

NICE GARDEN VILLA IN NAI HARN



for sale. From private. Must see. 1,600sqm land, 240sqm living area. Quiet area. Tel: 087-823 7371 (Deutsch and English). Check our webpage at www.villa-sophia-phuket.com

3-BEDROOM HOUSE

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

HOUSE FOR SALE IN BAAN PROMPHAN

2.5 floors, 5 mins to town, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, Good for stay! 2.85 million baht. Tel: 083-506 9155. Email: sumitra.saetan@gmail.com

LAND FOR SALE



Stunning sea view, land ready for building on Andaman Mountain, overlooking Patong Beach. Has a concrete road, power and water. Area 1,048sqm (¼ rai) 15mx70m. Price: 10.48 million baht. Tel: +44 7885488091. Email: crane prop@hotmail.co.uk Website: www.property-land-phuket-thailand.co.uk

STUNNING VIEW HILLSIDE LAND



6 plots at Nai Yang Beach, Chanote title. 350sqm each. 2.5 million baht per plot. 5 mins from the beach. Has inside road, water access, wall. Plot A1 is luxury villa for sale. 9.9 million baht. Contact Khun Nan. Tel: 087-091 8331. Email: chiangmaibeltrade@hotmail.com

BAAN SALIL



A private community at Bang Jo. Prices from 1.79 million baht. Tel: 081-536 9252. Email: sppcnx@gmail.com For further details, please see our website at www.baansalil.com

LAND NEAR LAGUNA

7 rai of prime building land in Pasak Soi 8. Priced well below market value at 4.2 million baht per rai. Tel: 087-893 5052. Email: barryking@gmail.com

LAND FOR SALE

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

PRIVATE SALE OF HALF A RAI

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

LAND AT 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.

NAI HARN LUXURY CONDO



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

SURIN BEACH

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

HOUSE & FURNITURE

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

KATHU LUXURY POOL VILLA

Near BIS and Patong Beach, 3-bedroom 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

BAAN SAIYUAN VILLA



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

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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

LAND NEAR LAGUNA

1 rai (1,756sqm) of easy build land in Manik. Would suit large house or small development. Construction plans available for 8 pool villas. Priced at 5.2 million baht for quick sale. Tel: 087-893 5052. Email: barryking@gmail.com

KHAO LAK SAUNA AND PRV HOME

Thai Herbal Sauna business and private home in Khao Lak, 1/2 rai Chanote. 5.5 million baht. Tel: 076-443149, 086-281 1945 (English & Thai). Contact for more information at email: thedivezone@hotmail.com

SEAVIEW LAND AT YAMU

1,472sqm with Chanote. Price: 26 million baht. Tel: 081-958 0373.

CONDO FOR SALE

Phuket Town, 178sqm, 5th floor, 2 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, big living room & kitchen, garden, swimming pool, fitness. Special price: 6 million baht. Tel: 084-843 7070. www.theheritage suites.com

OCEAN VIEW LAND BANG TAO

Luxury hillside project, over 1,000sqm. Price: 5.5 million baht. Next to river w/waterfall. Road, utilities. Tel: 084-445 8880 (English). Email: philipagordon@yahoo.com

JINDARIN BEACH CLUB

Eco Resort on Coconut Island has 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

ALLAMANDA DELUXE RESIDENCES

1 condo unit (deluxe house). Fully furnished, set within the unique Phuket Laguna complex with balcony right over the lagoon. 3 bedrooms, roof terrace with sala, etc. For sale or long-term lease. Tel: (66)81-737 0365 (English, Thai, German). Email: utaipan@yahoo.com

BANG TAO/SURIN SEAVIEW LAND

Amazing view. 600, 1,026 and 1,400sqm plots available for residential villas. All utilities. Road. Tel: 086-267 0157. Email: banuaton@yahoo.com

FREEHOLD IN PATONG, 1.3 MILLION

50sqm apartment in Patong, great location, sold freehold! Tel: 076-290235, 080-519 9777 (English), 081-084 6527 (English). Email: kenth@zarpazo realestate.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

PHUKET VILLA CONDO PATONG

New condo. 1km to beach, near Bangla Rd and Jungceylon, 1 bed, 1 bath, fully furnished. 3.9 million baht for 42sqm and 3.8 million baht for 44.5sqm Tel: 081-541 2025. Email: c.junlarat@gmail.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

HOUSE IN KHAO LAK

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

TOWNHOUSE IN PATONG

On Nanai Road. 2 stories, 112.5sqm, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, bathtub, built-in cabinets, kitchen, aircon and car park. 1km to Patong beach, near Bangla Road and Jungceylon. Price 5.5 million baht or nearest offer. No agents! Tel: 087-270 9093.

NEW APARTMENT FOR SALE

Patong condo 46sqm, furnished, pool, security 24/7. 2.9 million baht. Freehold. Tel: 089-728 4005. Email: thamad17@yahoo.com

LUXURY SEAVIEW VILLA

Luxury super seaview, 4 bedrooms, private pool. Asking for 22 million baht or 180,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-982 2888 (English & Thai). Email: prim_purdue@yahoo.com For further details, please see our website at www.awphuket.com

PENTHOUSE AT THE PALMS

Fully furnished penthouse apartment in top condition. 145 square meters of living space plus 145 square meter roof terrace. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Totally unobstructed views of the Andaman Sea! The penthouse has a secure quiet location in exclusive gated complex with a beautiful pool area and many facilities. Only about 30 meters from Kamala Beach! Price: 19 million baht. Tel: 082-807 2392. Email: info@hyrahushphuket.se For further details, please see our website at www.hyrahushphuket.se/Objektillsalu_30.html

PERMSUP VILLA (NEW) FOR SALE

Permsup Villa at Surin Beach for sale (new). 231sq wah, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 2 car parks and swimming pool. Price 9.8 million baht. Tel: 089-105 5086 (English & Thai). Email: roxern@yahoo.com

OWNER FINANCED HOME

Near Laguna, 5 min to Layan Beach, small pool, 2 aircon bedrooms, furnished, electric gate, 5.9 million baht. Tel: 086-267 0157. Email: bannuaton@yahoo.com

CHEAP LAND FOR SALE

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

OXYGEN CONDO BANG TAO

Fully furnished, 3 bedrooms, private pool, 340 sqm. Ready to move in. 14.9 million baht. Tel: 076-610232, 081-970 0743 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-610233. Email: ready@twovillas.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.kathu-property.com

KARON HEAVEN SEAVIEW

Two houses and apartment. Top seaview, pool, waterfall. Price: 27 million baht. Tel: 080-147 1400, 080-147 3025 (English & Thai), +46 70 6-884995 (English). Email: tomas@tmsengineering.se

BALI-STYLE POOL VILLA

L-shaped private villa, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 6.9 million baht, ready to move in. Tel: 089-719 4224 (English & Thai). Email: pui_mrs@hotmail.com

SEAVIEW LAND FOR SALE

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

LAND NEAR MISSION HILLS

Pa Khlok. 1 rai 13.6sq wah with Chanote. Located on Tha Ruea-Pa Khlok-Muang Mai Rd. 11 km from Heroines' Monument. Price: 3.8 million baht. Tel: 089-472 9118.

HOUSES IN THALANG

Total land size: 1704sqm (426sq wah) including a 1 bedroom home and 2 bedroom home = Selling price 7.5 million baht. If someone would like to have less land then we can reduce the land size to 1324sqm (33sq wah) still including the 1 bedroom home and 2 the bedroom home = Selling price: 6.8 million baht. 10 minutes from the airport, 20 minutes from Laguna and just 2.2km away from the Phuket International Academy and Thanyapura Sports & Leisure Club. Tel: 083-180 2143. Email: nana1225@gmail.com

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at Kalim Bay. Close to the beach. 1 bedroom, fully furnished, WiFi. Kitchen, dining room, LCD TV, stereo, seaview rooftop swimming pool. Fitness, sauna, 24hr security. Rent: 35,000 baht per month. Email: plpphuket@hotmail.com

3 BED POOL VILLA SEAVIEW KATA

Family villa, private pool, tennis, gym, exclusive estate available Christmas, New Year. Email: resortgm@gmail.com

5 MINUTES FROM LAGUNA

For rent: 4 bedroom family pool home, 1,000sqm land, 330sqm built-up area. From 55,000 baht per month. Contact for details. Agents welcome. Tel: 089-875 9609 (English), 087-418 5924 (Thai). Email: claudebaltes@gmail.com

SURIN APARTMENT

1 bedroom, pool entrance apt. 400m from Surin Beach. Fully furnished. Email: jgstryker@gmail.com

VILLA IN RAWAI

2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, furnished, internet, cable TV. Available November 22. Tel: 083-641 9327. Email: rawaipoolvillas@hotmail.com

PRIVATE VILLA/CHERNG TALAY

for short-term rent / long-term lease. 220sqm, 3 bed, 3 bath, kitchen/living/dining/laun/2 car parks, WiFi, aircon, sat TV, pool, tennis court. Fully furnished. Secure quiet location. 38,000 baht/month. Tel: 081-874 3040. Email: taibowman@hotmail.com

CHALONG BEACH DUPLEX

Furnished, 3 bedrooms, pool, internet, cable TV, garden. Rent: 11,500 baht per month. Tel: 089-470 6104.

PATONG POOLSIDE APARTMENTS

1 & 2 bedroom. Free cable TV, maid, WiFi, pool & gym. Close to town. Call for showing. Tel: 080-052 8082 (English & Thai). Email: phvcondo@aol.com

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1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, shared pool, fully furnished, WiFi, cable TV, fridge, kitchen. Cheap lease with private financing for foreigners (10-30 years). 100,000 baht yearly rent. 200 meters from Rawai Pier. Tel: 089-054 5271. Email: phuket7@yahoo.com Website: www.thaidreamvilla.com

PHUKET VILLA 5 FOR RENT



Detached house, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen and carpark. In the center of the village. 4 aircons, telephone line. Only 5 mins to Central Festival. For long-term rent: 16,000 baht per month. Call for visit. Tel: 087-270 9093.

PHUKET VILLA DOWROONG



House for rent, 55sq wah, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, no phone line, unfurnished. 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-270 9093.

B.L. APARTMENT

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

1,2,3-BED APARTMENTS KATA

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RENT NEW APARTMENT

Patong condo. Pool, security 24/7. 46sqm, fully furnished. Day/month. Tel: 089-728 4005. Email: thamad17@yahoo.com

KATA SEAFRONT LUXURY APT

1 bedroom, 5-star view, pools, spa, gym. Quiet area. Available monthly. Email: asiasail@yahoo.com For further details, please see our website at www.katasala.com/

NICE CONDO PATONG

One bedroom at 54sqm, pool and parking. Quiet location. Rent: 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-892 1621.

LARGE HOUSE NEAR BIS SCHOOL

4-5 bedrooms, parking. Tel: 076-239435. Email: 4132john@gmail.com

2-BEDROOM TWIN HOUSE



in Phuket Town. 20,000 baht/month.

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KATA SEAVIEW WESTERN APART



1 bedroom, great sea view, penthouse, 100sqm, with huge terrace, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, ground floor 115sqm with 60sqm covered terrace. Sat TV, Internet, fully furnished, fitted kitchen, parking. Tel: 084-840 1262. Email: north8east98@yahoo.com

NEW HOUSE IN PATONG

Modern furnished 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: 084-1858 536.

2 PATONG STUDIOS AVAILABLE

For long-term rental, 25,000 per month. Free WIFI, maid, pool, gym. Close to town. Tel: 080-052 8082. Email: phvcondo@aol.com

LUXURY SEAVIEW VILLA

Luxury super seaview, 4 bedrooms, private pool. Asking for 22 million baht or 180,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-982 2888 (English & Thai). Email: prim_purdue@yahoo.com www.awphuket.com

SURIN BEACH APARTMENT

1 bedroom, Surin gate, resort with pool and beach shuttle. 17,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-968 4230. Email: johan@phuket-properties.co.th

THAI VILLA AND POOL NAI HARN

Soi Naya, Nai Harn. Luxury rent: 40,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-270 5126. Email: mervyn.crocker@yahoo.com



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HOTEL FOR RENT KATA

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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.phuketqualityhouse.com

COZY HOUSE NEAR NAI HARN



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

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The company is one of the largest entertainment groups in Phuket with over 300 employees and operates large clubs such as Seduction Beach Club and Disco, The Factory and Phuket Beach Club. A rapid expansion is foreseen with different entertainment concepts in Thailand and overseas.



The Clubs are well known for their international club acts and active involvement and sponsoring of exciting major events including beach parties.

In order to manage and professionalize the daily operations and to support the expansion of the Company, we are looking for dynamic candidates to fill two key leadership positions:

Managing Director (Thai/foreign national)

Responsible for all management aspects with the purpose of promoting sales and revenue while keeping focus on positive margins and the development of the various brands. The position reports to the Board of Directors.

Job qualifications

- University graduate, preferably business degree holder.
- At least 5 years experience at senior management level, preferably in the hospitality business.
- Self-starter, able to implement initiatives quickly and effectively.
- Planning and execution skills.
- Strong organizational and leadership skills, written, verbal and interpersonal skills.
- Able to make sound business decisions, effective problem solver.
- Proven track record of business operations management, ability to develop financial plans.

Finance and Administration Director (Thai / foreign national)

Manages, evaluates and oversees the development and implementation of finance and accounting policies in order to maximize financial results through cash management, tax planning and financial controls. The position reports to the Managing Director.

Job qualifications

- University graduate in Finance and/or accounting, preferably holds a CPA.
- At least 5 years of experience in a senior finance position.
- Knowledge of QuickBooks is an advantage.
- Excellent planning skills and knowledge of all aspects of finance.
- Responsible and self-motivated. Can work under pressure, firm, attentive to details, has a positive hands-on work attitude.
- Fluent in spoken and written English.

The company is offering an excellent package for successful candidates for these challenging positions.



Suitable qualified applicants should email a cover letter (with expected salary), resumé and 3 contactable referees to vacancies.md.fa@gmail.com.

We regret that only short-listed candidates will be notified.

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.

MOUNTAIN BIKE TOUR LEADER

Amazing Bike Tours are seeking more guides to join our team. Must speak good English and be passionate about biking. Thai nationals only. Please contact for more additional details. Tel: 087-263 2031 (English). Email: info@amazingbiketours-thailand.asia

WORLDWIDE DIVE & SAIL

is one of the leading liveaboard dive operators in Southeast Asia operating vessels from the Maldives to Palau.

We are looking for dedicated long-term staff to join our dynamic Phuket-based team in the following positions:

- 1) Bookings & Reservation Agent.
- 2) English Language Teacher. English fluency and excellent communication skills are a must. Competitive salary and benefits. Send CV with photo and cover to employment@worldwidediveandsail.com For further details, please see our website at www.worldwidediveandsail.com

REAL ESTATE RENTAL & SALES

Required for real estate Co. Thai national, speaks English, own car & license. Tel: 088-414 4940 (English). Send email to: thailand.pro.perties@mail.com

STAFF WANTED

Lady for secretary job only, working in area of Phuket, English speaking. Good salary. Tel: 081-968 5963. Email: m@bayshoreprojects.com

WEB PROJECT MANAGER/FRENCH

Must have experience in programming, software development and project management. Tel: 086-478 0322. Email: kannika.liva@gmail.com

HOME TEACHER NEEDED

English-Maths-Science. For class 6 and 8. Patong area. Tel: 089-729 8852.

CREW POSITION ON LIVEABOARD

Thai male or female, age 20-35. Good organizer, neat, tidy and pleasant. English language skills essential. Work-and-learn attitude more important than previous experience. Salary: 15,000 to 20,000 baht, depending on capabilities and experience. Tel: 076-398370. Email: info@nautica-diving.com

SALES STAFF WANTED

for our properties. Basic salary minimum 20,000 baht plus 3 % commission on sales price. Tel: 081-968 5963. Email: m@bayshoreprojects.com

THAI MAID

14,000 baht per month. Thai lady, English speaking. Age 35 to 45 years old. Take care of house and give daily massage to farang. Email information about yourself to: ltmesneg@aol.com

TOUR STAFF WANTED

Male or female, no experience necessary. Able to drive a car or motorbike will be an asset. Tel: 081-537 5566 (English & Thai). Email: poomekitdi@gmail.com

RESTAURANT STAFF

Cashier, order, taker and helper, waiter. For more information. Tel: 089-729 8852.

HIRING ENGLISH TEACHER

Hiring native English teacher for group classes in Rawai. Tel: 086-283 8816. Email: stefanenkovn@gmail.com

FOREIGN LAWYER NEEDED

Well-established law firm seeks foreign lawyer for its Phuket branch with or without previous Thailand experience. Must have foreign attorney qualification. Send CV and photo to phuketlawyer@gmail.com for immediate consideration.

SALA RESORTS AND SPAS



SALA Resorts and Spas, an exciting 5 star hotel development and management company is seeking qualified and motivated candidates to join our rapidly expanding team.

SALA SAMUI RESORT AND SPA

Sales and Marketing

- Sales Executive

Food and Beverage

- Food and Beverage Manager
 - Expatriate, with 3-5 years Food and Beverage managerial experience in 4 - 5 star properties. Only candidates that have previously worked in Thailand will be considered for this position.
- Food and Beverage Supervisor
- Bartendy

Front Office

- Bell / Driver

Housekeeping

- Housekeeping Attendant

Interested applicants, please contact **Human Resources Department**
10/9 Moo 5, Baan Plai Laem, Bophut, Koh Samui Suratthani 84320 THAILAND
Tel: 077-245888 # 2021-2022 Fax: 077-245889
E-mail: hrrsamui@salasamui.com

SALA PHUKET RESORT AND SPA

Front Office

- Guest Relations Officer

Food and Beverage

- Restaurant Manager
 - We require an enthusiastic and experienced restaurant professional.
 - Excellent leadership and communication skills, understandings how to manage people with an emphasis on training & development.
 - Candidates with restaurant bar and room service experience is preferred in return for the right candidate an excellent package is on offer.
- Food and Beverage Supervisor
- Senior Waiter / Waitress
- Waiter / Waitress
- Pool / Beach Attendant
- Bartendy

Housekeeping

- Housekeeping Supervisor
- Room Attendant

Engineer

- Senior Carpenter (ช่างไม้ระดับอาวุโส)
- Pool & Pond Cleaner (ช่างทำความสะอาดสระน้ำ)
- Carpenter (ช่างไม้)

Spa

- Spa Therapist (พนักงานนวดสปา)

Interested applicants, please contact **Human Resources Department**
333 Moo 3, T. Maikhao, A. Talang Phuket 83110 THAILAND
Tel: 076-338888 # 2011-2013 Fax: 076-338810
E-mail: hrphuket@salaphuket.com



For more information about SALA Resorts & Spas
Please visit our website at www.salaresorts.com

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VILLA MANAGER

Experienced villa manager required. Must speak excellent English with good computer skills. Live-in / live-out position available. Please send CV to: admin@esxoasia.com

PERSONAL ASSISTANT

Full time, Western male, Must have excellent organizational/negotiation/computer skills, self motivated/good communicator. Speak and write excellent English. Home based. Send CV/salary to admin@esxoasia.com

MAID IN KAMALA

2 maids needed in Kamala to clean different houses. Tel: 083-634 5772. Email: info@husiphuket.se

LICENSED TOUR GUIDE

Licensed Thai tour guide. Fluent English. Positions available for both land and boat tours. Tel: 089-966 1982. Email: jobs@worldwidealoha.com

DIVE INSTRUCTORS

Native English speakers. Own work permit (can be provided for right candidate). Introducing new divers to the underwater world. Must be friendly and love talking with people. Tel: 089-044 0623. Email: jobs@worldwidealoha.com

LINCENSED TOUR GUIDE

Full time. Good English. Phuket and Krabi license. Thai nationals only. Tel: 088-080 3820, 087-980 7570 (English). Email: peter@orientalphuket.com

1 ADMIN STAFF, 1 WRITER

1 English and Thai speaking admin staff and 1 freelance writer. Tel: 087-882 2209. Email: hr@phuketeventcompany.com

RECEPTION STAFF

Start 15,000 baht. Need 3 positions, kitchen staff. Tel: 087-265 6089. For further details, please see our website at www.karoncliff.com

PRIMARY TEACHER NEEDED

In international school to teach grade 1. Good salary, small class size. Please send your resume by email to: phuketprimary@mail.com

PERSONAL ASSISTANT NEEDED

Attractive lady 25 to 30 years old required by international businessman for interpretation and traveling assistant. Must be fluent in English and Thai and be willing to travel locally and abroad, send short CV before the 25th of October. Salary negotiable. Tel: 081-271 5811 (English & Thai). Email: aslaferme@hotmail.com

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 news story
- ▶ 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, Thepkasattri Rd, Koh Kaew
A. Muang, Phuket 83000
Tel: 076-273555 Fax: 076-615240



Phuket's leading beach resort, the Village @ Coconut Island (Koh Maphrao), Phuket

Resort Sales Director

As the resort sales director, you will be responsible for creating and delivering a sales strategy for The Village.

You'll play a fundamental role in developing future growth, and provide vision, direction and leadership. Your specific duties will include:

- Developing strategies, tactics, sales plans and profit targets.
- Delivering sales by developing relationships with travel partners.
- Identifying and reporting on business opportunities in target markets.
- Increasing market share in existing markets and maximizing new business development opportunities.
- Achieving targets for revenue, profitability and sales growth.
- Provide direction to your department.

Hours and Environment

Nominally, you'll work 8am to 5pm, Monday to Saturday. However, your duties are likely to involve a lot of out of extra outside of work hours.

You'll be office-based, but also spend much of your time visiting clients and partners in the field. You may also need to attend trade fairs and exhibitions. Your job will involve travel.

Skills and Interests

To be a sales director you'll need to have:

- Excellent sales and negotiation skills
- Good business sense
- The ability to inspire, motivate and lead a team
- Initiative, drive and enthusiasm
- Excellent communication and 'people skills'
- Good planning and organisational skills
- The ability to work calmly under pressure
- Good IT, budget and report writing skills

Entry

You'll need proven sales management experience, together with a proven record of achieving challenging targets.

Package

A substantial package including salary and commissions will be available to the successful candidate.

Interested candidates should apply in writing with full resumé, stating present and expected salary, and attaching a recent photograph, to:

Email: hr@thevillage-coconutisland.com or
dao@thevillage-coconutisland.com
Tel: 076-352153 Mobile: 081-968 6912 Fax: 076-352154
www.thevillage-coconutisland.com

**VACANT POSITIONS****Zeavola Resort Phi Phi Island SLH Member**

The Zeavola is the only 5-star resort on Phi Phi Island and is currently highly successful. In order to improve our performance further, the Zeavola family is seeking applications from dynamic and talented individuals, who share our passion for providing excellent customer service. You should be highly motivated, confident and enthusiastic about assisting the team to reach new levels of service quality and financial success.

Island-Based Positions Vacant

- PA to the General Manager
- Dive Instructor/Activity Manager
- Human Resources Manager
- Assistant F&B Manager

Profile:

- ▶ Bachelor's Degree, or at least Vocational Certificate
- ▶ At least 3-5 years experience in the field
- ▶ Strong result-oriented, people management and leadership skills
- ▶ Strong in English communication skills, and computer literate
- ▶ Strong in analytical, problem-solving skills, and execution of work

Fringe Benefits:

- ▶ Good Salary + Share of Service Charge
- ▶ Group Insurance, Social Security, Workmen Compensation
- ▶ Duty meals the staff canteen / Officer Check at hotel restaurant as per position category
- ▶ Free laundry services
- ▶ Transportation from/to Phuket / Krabi - Resort round trip by ferry
- ▶ Accommodation as per your position category at resort

Only Thai citizens will be considered. Please send your CV to hr@zeavola.com or call Khun Preecha Onkong at 075-627-000 for an appointment.

Human Resources Department

Resort: 11 Moo 8 Laem Tong, Koh Phi Phi, Ao Nang, Muang, Krabi 81000 Thailand
Tel. 075-627000 ext. 1400 or 1401 Fax. 075-627025

British International School, Phuket

British International School, Phuket is looking for candidates to fill positions in the following areas:

- **System Maintenance** (ช่างระบบ)
- **Housekeeping** (แม่บ้าน)
- **Steward** (พนักงานล้างจาน)
- **Building Maintenance** (ช่างอาคาร)
- **Security** (รปภ.)
- **Accounting Officer** (เจ้าหน้าที่บัญชี ทรัพย์สิน)

Teacher's Assistant**Qualifications**

- Thai National
- Bachelor's Degree in related field
- Teaching qualifications and experience with child care, teaching preferable
- Good command of spoken and written English
- Strong interpersonal and organizational skills
- Love to take care of children

Business Development Coordinator**Qualifications**

- Male/Female, 20-35 yrs old, Bachelor's degree in any field
- Good command of spoken and written English
- Computer literate
- Details-oriented and good administration skills
- Customer relations skills and service-minded
- Able to work as a team or independently
- Able to work overtime (for some special events)
- Have valid driver's licence
- New graduates welcome

Library Officer**Qualifications**

- Bachelor's degree in Library Science, Education or related field
- Experience in Automated Library System or Library System Database
- New graduates welcome
- Good communication and interpersonal skills
- Good command of spoken and written English
- Proficiency with Microsoft Office (computer knowledge)
- Team player and service-minded

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

**British International School, Phuket (BIS)**

59 Moo 2, Thepkasattri Road, Koh Kaew, Muang, Phuket 83200
Tel: 076-335555 # 2113, 2110 Fax: 076-335573

E-mail: patcharakornt@bisphuket.ac.th or sirirats@bisphuket.ac.th

Articles
For Sale**HONDA GENERATOR EU10I**

Honda generator Eu10i. As new: 28,500 baht. Tel: 084-443 5050.

MOVING SALE

Potted red palms, plants and flowers, earthenware, craftsmanship fountains, new TV decoder and black dish antenna. Tel: 087-282 2699 (English & Thai).

TWO SANYO DRINKS FRIDGES

Single door. One for 9,500 baht (14,800 when new). One old and needs paint, but works great: 1,500 baht. Tel: 088-440 9324 (English). Email: night relaxbar@hotmail.com

IPAD 1 64GB WI FI 3G

Ipad one in super case with bluetooth keyboard BLACK 64GB 3G card WI FI mint condition (from USA) also selling my Iphone 4G 16 black in box like new 0832142270. Email: edward.climson@gmail.com

ALPINESTARS BOOTS

Alpinestars No Stop Trials boots, brand-new, never worn, size 11 (US). Price: 10,000 baht. Tel: 081-367 2916.

PIONEER DJ EQUIPMENT

2 x Pioneer CDJ 800 Mk 2s, Pioneer DJM 600 4 channel mixer housed in a brand-new flight case, 1 x Crown amp in cabinet, 2 x XXL Speakers. 80,000 baht ono. Tel: 087-086 9821. Email: jpoole-robb@knightsbridges.com

PIZZA WAGON 260

For sale. Please contact for more info. Tel: 081-370 9661 (English).

ARAI HELMET

RX7 Corsair Kenny Roberts replica, brand-new, never worn. Size XL. 15,000 baht. Tel: 081-367 2916.

TCL TV, OLD BOX STYLE

800 baht, with remote. Only 2 years old. Call for details. Tel: 085-069 0938. Email: nnorthwo@hotmail.com

Bulletins

SPONSOR A CHILD

The Phuket International Women's Club is a volunteer organization raising funds for educational scholarships. We rely on the goodwill of donors and sponsors – small and large. If you would like to put something back into the community in which you live, contact us to find out more about giving a prize or being a sponsor. Please contact to K. Carol (Tel: 087-417 8860) or K. Sue (Tel: 087-277 6948). Email: info@phuketiwcc.com

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
www.aathailand.org

For Phuket info (English) call 081-7372246, 081-8954763 or email: phuketaa@yahoo.com

Thai Speaking Meeting
Mission Hospital – Phuket Town
Tues 7 PM

English Speaking Meetings
Mission Hospital – Phuket Town
Wed and Sun 7 PM

Bangkok Hospital – Phuket Town
Fri 7 PM

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

Green Man Pub – Chalong
Tue, Thu, Sat 1 PM

Stereo Lab Restaurant – Surin Beachfront
Mon and Thur 9:30 AM

Bhavana Treatment – Cape Panwa
Sun 9:30 AM

Scandinavian Meeting – Karon
Tue and Sat 7 PM (Nov-April)
Tel: 088-9440460 SWE, 085-4647450 SWE

Business
Opportunities**SMALL BAR FOR SALE**

On Nanai Road. Easy to run and very low overhead. Tel: 085-478 6313. Email: bobedward1@hotmail.com

MASSAGE SHOP

In Phuket Town for sale. Only 60,000 baht, 2 aircons, 6 tables, 3 chairs, scrub room. Tel: 080-691 2428.

11-ROOM GUESTHOUSE

in Patong for sale. Chanote title. 5 mins walk to the beach and Big C. Finance possible. Tel: 081-271 4645 (Thai), 087-891 7453 (English). Email: kalayatongdee@yahoo.com

SALES STAFF WANTED

Sales Staff needed for our properties. Basic salary minimum 20,000 baht plus 3 % commission on sales price. Tel: 081-968 5963. Email: m@bayshoreprojects.com

GUESTHOUSE/ RESTAURANT

in Patong. Good location on Nanai Road. Complete business with:

- 11 rooms, fully furnished.
- very nice and fully equipped restaurant.
- Bar with pool table, TV, etc.
- Everything is running in full now.

5.5 million baht for the business, equipment and 3 years left on lease. Rent: 40,000 baht per month. Everything included in the price, motorbike, furnishings, pool table, computer, equipment, etc.

For more info contact Bjorn. Tel: 089-592 4423 (English) after 1 pm. Email: info@green mangophuket.com

MASSAGE SHOP FOR SALE

Saiyuan Road, Rawai, good income shop, take over lease. Tel: 083-641 9327. Email: rawaipoolvillas@hotmail.com

GUESTHOUSE FOR SALE, KARON

17 a/c rooms, restaurant, backpackers' dorm. Very profitable business. 4.9 million baht. Tel: 086-551 1227 (English), 087-008 8396 (Thai). Email: steve@pineapplephuket.com

SHOP IN PATONG

Only 10,000 baht. Massage shop for sale: 500,000 baht. Business ready to run. Tel: 081-028 3979.

REST/2-BED APART IN KAMALA

On going, 50 seats, equip, stock, 2 pizza ovens. Soi FantaSea. Sale 550,000 baht. Rent 13,000 baht per month. Tel: 084-850 0568.

OFFICE FOR SALE

The office of your dreams for sale in Rawai Area. Office space of 376sqm + outside area, conference room, customers' waiting area, accounting area, main office, office, secretary's office, manager's office, 2 stock rooms, kitchen and 3 toilets. Chanote paper. 10 million baht. Tel: 081-968 5963. Email: m@bayshoreprojects.com

BEAUTY & MASSAGE

Salon at Kathu. Lots of customers, fully furnished. 150,000 baht. Tel: 082-411 6299.

CAR WASH FOR RENT

In Nai Ham. No key money. On 2 years: 25,000 baht per month. Pay every 6 months. Tel: 086-478 0201. Email: laongfa@hotmail.com

ACTIVE PARTNER

Small investment with management for unique restaurant entertainment venue, Laguna. Ready to go. Chef training 1 year trial contract. Tel: 087-884 0644.

PATONG OFFICE

No parking problems! Office space available at the Holiday Inn Resort Phuket. We are renting a 40sqm office space, telephone and internet lines available. Interested? Contact us at wm_hirp@phuket.ksc.co.th or call the Holiday Inn Resort Phuket and ask for Khun Rapeporn.

PHUKET GUESTHOUSE FOR SALE

22-seat restaurant, bar, 5 rooms. Lease 2+3 years. Rent 37,000 baht per month. No key money, well maintained. Price: 900,000 baht. Tel: 080-361 5356. Email: pelleviktorsson@hotmail.com

LAUNDRY SHOP FOR SALE

Laundry with 2-bedroom apartment. Asking price: 280,000 baht. Tel: 086-115 2184.

PROFITABLE LAUNDRY BUSINESS

Profitable laundry business in 2 storey, 2 bedroom house. Great accommodation and can be used or rented out. Good established client base of hotels/guest houses. Has 2 employees and 9 machines in total. Manage it and get the money back in a year. Asking price: 590,000 baht. Tel: 087-267 9280 (English). Email: philsk@ihug.co.nz

PATONG GUESTHOUSE

8 rooms, 1 apartment, internet café. Price: 1.4 million baht. Tel: 085-794 6530.

KATA RESTAURANT

Long lease. Rent only 5,000 baht per month. Includes 2 bedrooms, large kitchen area. Good location on main road. Sale: 450,000 baht ono. Tel: 081-891 9461.

17-ROOM HOTEL AND BAR

Lease this, 2 year: new boutique style hotel in Patong. Rent is only 100,000 baht per month and low key money. Call Real Pro. Tel: 076-345238, 084-078 2753 (English). Email: info.realpro@gmail.com For further details, please see our website at: www.realprorealestatephuket.com

RESTAURANT FOR SALE IN KARON

Or rent, very new, 120sqm, aircon, TV, bathroom, terrace includes all dining and cooking equipment. Sale: 590,000 baht, or rent 25,000 per month. Contact Andrew. Tel: 083-280 0087.

STAFF WANTED

Lady for secretary job only, working in area of Phuket, English speaking. Good salary. Tel: 081-968 5963. Email: m@bayshoreprojects.com

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Authorized Agents for Classified Advertising:

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- Julapan Stationery (Chao Fa East Rd)
- KL Mart (Patak Rd, Chalong Circle)
- Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppe (Fisherman's Way Business Center, Chaofa East Rd)

Tel: 076-282254
Tel: 076-280400
Tel: 076-282403

PATONG

- Taurus Travel (Aroonsom Plaza)
- Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppe (Aroonsom Plaza)
- Deli Supermarket (Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd)

Tel: 076-344521-2
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Tel: 076-342275

PHUKET CITY

- Earth Language Training Centre School (Phang Nga Rd)
- Sin & Lee (Thalang Rd)
- iTree complete printing service (Tesco Lotus Phuket Town) bank zone

Tel: 076-232398
Tel: 076-258369
Tel: 076-255425

CHERNG TALAY

- Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppe (main entrance road to Laguna Phuket)
- Chaba Supermarket (at the Laguna gateway)

Tel: 076-324313
Tel: 076-325586

RAWAI

- The Network property office (Saiyuan Rd)

Tel: 076-613173

KARON

- EuroStyle Tailors (Luang Por Chuan Rd)

Tel: 076-396911

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Thalang, Phuket

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www.phuketvisa.com

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Tel: 076-263475, 076-264476. Fax: 076-374563 Mobile: 081-8929960

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SOLUTIONS TO THIS WEEK'S PUZZLES

Crossword puzzle:



1	E	R	I	C	5	D	E	N	S	E	10	S	P	A	T
14	S	O	C	A	15	U	N	I	T	S	16	O	U	Z	O
17	T	H	E	R	M	O	S	T	A	T	19	U	L	A	N
20	D	E	T	E	R	21	T	E	L	L	I	N	G		
23	E	T	D	25	F	E	R	A	L						
26	T	M	E	N	29	W	E	E	D	31	R	E	U	S	E
35	R	O	N	36	S	E	V	E	37	O	Y	S	T	E	R
38	A	R	T	I	C	L	E	40	M	I	N	S	T	E	R
41	D	A	E	D	A	L	42	C	A	L	X	43	E	T	E
44	E	Y	R	I	R	45	W	I	S	E	46	P	R	O	D
47	O	C	T	A	D	48	R	T	E						
51	C	O	L	L	E	E	N	54	A	B	B	O	T		
58	A	B	E	E	59	L	I	T	T	L	E	B	E	A	R
63	R	O	T	C	64	L	O	I	R	E	65	L	E	S	E
66	P	E	S	T	67	S	N	E	A	K	68	E	T	T	E

Impossibly Possible Quiz answers:

1. Faster, Higher, Stronger/Citius, Altius, Fortius
2. Baccus
3. Help
4. George H.W. Bush
5. Jai alai
6. 1970s
7. Dingo
8. Martin Luther King Jr.
9. India
10. Aphrodite
11. Rio de Janeiro

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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 (near Bangkok). Email: sonny@salientgroup.net.

TECNAM P-92

-Price: 1.5 million baht
-Registration: U-B08
-Year of Manufacture: 2002
-Equipment: Full standard equipment
-Engine: Rotax 912-80HP 350hrs.
Aircraft is based at Klong 15
Contacts: Tharee. Tel: 081-840 8418

Aircraft Service

GENERAL AVIATION IS ALIVE

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. For more info and pics Contact Jon Malnick. Tel: 084-222 3945. Email: jonm66@me.com



Notice from Thai Flying Club: There is a very nice Piper Cherokee airplane at the Thai Flying Club (TFC) in Bang Phra. It has fallen into disrepair. Someone took out the seats and some other parts... and then went away.

Owner Wichai Pettongkam loves this airplane and wants to get it back in the air. If you like flying and might want to be a partner in the plane, please come to the TFC to have a look, or contact **Khun Tom** (email tom@thaiflyingclub, Tel: 089-092 2711). Or talk to **Khun Wichai** directly on 081-633 7082.

Khun Wichai does not want to sell the plane, but would welcome a partner who can help to get it flying again. This could be a very good opportunity for someone to get a share in a nice airplane for a very good price. All negotiable.

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Sport

Phuket Dinghy Series event two at Nai Yang

THE second edition of the Phuket Dinghy Series took place off Nai Yang Beach on October 15 and 16 with 33 sailors in contention for honors.

Organizers selected Nai Yang for this edition as part of three different racing areas, with the intention of allowing sailors to experience a range of conditions and test their seamanship throughout the three event series.

Light winds graced the first race, which is unusual for Nai Yang, a popular venue for kiteboarding activities during Phuket's low season.

Fortunately, the conditions

developed and even proved challenging to participants from Phuket, Sattahip and other parts of Southern Thailand.

Sattahip-native, Anapat Ngarmdee, continued his winning ways from the first series in Optimist Class, with five wins from six races. Despite a third place in race three, Anapat secured class winner for the second series event. The battle for second place came down to consistency with Sukanya Saimarn eventually beating Akapoj Kankeaw into third.

In Laser Class, Trirat Manthong scored three wins

from six to take first overall from Chut Dawruang and Jittawat Boonrat in second and third respectively.

The Phuket Dinghy Series was established by the Phuket King's Cup Regatta in 2010 to promote and encourage sailing in Thailand by involving young people in the sport. The 2011 series will conclude on November 19-20 and is supported by the Yacht Racing Association of Thailand, the Royal Thai Navy and the Province of Phuket.

The Phuket Gazette and PGTV are sponsors of the King's Cup Regatta



TICK-TACK-TOE: Phuket Dinghy Series competitors reach for the turn during event two off Nai Yang Beach last weekend.

PYSC sailors selected for 2012 Youth Games



SIX OF THE BEST: PYSC sailors have been chosen to prepare for the National Youth Games and will use the 16CX (above) for training.

SIX Phuket Youth Sailing Club (PYSC) members have been selected to represent Phuket at the National Sports Festival in Khon Kaen during November 2011 and the National Youth Games to be held in Phuket during March 2012.

The six sailors are, Mak Sarawat (Laser Standard Class), Akapoj Kankaew and Sukanya Saimarn (Super Mod Class), Teerapong Tohkratoak, Tanaporn Budgrim and Nattapong Yuang-ngam (Optimist Class).

In preparation for these events, PYSC based at Ao Yon, will be running an intensive 10-day advanced sailing training course which will be led by a top Thai national coach from the Royal Thai Navy.

Alongside the advanced course the club will also be running a beginners course from October 21 to 30 (10am to 4pm) during the Thai school holidays.

Mr Thammasak, from the Royal Thai Navy in Sattahip will be leading the beginners course while PYSC will provide all the logistics, including safety boats and volunteers to administrate and assist with the program.

However, the club urgently needs

to raise a budget of 65,000 baht, approximately the amount needed to hold the event and are requesting financial support.

PYSC has come a long way in one year and is now a member of the Yacht Racing Association of Thailand (YRAT) and is officially recognized by the Sports Authority of Thailand (SAT) and the Phuket Sports Association.

Individuals are also invited to join the club's Group of Friends for 500 baht per year which helps the club provide essential team equipment and supplies.

With enough support, the course will be able to go ahead and provide a valuable experience and qualification for these young sailors.

The beginners course is free of charge and is open to Thai children aged from 8-12 years living in the locality, but places are limited. Parents are asked to enrol children now.

For more information contact Aey T: 081 373 5447 (Thai) or Katy T: 085 215 9185 (English) or E: phuketeyouthsailing@gmail.com

– Neil Quail

Schools ready for PTT Cup



HEADS UP: Players from SOS Children's Village (left) and HeadStart International (right) training at TSLC.

THE PTT sponsored Schools Volleyball Cup will again take place on Karon Beach as a fore-runner to the main PTT Swatch FIVB Phuket competition.

Four schools will participate including, Rachaprachanukroh School, British International School, Headstart and SOS Children's Village.

The event will be run over two days, starting on November 5, after the FIVB semi finals and will finish on Sunday, November 6. The schools final will be held before the final of the FIVB tournament.

Organizer, Bob Selznick, is helping the students involved

with their preparation, and will be holding tournaments throughout the year at Thanyapura Sports and Leisure Club (TSLC).

"The girls are really excited about playing in the PTT Schools Cup. We've been fortunate that TSLC finished these courts in time for us to train. The teams all have about 14 girls, but with two world class beach courts available, it's possible for half the team to practice serving, while the other half can work on their spiking," Bob said.

Director of Operations for TSLC, Giles Leonard, spoke of his enthusiasm for schools usage of the facility.

"TSLC is delighted to offer SOS Children's Village the opportunity to train on our FIVB standard beach volleyball courts. We have several future bookings from professional teams and it's great to see the children try out and enjoy the facilities in advance of the pro teams," he told the Gazette.

For more information on the PTT Cup: E: bbselz@gmail.com

– Neil Quail

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Sport

Phuket smuggle win



PHOTO 1: Alexsandra Wozniak measures with her left hand.



PHOTO 2: 'Showing the strings'. Wozniak neutralizes the serve.

Return and negate the service game

Part two of the most important shots in tennis.

THE second most important shot in tennis is the return of serve. The goal for the return of serve is to neutralize the serve.

Returning the ball deep into the court for singles, or at the side "T" for doubles, is where players should aim. The technique is to minimize backswing and forward swing.

Measure the racket to the ball with your opposite hand and squeeze your bottom three fingers at contact with the ball.

In Photo 1 of Alexsandra Wozniak, you can see that her forehand preparation starts in the left hand as she's measuring the racket to the oncoming ball.

In the second photo, you can



Tennis Tips

By Travis Bertram

see that her racket strings are facing the net or otherwise described as "showing the strings" to the opponent by squeezing the bottom fingers.

These techniques can turn what is supposed to be a defensive position into a neutral position just by getting the serve back over the net. The key is to not over swing since the serve is usually coming fast.

Travis Bertram is the Tennis Director at Thanyapura Sports and Leisure Club.

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DRIVING AHEAD: Phuket's Tameezee 'Z' Hayeyusoh drives past Customs United defenders. Photo: Apinun Saithong

By Steven Layne

A GOAL in the 12th minute by Sarach Yooyen was all FC Phuket needed to secure a 1-0 home win last Sunday at Surakul Stadium against 13th place Samutprakan Customs United (SCU).

The last time the two sides met was back in May at the Lad Krabang 54 Stadium in Bangkok, a match that ended in a 2-2 draw.

Having lost 1-2 in a friendly match last week against the AIS Division Two league southern region champions, Krabi FC, adding salt to the wound from their 1-1 draw in Chiang Mai a week prior, Phuket went into this match prepared and hungry for victory.

Likewise, SCU, facing the threat of relegation, were looking to redeem their last two losses against Air Force United and Buriram FC, respectively.

The first real opportunity came for the home team after a free kick to the far post by Niran Panthong from 40 yards out found the head of Nenebi. However, the attempt flew wide of its mark.

Minutes later, Poramut Krongborisut was fouled on a drive towards the penalty box giving Phuket a close range free kick from the left side of the penalty area.

SEA Games national squad hero, Sarach Yooyen, who was resuming play after having missed the last few matches, stepped up to deliver the ball into the danger area.

Sarach's beautifully executed strike swung over the SCU wall-of-four. The ensuing bounce was assisted into the back of the net by the goalkeeper's attempt to save, a score that brought the stadium to life.

From then on, an ever-confident Phuket controlled the match, almost doubling the lead on sev-

eral commendable attempts. However, the score remained 1-0 through to the final whistle.

Phuket Coach Somphong Wattana expressed satisfaction with the win. "If the opportunity of promotion comes our way, we'll definitely not let it pass us by and are prepared to give it our all," he said.

The narrow yet convincing win was enough to move Phuket up two places in the Thai Premier League Division One standings from seventh to fifth place.

Customs United "Forza" dropped into 14th place, one spot away from the relegation zone.

Phuket's victory was their 11th this season, adding to nine draws and six losses. With a total of 42 points, they are tied with Songkhla (4th) and Rajpracha FC (6th), separated only by goal differences.

Phuket are now 11 points behind Big Bang Chula United who hold the 3rd and final promotion spot after Chainat's 5-0 demolition of Chanthaburi moved them into 2nd.

Phuket have eight matches remaining this season – a possible 24 points; still the possibility of promotion endures.

The Southern Sea Kirin will now have a month-long break from league play, giving them an ample opportunity to look at strategies for tough matches scheduled at the end of the year.

They are next set to play an away-match against 9th place Saraburi FC on November 26, followed by at home match on December 4 against Cash Today Chanthaburi FC.

Phuket lost their home leg against the Warlords 0-2 back in May and can ill-afford any more losses if they hope to get promoted up to the Thai Premier League.

THAI DIVISION ONE LEAGUE			
Team	P	Pts	
Buriram FC	26	61	
Chainat FC	27	54	
Chula Utd	27	53	
Songkhla FC	24	42	
FC Phuket	26	42	
Rajpracha	25	42	
PTT Rayong	26	41	
Bangkok Utd	27	41	
Saraburi FC	24	33	
Airforce Utd	25	31	
Suphanburi FC	25	30	
JW Rangsit FC	26	27	
CT Chanthaburi	25	25	
Customs Utd	26	25	
Bangkok FC	26	25	
Chiangmai FC	27	22	
RBAC FC	26	20	
Thai Honda	26	19	
MATCH RESULTS			
Bangkok Utd	3 - 2	PTT Rayong	
RBAC FC	1 - 2	Chiangmai FC	
JW Rangsit	3 - 2	Bangkok FC	
Air Force Utd	0 - 1	Buriram FC	
BB Chula Utd	0 - 0	Thai Honda	
FC Phuket	1 - 0	Customs Utd	
Chainat FC	5 - 0	CT Chanthaburi	
FC PHUKET REMAINING MATCHES			
Nov 26	VS	Saraburi FC, away	
Dec 04	VS	CT Chanthaburi, home	
Dec 11	VS	Buriram FC, away	
Dec 17	VS	Thai Honda, away	
Dec 21	VS	Suphanburi, home	
Dec 25	VS	Air Force Utd, home	
Dec 30	VS	Bangkok FC, home	
Jan 07	VS	Chainat FC, away	
* dates are subject to change			



Triathlon Tips

By Jürgen Zack

I started as a distance runner at the age of 14. I always had the desire to be independent. Running meant freedom for me and I could choose to run on my own any-time and anywhere in the world.

Running is a sight seeing tour for me and I enjoyed the stress relieving effect it had on my body. Running, for many, is the easiest discipline in Triathlon.

Here is some advice to keep it effective and fun:

Make sure you are healthy.

Do not run without consulting a physician in case you have severe orthopedic or cardiological problems. **Choose the right shoes.**

First of all you need to feel comfortable in your shoes. Running a few steps in the store helps to make the right decision.

If you are a "heavyweight" you should go for a well cushioned and stable shoe. The "lightweights" can handle a shoe with less weight and little support.

Train smart

Running more frequently is better than running only once a week.

Keep it shorter in the beginning and extend your mileage slowly over the next few weeks

Do your normal run at a pace where you are still able to talk. If you are not able to get a word out while running, you certainly are running too fast.

**TWO'S COMPANY:** Running can be independence or enjoyed as a group.**Learn how to pace yourself.**

Do not start your run too fast. It is always better to ease into it and finish strong.

Alternate between a shorter tempo run and a longer jog. Running the same distance at the same speed is not very effective.

Advanced runners should add interval speed training, e.g. 10 x 400mtr or 5 x 1000mtr, with a recovery jog/walk in between.

TSLC offers Track-Speed Sessions every Wednesday at 5:15pm.

Use the first minutes as a warm up. Your body will be grateful. An easy cool down jog helps to speed up recovery.

If you intend to race LPT or the 70.3 Triathlon, make sure you can go the distance. Do the 12km or 21km run at least once every 2 weeks.

Avoid mistakes

Do not get overheated or allow

yourself to become dehydrated.

That's why you should either run early in the morning or just before sunset.

Make sure to get enough fluids. Carry a water bottle or make sure you carry a 20 baht note to buy water.

Protect against the sun.

Sunscreen on you face might not be very pleasant while sweating. Choose your run loop in an area with lots of shade and wear a visor.

Run off the bike

If you are getting ready for a triathlon it is very important to run after a bike ride once in a while. This is a different running experience. Your legs need to learn how to handle the fatigue being created by pedaling hard over a distance. This is what separates the men from the boys.

Jürgen Zück is Director of the Triathlon Academy at Thanyapura Sports and Leisure Club.

Irish Times race 5

**UNDER ORDERS:** Three of the fleet of seven waiting for the start on Sunday.

WHAT initially looked like a small crowd turned into a fleet of seven for the Irish Times Series race five off Ao Chalong Yacht Club.

Participating in Racing Class were *Linda*, *Dreamtime* and *Remington* while in Multihull Class were *Nina*, *Moto Inzi*, *Miss Saigon* and *Sidewinder*.

A sunny day greeted the crews with a good breeze beginning to develop.

It was an uneventful start considering the mix of multihulls and monohulls with varying characteristics.

Sidewinder won the start and led the fleet to the Banit Safe Water Mark and onwards to the yellow buoy off the Rawai Mosque.

Wind shifts and easing conditions made course quite a struggle with no exceptions. Confusion reigned in the middle of the race with *Moto Inzi* and *Sidewinder* not

following the buoy rounding instructions.

With the need for both Cats to re-round the mark correctly and re-pass the gate, *Miss Saigon* gained ground and beat them both through the gate. *Nina* struggled at the back of the fleet in winds that didn't favor her weight and sail area. *Nina* is the only multihull to have competed in every race of this series so far and all of the previous series.

Moto Inzi overtook *Sidewinder* and *Miss Saigon* and raced ahead to take first place both on handicap and line honors. *Miss Saigon* crossed the line in second and earned second on handicap. *Sidewinder* finished third in handicap and overall.

In Racing Class, *Remington* finished ahead of *Dreamtime* with *Linda* placing third.

For full results W: acyc-phuket.com

PHUKET TRI-FEST



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LAGUNA PHUKET, THAILAND

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Students to play in pro tourney

Two Satree Phuket students have earned places in the ITF Thailand tournament which is due to be played in Phuket for the first time.

By N. Quail and P. Choksakulpan

THANYAPURA Sports and Leisure Club (TSLC) hosted its inaugural tennis tournament, the Thanyapura Tennis Challenge, last weekend.

As a result of reaching the Mens Singles final, two 17-year-old students from Satree Phuket School have earned their places in the Chang ITF Thailand Pro Circuit 2011 which will run from October 29 to November 12, again hosted by TSLC.

Thachakorn Tonnon and Pavapon Limsakul, Matthayom 6 and 5 students respectively, now have the opportunity to play against tennis professionals from around the region in the prestigious International Tennis Federation (ITF) ranking tournament.

The young tennis players could well be drawn against famous Thai tennis players such as Danai Udomchoke (ranked 119 in the

world), Kittipong Wachiramanowong (ranked 522 in the world) and twins, Sonchat and Sanchai Ratiwatana who are scheduled to play in the first ITF tournament to be played in Phuket.

Thachakorn beat Pavapon by a score of eight games to five in a blistering final having seen off the challenge of eight other competitors en route to the last encounter with his schoolmate.

"I have played tennis for over six years. This is the first time I've qualified for an ITF tournament. I'm very happy. I will prepare for the tournament with hard training," Thachakorn told the *Gazette*.

Pavapon said, "I have played tennis for four years and this is my first time to compete in a challenge and get a ticket to the ITF tournament. I'm excited to have this opportunity and I will try my best."

In addition to the Mens Singles

tournament there was also a Mens Doubles competition which was won by Washirawit Tanjaroenrat and Chairot Jaroenchaiwatana who defeated Tachakorn Tonnon and Chanatip Rinla by nine games to seven.

Wirote Jitrathorn and Thongchai Jaifu took the Mens Doubles Leisure title defeating Sornchai Badkrod and Amporn Nookong by eight games to three.

Suthida Hansri and Sureporn Rotjanodom were victorious in the Womens Doubles event, defeating Nattawan Jhinakul and Amonrat Peavaroonakul also by eight games to three.

Director of tennis for TSLC, Travis Bertram, was delighted with the tournaments' organization and offered advice to the two ITF hopefuls.

"The event was a huge success and a great chance for us to show the professionalism of our team



DOUBLE HEADER: Thachakorn Tonnon (left), Nicholas Seaver (TSLC) and Pavapon Limsakul (right) will challenge world ranked players next month.

in running this tournament smoothly. The winners, Tasakorn and Pavapon, both had a great tournament with consistent play throughout. It's a great chance to have two young locals in the ITF tournament where they can test their skills against world ranked opponents.

"I think both guys will have their chances if they can maintain a high serve percentage (especially first serve) and if they can use their forehands and aggressive play," said Travis.

Mr Nicholas Seaver, CEO of Thanyapura, presented the trophy to all winners on conclusion of the tournament.

The *Phuket Gazette* and PGTV sponsor the Thanyapura Tennis Challenge and the Chang ITF Thailand Pro Circuit 2011.

THANYAPURA TENNIS CHALLENGE 2011 QUALIFIER FOR ITF WILDCARDS	
Men's Singles	Open
winner	Tachakorn Tonnon
runner up	Pavapon Limsakul
Men's Doubles	Open
winner	Washirawit Tanjaroenrat
runner up	Chairot Jaroenchaiwatana
Men's Doubles	Leisure
winner	Wirote Jitrathorn
runner up	Thongchai Jaifu
Women's Doubles	Leisure
winner	Suthida Hansri
runner up	Sureporn Rotjanodom
	Nattawan Jhinakul
	Amonrat Peavaroonakul

For more information visit W: Thanyapura.com

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