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DEVELOPER LAND GRAB PROCEEDS AS LOCALS SNUBBED OF CLAIM RIGHTS

Human rights hit land claims

Human Rights Commission investigates Land Office for refusing to issue title deeds to island long-term residents

By Atchaa Khamlo

THE Human Rights Commission of Thailand is investigating claims by villagers on Koh Racha Yai that the Phuket Land Office is refusing to issue title deeds for land plots that families have been living on for generations.

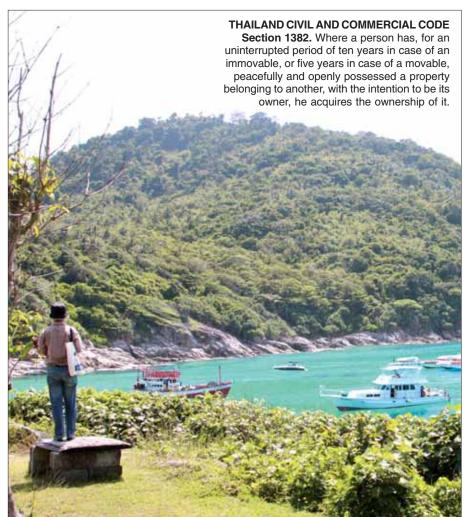
The land in question is not in a national park and is not registered as any type of protected area.

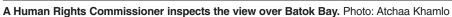
The villagers also allege that while the Land Office is snubbing their applications for title deeds, it is issuing title deeds for developers who have no relations with any persons living on the island.

According to the complaint filed with the commission, the Phuket Land Office in the past two years has issued Chanote titles for four plots: of 99 rai, 48 rai, about nine rai and about 12 rai. The plots now belong to three investors, with all the titles being issued by "upgrading" existing *NorSor 3* ("Certificate of Use") documents.

Over the same two years, however, 23 villagers have been denied any form of land ownership titles to land their families have been living on for more than 50 years.

Community leader Yutthana Chandi explained to the Gazette that the 23 villagers seeking land titles own 30 plots covering more than 500 rai on the island...







This week sees biggest-ever issue of your Phuket Gazette

THE Andaman Edition of your Phuket Gazette breaks new ground this week with the largest issue we've ever published, a whopping 92 pages!

We present our semi-annual property supplement, the Property Review; enclose our regular weekly China Daily; and offer you a brandnew 'Island Trader' classifieds pullout designed to give higher visibility to advertisers in Phuket's largest classifieds marketplace.

Readers will also find four new weekly pages, including Marc Mulloy's 'Land of Smiles' and greatly expanded world news and sports

coverage.
The Phuket Property Review reports the latest market trends in condos, villas and affordable homes, and interacts with some

interesting property personalities.
Also new at the *Phuket Gazette* this week is the launch of another Gazette Online, creates our island's largest online community.

It offers, along with several other new features, an opportunity for qualified Phuket residents to become a Gazette 'citizen reporter' on either an ad hoc or ongoing basis. (See full story, page 4.)

Fly from Phuket to

Continued on Page 2

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This Week



Business

Phuket's pro football club sees match turnout plummet. **Page 11**



Technology

Behind the curve with 3G while the world moves to 4G. Page 31



Culture

The Andaman Culture Festival is coming to Phuket. **Page 39**



Food

Pearls and wine: Art dinners and the wine awards. **Page 40**



Entertainment

Paris Hilton's party of the century. Is it fact or fiction? **Page 41**



Sport

Forged in Phuket: Iron kid competitor talks to the *Gazette*. **Page 49**



Saturday

Monday



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Koh Kaew powers up

THE official opening of the Koh Kaew transformer station on October 26 will give Phuket a much needed power boost said Vice Governor Somkiet Sungkaosuthirak at the opening ceremony.

The station, opened by the Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand (EGAT), is looking at almost doubling the amount megawatts the Phuket power system is currently handling, said EGAT Director Sutad Pattamasiriwat.

"The main objective is to enhance the electrical transfer capacity from the fuel-oil power generating plant in Nua Klong, Krabi, to Phuket in order to meet the increased demand on the island," said Mr Sutad.



EGAT director Sutad foresees an end to Phuket's power problems.

EGAT spent 1.6 billion baht on upgrades and new infrastructure will allow the island access to 600 megawatts (MW). Currently, the usage of electricity in Phuket is at 350MW," said Mr Sutad.

- Kritsada Mueanhawong

Island land rights under HRC probe

From page 1

According to the investigation notes of the Human Rights Commissioners, the Phuket Land Office formally recognizes that the community has been living on Koh Racha Yai since at least 1947 and that the land that the villagers have repeatedly applied to claim is not in any forest preservation area or national park.

Sarit Chandi, the elected president of a local conservation group on Koh Racha Yai, explained to the *Gazette*, "The Land Office has records showing that we have been applying for land title deeds since 1999, but the office has consistently denied our requests.

"But they have denied our requests because say the land cannot be issued title deeds, because according to a ministerial regulation issued in 1994 we must have some document – issued by the Land Office – to prove that we legally occupy the land.

"How can we do that when they have never – after 50 years – acknowledged that we have been living here? And now they are issuing land title deeds to people who have never lived on the island," Mr Sarit said.

Mr Yutthana continued, "Everyone was silent about this until we saw one national newspaper publish a notice of two land plots – one of 99 rai and the other of 48 rai – being sold at an auction in 1998.

"The advertisement said that the land plots had been issued *NorSor 3* documents and that the plots were not located in protected forest areas.

"So we have been asking since 1999 for our right to have deeds issued for land that we have been living on for decades, but we have yet to receive any response," Mr Yutthana said.

The villagers tried everything they could think of, including traveling to Bangkok to explain to various organizations their plight. Officers from some government agencies came to the island to



Community leader Sarit (inset) pointed out a pile of plot boundary markers found dumped beside a tree on the island. Photos: Atchaa Khamlo

inspect the land in question.

The visits gave the villagers hope, but it ended up as no more than an exercise in futility.

"Before, they said we could not be issued any land documents, so why today are the deeds issued to only a select group of people. We are absolutely dumbfounded with that," said Sarit.

The island altogether covers about 3,000 rai, including the rocky outcrops into the bays, with about 2,000 rai being occupied by resorts, restaurants, businesses, farms and homes.

CROSSROADS

"Another worrying problem is that two main roads [both dirt] are now on privately owned land because the roads are not registered on the Land Department's main survey map. It is very likely that in 10 years those roads will no longer be open to the public," said Mr Yutthana.

One road is one meter wide and 40m long, and separates the nine rai and 12-rai plots. The other road is 2m wide and 100m long, and crosses the 48-rai plot to the beach on Siam Bay.

The Human Rights commissioners in their conclusion noted that: as no persons had filed a protest or complaint against the

landlord for claiming land that incorporated a public thoroughfare - that had been in use for more than 10 years - a title deed was issued for the plot.

"The owner of the 48-rai plot once closed the path heading to Siam Bay, but has since reopened it," said Mr Yutthana.

Jakkapong Tanawworrapong and Barami Chairat, the two commissioners who led the team of nine to investigate the claims, advised the villagers to discuss the problem with the island's grassroots organizations.

However, the villagers explained that they had already raised the problem with Rawai Municipality and the Rawai Subdistrict chief (*kamnan*), but no progress had been made.

"Try it again, but this time get documentary evidence to prove you have raised the issue with them," urged Mr Barami.

"That way, if the officers don't do anything about it, then you can file complaints to higher-level organizations," he said.

One of the commissioners told the *Gazette* that it would take months to compile evidence, especially aerial photography confirming where the plots are, before the commissioners can pass on the results of their investigation to the relevant organizations.





Phuket not robbed of ICEC funds

AS THE Minister Attached to the Prime Minister's Office, Woravat Auapinyakul on October 27 denied claims that the government "stole" 2.6 billion baht sequestered from the shelved plan to build a Phuket International Convention and Exhibition Center (ICEC).

In Phuket to oversee the preparations for the upcoming three-day Andaman Culture Festival [see page 39], to be opened by Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra in person on November 9, Mr Woravat said the funds had yet to be allocated to another project, but insisted the funds will be put to good use.

"We did not 'steal' the project. We cannot continue with it because it failed to pass its Environmental Impact Assessment [EIA] requirements; it failed that because the proposed site was at Baan Mai Khao, which is the site of Phuket's last mangrove forest," Mr Woravat told the *Gazette*.

"The government doesn't want Phuket residents to focus on the construction of ICEC as the only big thing to develop the province," said Mr Woravat.

- Kritsada Mueanhawong

Tourist slashed in Krabi

No sexual assault charges filed at preliminary court hearing

By Atchaa Khamlo

THE police officer investigating the vicious gang attack on a young British man on October 22 has confirmed to the *Gazette* that he is not investigating any allegations of an attempted rape of the man's female companion.

The news follows British tourist Jack Daniel Cole being reported as saying that "he feared the gang – mostly young men with perhaps two of them female – was intent on raping Ms Clifton".

Another report stated that Mr Cole "thought that they were going to kill him and rape his girlfriend, because she was being held back by two Thai men around 20 meters away."

"He remembers himself yelling 'get off her', to the Thai men," said the report.

However, Lt Col Niwat Pimket of the Ao Nang Police told the *Gazette* that Mr Cole made no such complaint in his initial report to the police. Neither did his female companion.

A source close to the case in the Krabi Prosecutors office confirmed to the *Gazette* on Wednesday that Mr Cole did not



'The attack did not start over any threats of sexual abuse at all...' explained Lt Col Niwat. Photo: Atchaa Khamlo

include any statements involving "a sex attack" during his formal court hearing at 2pm on Tuesday.

"Mr Cole gave a statement that concurred with that given by the suspects. He also said that he did not remember the suspects' faces and that he could not identify the men because it was dark. He initially reported that only about two to three men attacked him,"

Col Niwat explained.

"The attack did not start over any threats of sexual abuse at all, he [Mr Cole] did not mention anything like that during our initial investigation," he added.

At the time Col Niwat was unaware that Mr Cole had made the allegations through the media, with reports being echoed in highreadership publications including the Daily Mail Online.

"According to our investigation, Mr Cole and his girlfriend were walking along when one of the young men threw a rock at them. Mr Cole apparently turned to ask why they were throwing rocks, then the young men surrounded them.

"They had a big argument, then the men attacked him," Col Niwat said.

Bank robber escapes with B2.7mn in 60 seconds

POLICE on Wednesday evening launched an island-wide manhunt for a bank robber who made off with a reported 2.7 million baht in less than 60 seconds.

The man was recorded by the bank's CCTV cameras entering the Kasikornbank branch on Thepkrasattri Road near Super-Cheap, just north of Phuket Town, at about 3pm.

Armed with a homemade handgun, the man threatened one of the tellers, instructing her to fill a bag with money.

Fearing for her life, the teller obliged. "I was very scared. I just did what he told me to do," she told the *Gazette*.

The man quickly left the bank, speeding off on his getaway motorbike, heading north.



The robber threatened the teller with a homemade handgun, making off with 2.7 million baht in less than a minute. Image: KBank CCTV

"I have alerted police across the island to make sure he does not get off Phuket," said Phuket City Police Superintendent Col Sermpan Sirikong.

"At this stage we are still searching for him. He escaped with 2.7 million baht," he added.

Lost British couple found

LOCAL officials are looking into how to make trekking in Phuket national parks and wildlife reserves safer following two British tourists losing their way and having to spend the night in the wild at Khao Phra Thaew Wildlife & Forest Reserve.

Mohammed Samir El Shimi, 28, and Hanna Zareen 26, were discovered early Tuesday afternoon by a local villager named only as "Ms Suphatra". The couple, alive and well, had lost their way while trying to return to the park entrance after dark on Monday evening.

In response, Phuket Vice Gov-



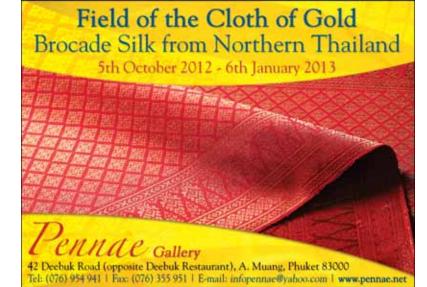
Ms Zareen 26, and Mr Samir El Shimi, 28 Photo: Kritsada Mueanhawong

ernor Chamroen Tipayapongtada on Tuesday said that he will discuss with the park chief what safety measures are to be introduced in order to prevent any similar incidents from happening again.

"The center should give their suggestions, and perhaps post signs to inform tourists how far they can go up the trail and what time they should start coming back down," he added.

V/Gov Chamroen also suggested installing checkpoints at critical stages along the main paths to keep count of how many tourists have ventured up the trail so that officials will know if any are missing.

- Atchaa Khamlo



THE BEST DEALS ON PRIVATE VACATION HOMES ACROSS THAILAND AND SOUTH EAST ASIA

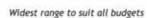


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Phuket Forum seeks A Muslim new citizen reporter

PHUKET's largest online community just got bigger last week with its merger into the newly launched Phuket Forum (thephuketforum.net). Powered by the Gazette Online, Google's top-ranked website for Phuket (Source: Google Analytics), the new forum draws from a current daily readership base greater than that of all other local news outlets combined.

All stories appearing in the Gazette Online appear also in the Phuket Forum, and all comments posted in the Phuket Forum appear automatically in the readers' comments section of the Gazette Online.

Readers with an email address and password for comments in the Gazette Online may use those same credentials in the new Phuket Forum, meaning that they will not need to register in the Phuket Forum to post comments there. Simply log in one time and opt to 'stay logged in' (unless you're using a public computer).

For some readers, the Phuket



A screen grab of the newly launched Phuket Forum.

Forum will offer advantages over the Gazette Online. Comments in the latter can only react to stories, but in the Phuket Forum contributors can go pro-active and start their own topic.

So if you wish to ask, praise or complain about Phuket tuk-tuks or Patong nightlife, or get views on Phuket's best beach, haircut or hamburger, simply visit the thephuketforum.com.

You can even post a photo to

go with your topic, or become a Gazette 'citizen reporter'. Example: "What will be built where someone has destroyed the many rai of forest up in the hills above Cherng Talay? I took this pic on Saturday with my cellphone."

A second key feature in the Phuket Forum is the classification of Gazette news reports into 12 categories critical for Phuket. These include Tourism, Environment, Infrastructure, Property, Business, Lifestyle, Sports, Crime, Corruption, Public Transport, Road Safety, and TECH.

The new story classification system enables forum users to search both by story category and, as soon as our data migration is complete, on words or terms in the body text of more than 12,000 Phuket reports going back 19

The sleek new Phuket Forum is fast, intuitive and clean as a whistle. Bookmark it and let Phuket's largest online community know what's on your mind.

SEVEN banners have appeared in Rawai in front of Muslim shops, houses and even a mosque. The English words dominating the banners are jarring to many. However, the Thai translation and the meaning behind the signs tells a very different story. The Phuket Gazette's Chaiyot Yongcharoenchai reports.

THE signs appeared overnight in a Rawai Muslim community with script reading in three languages: Arabic, Thai and English.

The subtlety and nuances of words has for time innumerable taken certain artistry to accurately capture an idea, a feeling, a reaction. Nowhere is a deep understand of the nuisances of tone needed more than when translat-

ing sensitive text, be it personal, political or religious.

However, the English message on the sign reads: 'THIS COMMU-NITY WOULD LIKE TO CON-DEMN TO THE GROUP OF THE PERSON WHO LOOK DOWN!! TO THE ISLAM RELIGION.'

However, an accurate translation from the Thai written on the banner reads community appeals for the

admonishment of people who destroy our religion."

"The person who made these signs does live in our community," said Imam Pramote Chockgua, who heads the Masjid Nuruddee Neeyah in Rawai and has one of the seven banners in front of his mosque. "He consulted with us before printing them and posting them in the community. I told him that it was okay to make them as long as they don't cause any harm,"

Imam Pramote said that the signs had nothing to do with the recent Arab Spring, confirming that they were in protest of the misinterpretation of Muslims in the recent YouTube film Innocence of Muslims, which has been a catalyst for violent attacks on American nationals and interests across the world.

"The images in the movie made Muslims look really bad. If we just ignore it, it would be like admitting that the movie's portrayal of us were accurate. That is why the signs were made, to show that we disagree with the movie's content," he explained.

"We are living in a democratic country and have the right to express our opinion. We don't want anyone to treat us differently or

unfairly," he added.

However, Imam Pramote was concerned about the tone of the English words on the sign, which is harsher than what is written in Arabic and Thai.

"When the person who made the signs came to talk with us, we all helped him put the words together. Arabic and Thai are our native languages, but we didn't

have any language experts to help us with the English, which is probably why it is a bit too strong.

"We don't really know the hidden meanings of the words in English. We just looked them up in a Thai-English dictionary and used whatever words came up," he admitted.

"I had no idea that the English meaning was so strong and maybe considered offensive," he added.

Imam Pramote explained that he had no desire to cause additional conflicts with the signs, but rather wanted to protect the dignity of the Muslims in the community.



closer to, "This Imam Pramote Chockgua, who heads Masjid Nuruddee Neeyah in Rawai.

IN THE PUBLIC EYE

A restaurant across from the large Tesco Lotus south of Chalong Circle has one of the seven posters over its entrance. The Gazette tried to interviewed several people at Tesco Lotus, in clear sight of the sign.

Three of them declined to comment on the issue.

However, Esa Boonmalert, a 44-year-old Muslim living in Rawai, explained that it was a personal right to hang the signs, but for him the best way to combat the portrayal of Muslims in the film was simply to be a good, faithful Muslim.

"Though the moviemakers created negative images of Muslims, I still don't consider them bad people. They are just ignorant of what Islam really is. What is worse are Muslims that don't practice their own religion," Mr Esa said.

"Those who don't really understand Muslim principles are not the ones who should be



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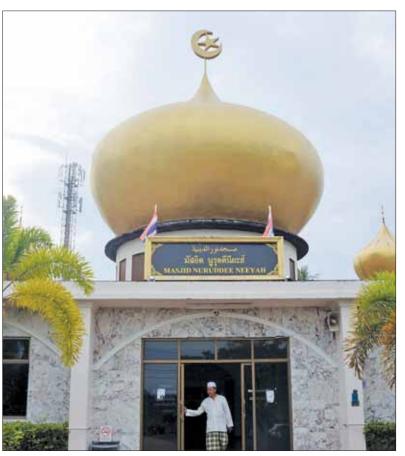




voice lost in translation



An accurate translation from the Thai written on the banner reads closer to, 'This community appeals for the admonishment of people who destroy our religion.' Photos: Chaiyot Yongcharoenchai



One of the seven banners protesting the film 'Innocence of Muslims' hangs at the entrance of Masjid Nuruddee Neeyah in Rawai.

blamed. Muslims that ignore all the principles and practices are really the ones destroying our religion.

"I have seen many Muslims in other countries strike back violently, and I personally think it was the wrong reaction.

"The best way to solve the problem would be to educate the filmmakers and allow them to apologize," he told the Gazette.

An expat also living in the Rawai area, though concerned about the signs, agreed with Mr Esa that the community had the right to hang them.

they feel about the issue. If I was more conflict," he added.

'I had no idea that

the English meaning

was so strong and

maybe considered

offensive...'

- Imam Pramote

Chockgua

them, I would do the same thing," she admitted.

"However, for me, the best way to make this controversy stop is to keep quiet and let the issue slowly dis-

solve with time. This whole situation can be compared to a fire. If we don't put any more fuel onto it, the fire will eventually stop burning," she said.

I am not scared about an uprising or anything like that here in Phuket, because the Muslims here are peaceful people," she added.

ANOTHER VIEW

Imam Aree Samard, who heads the Baan Borrae Masjid and is also the president of Phuket Muslim Relations Association, explained to the Gazette why the signs had not appeared in his community on Phuket.

"It is their right to put up the signs, but we are not doing anything like that in our area (Baan Borrae)," Imam Aree said.

"We had a meeting regarding the issue with Muslims living in other Phuket communities, and we agreed that we wouldn't do any more than we had already done," he explained.

About a month ago, representatives of each mosque in Phuket visited the US Embassy in Bangkok to file a letter making it clear that they disagreed with the film and would like to see the US Embassy take some sort of remedial action.

"I really saw no point of doing "It is their right to show how anything else that might cause

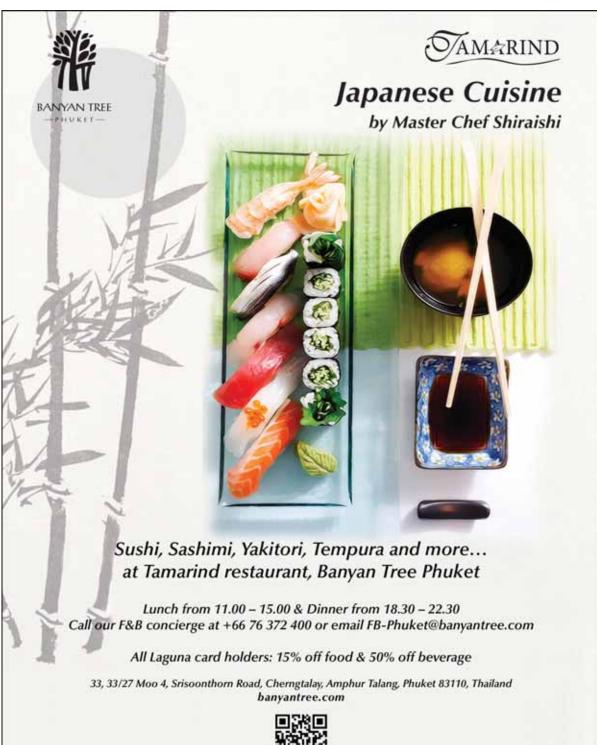
> After hearing some of the feedback and concern about the signs, Imam Pramote told the Gazette that he now planned to discuss the tone of the translation with the Masjid's com-

mittee and that he was considering making some changes.

"I'm against any slander against any religion. One time I saw a story in the news about a woman wno was taking inappropriate pictures of a Buddha statue, and even though I am not Buddhist I was angry about it. It was wrong, and it shouldn't have happened.

There are all kinds of people living in our community - Buddhists, Christians, Muslims and Bhramins.

"We live together peacefully and in harmony. Each person practices what they believe in, and we always help each other for special events like weddings or funerals," Imam Pramote added.



Patong gambling raid fails to come up trumps



Col Akanit often receives reports of casinos operating illegally in Patong. Photo: Kritsada Mueanhawong

PATONG Police and about 50 Kathu Territorial Defense volunteers stormed a venue thought to be a "huge" casino in Phuket's main tourist town only to "go bust" and be forced to leave the premises without a single chip.

Acting on information received through the Prime Minister's Office's Complaint Center from anonymous local residents, police and Territorial Defense Volunteers descended on a rental shop complex located behind the JJ Plaza on Phang Muang Sai Kor Road.

"We went to the place identified in the report, which are rental shop units B5 to B10. We also searched a premise attached to the shop units, a former bar called XTC," said Lt Col Akanit Danpitaksat.

"We found nothing that could be used for gambling and nothing illegal. All we saw was living accommodations and a laundry shop," he said.

Though the "big raid" left police empty-handed, Col Akanit said that two raids of small gambling dens in the last two weeks had netted between eight and nine people each.

- Kritsada Mueanhawong

Similan's get a spring clean before high season begins

By Chutharat Plerin

NATIONAL Park officers, private business operators and locals on October 30 joined forces for a twoday beach and reef cleanup at the Similan Islands before the national park reopened for the tourism high season on November 1.

"We want people to realize the importance of preserving the marine ecosystem and feel that it is truly their responsibility to protect the national park," Mu Koh Similan National Park Chief Mana Phermpool told the *Gazette*.

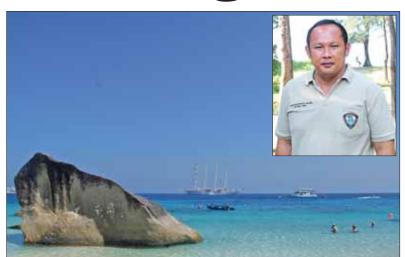
Letters were sent out to local people and businesses to encourage everyone to join the beach

cleanup at Huyong Island and the underwater debris in the park area, he explained.

"The people who use the park are the same people who should help preserve its natural beauty. They are the ones who will benefit most from the island, so they must be responsible and protect it," Chief Mana said.

Two large dive operators in Khao Lak – Sea Bees and Khao Lak Scuba Adventures – have confirmed to the *Gazette* that they plan to take dive boats out to take part in the event.

"This project will help to restore the natural beauty of the island's environment," Mr Mana added.



The people who use Mu Koh Similan National Park should be the ones to preserve it, says Park Chief Mana Phermpool (inset). Photo: Gazette file

Rotary Club marks 35 years of goodwill

THE Rotary Club of Phuket will mark its 35th anniversary by holding a Rotary Fair at Saphan Hin on November 3 to 9.

"The objective of the fair is to promote the community development projects and activities that the Rotary Club members and volunteers contribute to the local community. We will also have fund-raising activities to help support our community projects," said Club President Saroj Angkanapilas.

There will be booths at the fair selling popular dishes and products from different parts of Thailand, as well as live performances on stage by famous Thai folk and rock singers such as Nui Suweena, Jeab BenJaPorn and Songkrot of the Chama Band.

Among the fund-raising activities will be an auction of items donated by Phuket notables,



Members of the Rotary Club of Phuket will celebrate the club's 35th anniversary this month. Photo: Kritsada Mueanhawong

including a painting by renowned Thai artist Chalermchai Kositpipat donated by Muang District Chief Supachai Pochanukul.

Famed for his images depicting Buddhist temples, Mr Chalermchai has produced works for clients including pieces commissioned by HM King Bhumibol Adulyadei.

One of his pieces was reported

by *AsiaWeek* as selling for US\$17,500 at an auction of Thai art at Christie's Singapore in 1998.

Other items to go on sale include a collection of Buddha images and amulets donated by the chief justice of Phuket's Juvenile and Family Court, Pornchai Liaopattanapong; a Vietnamese tea set donated by Phuket MP Anchalee Vanich Tephabutr; a

watch donated by Phuket MP Raywat Areerob; and a golf bag donated by Phuket Honorary Consul for Finland Pamuke Achariyachai, who is also the head of the Kata Group of hotels.

"On November 3, at 6:30pm, will be a fund-raising Chinese dinner at the Saphan Hin Sports Center. Tickets will cost 500 baht per person," said Mr Saroj.

"The money raised will go toward charity projects such as renovating the buildings and toilets at the Chalerm Prakiat Health Center in Chalong, building a library at Ban Tah Chat Chai School, and buying sports equipment, stationery and water filters for schools," he added.

To buy tickets for the dinner call Ms Maneephan at 081-535 7833 or Mr Somporn at 081-893 5504.

- Kritsada Mueanhawong



Sydictive New Year party opposed by Surin hotels

A COLLECTIVE of Surin hotel representatives on October 20 sent a letter to the Phuket Governor asking him to reconsider the date and the location of Sydictive's planned New Year's Eve two day party on Surin Beach.

In their communique, the group state that the venue, dates and noise make it unsuitable for Surin Beach. It also notes that "techno music" events are often connected with drug and alcohol misuse.

The letter suggested that Patong or Bang Tao beaches might be more suitable for the event.

Ma-ann Samran, president of the Cherng Talay Administration Organization (*OrBorTor*), on October 23 expressed his uncertainty as to whether the new year's extravaganza would take place as promoted.

The event received much publicity by the arrival of Paris Hilton in Bangkok last week to promote the high-profile "beach bash" to

A COLLECTIVE of Surin hotel take place at Surin Beach from representatives on October 20 sent December 30 to January 1.

Mr Ma-ann, who noted that he had not been involved in any proceedings so far said, "I got an invitation to the Bangkok press release, but did not attend.

"It sounds like an interesting event, but it requires official authorization from this end."

Mr Ma-ann explained that the Guinness World Records and international media had been invited to the event and that the organizer expected "more than 50,000 tourists" to turn up.

"We need a meeting, organized by Phuket Governor Maitri Inthusut, to discuss this very large event that should attract Thais and foreigners," he said.

Mr Ma-ann pointed out that any event planning meeting would require attendance by representatives from TAT, event organizers and the Cherng Talay *OrBorTor*.

- Chutharat Plerin

November 3 - 9, 2012 PHUKET GAZETTE 7



Veg Fest crash kills three



The family was heading home after attending the Vegetarian Festival when the accident happened. Photo: B Kung Somsak/Facebook

THREE people were killed and a mother and her two children injured after the car they were traveling home in from the Vegetarian Festival slammed into a tree on October 23.

Duty officer Eakkaphob Phoothong of Takua Thung Police in Phang Nga received a report of the accident at 4pm.

At the scene, about 500 meters from the Phang Nga Agriculture and Technology College on Phetkasem Road, officers found the driver, Thossaphol Kong-Nguen, 33, dead behind the wheel.

Two of female his passengers, Wichien Makaew and Fongnual Kong-Nguen, also died.

Rescue workers cut the survivors - Mr Thossaphol's wife, Somsuda Makaew, 32 and their 2year-old daughter Chaleomsri and 10-month-old son Thanaphat – from the vehicle and rushed them to Phang Nga Hospital.

"The family were traveling home to Surat Thani after attending the Vegetarian Festival in Phuket when the accident occurred," said Lt Eakkaphob.

Police believe the car was traveling at high speed when it hit a tree in the median strip.

hour.

Phuket illegal taxi blitz nets 194 drivers on first day

A TOTAL of 194 drivers were charged and fined on October 24 for illegally operating a taxi or for not displaying the now-mandatory stickers that publicly identify the drivers.

The haul in arrests came on the first day of an island-wide crackdown on illegal taxi drivers in Phuket as officers from the Phuket Land Transportation Office (PLTO) joined forces with their Bangkok counterparts in

setting up checkpoints on major roads across the island.

"We randomly checked vehicles and found people working illegally as taxi drivers or operating taxis not in accordance with our agreement. We fined them and warned them that they have to strictly abide by the law," said Phuket Vice Governor Chamroen Tipayapongtada.

PLTO Chief Teerayut Prasertpol explained that drivers who had not applied to register their vehicles as taxis were charged and fined 2,000 baht each.

"Drivers who have already registered - or applied to register their vehicles – but were found not displaying the stickers on the sides of their cars were fined 500 baht," he said.

Mr Teerayut explained that his office had received applications to register 2,882 vehicles that were previously illegal taxis.

- Kritsada Mueanhawong



An officer checks the license and registration of one of the taxis.

Chinese tourist recovering after safety concerns raised

By Chutharat Plerin

JUST three days after the Chinese Consul-General met with the new Phuket Governor, Maitri Inthusut, on October 24, to discuss, among other things, tourist safety issues, another Chinese tourist found himself in hospital receiving treatment.

Li Qi Feng, 39, was airlifted from Racha Yai Island by a Royal Thai Navy medivac helicopter last Monday after suffering serious heart palpitations. Fortunately, staff at Vachira Hospital Phuket were able to report on Tuesday that he was recovering well.

"Mr Li Qi Feng is conscious and fully responsive, but is still suffering from chest pains," said coronary care unit Nurse Maliwan

"He seems to be okay now, but I am still afraid and I just want him to come home with me," said Mr Li's wife Li Xiao Yu.

Mr and Mrs Li arrived in Phuket with their 12-year-old daughter and friends on October 27. Their - Kritsada Mueanhawong | daughter has remained on Phi Phi

www.promjaidental.com





Li Qi Feng was transferred by helicopter to Phuket. Photo: Royal

Island in the care of their friends. Mrs Li did not elaborate on whether or not her husband had a

pre-existing heart condition.

Previous to the onset Mr Li's of $heart\,problems, Consul-General\,Xu$ Mingliang in his meeting with Gov Maitri said, "Thailand and China have a long history of good



Consul-General Xu Mingliang voiced concern over tourist safety to the Governor. Photo: Chutharat Plerin

relations. Many Chinese tourists come to Phuket year round, and just like tourists from any other nation, Chinese tourists also have problems.

"Most reported problems involved accidents, especially drownings. We have already posted a notice on the Chinese

Consulate Thailand website warning our citizens about these problems. We have also posted travel advisories about Phuket and what Chinese visitors should be prepared for.

"Since we posted these notices, the number of accidents and deaths have fallen, compared with the number in 2011," Mr Xu said.

Not less than six have died in the Phuket and Krabi area since Febuary.

Given this, the Consul-General called for travel portals, hotels and other agencies and businesses that deal with Chinese nationals visiting Phuket to post notices in Chinese, preferably Mandarin, to warn Chinese tourists of the dangers.

'This will also help to reduce the number of problems that tourists may encounter," he added.

Regarding the ongoing project to establish a Chinese consulate in Phuket, Mr Xu said, "I have proposed the project to the Chinese government to consider. The number of Chinese tourists who come to Phuket is growing quickly.

Teeth Whitening Center



Cops nab panty-pinching politician

A LOCAL politician is in trouble in Nakhon Sawan after getting caught stealing more than a hundred pairs of women's panties from a hospital - and wearing them to work.

Sarot Ninsonthi, 40, told police he preferred wearing women's panties as they were "more comfortable" than men's underwear.

Mr Sarot, who is a member of a Thale Subdistrict Administration Organization, said he was too embarrassed to buy them himself, so he stole them from Khai Jira Prawat Hospital.

The pervy politician got away with months of panty-pinching until one of his victims caught him red-handed.

The woman, whose name was not reported, said she had been spending most of her time at the hospital over the previous month because a relative was sick there.

She had been washing and drying her clothes, along with other patients and visitors, on a clothes-



The panties with fruit on are the best. Photo: Modernista Amsterdam

line next to a football field beside the hospital.

But some of her panties, as well as those of other women, had been going missing, and she began to suspect a thief was at work.

Then on October 27, she spotted Mr Sarot walking back and forth around the clothesline and behaving in a suspicious manner.

As she watched him, he started plucking panties off the line, so she shouted for help.

Some soldiers and other female

victims of Mr Sarot's thievery chased him as he fled towards his pickup truck. They detained him until the police arrived.

Stashed in a plastic bag inside the truck were more than 100 pairs of women's panties.

Mr Sarot later confessed to police that he had stolen panties from the hospital many times.

Mr Sarot said he looked for "cute" underwear with pretty designs on it. He said his favorite type was panties with fruit on them, which he "liked very much".

Mr Sarot claimed his activities were not sexual, saying that he never sniffed them or used them to achieve orgasm.

Daily News

Pitak Siam vows to bring down ruling government

nation

A NEW street-protest movement aiming to oust the government of Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra could herald a fresh round of political turbulence in Thailand.

Pitak Siam, whose name means "Protect Siam", has vowed to bring down what they call the "corrupt" Pheu Thai Party-led administration in order to "stop disaster" from befalling the country, *The Nation* reported.

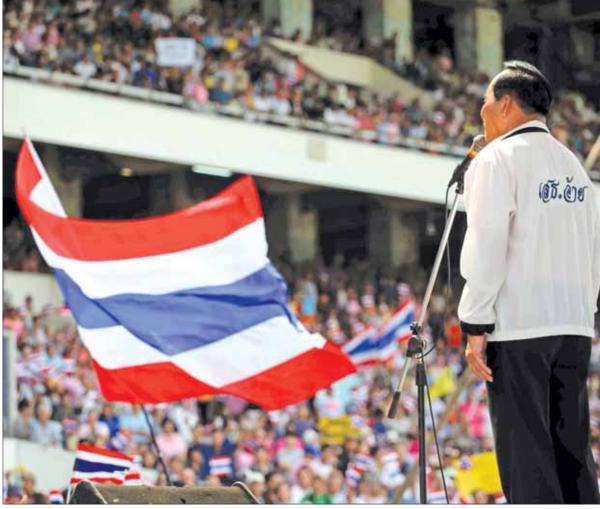
The movement, led by retired General Boonlert Kaewprasit, got off to an unexpectedly strong start with its first rally at the Royal Turf Club on October 28, drawing a crowd of around 20,000.

The protest was just a "warmup" for a bigger demonstration at Government House, leaders said.

"We can't let the government go on working or else the country will suffer more damage," Gen Boonlert said.

Other leading opponents of the government Seree Wongmontha, Tul Sitthisomwong and hardliner activist Prasong Soonsiri also took to the stage to attack PM Yingluck and her brother, former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra.

Mr Prasong, a former Thai intelligence chief and foreign minister, was a central figure behind the 2006 coup that ousted Mr Thaksin.



Retired General Boonlert was greeted by an enthusiastic crowd during the Pitak Siam rally. Photo: The Nation

He is also considered a palace insider and favorite of HM King Bhumibol Adulyadej.

At a press conference the day before, Mr Prasong said the rally to oust the government was the first step to "stop disaster" from befalling the Kingdom.

Mr Prasong said it was time for "good" people to run the country. "For the sake of public inter-

est, I will stand in the front. As for news that there is a five-step plan to overthrow the government, I think there are only two and we must complete them," he said.

At the rally, Gen Boonlert said the government had done nothing to stop several people from attacking and violating the royal family, adding that the government lacked good governance and was massively corrupt.

He urged the participants of the initial rally to come back for the next one and bring along 100 more sympathizers each.

The majority of the crowd were supporters of Santi Asoke, an ultra-conservative Buddhist group seen as the core ally of the yellow shirts.



A tiger cub seized during a police raid. Photo: The Nation

Man caught transporting 16 tiger cubs

A THAI man was arrested in Khon Kaen on October 16 with an unusual cargo in the back of his pickup truck: 16 tiger cubs.

Faren Kongfu, a 52-year-old man, was stopped after avoiding a police checkpoint, the BBC reported.

The cats were aged between six weeks and two months old and were being kept in cages.

Thailand, a hub of international smuggling, is one of just 13 countries where tigers survive in the wild. Worldwide, tiger numbers are estimated to have fallen to only 3,200 from approximately 100,000 a century ago.

The man told police he had been paid 15,000 baht to take the tigers out of Bangkok. He claimed he did not know who owned the animals.

"He said he only talked to them on the telephone not in person," Lt Col Kusol Pongbunchan, told AFP.

The driver is to be charged with illegal possession and trafficking of endangered species.

The arrest comes after a blanket inspection of tigers in zoos and other captive animals was ordered in February. The order came after a fresh seizure of tiger skins and carcasses and other protected wildlife from a major smuggler at a Bangkok home.

Reshuffle brings in Thaksin loyalists

PRIME Minister Yingluck Shinawatra has carried out a dramatic reshuffle of the Cabinet in a move observers say has brought in several loyal supporters of her exiled brother Thaksin.

Of 23 new members of Cabinet, six are members of Mr Thaksin's disbanded Thai Rak Thai Party whose five-year bans from politics recently expired.

Mr Thaksin, who lives in Dubai to escape a jail sentence for corruption, is believed to be pulling the strings behind his younger sister's government.

HM King Bhumibol Adulyadej formalized the Cabinet lineup on October 28, *The Nation* reported.

Among the Thaksin loyalists given positions are Pongthep Thepkanchana, a former Thaksin spokesman who gained the Education Ministry portfolio and became a Deputy Prime Minister, and former deputy finance minister Varathep Rattanakorn, who now is the Minister to the Prime



Several Thaksin loyalists were promoted during PM Yingluck's Cabinet reshuffle, which was formalized by HM the King. Photo: The Nation

Minister's Office.

Foreign Minister Surapong Towichukchaikul has been promoted to deputy premier and will now oversee both security and foreign affairs.

But there was red-shirt anger

at the reshuffle when it emerged that red leader Jatuporn Promphan would not receive a portfolio.

Many red-shirts believe the firebrand politician should have been rewarded for his support of the Pheu Thai Party.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS 10 PHUKET GAZETTE November 3 - 9, 2012

In brief...

South China Sea potential military trouble-spot

CHINA is stonewalling attempts to start talks on a multilateral "code of conduct" governing the strategically located South China Sea and an agreement could still be years away, Southeast Asian officials said on Monday.

Beijing's assertion of sovereignty over the vast stretch of the water has set it directly against Vietnam and the Philippines, while Brunei, Taiwan and Malaysia also lay claim to other parts of the region, making it Asia's biggest potential military trouble-spot.

Jordan foils terror bomb plot

JORDAN's announcement that it has foiled an al Qaeda plot to bomb the capital highlights the threat from Islamist fighters hardened by conflict in neighboring Syria, and the danger of Damascus trying to export its crisis.

The kingdom is no stranger to turmoil. For decades it has navigated the Israeli-Palestinian conflict on its western border and more recently bloodshed in Iraq to the east.

But the Syrian civil war could pose the gravest threat yet to Jordan's pro-Western King Abdullah, whether or not rebel fighters succeed in toppling President Bashar al-Assad after 42 years of Assad family rule.

Kim Jong-un's wife appears after recent speculations

NORTH Korean state media reported public appearances by the wife of leader Kim Jong-un for the first time in two months on Tuesday amid mounting speculation that she had been chastised for inappropriate conduct or that she may be pregnant.

Ri Sol-ju's once frequent appearances with her husband in public had marked the starkest break by the North's leadership from the dour image of Kim's father, who was rarely seen in public with any of his wives.

Superstorm Sandy closes down 'sleepless' city, NY

and Martinne Geller

WITH New York City's subway system paralyzed by Sandy's crippling blow, millions of commuters are rethinking how they will get to work this week, and they are taking it one step at a time.

The storm, which killed at least 45 people, closed roads and bridges and flooded tunnels, garages and rail yards, dousing the nation's largest mass transit system with saltwater, which is corrosive to its electrical system.

"The New York City subway system is 108 years old, but it has never faced a disaster as devastating as what we experienced last night," Joseph Lhota, chairman of the Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA), said in a statement on

He later said that water was "literally up to the ceiling" at downtown Manhattan's South Ferry train station. The subway could be out of service for four or five days, New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg said, as the authority checks the entire system for saltwater damage.

This could prompt hordes of New Yorkers to lace up their walk-

"You can't go three to four days without pay," said Anthony Perrone, a 31-year-old consultant on Wall



Last Sunday citizens of New York started to batten down the hatches and prepare for Sandy. Photo: Reuters

Street, who said he was planning for an hour-and-15-minute walk to work. He said he was annoyed, but noted others had suffered more.

His brother, who lives in Howard Beach, lost two cars to flooding, Mr Perrone said. "I can't complain," he added.

Throughout the day on Tuesday, as the city slowly crept back to life, crews assessed the dam-

age to the subway system's tunnels and elevated tracks. Restoring the system is likely to be a gradual process, MTA spokeswoman Deirdre Parker said.

But with telecommunications disruptions still causing spotty coverage for cell phones and telephones the day after the storm, some New Yorkers were more worried about connecting with their

"I work all the way downtown and I don't even care, to be honest," said Brandon Brown, 30, who lives in midtown Manhattan

families than about their commutes.

and works in the human resources department of a financial services firm. "My primary concern is my family. I'm not worried about work or commuting right now,"

S Presidential candidates hold even: Poll

PRESIDENT Barack Obama and Republican challenger Mitt Romney were virtually tied in a Reuters/ Ipsos tracking poll released on Monday, with the Democrat leading by a single percentage point eight days before the November 6 US presidential election.

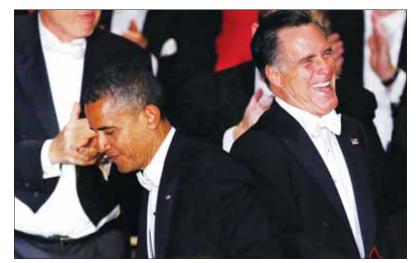
President Obama leads Mr Romney 48 per cent to 47 per cent, a 1 percentage point drop for Obama and 1 percentage point rise for Romney from Sunday's tracking poll – still within the daily online survey's 3.9 percentage point credibility interval for likely voters.

"This is all movement around the middle," said Ipsos pollster

Julia Clark. "It basically underlines the closeness of the race. I don't think it's going to be too different until the election."

The poll showed that 22 per cent of registered voters said they had taken part in early or absentee voting. Among that group, 58 percent said they voted for Obama and 39 percent said they voted for Romney.

The precision of Reuters/Ipsos online polls is measured using a credibility interval. Among the 806 likely voters surveyed, the credibility interval is plus or minus 3.9 percentage points.



- Deborah Charles/Reuters Analysts expect close US presidential election results. Photo: Reuters

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Greek journalist on trial for release of Swiss bank account holders list

A PROMINENT Greek journalist who published the names of more than 2,000 wealthy Greeks with Swiss bank accounts appeared in court on Monday to stand trial for violating data privacy laws in a case that aroused international concern.

Costas Vaxevanis, editor of the "Hot Doc" weekly magazine, was arrested at the weekend for publishing the "Lagarde List," which French authorities gave to Athens in 2010 so that the account holders could be investigated for possible tax evasion.

The list has riveted Greeks who are angry with a political class which many believe is unwilling to crack down on the wealthy elite.

Vaxevanis could face up to two years in prison if convicted.

"I was doing my job in the name of the public interest," Vaxevanis told a crowd of

supporters outside court. "Journalism is revealing the truth when everyone else is trying to hide it."

The Vienna-based Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) expressed concern about the case, including Mr Vaxevanis's brief arrest on Sunday.

"[I] trust that he will now be tried in a transparent manner considering the acute public interest in the case," OSCE media freedom representative Dunja Mijatovic said.

Football match turnout slumps

Thailand's first division lost much of its supporter base to the more lucrative elite league, which saw a turnout increase of about 5%

PHLICET 1

VALUABLE CONSUMER BASE: Loyal fans can also be loyal customers.

By Steven Layne

PHUKET FC's average turnout for home games this season was about half that of last season, data from the Sponsor Thai Premier League (TPL) has revealed.

Official turnout records recently published by the TPL show that the club attracted a total of 41,531 spectators all season – taking into account fans, media, VIP guests and other personnel attending its 17 home league matches.

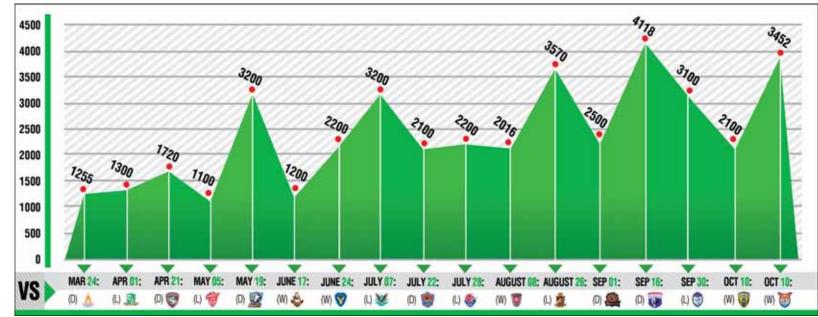
The overall season turnout equates to an average turnout of 2,443 per match, a decline of about 50% from last year, when the club reported a turnout of 83,261, or about 4,897 spectators per match.

One obvious reason for such a drop can be linked to their weaker performance in league competition.

Last year, the club finished midtable in 9th place of the 18-team Division 1 league.

This season the club only narrowly escaped relegation (see page 50), finishing in 13th place of the 18-team league, which was officially branded this year as the Thai Yamaha 1 league.

The decline can also be attributed to the fact that the club was just promoted to the first division last season; it is common for clubs to enjoy relatively strong support during their inaugural season in a new league, and likewise, it is also common for that supporter base to shrink if that club fails to



REVIVING: While Phuket FC's turnout was low in the early season, the graph above shows that support has begun to return. Image: Gazette Graphics.

meet fans' high expectations.

Turnout for the entire division 1 dropped by about 27%, with a total of about 646,294 spectators reported from a total of 306 matches played (18 teams playing nine matches a week for a total of 34 weeks).

This is down from 890,268 spectators from the same number of matches played last year.

Likewise, the league's average match attendance dropped to 2,112 this year from 2,909 last year.

This means that Phuket's average turnout was still more than 15% higher than the league average, whereas last year it was more than 68% higher.

That said, the club ranked 5th in the league overall in terms of turnout – total and average turnout per match – down from 4th place last year.

Topping the league in turnout this year were league newcomers, Nakhon Ratchasima FC, who attracted a total of 113,798 spectators or on average 6,694 per match.

They were followed by Suphanburi FC with 93,108 (5,477), Krabi FC with 54,606 (3,212) and league champions Ratchaburi Mitrphol FC with 54,087 (3,182).

One prime reason for the drop in spectators this year was the loss of

fans from the three most popular teams (in terms of fan base) last year.

Interestingly, last year's turnout champions, Songkhla FC, who led the league when it attracted a total of 199,138 fans (11,714 per match), this year experienced a fan base loss of more than 84%, plummeting to only 30,368 spectators or 1,786 per match this season.

The reason for this was due to the fact that the province had acquired a new team, Wua Chon United, which was formed from the promoted and disbanded champions of Division 1 last year, Buriram FC.

Aside from losing the support-

ers of both Buriram FC and Songkhla FC, who shifted their support to their respective teams in the elite Thai Premier League, the first division also lost supporters from Chiangmai FC, who were relegated last season.

Last year, that club attracted a total of 147,637 fans or about 8,685 per match.

Meanwhile the elite TPL announced that its supporter base has grown by nearly 5%, with the Chairman of the Thai Premier league, Dr Wichit Yaembunreuang revealing that average attendance this year was no less than 5,000 per match, compared to about 4,800 last year.

Pay day for good play

WHILE 13th-placed Phuket FC count their blessings for surviving relegation, the top seven finishing teams in the Thai Yamaha 1 league have a little bit more to count after being awarded with the following incentive bonuses from the TPL:







Bigger and better



MEETING DEMAND: Makro Phuket recently expanded its facilities by as much as 45%. Photo: Steven Layne

THE newly renovated Makro and increasing demand of busi-Phuket has reopened its doors, announcing that it is better equipped to meet the cooking and catering needs of local Hotels, Restaurants and Cafes (HoReCa).

With an emphasis on enhancing the capabilities of businesses to upkeep international standards, the membership-based wholesaler has increased the quantity and diversity of its consumer products, which include both fresh and dried foods, by 30%.

Accordingly, its business, retail floor and parking space has expanded by about 45%.

Speaking at the Makro Phuket relaunch ceremony last week, Phuket Governor Maitree Intusut linked the island's thriving tourism sector with the growth of the HoReCa sector.

"Phuket has seen a rapid increase of tourists and residents... This has made both Thai and foreign [business] operators interested to invest [more] in tourism, service and entertainment businesses," he said.

Gov Maitree emphasized that Phuket province has a policy of continually developing the tourism industry, namely, by promoting international conferences and the events industry, while improving environment development for sustainable prosperity.

"The renovation of Makro store's Phuket Branch, in order to match the growth of the city ness operators, is in line with the provincial development plan.

"Makro's business commitment is good news for the operators of hotels, restaurants, and food businesses since Makro is able to provide comprehensive service solutions tailored to their customers' needs.

"The new Makro store offers a variety of products, especially premium quality vegetables and fruits from both Thailand and overseas. Operators can now provide [produce] to their consumers with confidence, and the high quality of Makro's service will enhance the people of Phuket's health and safety."

Makro's primary customers include operators of small and medium sized businesses (SMEs), hotels, restaurants and catering companies in Phuket and nearby provinces.

Mrs Suchada Ithijarukul, Chief Executive Officer of Siam Makro Plc, remarked: "Phuket is a world-class tourist destination and a major province in the

"With fast-growing development, and the province's vision to promote the Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions (MICE) industry, there has been [an increase in the] diversity of hotel operators, lodgings, restaurants and related businesses over the past few years."

In response to this demand, Makro Phuket has expanded its

retail floor space for consumer products and its business area from 6,887 square meters to 9,980 sqm.

The parking lot has also expanded and is now able to accommodate 180 cars, from 125 cars previously. Diversity of consumer products line has increased by more than 30%.

Moreover, Makro has improved the quality of its vegetable offerings under the "Quality Pro" label.

This quality guarantee has been jointly developed between Makro and its farmer suppliers, and involves quality assurance monitoring throughout every step of the process - from cultivation to packaging and shipping – to ensure that international standards are met.

To enhance the confidence of Islamic food customers, produce sold in its meat zone section, such as frozen beef balls, beef sausages, chicken, beef, lamb and goat meat, are all produced in line with the Halal standard, certified by the Central Islamic Committee

Such produce - meat and vegetables - is now available at Makro Phuket.

"The renovation of Makro Phuket will contribute to an effort to upgrade tourism infrastructure and service businesses in Phuket to provide for sustainable development," concluded Mrs Suchada.

- Phuket Gazette

Andaman tourism campaign aims for 20 million tourists

WORAVAT Auapinyakul, Minister to the Prime Minister's Office, has told the Phuket Gazette that he expects the "Andaman – The World Experience" tourism initiative to attract more than 20 million tourists to the region.

At a meeting at Phuket Provincial Hall last week to chart the progress of the tourism initiative, Mr Woravat said that intense competition within the tourism industry meant that the Andaman provinces needed a unique strategy to maintain visitor numbers.



Woravat Auapinyakul

"The best way would be to build on the good things the provinces already have, such as local culture, traditions and food. Andaman provinces are the country's most popular tourist destinations. The "Andaman - The World Experience" will showcase to the world that, besides the white-sand beaches and beautiful sea, there are also historical, natural and cultural sights to experience," said Mr Woravat.

The festival, to be launched by PM Yingluck Shinawatra at the Blue Elephant Royal Thai Cuisine in Phuket Town, will be held from November 9 to 11. Also reported as the "Andaman Culture Festival", the event will feature a carnival parade with each of the provinces presenting their own unique charms.

"Each province will design their own theme, focusing on the culture and history along with existing tourist attractions that best represent their location as a holiday destination. The festival will also showcase stage performances, exhibitions and activities arranged by each province, which will also produce an events calendar to inform visitors of special occasions going on in their province over the coming year," explained Mr Woravat.

Mr Woravat believes that the project will add a definite boost to tourism in the Andaman region, stating that a figure of 20 million tourists per year was a realistic target. Moreover, he sees the initiative ensuring that income is distributed to every facet of the Andaman tourism industry.

Mr Woravat went on to explain the various themes to be adopted by each of the coastal provinces.

Krabi, under the slogan "43,000 years Krabi, adventure wonderful Andaman" will give tourists the opportunity to discover a lost ancient empire and how ancient inhabitants lived. Phang Nga province has chosen more recent times with "2,000 years Phang Nga, the wonderful beauty of the Andaman" being their slogan.

Not to be outdone, Phuket has focused on its modern history, going with the slogan "400 years Phuket, the wonderful glamor of the Andaman", which will focus on the Sino-Portuguese historical aspects of the city and the wide variety of nationalities and cultures found in Phuket. Ranong has focused more on recent times too with "150 years Ranong, the endless wonderful Andaman", and will highlight its pristine mineral water and natural resorts and spas to match. Trang province's slogan is: "100 years Trang, the wonderful heaven of the Andaman", focusing on their "many wonderful places" and range of different cultural dishes. Satun, isn't bothering with history and has gone for: "Wonderful Andaman romantic Satun, it's a very beautiful province".

For more information about the festival, also see story on page 39. - Kritsada Mueanhawong



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Indochinese rice federation planned THAILAND and Vietnam are establishment of the federation at

preparing to establish the region's first federation of rice producers and millers, which will also look to include Laos, Myanmar and Cambodia.

According to a report in The Nation, the idea would coincide with ASEAN's plan to promote growth of the agriculture industry, boost incomes for farmers and ensure food security in the region.

Commerce Minister Boonsong Teriyapirom said ASEAN leaders were expected to announce the the ASEAN Leaders Summit in Cambodia next month.

Thailand's Foreign Trade Department will talk with Laos, Myanmar and Cambodia to secure cooperation under the concept as well, Mr Boonsong said.

Under the concept, Thailand will support investment in silos and warehouses in Vietnam to increase rice-stockpiling efficiency and bargaining power for Vietnamese rice producers.

Because of Vietnam's low ricestorage capacity, it has to ship rice quickly after it is harvested.

Thus it has low bargaining power to boost prices in the world rice market.

Meanwhile, India emerged as the world's top rice exporter this year. According to the most recent report by the United States Department of Agriculture, India to date has exported 9.75 million tonnes of rice.

It was followed by Vietnam (7mn tonnes), Thailand (6.5mn tonnes), Pakistan (3.75mn tonnes) and the US (3.5mn tonnes).

- The Nation and Phuket Gazette

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

Sansiri to build the Base Uptown

LOOKING to build on the recent sell-out success of "The Base Downtown" condominium in central Phuket, Sansiri recently unveiled their new "The Base Uptown" earlier this week.

The 'urban lifestyle' condominium project will feature a total of 387 units in three buildings, each with seven floors.

The project will span a five rai (8,000 square meters) plot adjacent to the bypass road, and comprise 351 one-bedroom units that range from 32.5 to 33.5 sqm, as well as 36 two-bedroom units from 55.5-57 sqm.

Speaking at the project's pre-sale project launch press conference, Mr Uthai Uthaisangsuk, senior vice president for condominium business and project development said that he expected the project to change the lifestyle of its buyers

under the slogan "You are where you live".

The one billion baht project's construction is expected to commence by early next year and be completed within two years after that.

Its facilities include a swimming pool and kid's pool, exercise room, garden and recreation area and wireless internet, which will be available in the lobby and by the swimming pool.

Sansiri's has launched its Base brand, targeting mostly the mid-income tier, in three prime markets in the Kingdom: Phuket, Bangkok and Khon Kaen. Its first Phuket project, "The Base Downtown" launched sales in the second quarter of this year and sold out within a week.

At the start of this year, Sansiri earmarked 24 billion baht to launch



DIFFERENT MARKET: Sansiri is looking to target the mid-upper condominium market with the Base brand.

44 projects worth 46bn baht and to buy land for more projects next year. Of the total capital-expenditure budget, 6bn baht was to be spent on acquiring undeveloped land and 18bn baht on construction of the 44 projects.

The firm's inaugural Phuket project in Kathu, the 556-unit

'dCondo' development instantly sold out in October last year and the 653 units in its second Kathu dCondo offering launched in January this year also sold out with unprecedented speed.

Sansiri recently acquired a large area of land in Mai Khao where they are expected to

develop a project aimed at the high-end market.

Prices for the Base Uptown start at 2.1 million baht and there is a free iphone 5 those who take advantage of the open reserve.

For more information, visit Sansiri.com.



Let it spin, spin, spin...



I'M IN the midst of Sunday Bloody Sunday. Yes, the day journey to the crux has left me on the virtual edge of the cliff. There is no turning back. Is this jig up?

Mastering the art of confusion takes practice. Jumping onto the turntable of life just keeps you returning back to the start all over again.

This morning started out innocently enough.

The cover story of the International Herald Tribune is about (alleged) looting of China by El Supremo Wen research piece and a prime example of quality investigative journalism. Remember that? It's a bit like the return of a long lost uncle who went missing in the Amazon, or else ended up in rehab.

When they come back from the dead, there is a slight feeling of deja vu and memories of a place forgotten. Dust off the cobwebs and the hard cold light of day almost gives you shivers.

Some familiar names show up in the piece, including investors in greater Phuket. New World's Henry Cheng and Richard Li's big daddy Li Ka-Shing. Indeed family ties bind all the way from Beijing to Hong Kong.

Now the s*** has really hit the

wo-bedroom Pool Villa

fully furnished • rental program

Residence Club Membership

fan. Tech savvy goons in high places have blocked access to the New York Times and it's on-line content. Did he? Didn't he? It's all too much as an infomercial on comrades in arms is beamed in and Thailand's Panda Channel is in the pocket as Plan B.

Of course the lines between heads of state and enterprise have blurred the world over. Lest we forget that near to our heart story

'Considering hotel room event arrangements are just being made now, and most resorts have had their New Year's Eve functions planned for many months, this entire event has Jiabo. It's an incredible locals scratching their heads and asking, is this real, imagined or just a last minute scramble to the finish line?'

> of a hard working Thai police Lieutenant Colonel, who rose to control a telecommunication empire and eventually rule the country.

It seems anything is possible when you double down on politics and business. Is it acumen, luck, hard work or just plain corruption, nepotism and greed? Far be it from me to say, readers will need to make their own judgment. Just jump on the revolving platter of life and away we go, and whoa here we come back again...

Last week the spin-doctors were in full operating gear with the announcement of a two-day ultra party at Surin Beach. Paris Hilton appeared at a press conference in Bangkok (remember Paris? She's yesterday's version of Kim Kardashian), backing Sydictive Element's bash, which is supposed to cater to up to 50,000 people.

Do the math and the entire proposition seems to be over the top. The organizers have only

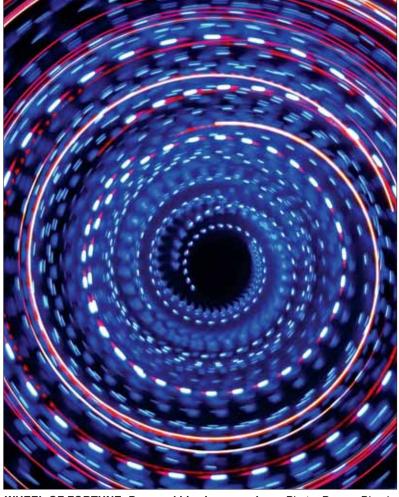
lately been scuttling to secure hotel rooms in the area. Come on guys, I have a good Rolodex, and trying to get a room on New Year's Eve-time with little more than two months away seems to be sheer lunacy.

Typically events of this scale take one or two years in the planning, but now the rush is on for a last minute hail r

Apparently international music acts, which include LMFAO, Bassment Jaxx, and Ken Ishii. Throw in a floating stage and the plot starts to get thicker than day old khao tom.

According to media reports certain parties such as the Governor's office, and the Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) know about the event but someone forgot to tell the local Cherng Talay OrBorTor, who administrate the area. Considering hotel room event arrangements are just being made now, and most resorts have had their New Year's Eve functions planned for many months, this entire event has locals scratching their heads and asking, "Is this real, imagined or just a last minute scramble to the finish line?".

Yet, the Sydictive spin has con-



WHEEL OF FORTUNE: Personal bias is everywhere. Photo: Pranav Bhasin

tinued with pictures of Paris giving us a wai, and staggering estimates of expected attendees, which leapfrog stories about busing in visitors from Mai Khao. Perhaps someone told them Phuket actually did have a mega conference center way up north.

My mind is busting just trying to figure out how this thing will work. Or won't. Apparently the TAT is embarking on yet another 'amazing' theme... though some rather unflattering taglines come to mind.

But yet, as we've learned in the strange but true stories of political and business success, which are joined at the hip, anything is indeed possible.

Personally, I certainly hope so, for Phuket's sake.

I mean, that cool hipster Jesus was way out in front creating the world in just six days and turned up for a chill out session on Sunday. Which, is exactly where we came in. Just jump on board and spin, spin, spin away.

Properties for sale within Laguna Phuket Allamanda Studio Allamanda 2-Bedroom Suite THB 7.7 M · 2 beds 2 baths Condominium 1 bed 1 bath Condominium freehold • pool view · golf view · freehold · fully furnished fully furnished 4 beds 3 baths Residence 2-storey 4 beds Townhome lagoon view • private pool golf course view • freehold fully furnished • maid's quarters private pool Banyan Tree Residences THB 42 M For more information on these and other properties, please call: +66 (0) 76 362 333

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All properties are included Golf Membership & Laguna Resident's Privilege Card

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Hua Hin grabs investment

FRANK Khan, head of the residential department of Knight Frank Chartered (Thailand), said recently that the prospects of the Hua Hin property market were bright.

Property sales in the resort town have almost doubled in more recent years, as many of the country's leading developers, including Sansiri, Q House, SC Asset, Land and Houses and LPN, have started

planning new projects. Their contribution to the market has also strengthened the competition.

In addition, new retail developments, such as the massive Bluport Hua Hin Resort Mall, are boosting buyer interest in the area. On the supply side, the number of new seaside condominiums will drop given the scarcity of land for real-estate projects, though there are still some plots available in areas such as Kao Tao, Puk Tien and Pranburi.

Khan said the accumulated supply of condos up until the first half of year was 17,349 units, marking an in-



View from the top of the Hilton Hua Hin. Photo: Pranav Bhasin

crease of 6,000 units at the end of last year from The Energy project, which is mostly comprised of one-bedroom units.

During the first half of this year, there was a new supply of approximately 4,000 units, which is quite high. Rise in demand has been reflected by the more than 1,600 units sold in the first half, compared to some 1,300 units sold

in the same period last year. However, demand has not risen at the same rate as supply.

Buyers are generally Bangkok residents looking for a vacation home and the proportion of foreign buyers is not very high.

Khan explained that a new subgroup of local buyers was emerging, largely comprised of young professional Thais, whose parents already own a second home in the resort town. He said that since they already have close ties with Hua Hin, they want to buy smaller units to call their own. - The Nation



INFINITY AND BEYOND: View from pool villa at Regent Cape Panwa.

Regent Hotels trying to make a comeback

AFTER an absence of two and a and prime locations, especially half years, Regent Hotels & Resorts, is setting its sights on finding three properties to manage in Bangkok, Chiang Mai and Hua Hin.

The company currently manages a property in Phuket which is expected to open in December. Regent Phuket Cape Panwa offers 105 rooms and expects to keep 50 per cent of them occupied in the first year of operation.

Regent Hotels believe Phuket's tourism outlook remains stable, thanks largely to direct flights from abroad and also the growing services from low-cost carriers to drive room demand.

President Ralf Ohletz said "That it was hard for the company to play a bigger role in the Kingdom because market competition had become more intense in Bangkok, were even more difficult to secure. Its expansion plan will go step by step when the right time comes."

The company is looking for 30 more properties worldwide to manage, up from the seven it has at present.

Half of these properties are in Asia, including Thailand, China and South Korea.

The firm is scouting opportunities in the Asian region, especially in Myanmar, to follow the implementation of the Asean Economic Community in 2015.

The Regent Hotel chain disappeared from Thailand after Four Seasons Hotel bought it from Grand Formosa International Corporation, based in Taipei. - Phuket Gazette

Marriott International set to expand in Asia-Pacific

recently announced that it expected to more than double the size of its portfolio in the Asia-Pacific region in the next few years.

With 132 hotels open in Asia today and signed and approved deals in the pipeline now totalling an additional 143 properties, the company expects to grow to at least 265 hotels by 2016, with more than 80,000 rooms in 16 countries.

Simon Cooper, Marriott International's president and managing director in Asia, said the company was delighted with its growth in the region and believed it was a great testament to the popularity of its brands.

The company expects to launch new brands in the region soon, with the introduction of Fairfield by Marriott in India next year and its Edition brand in Bangkok in 2014.

Marriott International currently operates eight brands in Asia and the Pacific: Bulgari Hotels & Resorts, Ritz-Carlton, JW Marriott, Renaissance Hotels & Resorts, Marriott Hotels & Resorts, Courtyard by Marriott, Marriott Executive Apartments and the recently launched Autograph Collection of hotels that debuted in Asia this month with

the opening of The Stones Legian in Bali.

The company witnessed the doubling of membership in Marriott Rewards, its awardwinning loyalty programme, in Asia last year. Marriott Rewards grew to more than a million members in China alone, a country that continues to lead the company's Asia growth. With 127 open and signed hotels in China, the company expects to open on average of one hotel per month there for the next five years.

In India, 23 hotels with Marriott International's brands are under construction and the company is likely to grow from 15 hotels to more than 50 in the next few years.

Across Asia, the company signed 13 new hotel deals in August alone. These include a luxury Bulgari hotel in Shanghai. Courtyard by Marriott Amritsar, a Marriott in Hengyang in China's Hunan province, and a Renaissance hotel in Xuzhou. Jiangsu province.

Marriott already has a significant market presence in the key Chinese cities of Beijing, Shanghai and Hong Kong. The company is now entering emerging primary and secondary cities



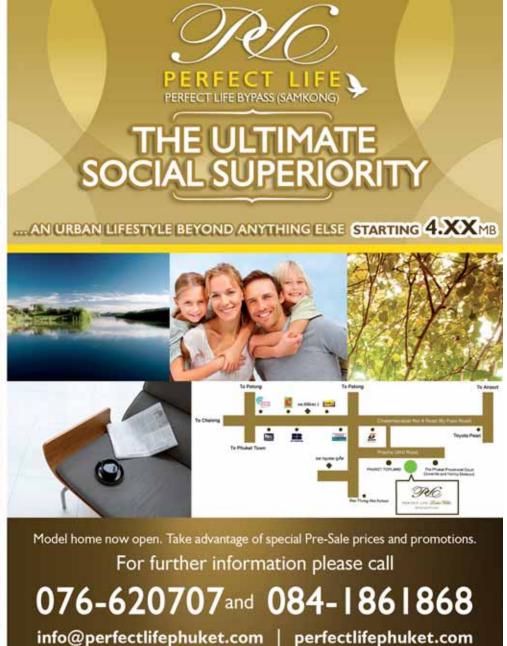
Renaissance Phuket's lobby

across China and further enriching its portfolio through the addition of more resorts.

Marriott is currently operating in 11 Chinese provinces and expects to be operating in an additional 13 provinces and regions by 2016 including Hunan, Heilongjiang, Inner Mongolia, Sichuan, Anhui and Macau, which represents an additional 32 Chinese cities.

Marriott International expects to have hotels in 24 of the 34 provinces, municipalities, autonomous regions and special administrative regions in China by 2016. - The Nation





Electric smile

EVERY now and then Phuket takes a small step that can make all the difference. The small news story noting that Phuket has a new power substation to assist with its array of step-down transformers to feed the hungry power sockets of Phuket has the amplitude to mean a lot to a lot of people (see page 2).

The Koh Kaew power station is one of only three in Phuket that takes the central power feed from the mainland and transforms it to a lower wattage so it can be deployed to other substations, which in turn supply the homes, businesses, hotels, bars and restaurants across the island.

As boring as it sounds, this small advance means far fewer blackouts, especially in the north of the island, where much of Phuket's urban sprawl of residential development is spreading at an alarming rate. And anyone who has spent even a year on Phuket knows just how embarrassing, tiresome, troublesome, unhandy, unseasonable, unsuitable and untimely a blackout can be.

For years the *Gazette* has reported the scheduled blackouts enforced by the Phuket Provincial Electricity Authority (PPEA) so that its workers can carry out maintenance on the high-voltage wires strung across Phuket in the hope that advance notice may help business owners and families to prepare for the power cuts.

But such news is often overlooked by island residents, including the recent good news that these "obligatory Earth Hours" are already on the wane.

Also seemingly forgotten was when German electricity grid experts provided and installed – for free – a switching center in Chalong that redirected power supply so that areas affected by blackouts in the south of the island would continue to have power supply by rerouting the feed through another part of the grid. It was an ingenious simple innovation that has gone generally unappreciated since.

It might serve us all well to remember that only a handful of years ago a blackout on Patong's Soi Bangla received national recognition in a daily newspaper for the way the locals – in the middle of the tourism low season – cheered the entire length of the street when the power went off and cheered again two hours later when the power came back on. Such was Phuket.

Today, grumbles among residents can be heard when any of Phuket's infrastructure creaks under the strain of the rapid rate of development. By comparison, even the mighty Las Vegas took 50 years to sustain a population of a million people. Phuket's done it in under 20. Granted, gangster gone good Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel had to ward off a federal government during those growth years, while Phuket allegedly has had the support of one, but the comparison still holds true.

The days of day-long power cuts were not long ago, so the next time our island encounters yet another power hiccup, it may be best to appreciate what is being done to alleviate the inconvenience, instead of complain about it. A flicker of gratitude can go a long way, and appreciating how far we have come in such a short time frame can be as easy as flicking a switch.

Phuket Gazette

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Editor: Chaiyot Yongcharoenchai News Manager: Chris Husted Features Editor: Marc Mulloy

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

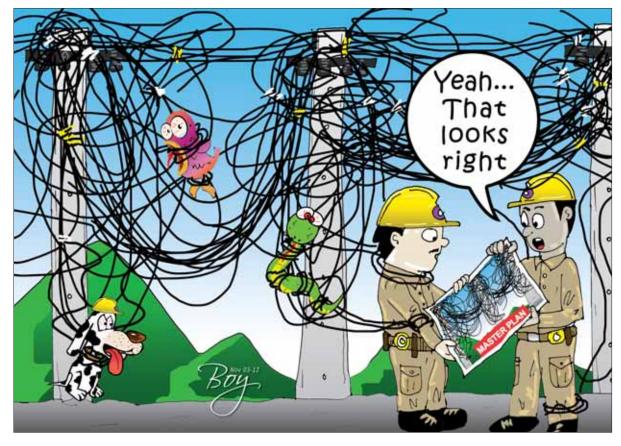
Contact us:

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

Telephone: 076 273555 (10 lines) Fax 076 615240 79/94 Moo 4, Thepkrasattri Rd, T. Koh Kaew, A. Muang, Phuket

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Time for a topside cleanup

This morning we took a walk on Kata Beach. I must say it looked better than ever before. It was clean and the water looked beautiful. I wish it was like that all the time. However, the end of the beach was full of litter and it spoiled my good feeling about this "can be" a beautiful beach.

Would it be a mission impossible for the Thai tourism authorities to actually hire a person or two to keep the beach clean on daily basis?

It was a pleasure reading how the cleanup campaign did some great work under water last week. This is something that only the divers see, but the beach is in front of the eyes of everyone.

Nature Does Wonders

Blasted fireworks!

Re: Gazette online, Fireworks row ignites corruption scandal, October 28

I'm a tourist staying in Karon right now. The fireworks that disturb us through the night are a blight on your beautiful island. In fact, they're the only things I will be complaining about when we check out.

There doesn't seem to be any coordination or control, just random disturbance.

Wake up, Phuket. Families come to stay in Karon and Kata for peace and quiet, not senseless, childish noise through the night.

Jamie Gazette forum

'Bang, bang, bang,' ... then sweet silence

Re: Gazette online, Fireworks row ignites corruption scandal, October 30

Just to report that last night was the first time in 18 months without a single "bang". If it was your

Letters

to the Editor

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

article [that made the difference], well done, keep the pressure up.

The fireworks have been intolerable. The Boathouse had one stray through their full dining room last New Years Eve.

Hong Kong has banned them. The worst are the six-pack clusters, which make our building shake. It is the touts who sell them to people leaving bars at all hours [that are the problem].

Kenneth Gilham Phuket

Anti-drug campaign must target booze

Re: Gazette online, National antidrug campaign targets three highrisk Phuket areas, October 27

Would be good to have a project that really helps treating everyone, including foreigners who have a drug abuse problem. And when I say drugs, that includes alcohol and cigarettes.

Also, it would be good if all alcoholic beverages, including beer, and cigarettes were more expensive. Drinking and smoking in Thailand is way too cheap.

Mario Gazette forum

Say 'no' to Paris Hilton's party

Re: Gazette online, Sydictive 'super new year Phuket beach bash' still to jump bureaucratic hoops, October 26

I live in the Surin Beach area and have no desire to have 50,000 visitors overloading our community, during a three-day period when most of the local hotels are already full to capacity.

This would mean thousands of vehicles clogging the underdeveloped roadways between Cherng Talay and Patong.

In Bang Tao Village, all it takes is a small kiddie parade to cause the traffic to be backed up for five kilometers in all directions.

Thanks, but no thanks.

Gazette forum

No sympathy for single mothers

Re: Gazette online, Phuket Opinion: Forgetting children in island development, October 28

How about a little personal responsibility?

Before I made the decision to have children, I thought through the financial consequences first. Except in the case of rape, having children is completely avoidable.

If certain women have an uncontrollable urge to reproduce, then take a low-cost pill every day.

No sympathy for the mothers, but huge sympathy for the resulting children who had no choice.

Sad For The Children Gazette forum

Changing the story

Re: Krabi Police not to investigate British 'sex attack' claims – for now, October 30

Isn't it interesting how the story changes over time and the truth slowly comes out. But notice how many expats jump on the bandwagon screaming how bad things are in Thailand?

Oh, the poor tourist. Every single country has issues with crime but does the expat living in Thailand blast and criticize his own country? Never... only the one they're in.

Ivan Gort Gazette forum

Greasing the wheels of conflict resolution

IT WOULD be a good idea if other departments made us their point of contact for handling complaints. As the Damrongtham Center exists solely to deal with complaints, it would be a lot quicker if we knew which department or office to direct the many issues we come across.

As our primary mission is to solve people's problems, we have to work quickly. I often think that if government officers thought like us, it would speed up their conflict resolution and sort out some 90 per cent of complaints.

One of the main reasons people come to see us instead of the office they have a problem with is trust. They don't have confidence in those officials to solve their problems.

People lodging complaints with us should bring along any documentation related to the case. Once here, with our help, they can complete the official paperwork.

We receive people's complaints through a variety of channels, directed from government offices, via the mail to PO Box 101 or from the Governor's Office. We also receive complaints sent on from government offices, including the Office of Prime Minister, Ministry of Interior and the national headquarters of the Office of the Ombudsman in Bangkok.

From October 1, 2011 through September 30, 2012, the Phuket Damrongtham Center received 257 complaints on various subjects, such as land encroachment, destruction of the environment and social issues. The last group covers everything from bars disturbing residents to perceived failures of justice within government organizations. Recently, most compaints



Prapan Kanprasang, 48, is the chief of the Phuket Damrongtham Center (provincial Ombudsman's Office), a position he has held for two years.

In a career that has spanned more than two decades, he has worked in provincial offices in Prachuap Khiri Khan, Surat Thani, Krabi and most recently as the chief of the Phuket Provincial Office's administrative division.

Here, he explains how he believes the Damrongtham Center can become more effective in resolving conflicts.

officers issuing land documents or have been about the police.

Another role we take on is that of the Office of the Consumer Protection Board (OCPB). That desk has had 72 cases during the past year, ranging from product quality complaints to misleading merchandise advertising.

However, more than 100 cases that we've heard don't count in the official figures as they fall outside of our jurisdiction. Most require legal action or going to court. People in those situations often come and ask for advice.

The number of complaints reaching our center has increased this year, mainly because there are more channels available for people to send them in.

Above all, we are continually striving to improve our team and the procedures we use. That makes people happy and they pass that on to others.

At best, we try to resolve the problem on the same day and not leave the aggrieved parties hanghave concerned either land ing around our office, but that's

not always the case. If someone reports a problem in the morning, often we will be able to present that to either Phuket Governor Maitri Inthusut or Phuket Vice Governor Somkiet Sangkaosutthirak that afternoon or the next day. They will then review the case and get the investigation rolling.

In cases that involve a dispute between people (or groups), we try mediation first. If we are unable to resolve the argument amicably, then it's up to the courts and our involvement ends.

We have been successful in 160 of the 270 cases taken on by the Damrongtham Center. Add to that the 40 of 70 cases handled by the OCPB, which has managed to recover about 6 million baht for those who filed complaints with us.

Other cases are still in the pipeline. Complaints that involve different or many organizations take more time to sort out. However, we try hard to keep pushing for quick results.



Many of the talented artists gracing the Phuket International Blues and Rock Festival 2011 won't be seen on the island this year. Photo: Gazette file

Lack of culture shock

THE recent announcement that the Phuket International Blues and Rock Festival is being postponed this year, due to the lack of a suitable venue to host it, was sad news indeed. Considering the high caliber of musicians who have attended during the past seven years it is hard to understand that no one has stepped up to "save the blues". For live music lovers, like myself, this festival was an oasis in an otherwise cultural desert.

Paris Hilton's two-day New Year rave party on Surin Beach may appeal to some of the younger well-heeled expats on the island, but for those us with graying hair, listening to LMFAO is likely to have us ROTF clutching our ears.

The Punchline Comedy Club puts on an excellent show three or four times a year and last week's was hilarious, but the unfortunate truth is that quality acts and venues are sadly lacking on this island despite its stated aim and claim of being some sort of tourism hub.

Sure, we have the Vegetarian Festival and a few other "local" events which, while sometimes spectacular, do not really tick the culture box for me. Occasionally a resort will accommodate a piano recital or an art event such Island View

By Roy McAllum

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

as the excellent Live Art with Romadon show held at Mom Tri's Villa Royal recently. Hard Rock Cafe have a concert worth going to now and again, but is this really as good as it gets?

Bangkok, for example, has Tommy Emmanuel, Elton John, Chicago and Sting, all performing in the next couple of months. Has anyone ever thought of asking them to do one night in Phuket? Maybe they have, but we are back to the original problem of finding a suitable venue. Now that it seems the promised International Convention and Exhibition Center (ICEC) has been cancelled, the future for any form of international entertainment seems to be hopeless. Maybe it is time for somebody, somewhere to start imagining what a boost to tourism regular concerts and shows would bring to Phuket. Apart from providing locals and expats with the opportunity to get some much needed culture, a named artist would bring even more tourists to

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

Project Manager of my very own house Boxing Captiva

If I'm married to a Thai national and have all the correct paperwork to build a house in Phuket, can I act as my own Project Manager without a work permit?

I would interview and hire contractors, supervise the work, give advice and supervise all activities on the work site day by day – but I would not get paid. I will simply live in the finished home with my wife.

Want a House Kathu

Jeeraphan Sookhwan, Chief of the Work Permit Department, **Phuket Provincial Employment** Office, replies:

As a foreigner, even with a Thai



Offering 'free' adivice on building your own house. Photo: Oregon Husky

wife, you cannot act as your own Project Manager without a work

Jobs related to engineering and architecture are reserved for Thais. However, if an international

company sponsors your work permit as a "Project Manager" you can function in this capacity.

Normally, foreigners having their own houses built in Thailand hire a Thai person as the Project Manager.

Where can I purchase and have fitted a stylish-looking roof box for a Chevrolet Captiva that is easy to remove and refix, and what is the approximate cost?

> Jonathan Britchford Phuket

Narong Kingkaew, Anuphas Repair Center, Car Accessories Department Manager, replies:

We have a range of sizes of roof boxes to choose from, starting from 80 by 60 centimeters.

You can come to see us and select which style of box you like. The price altogether is about

40,000 baht. The box itself costs upwards Send us your queries and we'll ask the right people to respond to them.

Submit your issue at

www.PhuketGazette.net/ **IssuesAnswers**

of 20,000 baht and the brackets to secure the box to the car start at a little over 10,000 baht per set.

For more information come to our office, located near the Shell gas station on Phra Phuket Road in Kathu.

Our office is open Monday to Saturday, from 8am to 5pm. Alternatively, call us at 082-4863524.

18 PHUKET GAZETTE November 3 - 9, 2012



Condominium business and Project development for Sansiri, recently shared details of a special campaign regarding the launch of THE BASE Uptown Phuket at their sales gallery near Central Festival Phuket.



HATS OFF TO THE LADIES: Phuket International Women's Club (PIWC) held a hat making workshop at Underwoods on October 25. From left to right are Carol, Norma, Gay, Athena and Shirley (the hat making expert).



PSSSSST: Pictured at the October 26 VIP and press Secret NA THALANG Dinner preview are from left: JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa's Director of F& B Joerg Delin; JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa's GM Tony Pedroni; Deputy Phuket Governor Chaiyawat Thepee; NA THALANG Limited's host Norman G Jones; NA THALANG Limited's 'enheritour' & chef Premchit Prateap Na Thalang; Channel 11's director Sudruetai Lertkasem; TAT Phuket Office's director Chanchai Doungjit and JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa's marketing and communications manager Kewalin Sukumjittanon.



BRAVO: Georges Ciret (left), wine director from The Boathouse Wine & Grill receives the 'Best Restaurant List' award from Jon Hyams, event producer of Wine List of the Year Awards 2012 (see page 40).



ALL ABOARD: Raffle sellers at Act II of the 2012 Phuket Dinghy Series organized by the Phuket King's Cup Regatta (and below).



ECO-FRIENDLY: Brittany Minnaar helps clean up at Koh Racha Yai.



LOY AND BEHOLD: Villagers decorating a boat for the twice-yearly Sea 0 Loy Reua festival at Laem Tukkae on Koh Sireh.



WINNING SMILES: Indigo Pearl resort's director of sales and mark Mrs Anna Olsson accepts the 'Asia's Leading Design Hotel' award 2012 World Travel Awards.









3 Spices Restaurant

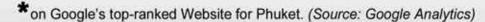
One of Phuket's modern restaurants, serving quality authentic cuisine emphasizing only the best of Asian traditional food. Service with a smile and located in a prime area, 3 spices is ultimately the best choice for a boisterous night out.

Opening hours: 11.00 am - 12 Midnight

Your weekly

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 Gazette Classifieds – they work! Because they're REAL.

Property Classifieds

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NICE HOUSE 88SQ WAH



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

RAWAI LAND

10 land lots, totals are 2.9 rai in Rawai, close to Chalong. 5.5 million baht per rai. Negotiable. Quiet, elegant residential green area. Cheap price. Must sell. Tel: 084-898 8258 (Thai), 090-504 0093 (English). Fax: 076-613691. Email: nang493@ gmail.com

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Special price, modern style, 30sqm, 1 bedroom, 1 living room, 1 pantry. In Kathu, 3km to Patong. Full set of built-in furniture. Ready to move in! Contact Ya. Tel: 081-797 5138.

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lion baht. Ready to move

in. For more info call 089-

472 9118.

30 RAI IN TOWN

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

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.

LAND FOR SALE

Soi Salika, Rawai. At the end of Tsunami evacuation point. Chalong Bay and Big Buddha view. 1 rai + 77sq wah (1,908sqm). No landscaping needed. No brokers. Tel: 084-745 4132.

LAND NEAR MISSION HILLS



Pa Khlok. 2 rai 32sq wah,

SINGLE HOUSE



In Thanapa Park View village in Koh Kaew. 57sq wah, with 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, a kitchen, a carpark and a garden. Price: 2.35 million baht. Contact owner. Tel: 083-180 2143. Email: nana1225@ gmail.com

60m wide. Chanote. Located on Tha Ruea-Pa Khlok-Muang Mai Rd. 11 km from Heroines' Monument. Price: 7.8 million baht. Tel: 089-472 9118. Email: honda.1437@ hotmail.com

IN KOH KAEW



Corner unit, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, fully furnished. 3.5 million baht. Tel: 089-472 9118.

D CONDO 1, KATHU

-29.94sqm, mountain view, price 1,278,000 baht.

-29.70sqm, mountain view, price 1,280,000 baht.

-29.79sqm, pool view, price 1,330,000 baht.

-29.70sqm, pool view, price 1,365,000 baht. Contact Vutdy on 081-892

DCONDO KATHU

3709.

Ready to move in soon. 2 very choice units (30sqm). Sell separately or together. Fully furnished with aircon. Tel: 081-899 7202 (English & Thai). Email: yukaland1@gmail.com

NICE PLOT FOR SALE



Near Layan Hill Estate. (Manik-Bang Jo area). Ready to build housing/ pool villas. 1,400sqm. Chanote title. Price: 7.2 million baht. Neg. Contact owner on 080-520 2989. Email: edc9designs@ gmail.com

TOWNHOUSE



HOUSE FOR SALE IN BAAN PROMPHAN

Phuket Cottages

Near British International School, pool-villas starting from THB 8,800,000

www.phuket-cottages.com

Call: 089-724-7211

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

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

VILLA FOR SALE, **PHANG NGA**

Khok Kloy area. House of 400+ sqm on 4 rai of land. Large 3 bedrooms and 2 baths. Laundry, storeroom, garage. Price: 10 million baht. Tel: 076-494166, 087-284 9679 (English & Thai). Email: g_lovece@hotmail.com

URGENT SALE/ RENT



House in Patong. Newly built 40sq wah, near Sea Pearl project, Patong. 2 storeys, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, fully furnished, 2 aircon, kitchen with hood, refrigerator, dining room, living room, hot water, cable TV and internet. Tel: 089-469 1813.

PHUKET VILLA 5 VILLAGE



For sale. Price 4.5 million baht. No agents, no furnished, with 4 aircons, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen and car park. Behind Kajonkiet International School on Chao Fa West Road, 5 minutes to Central Festival. For short or longterm rent, 16,000 baht per month. Call to see 087-270 9093.

PRIVATE SALE OF HALFARAI

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

SAFE & SECURE RESIDENCE

3 beds, 2 baths, single house in Land & Houses Park. Selling 5 million baht. Tel: 088-450 2939 (English & Thai). Email: trin.klinkeaw@gmail.com

RAWAI LAND SALE

1 rai in Soi Suksan, flat land, freehold, concrete road and electric access. Quick sale! Tel: 089-472 9870. Email: dchaibut@gmail.com

in these pages are



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All classifieds

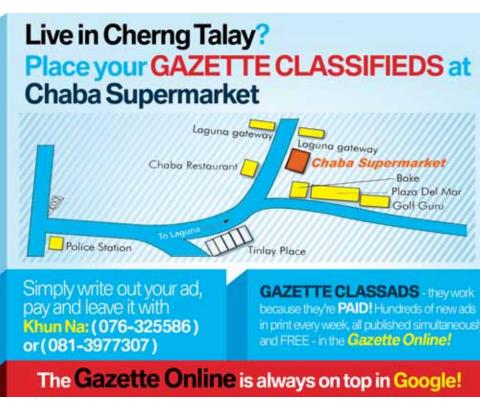


- vour assurance that whatever's advertised here is seriously for sale.

PHANG NGA BAY VIEW APARTMENT



2-bedroom, 2-bathroom apartment with spectacular views over Phang Nga bay. In the East Coast Ocean development, very close the Ao Por Marina. 5 million baht ono. Tel: 084-189 3070. Email: simon@phuketfood.com



Property Classifieds PHUKET GAZETTE



www.tamata-phuket.com or www.phuketvillabyowner.com Please contact: crishausb@hotmail.com | Eng: 086-2713260 or 086-2734149

PHUKET VILLA

CONDO PATONG

New condo. 1km to beach.

near Bangla Rd and Jung-

ceylon, 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@

PRIVATE SALE,

PATONG CONDO

1 bedroom, 53.5sqm, front po-

sition, 2nd floor, block B Haven

Lagoon Condo. Sale: 3.9 mil-

lion baht. Negotiable! Tel: 085-

069 0938 (English). Email:

LAND FOR SALE.

KAMALA 700SQM

1km from the sea & center,

electricity and water supply.

Chanot title. 3.5 million baht.

Tel: 080-528 1536 (English &

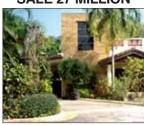
Thai). Email: nc.residence@

gmail.com

nnorthwo@hotmail.com

gmail.com

THIDA HOUSE **SALE 27 MILLION**



Thai-style modern townhouse with land. Size: 10.50m x 10.85m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms with living room, dining room, kitchen and car park. Single house on land size: 15m by 10.85m.2bedrooms,2bathrooms with living room, dining area/kitchen, terrace and car park. Soi Mountain View Kathu Waterfall. Tel: 081-535 7585, 084-119 4262, 081-356 9754. Email: pee cho74@hotmail.com

POOL VILLA IN PAR LAI

Large 2 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, pool villa, fully furnished with European kitchen and exercise room. 12.7 million baht. Tel: 085-438 2289 (English). Email: arcurtis1@hotmail.com

REAL ESTATE FRANCHISE

If you are interested in "Siam Estate No Office", please contact us now. Tel: +45-2345 6480, +45-234 5648. Email: admin@siamestate.eu

HOUSE FOR SALE

Bang Tao area, 2 bedrooms, fully furnished, 3 aircons, 110sqm. Only 3 million baht. Tel: 090-156 7927.

HOUSE IN PHUKET VILLA 5 FOR SALE



46sq wah, furnished, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 aircons, carpark. Only 3.5 million baht. Tel: 081-787 7675.

CONDO FOR SALE! Foreign freehold. Great

KARON HILL

sea view. 100sqm, 1 bedroom, fully furnished. Near the beach. Luxury upgraded. Good rental return. Bargain price: 6.9 million baht. Agents welcome. Tel: 086-747 9292. Email: claudstrey@gmail.com

SURIN BEACH BLOCK

5-storey (5x100sqm) units overlooking Kings park and Surin Beach for sale. Ground floor commercial restaurant. 2 apartments + 2 storey penthouse. All very modern & open plan. Email: stewartlees@ gmail.com

5.9 MILLION BAHT, 2 BEDROOMS+POÓL

2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3.5x7.5m pool, walking distance to Nai-Harn Beach. Westernstyle kitchen. 308sqm land. Freehold. Need photos please email to gm@thenetworkproperty.com

HOUSE FOR SALE: URGENT



4.9 million baht, 89sq wah (includes furniture). Stone wall around the house & fruit garden. 4 air conditioners, telephone and internet. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 CCTV. Located near the Heroines Monument, towards to Tesco Lotus Thalang. Tel: 080-520 2989. Email: edc9designs@ gmail.com

HOUSE IN KAMALA



For sale. 2 houses on land. 1 ngan 89sg wah. Chanote title, near mountain, peaceful and safe, 10 minutes from the beach. 5.5 million baht direct from owner. Tel: 083-180 2143. Email: nana1225@gmail.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

HOUSE IN RAWAI

Great location, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Private car park, sea view. Sale: 4.5 million baht. Negotiable. Tel: 084-441 0605.

WIDE CONDO 30SQM 1.08 MILLION BAHT

Will be finished and ready for occupancy in June 2013. Tel: 083-648 9899 (English & Thai). Email: jub2829@hotmail.com For further details, please see our website at http://thewide condo.livejournal.com/

POOL VILLA SALE

Bang Tao, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 390sqm. 650sqm land chanote. Fully furnished, large terrace, 2 car parks, auto gate. Tel: 090-156 7927.

BAR RESTAURANT FOR SALE/RENT

Famous Frog club poolbar and restaurant for sale. 550,000 baht. Can make good price, depends on what's included. Tel: 082-278 7377 (English & Thai), +46-73-989 6508 (English). Email: runolarsson@ live.com

BEAUTIFUL 4-BEDROOM VILLA

500sqm villa, 800sqm land, private pool. Rawai. Sale: 25 million baht with 10 years finance. Tel: 087-893 8747.

SEA FRONT VILLA



Luxury brand new villa, fully furnished and ready to move in, 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms with infinity 10m long swimming pool and truly beautiful sea view. Located only 50m from the sea and 3 minutes from Grand Ao Por Marina. For sale: 19.9 million baht. Tel: 081-343 0777. Email: montha_phuket@yahoo.com

KAMALA HOUSE **FOR SALE**



Near Phuket FantaSea. Price: 3.2 million baht. Negotiable. Tel: 081-719 1041. Email: teddykong0222@ hotmail.com

CONDO AT ROYAL PLACE



Condo at Royal Place Project, bypass road, opposite Tesco Lotus. 37sqm, 2 floor, 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, kitchen, fully furnished (2 aircons, washing machine, refrigerator, TV, microwave, cable TV, 24 security with key card etc). Pls contact for more deatlis. Tel: 089-469 1813, 086-476 9612.

FREEHOLD CONDO **PATONG**

Patong Condotel, 7th floor, 28 sam. Fully furnished, kitchen. new bathroom and aircon. Seaside, 1.45 million baht, Tel: 084-844 7693 (English & Thai). Email: heijojo@hotmail.com

ALLAMANDA (LAGUNA)

Residences/Phuket Condo unit, half of a deluxe twin house, fully furnished and equipped, set direct on the picturesque lagoon with balcony right over it. 3 bedrooms, each with shower/bathroom roof terrace. Long-term rent or sale. Tel: 081-737 0365. Email: utaipan@yahoo.com

6-BED POOL VILLA, **RAWAI BEACH**

Sale: 8 million baht, brand new, 80% owner finance, furnished, 200m to pier. Tel: 084-242 8914. Email: rawai4@ yahoo.com

Classified Advertisements

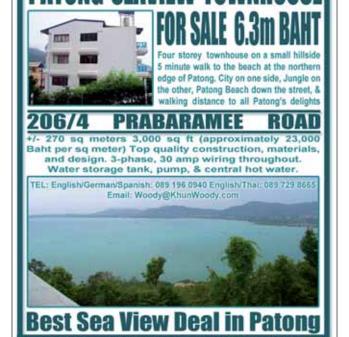
Please use this form to write your classified advertisement. Then hand it to any of our agents.

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

All advertising must be paid for in advance.

Deadline for Property Gazette page: Friday 3 pm. Deadline for all other ads: Saturday 12 noon.



Looking for land to buy?

See more classified ads at www.phuketgazette.net

Property Classifieds

Properties For Rent

COZY HOUSE FOR RENT



near Nai Harn. House built to high grade, furnished and conveniently located minutes from Rawai and Nai Ham Beaches. 2 spacious bedrooms with ensuite bathrooms. 1 guest toilet. Aircons. Large living-dining room. Telephone line with ADSL. Free water supply and garbage removal service. 22,000 baht/month. Contact K. Nui. Tel: 087-383 0936. Email: hunt17@hotmail.com

STUDIO APARTMENT

Furnished, PCC golf, kitchen, aircon, WiFi, washing machine, cable TV. Contact Tim. Tel: 086-947 1273.

SAIYUAN THAI HOUSE

For long-term rental (1 year): 50,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-693 0935 (English & Thai). Email: bitong1@yahoo.com For further details, please see our website at www.thaistyle poolhouse.com

PATONG 2-BEDROOM TOWNHOUSE

3 bathrooms. Western-style house and nice kitchen, WiFi, LCD. 30,000 baht per month. Tel: 082-498 0872. Email: elangold@gmail.com

PATONG APARTMENT LONG-TERM RENT

8,000 - 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-290 9567.

ROYAL PLACE CONDO

1-bedroom apartment, fully furnished, washing machine included, available on 11 Nov, opposite Tesco Lotus. Tel: 085-069 0938 (English).

KATA HILL ONE BEDROOM

Fully furnished, 1 bedroom, terrace, bath, kitchen, aircon, internet and cable TV. Rent: 9,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-606 2827 (English & Thai). Email: nij017@hotmail.com

CHEAP KAMALA

Single house, fully furnished, aircon, free cable & internet, quiet. 6-month lease: 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-826 7287.

NEW HOUSE FOR RENT, PATONG

1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, living room with full western kitchenette. All extras. Aircon, internet, LCD, IBC. Modern furnished, quiet setting near Nanai. Rent: 13,000 baht per month. Tel: 084-185 8536.

NICE HOUSE IN CHALONG



Single house (74sq.wah) with lovely garden for long-term rent in Soi Parichart, Land & Houses Park. It has 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms, 24 hr security + clubhouse facilities. Price: 25,000 baht per month or special price of 20,000 baht per month without furniture. Contact the owner. Tel: 081-867 6466 (English & Thai). Email: bow.jariya@gmail.com

2-BEDROOM HOUSE, BANG TAO



2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, terrace, living room, parking, fully furnished, cable TV, internet, 2 aircons, hot water. Only 5 mins to Surin Beach, Bang Tao Beach and Lotus Cherng Talay. Tel: 089-470 7488. Email: nattamon.m@gmail.com

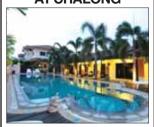
BAR RESTAURANT FOR SALE/RENT

Famous Frog club poolbar and restaurant for sale. 550,000 baht. Can make good price, depends on what's included. Tel: 082-278 7377 (English & Thai), +46-73-989 6508 (English). Email: runolarsson@live.com

PRIVATE RENTAL PATONG

1-bed apartment, 58sqm. Phuket Villa Condo. Available from early December the best. Tel: 085-069 0938 (English). Email: nnorthwo@hotmail.com

5 STUDIOS & POOL AT CHALONG



1 bed, kitchen & share pool: for short, long term. Quiet place. Price: 14,000-20,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-809 2625. Email: phuketdee1@ yahoo.com

PHUKET VILLA 5 VILLAGE



For Sale. Price: 4.2 million baht. No agents!, not furnished, with 4 aircons, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen and car park. Behind Kajonkiet Internation School on Chao Fa West Road, 5 minutes to Central Festival. For short or long-term rent, 16,000 baht per month. Call to see 087-270 9093.

CHAOFA GARDEN HOME, 2 BEDS

Fully furnished, 2 beds, 2 baths, 2 aircons, living room, kitchen, fridge, dining and washing machine. Long-term rent: 16,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-048 6906 (English & Thai). Email: j7chin@gmail.com

REAL ESTATE FRANCHISE

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HOUSE AT PRIME PLACE VILLAGE



Near Heroines' Monument. Furnished, aircon, 3 bedrooms, cable TV, kitchen. Tel: 086-607 7493.

Live in Rawai?

Burawana Villa

Davinci O

Crepes Restaurant O

SEAVIEW CONDO IN PHUKET TOWN

Fully furnished, brand-new, high security, gym, pool. Long-term rent: 22,500 baht per month. Tel: 081-895 3628.

PATONG HOUSE AND CONDO

House, 2 bedrooms, quiet. Close to Patong center, big space. Start from 23,000 baht per month. Modern condo with swimming pool, gym, sauna, cable, WiFi, security. Center of Patong Beach. Special price from 1,500 baht per night. Tel: 089-868 8668.

2-BED HOLIDAY APARTMENTS

For rent, communal pool, 3 minutes walk to the beach. Email: resortgm@gmail.com

ALLAMANDA (LAGUNA)

Residences/Phuket Condo unit, half of a deluxe twin house, fully furnished and equipped, set direct on the picturesque lagoon with balcony right over it. 3 bedrooms, each with shower/bathroom roof terrace. Long-term rent or sale. Tel: 081-737 0365. Email: utaipan@yahoo.com

TOWNHOUSE IN KOH KAEW



Comer unit, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, fully furnished. 3.5 million baht. Tel: 089-472 9118.

Place your GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS at

The Network property office

Phuket city, bypass road, opposite Tesco Lotus, 45 sqm, 3 Fl at the corner with swimming pool view.

CONDO AT

ROYAL PLACE

Phuket city, bypass road, opposite Tesco Lotus, 45 sqm, 3 Fl at the corner with swimming pool view. 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, kitchen, full furnished (2 aircons, hot water, washing machine, refrigerator, TV, microwave, 24 security and internet provided). Pis contact 085-4769612 Email, annanol1@hotmail.com

CHALONG BEACHFRONT POOL VILLA



At Rawai. For rent. 3 bedrooms, fully furnished. Land: 1 rai. Contact Siriporn. Tel: 089-649 9939.

PRIVATE POOL VILLA RENT, RAWAI

3 bedrooms, fully furnished, located in security area. Tel: 089-472 9870. Email: dchaibut@gmail.com

BEACH HOLIDAY APARTMENTS

Fully equipped, kitchen, 2 bedrooms. Beach 3 minute walk away. Email: resortgm@gmail.com

AWESOME 3-BED POOL VILLA, KATA

5 minutes walk from the beach, super spacious 3-bed villa, also 2-bed apartments. Common pool. Email: resortgm@gmail.com





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Serenity Resort

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Property Classifieds

Property Services

RUS @ THAI No.1 Real Estate Agent in Russian market. List your property with us. Tel: 085-690 6052

Email: office@rt-pro.ru

www.rusthai-property.ru

PROPERTY VALUATIONS

Qualified Valuer - An expert property inspection and written valuation provided. Tel: 076-288908. Email: richard@ siamrealestate.com For further details, please see our website at www.siamrealestate.com/ sellers/property-valuation

ESTATE CONDO VILLA MANAGEMENT

Experienced hotelier and team, extensive estate and villa/apartment management. Managing multiple projects. Also available as consultant. Email: resortgm@gmail.com

Property Wanted

PROPERTY RENTALS WANTED

Siam Real Estate have tenants waiting for holiday and longterm rentals NOW! Call us for details and rent out your villa/ apartment immediately. Tel: 076-288908. Email: info@siamrealestate.com For further details, please see our website at siam realestate.com

Simply write out your ad,

Khun Kai: (076-344321-2)

pay and leave it with

Accommodation Available

HOUSE CHALONG

2 mins from Chalong Circle. Two bedroom furnished house in great location with 24-hour security. Modern and quiet estate.11,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-079 9788 (English & Thai). Email: michael higgins 7@dodo.com.au

KATA LUXURY SEAFRONT VILLA

3 bedroom villa on point of Kata Beach headland. Built up 320sqm;15m above sea; spectacular Andaman Sea views; 6mx15m infinity pool. Villa surrounded by dense foliage; has spacious balconies; outdoor showers in natural settings; very private & secluded. Thai, Japanese, and Balinese design influences & artifacts. Excellent Thai cook and maid provided. Tel: +65-9-621 0254 (English). For further details, please see our web site at www.housephuke t.com

500 BAHT / DAY, **ROOM RAWAI BEACH**



1 bedroom, aircon, WiFi, pool, 300m to beach. www.thaidreamvilla.com. Tel: 084-242 8914. Email: Rawai4@yahoo.com

KATA LUXURY



3bedroom villa on the rocks on Kata Beach Headland, Built up 320 sqm, 15m above sea with spectacular Andaman Sea views, 6m x 15m infinity pool. Villa surrounded by dense foliage, has spacious balconies, outdoor showers in natural settings, very private and secluded. Thai, Japanese, and Balinese design influences & artifacts. Excellent live in Thai cook. Contact James Hunt. Tel: +65-962-10254. Email: sea vest@singnet.com.sg For further details, please see our website at www. housephuket.com

Accommodation Wanted

KARON, APP. OR **SMALL BÚNGALOW**

Searching in Karon for: an apartment or small bungalow for at least 1 year, beginning December or January. Furnished, clean, airconditioning ,internet, shower, toilet. Email: ffkaiser@gmx.net

HOUSE WANTED

House with land or pool villa wanted in Chalong or Rawai up to 5 million baht. Please include photos. Email: apetagna@ bigpond.net.au

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and FREE - in the Gazette Online!

Holiday Homes & Villa Rentals

KATA BEACH 3 BED 3 BATH

Big new family home with 180° Ocean View from every room. 150,000 baht per month for rental long term.Tel: 081-003 6902 085-274 8626 (English & Thai). Email: contact@purist.biz

LAGUNA HOLIDAY **CLUB RENTAL**

Holiday rent at Laguna Holiday Club Resort for new year week from 29 Dec 2012 - 5 Jan 2013. 1 bedroom suite for 4 persons, only 70,000 baht. Tel: 089-795 6363.Email: vicky_grc@hotmail.com See at www.laguna holidayclub.com

KAMALA BEACH

Private, quiet, guest house. 2 bedroom apt at 2,600 baht per night, or 1 bedroom house at 1,800 baht per night. Kitchen, European bathroom, A/C, cable TV/DVD, ADSL, swimming pool. Tel: 076-385 909, 087-277 5216 (English). Fax:076-385 909.

LUXURY POOL VILLA FOR RENT

Located just outside Laguna, this new 3bedroom pool villa is available for long and short term rent. Tel: 081-891 1826, 081-891 1826(English), 081-891 2926 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-238940. Email: keving@loxinfo.co.th

Building Products & Services



Household Services

HOME MAINTENANCE

ASC Phuket Co Ltd offerS full home maintenance services. Gardeners, maids, pool service, urgent minor repairs (electricity, plumber, etc). Give us a call and we'll take care of your villa, condo or office.Tel: 076-388 065, 081-693 1509 (English & Thai).Email: bytonyk@ gmail.com

FARANG HANDYMAN

Clear communication, all types of work on time and done right! Tel: 081-787 9767. Website: www.farang-handy man.com

PHUKET HOME MAINTENANCE

Renovations, house repairs, painters, tilers, electricians, plumbers, carpenters, construction. Fluent English-speaking boss. Free quotes given. Contact Rin. Tel: 084-193 5124. Email: phuket homemaintenance@ yahoo.com

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Email: info@oceanicmanagement.com

Household Items

FURNITURE SALE

Household furniture, a genarator and a tuk- tuk for sale in very low price of 50% less. Tel: 089-504 7253, 089-008 6562. Email: jpgermi@yahoo.com

HITACHI, SMALL FRIDGE FOR SALE

Price is just only 6,000 baht.Tel: 076-273 237, 082-989 8809 (English). Email: karen_leongsk@ yahoo.com.sg

Live in Patong? Place your GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS at **Taurus Travel Patong Beach** THAWEEWONG RD. ANDAMAN BEACH BAN SAL SIAM COMMERCIAL BANK GAZETTE CLASSADS - they work

The Gazette Online is always on top in Google!

Looking for land to buy?

See more classified ads at www.phuketgazette.net

Classified Advertisements

Please use this form to write your classified advertisement.
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Classified ads are charged per line. Each line is 120 baht, with a minimum of 4 lines (heading included) per ad.

All advertising must be paid for in advance.

Deadline for Property Gazette page: Friday 3 pm.

Island Job Mart

PROPERTY CONSULTANT (Sale/Rent)



High end, mid-size Villa development with panoramic views of the Phuket West coast THE VILLAS OVERLOOKING LAYAN, is seeking a qualified professional to join its hands-on team.

PROPERTY SERVICE/SALES EXECUTIVE

Looking after all aspects of property management, customer service, related administrative work as well as assisting the directors in property sales.

Highly-motivated, outgoing personality with good command of the English language, directly reporting to the Directors of the

- Good command of English language
- Property sales experience in luxury residential project
- Strong administrative background
- Able to interact with foreign villa owners
- Thai National, female

Attractive remuneration package will be offered to the right candidate

Send your resume with recent photo to email: office@thevillasoverlookinglayan.com www.thevillasoverlookinglayan.com

SENIOR ARCHITECT

Phuket-based architectural practice urgently requires a senior architect to oversee design of luxury villa and hospitality projects. Proficiency in written and spoken English required. Please send CV and expected salary to: info@ imedgeconcepts.com

GUESTHOUSE RECEPTIONIST

Thai national. Aged up to 30 years old. Good English. Tel: 084-876 7220.

SALE/MARKETING

Marketing employee urgently needed. Male or female. Good salary. Tel: 089-618 6894.

BARTENDERS AND WAITRESS

Thai national, English speaking, some experience, good looking and manners. Training will start on 1st of November 2012 at Nai Harn. Tel: 084-509 1975(English). Email: laterrazzaphuket@ hotmail.com

IT OR AV ENGINEERS

Thai nationality, can speak English. Please send CV to Email: info@techworx-pro ject.com

WINE & TAPAS BAR

Staff required in Phuket town, available on October 2012: bartender, helpcook, waitress. Tel: 083-969 7807.

HARVEST RECEPTION (Office/Booth) Bachelor / University. Motivated and hard working to obtain the results. Men/Women Thai nationality. Preferably 25-35 years old. Active and well organized-pro, Excellent command of written and speaken English. Minimum 1-2 years experience in selling property is an advantage.



MARKETING REPS NEEDED

EZYSTAYS looking for marketing representative. No experience required, full training provided, work permit and good income. Email: leoinphuket@gmail.com

WEBSITE PROGRAMMER REQUIRED

Must have solid HTML and CSS coding experience with knowledge of JavaScript and PHP. Design and English skills are the advantage. Immediately start. Email your CV to messenger.alexander @gmail.com

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A leading Home Automation and MEP Engineering company in Cherng Talay is looking to fill: | M&E Engineer Autocad draftsman Good Salary. 5 day week. Email: info@avcphuket.com Fax: 076-615811

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Small international restaurant in Kalim looks for independent working kitchen chef with experience in preparing Thai and international dishes. Tel: 080-555 2377 (English & Thai). Email: 55inkalim@ gmail.com

LUXURY VILLA MANAGEMENT COMPANY

Requires Western Villa Maintenance Manager. Must be fluent in both English and Thai, and have extensive maintenance/construction experience. Some hotel operations experience would also be beneficial. High level of responsibility. Flexible hours. Applicant must have current driving license and vehicle. Tel: 087-881 0003. Please send CV to hr@phuketvilla sandhomes.com

OPERATION/ADMIN MANAGER

vacht charter co is looking for an Operations/ Admin Manager. Thai nationality. Key tasks: yacht provisioning, cleaning control, staff coordination for the charter, secretarial work and basic accounting. Own car is necessary. Email: sales@fivestarseacruises.com For further details, please see our website at fivestarsea cruises.com

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Marketing Executive (Inhouse)

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We require proactive, self-motivated and confident

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Candidates with the above qualifications should submit

a resume with a recent photograph to

nachon.obyam@vacationclub.com

Marriott Vacation Club (Thailand) Ltd.

234 Maikhao, Talang, Phuket 83110, Thailand

Marketing Executive (OPC)

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The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following position:

Phuket Gazette

REPORTER

- ► Thai national (able to read, write, speak fluent Thai)
- ➤ Ability to communicate clearly in English
- ► Clear thinking in order to identify what makes a good news story
- Initiative and enthusiasm to track down a story
- ▶ Photography skills
- ▶ Able to manage own time effectively
- Knowledge of Burmese an advantage
- ► Driver's license

Good salary for the right candidate.

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV by email to Isaac@PhuketGazette.net

The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

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

ARCHITECTURE

Thai national wanted. Ability to use AutoCAD, Sketch-Up and 3D-Max is a must. Tel: 081-788 1639. Email: sec@ phuketawnings.com

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Beautiful spa in Karon is looking for new receptionist and cashier. Good salary. Call for more information. Tel: 087-894 5585.

RUSSIAN GUIDE

Thai-speaking Russian or Russian national. Urgent! Tel: 089-618 6894.

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We are seeking natives German/Austrian or German-Swiss speaking people for our Call Center in Chalong. They will be responsible to support our inbound hotline for our overseas clients in Europe. We offer 5-day work with visa and work permit. For further information please call Khun Klaus.Tel: 089-873 9123.

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Please contact Carla. Tel: 081-968 5963.

Authorized Agents for Classified Advertising:

CHALONG

- Julapan Stationery (Chaofa East Rd)
- KL Mart (Patak Rd, Chalong Circle)
- Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppe (Fisherman's Way Business Center, Chaofa East Rd)

PATONG

- Taurus Travel (Aroonsom Plaza)
- Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppe (Aroonsom Plaza)
- Deli Supermarket (Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd)

PHUKET CITY

- Earth Language Training Centre School (Phang Nga Rd)
- Sin & Lee (Thalang Rd)
- iTree complete printing service (Tesco Lotus Phuket Town) bank zone

CHERNG TALAY

Chaba Supermarket (at the Laguna gateway)

Tel: 076-325586

RAWA

The Network property office (Saiyuan Rd)

Tel: 076-613173

KARON

EuroStyle Tailors (Luang Por Chuan Rd)

Tel: 076-396911

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Secretary/PA Communicate both Thai and English in verbally and writing Have a knowledge in MS Office Required organizational skill, maintain file, database and working procedure Office working based at Boat Lagoon Interesting candidate, please email to farrimond.sam@gmail.com

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We are looking for a Thai female with teaching skills for four English teachers and our security guards. Tel: 076-336 084, 081-607 6637, Fax: 076-336 085. Email: pornthip@ sgsphuket.com

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► Fluent in English

A team player

Able to work to strict deadlines

Naturally curious about the world, especially

Phuket and what affects its residents

PageMaker or InDesign, required.

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QUALIFIED TEACHER NEEDED

Female teacher needed to teach 3-5 year old kindergarten students. Send CV and photo please.Tel: 076-521550, 084-847 0732. Email: info@ smiley-kidz.com

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The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the

following position:

Newspaper experience and/or layout skills, esepcially in

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV and

writing sample by email to editor@phuketgazette.net

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- Good written and spoken English.
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Based on qualifications and experience.

Please submit your resume with photo and expected salary to office-manager@tech worx.asia or call: 081-080 3773 for more details.

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Customer service agents needed for expanding internet fashion retailer. Are you CS experienced, Thai, hard working, computer savvy and fluent in English? Salary of 17-27,000 baht per month. Tel: 076-289472. Email: grahamkay@mac. com. For full details see our website www.holyclothing. com/htmlx/work.html

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Jagota Brothers Trading Co.,Ltd. Long-time, wellestablished food importer and supplier to hotels and restaurants welcomes applications from experienced salespeople. Must be fluent in written & spoken English. Background in food industry preferred. Must have own car to visit customers. Tel: 082-790 5143. Please forward resumes and references to George. Email: george_d @jagota.com

NATIVE ENGLISH TEACHER

To start in November and work every weekend. Degree, TEFL/ TESOL certificate and CV required. Tel: 081-978 1558 (English). Email: info@brainyhouse.com

British International School, Phuket

British International School, Phuket is looking for candidates to fill positions in the following areas:

• Account Payable Accountant

Qualifications

- Thai Nationality, Bachelor's Degree in Accounting
- Good/strong Command of written and spoken English
- Computer literate and able to use AccPac is a plus
- Chef

Qualifications

- · Bachelor's Degree in food related degree and/or culinary training and/or related experiences to ensure quality dishes are served
- · Two or more years in food industry or business with management skills and food safety
- · Modify and create new menus as needed, Thai food & European food
- English competency, Computer literate

• Teacher's Assistant

Qualifications

- · Thai Nationality, Bachelor's Degree in related field
- · Teaching qualifications and experience of child care / teaching preferable
- Good command of spoken and written English

• IT Technician

Qualifications

- Thai Nationality, High vocational certificate/Bachelor Degree in related computing
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- · Ability to communicate in English
- · Enjoy working with others in a team atmosphere

Security

- Qualifications
 Thai Nationality
- · Male with previous experience
- Committed to work and able to communicate in English

Interested candidate please submit your cv and recent photo to patcharakornt@bisphuket.ac.th or sirirats@bisphuket.ac.th



British International School, Phuket (BIS) 59 Moo 2, Thepkrasattri Road, Koh Kaew, Muang, Phuket 83200 Tel: 076-335555 # 2113, 2110 Fax: 076-335573



in Patong is a foreign operated property popular with guests from Australia and USA. BYD continually runs at a high occupancy level.

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Restaurant Manager

- Must be fluent in spoken Thai & English
- Strong computer skills knowledge of Comanche a plus!
- Have strong leadership skills to lead, train and motivate a team
- Quality service oriented
- Previous hotel management experience in Phuket a plus

Executive Chef Good knowledge of international cuisine

 Have strong leadership skills to lead, train and motivate a team

Additional vacant positions

- Waiter / Waitress
- Guest Service Agent (English speaking and writing, male preferred)
- Room maid

- Room boy
- Cleaner
- Technical Engineer

BYD Lofts Boutique Hotel

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SALES CONSULTANT REQUIRED

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DIVE AND SURFSHOP

Requires female staff with English skills. Tel: 089-874 9147.

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Tel: 081-968 5963. Contact

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THAI BOOTHSTAFF

Good salary, can speak English. Contact Carla. Tel: 081-968 5963.

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

General Classifieds

Articles For Sale

WASHING MACHINE & MOUNTAIN BIKE

- Samsung washing machine. Unused, still in box. Sale: 15,000 baht.
- 2 mountain bikes. Sale: 10,000 baht and 4,000 baht. Respectively. Tel: +852 02 865 1013. Email: cmcgee@ netvigator.com

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Bar & Restaurant Equipment

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Shop Equipment

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Business Opportunities

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6 double bedrooms, big kitchen and bar, hillside location. 4 and 1/2 years on lease left, extendable. All key money prepaid. Rent: 24,000 baht per month. Sale: 1.6 million baht. Tel: 087-078 6379, 082-286 5171 (English & Thai). Email: nanaisauna @yahoo.com

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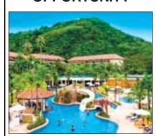


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sort in Karon seeks retail tenant. Excellent yearround occupancy. Flexible rental terms. Must sell quality merchandise. Contact Boonchu. Tel: 076-396200-5. Email: fcckr@chr.co.th

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PATONG BAR FOR SALE

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Hotel for sale. At 157/2 Nanai Road, Patong Phuket. 21 hotel rooms, 6-months prepaid rent, 8 years on contract, get ready to make money in high season. Owner is going back home. Make an offer. Contact Vince in Australia, Tel: +042 111 6838. Email: info@pit stoppatong.com For further details, please see our website at Suite DreamsHotel.com

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On Sawatdirak Road, opposite White Sand Resortel, a minute's walk to the beach. Tel: 076-342108, 081-892 7480 (English & Thai), 081-607 5716 (English & Thai). Email: Nanzz86 @gmail.com

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Perfect location in commercial area at The Royal Place, Tesco Lotus, Bypass road. 3 floors for living home and office, 2 beds, 2 baths, 4 aircons and kitchen area. Ground floor installed with glass frontage, granite floor. Sale or long-term rental: 35,000 baht per month. Tel: 084-293 7923 (English & Thai), 081-854 0061 (English). Email: mrgeoffcurry@yahoo. com

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Bar for sale. At 62 Bangla Road, Patong, Phuket. Get ready to make money in high season. Owner is going back home. Make an offer. Contact Vince in Australia. Tel: +042 111 6838. Email: info@pit stoppatong.com For further details, please see our website at www.pit stoppatong.com

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Situated in Nanai 8. Recently passed kitchen hygiene rules and fire safety. Pool table, new karaoke sound system, beer cooler, etc. All licenses valid until 2013. No key money. Sale: 750,000 baht or nearest offer. Tel: 083-592 6247 (English), 083-690 7014 (English). Email: micknppr@hotmail.

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Education



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The Faculty of Hospitality and Tourism (FHT), Prince of Songkla University led by Assoc. Prof. Puwadol Butrat, Vice President for Phuket Campus and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Prathana Kannaovakun, Dean, Faculty of Hospitality and Tourism has entered into agreement with IMI University Centre (IMI), Switzerland led by Mr. Laurent Joliat, Member of the Executive Board, on academic collaboration between the two institutes. FHT and IMI will jointly develop and offer a 3+1 program to FHT students where students will study 3 years at FHT and will then take five months of courses and complete a five month internship at IMI, Switzerland. Students who participate in the program will be awarded with 3 degrees including BBA by FHT, BA with Honors by IMI, Switzerland and BA with Honors by Manchester Metropolitan University, UK. The program is due to be launched in July 2013.

Faculty of Hospitality and Tourism Awarded the 2012 Best Practices

Faculty of Hospitality and Tourism, Prince of Songkla University (PSU), Phuket Campus was a recipient of the 2012 Best Practice Organisation Award.



The Faculty of Hospitality and Tourism (FHT) was one of very few faculties in PSU rated with a score of above 4.50 out of 5.0 by the Office for National Education Standards and Quality Assessment on the 3rd round of university external assessments. On 26th September 2012, the university organized the 2012 PSU Quality Award Event with the main purpose to congratulate the success of the award recipients and provide a platform for knowledge sharing among faculties. On this special occasion, Associate Professor Dr. Prathana Kannaovakun, Dean of FHT, was invited to receive the award for recognition of this success. The award was presented by Associate Professor Dr. Chusak Limsakul, the President of PSU at PSU International Convention Centre.

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Miscellaneous For Sale

SNUFFLERS

Set of five. Rounded edges with alloy spleen tables. Only 3 yrs old, no glinkle. Can be used without bessors or BRTs but not in tandem with cleester bins. Price new: 4.200 baht each. Will sell now at 12,000 baht for full set. Located Rawai, pics available. Email: jackmartin3@ gmx.com

Personals

GIRLFRIEND VISA PROBLEMS?

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Many homeless pups & adult dogs, all breeds & sizes looking for a loving home & someone to take care of them. Please contact:

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serviced. Email: thai

orientalinn@hotmail.

com

Toyota Hiace 1997. 2.5 diesel. Minibus. High. 350,000 baht. Honda Civic 1995. Silver. Manual. 3 doors. 175.000 baht. Tel: 076-281196. 085-692 6507. Email: robin.xtrem egap@gmail.com

SALE FORD ESCAPE 3.0 XLT



Year 2004. 140,000km. Price: 560,000 baht. Contact Noppadol. Tel: 089-589 5453. Email: sopasalon@hotmail. com

TOYOTA COROLLA GXI

1996. Auto. 2 owners. low mileage, first-class insurance December 2012. Great aircon, P.S., etc. Sale: 175,000 baht o.n.o. Tel: 087-279 8286.

CHEVROLET CAPTIVA

Half a year old. White. Contact Alex. Tel: 089-651 3250.

Pick-ups

TOYOTA HILUX VIGO 3.0

Turbo diesel 2009. Automatic. 46,000km, like new! Sale: 580,000 baht. Tel: 087-889 4588.

PICK-UP WANTED

4 doors, automatic, low mileage. Around 450,000 baht. Contact John. Tel: 087-078 6743 (English).

Motorbikes

MOTORBIKES FOR SALE

Used bikes for sale. Honda Click, Air Blade, Yamaha Mio, Yamaha Fino. 16,000 -25,000 baht. Available for rent. Tel: 084-446 8965.

YAMAHA MAJESTY 400



2008 model, only 26,000 km, green book, excellent condition. Price: 155.000 baht. Tel: 087-893 1753.

FOR SALE - YAMAHAS

125cc and 115cc. Yamaha Mio and Yamaha Fiore. Direct to us from finance company. All bikes are 2011 and 2012. Registered and in firstclass condition, very low mileage. Green book. Call for more details. Tel: 058-801697, 087-881 1775.

4 x 4s

4X4 MITZUBISHI PICK-UP, AUTO

4-door, automatic, 2004 with 135,000km. Runs well. Red/ silver. Price: 275,000 baht. Tel: 087-885 8708. Email: tomasholmberg77@hotmail.

MULTISTRADA



084-054 8122.

HONDA PHANTOM FOR SALE



150cc. 10,819km. Good condition. Green book. Price: 32,000 baht. Contact Mananya. Tel: 085-471 5043.

YAMAHA FINO **FOR SALE**



2008. Lady owner, ridden only in Phuket Town, with green book. Asking price 23,000 baht. Tel: 084-889

DUCATI



1 owner, 1 year old. 6,000km. Termignoni pipes side pans. As new. 1.4 million baht. Now sale: 1.1 million baht. Tel:

CAR RENT

Car rent full insurance, start from 12,000 baht per month. Contact Nina.Tel: 087-461 5471.

MOTORBIKES FOR RENT

Honda PCX, Airblade, Click, good price, free delivery. No passport deposit. Tel: 087-075 2166. Email: omaral guraini@hotmail.com





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Honda Wave 2,000 baht per month. Automatic 2,500 baht per month. Tel: 087-282 3724. Email: tachibana-hiroki @hotmail.co.jp



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The Boat Lagoon Marina Phuket Contact: Marcus Overman Mobile: 081 968 1437 Tel/Fax: 076 239 729

Yacht Haven Marina Office The Yacht Haven Marina Phuket Contact: Jim Poulsen Mobile: 081 891 3237 Tel/Fax: 076 206 260 Email: jim@leemarine.com

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TOUR BOAT FOR

2 years old, wooden hull 15.1m x 3.9m, depth: 1.2m. Tonnage (Gross): 20.02t. Hino diesel 185hp, speed 10 knots, reg 28 pax. Price: 1.2 million baht. Contact Mut. Tel: 081-894 7565. Email: info@seacanoe.net

43FT CRUISING CATAMARAN

2 double cab, saloon, galley, built 2011 in comp. 680,000 baht. Tel: 087-461 8089.

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sergio.lidsimpsonmarine.com

18hp, Kubota diesel. This tidy little sailboat has crossed both the Atlantic & Pacific Oceans. Reduced to only US\$19,000. Contact Alan. Tel: 084-842 6146.

BOAT MOULDS FOR SALE

Various sizes monohull and catamaran power boats. Email: pktthai1@gmail.com

NEAR NEW INFLATABLE TENDER

West Marine hypalon. 3.5m RIB + SAIL, with Yamaha 15hp 4-stroke outboard. Tel: 087-388 3090 (English). Email: penelopewest@yahoo.com.au

21' CENTER **CONSOLE (2005)**

250hp Mercury Verado. Electric windlass, trailer. Just 799,950 baht. Contact Alan. Tel: 084-842 6146. www.boat shedphuket.com

ARRIVING FOR THE HIGH SEASON

"Karnic Powerboats" and "Alessandro Marchi" RIBS. Quality boats at great prices. For details, contact Alan Giles. Tel: 084-842 6146. Andaman Boat Sales

SAILING BOAT

for sale. Small sailing boat (jolly) 4.1m incl. trailer and outboard, 80,000 baht. Tel: 081-081 3232 (English). Email: antonwechsler@yahoo.de

Looking for a boat?

See more classified ads at www.phuketgazette.net

BOAT SPEC AS BELOW

Builder: Maxum Model: 21'SC Build Year: 2005 LOA: 21'8"

Beam : 8'6"

Draft: 2'9"

Engine: Mercruiser 5.0L 250HP Conditions: Excellent Engine Hour: Less then 200Hr

PRICE: B980,000.00



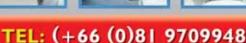












BAYLINER 205 BOWRIDER (2009)

TKS with under 100hrs. VHF radio, echo sounder & trailer. Only 899,950 baht. Contact Alan. Tel: 084-842 6146. www.boatshedphuket.com

NEW KARNIC



Suzuki 140hp & trailer. Full factory warranty. Price: 1,299,950 baht. Contact Alan. Tel: 084-842 6146.

BOAT SHARE

1/4 share in two boats; one Riviera 48 and one Gulfcraft 34. Fully equipped for diving, fishing, touring. Prof management and crew, Boat Lagoon. Tel: 081-895 1724 (English). Email: smuldersos@hotmail.com



NEW KARNIC

Contact Khun Paew at our office Phuket Boat Lagoon paew@lambertbrothers.co.th

Tel: + 66 76 273 385

.lambertbrothers.co.th



Bimini, factory warranty. Suzuki 90hp & trailer. 999,950 baht. Contact Alan. Tel: 084-842 6146.

SOLUTIONS TO THIS WEEK'S

CrypticCrossword



9 C R O S S W O R RINTER S P E

14
T I L E S 11 P E Т 13 R O V E R 17 S I D L E M E N T I O N 22 T H E E N D 1 1 G N O R E R T P H U E F U S E 31 I N N A M
E T S V T P E P T O N E R G A 41 S W E E T I R I 43 N S T A T I O N 44 M O N O C L E

Aircraft For Sale

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AIRPLAY ALTIS MICROLIGHT

Superb trike with Konig radial engine. Great economical fun. Little used. Please contact for more information. Tel: 089-111 6457 (English & Thai), 081-397 7598 (English & Thai). Email: kajoda1954@yahoo.co.uk

1999 ROBIN 2160i

I would like to sell my Robin aircraft or trade it for a 4-seat Cessna or Piper (based in Hua Hin). The Robin: TTAF 300hrs. SMOH 60hrs. This is a well-equipped, two-seat aerobatic aircraft. Has the Christen inverted oil system. Excellent inside and outside. King KMA24 audio panel, KX155 nav/com, KI203 vor, KY197A comm, KN64A dme, KR87 adf, KT76A transponder, CSPA400 i-com, FP5 fuel computer, CHT, OAT, Pitot heat. Price: 4 million baht. Please contact Thom. Email: thos_w@ hotmail.com

TECNAM P-92

- Price: 1.5 million baht
- Registration: U-B08
- Year of Manufacture:
- Equipment: Full standard equipment
- Engine: Rotax 912-80HP 350hrs.

Please contact for more information. Aircraft is based at Klong 15. Tel: 081-840 8418.



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.



Built: 1976 Registration: HS-AWS

Previous Registrations: N4798W - USA N479GE - USA I-ECCE - Italy G-BVNL - UK

(in Thailand for the last 6 years)

Lycoming IO-540-T4B5D (1,300 hours, 700 hours to TBO). Prop: B3D32C419/82NHA-5. Overhauled Feb 2011 (7 years to TBO). C of A Due 11th November 2011. New 5-year Permit. 100 hour check completed 19 Feb 2011.

Specs:

Horsepower: 260 Top Speed: 166 kts Cruise Speed: 157 kts Stall Speed (dirty): 55 kts Rate Of Climb: 1088 fpm Ceiling: 17,400 ft

Gross Weight: 3140 lbs Empty Weight: 2094 lbs Fuel Capacity: 68.00 gal Usable Range: 700 nm Fuel Av Gas 100LL 1 crew plus 3 passengers

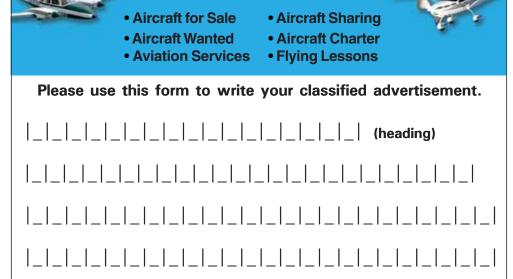
Radio and Navigation Configuration: Fully IFR equipped. 2 Garmin GNS430 VHF/COMM/NAV/GPS/TERRAIN. Garmin GI-106A VOR/LOC/GS/GPS CDI. King KN64 DME. Garmin GTX 320/327 Transponder with Mode C via Ameri-King AK350-30 Height Encoder. Garmin GMA 340 Audio Panel, Bendix King KR-87 ADF, Sandel SN 3308 EHSI. Century IIB Autopilot Dual Axis and S-Tec Altitude Hold. WX-500 Stormscope.

Price: 3.75 million baht. Located at Thai Flying Club, Bang Phra.

Contact Tony Scragg at 081-906 3250, or email tony_scragg@hotmail.com

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November 3 - 9, 2012 PHUKET GAZETTE

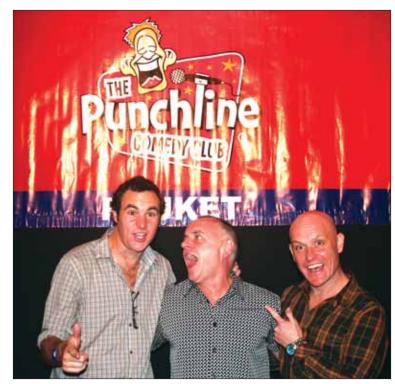




eting,



AT EASE: On October 27 Centra Ashlee Hotel Patong held a Beer Parade with a military theme. Pictured are GM Wilawan Chiammanasombut (center) and management team members.



JOKERS WILD: (L to R) Marcus Ryan, Mickey Hutton and Eddy Brimson were in fine form at their recent Punchline Comedy Club show held at the Holiday Inn Patong. Photo: Marc Mulloy



MOONSTRUCK: At the grand opening of La'moon Cafe and restaurant were (from left) Siwaporn 'Ging' Kongsawat, owner of La'moon & Sivana place; Warangkana 'Gai' Wongsaroj, marketing & sales manager of The Lake House Phuket; Tan, GM Villa Getaway; Ma ann, Cherng Talay OrBorTor chief; Waramai Wongsaroj, director of Siwara Development.



ART LOVERS: Gulu Lalvani was spotted with family and friends at the recent Art Dinner held at the Indigo Pearl resort. (see page 40)







Discover the charm of the 8 in our resort-style homes on the hill

- Relax in the embrace of nature with beautiful vistas.
- · Enjoy family fun and health in our park complete with swimming pool and fitness center.
- · Prime location within easy reach of shopping, close to Rawai, Kata, Karon Beaches (before TOT Chalong).

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www.lhphuket.com Call 076-521-888 076-383-888





32 PHUKET GAZETTE November 3 - 9, 2012



November 3 - 9, 2012 PHUKET GAZETTE 33

WHAT'S ON in Phuket

November 6, 9am to 4pm: The Melbourne Cup

The Phuket International Women's Club will be hosting The Melbourne Cup, 'The Race That Stops a Nation', on Tuesday, November 6, at Latitude. Get a hat, come along and enjoy the fun. Tickets are 2.000 baht. and include an Australian-themed lunch, limited drinks, fashion and music. A full day of surprises is in store for you. 100 per cent of the proceeds will go to the scholarship program of the Phuket International Women's Club. The Phuket International Women's Club is supported by the *Phuket Gazette*. Contact: info@phuketiwc.com.

November 8, 15, 22; 6 to 11:30pm: Martini Manicure Ladies Night at RE KA TA

Free express manicure for ladies. Free Martini for ladies on arrival, and 50 per cent off drinks list for everyone all night long. From 6pm to midnight – DJ tunes till late. Contact: +66-76-330421

November 10, 12pm to 3pm: Saturday Brunch @ Two Chefs Every Saturday we set up our brunch buffet, filled to the limits with home made delights. In our smoke house, we smoke all of our fish and meats by ourselves, and in the bakery we bake all our bread. With very well trained chefs and a Swedish

BIS 7-a-side Football Tourny



The British International School (BIS) Phuket will open its gates to the local and international community, hosting for the eleventh year, the BIS Phuket International 7-a-side Football Tournament. The tournament will be the biggest ever, with more than 900 young football players from 88 teams. This event is proudly sponsored by the *Phuket Gazette* and PGTV. Segments of the tournament will be televised nationally on the '*Phuket Today*' show. For showtimes see the November UBC/True Visions program guide, channel 99.

head chef, we can promise you that you won't leave hungry or thirsty. All this for only 395 baht, and if you add an extra 300 baht you can choose what you want from our free flow alternatives, visit: twochefs.com.

November 21-24, 5 to 6pm: Phuket International Sport Fishing Tournament 2012

Registration will be on November 21 from 5pm onwards. Fishing days are November 22-24. Prize giving party on the 24th. For more info, visit: phuket-internation al-sportfishing-tournament.com.

This event is sponsored by the *Phuket Gazette* and PGTV. We hope you'll join for another great tournament!

Nov 24-Dec 3; 10am to 11:30pm: Laguna Phuket Tri-Fest

Laguna Phuket will again be the focus of worldwide triathlon attention when the legendary Laguna Phuket Triathlon and iconic Ironman 70.3 Laguna Phuket launch the high season in carnival style. The Laguna Phuket Triathlon on Sunday, November 25, and Ironman 70.3 on Sunday, December 2, are linked by a "Tri-Fest" of related training and social events for the many age-group and professional athletes who flock from all over the world each year to soak up the unique triathlon ambiance. The Tri-Fest week sees triathlon devotees rubbing shoulders with professional athletes at training and social events. For more info visit: lagunaphuket.com/events/tri-fest This event is sponsored by *The Nation*, the *Phuket Gazette*, PGTV and the *Gazette's Phuket Today* show airing daily on UBC/True Visions (Channel 99).

November 24, 6pm to 12am: ThaiVisa 10 years party at Phuket Sports & Tennis Club ThaiVisa members only. Please sign up at: thaivisa.com/forum/topic/ 583277-phuket-party-10-years-ofthaivisacom-rawai-sports-club/

December 1, 6 to 11am: TSLC **IronKids Phuket Official Race** Swim, Bike and Run to become an IronKid. A triathlon for 6 to 17-year-olds with age appropriate distances on a safe and secure course. Both individual and team relay entries available. Register on line or at Thanyapura Sports & Leisure Club. Visit: ironkidsphuket.com for more information and race details. This event is sponsored by *The Nation*, the Phuket Gazette, PGTV and the Phuket Today show, found on UBC/True Visions (channel 99).

December 1, 12pm to 3pm: Saturday Brunch @ Two Chefs Every Saturday we set up our brunch buffet, filled to the limits with home made delights. In our smoke house, we smoke all of our fish and meats by ourselves, and in the bakery we bake all our bread. With very well trained chefs and a Swedish head chef, we can promise you that you won't leave hungry or thirsty. All this for only 395 baht, and if you add an extra 300 baht you can choose what you want from our free flow alternatives, visit: twochefs.com.

December 1-8, 6pm to 10:30pm: Phuket King's Cup Regatta 2012

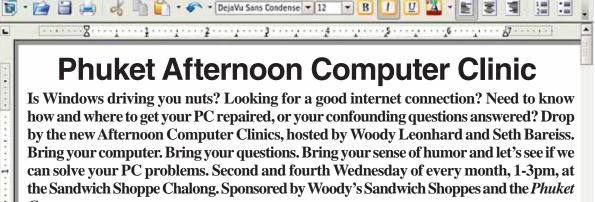
Recognized throughout the eastern hemisphere as the premier sailing event of its kind, the Phuket King's Cup Regatta will once more put on a spectacular display of the finest sailing talent from around the world, competing in changeable seas to win the 'must-have' racing trophy in all of Asia. The Regatta takes place December 1-8 and promises five days of highly charged racing complemented by six fantastic beachside parties hosted by some of Phuket's most respected names in hospitality, including the host venue, Kata Beach Resort & Spa. Close to 2,000 guests attend these parties nightly. This event is sponsored by The Nation, the Phuket Gazette, PGTV and the nationally televised 'Phuket Today' show on UBC/ True Visions (Channel 99).

December 5: HM The King's Birthday – Public Holiday HM The King's Birthday. Also marked as Father's Day in

December 10: Constitution Day – Public Holiday

A public holiday in Thailand.

Thailand.



Gazette.

Free Computer Clinics at:

Sandwich Shoppe Patong - November 7, 1-3pm
Sandwich Shoppe Chalong - November 14, 1-3pm

Contact at 076-282403, Woody@KhunWoody.com or visit KhunWoody.com

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PIA's new 'guide from the side'

"The things that unite us as human beings are greater than the things that divide us."

THE above quote is how Dennison MacKinnon, the new head of Phuket International Academy Day School (PIADS), sums up his view on education, life and humanity.

The Gazette had a chance to pick Mr MacKinnon's brain last Thursday over lunch at Thanyapura Sports & Leisure Club's DiVine

Having officially started as PIADS' Head of School in August, the seasoned international education specialist started off by talking about the path leading him to Phuket, before going on to lay out the school's plans, objectives and strategies for the near future.

"PIADS first approached me about the position back in March. I was coming to the end of my contract in Barbados... the timing was good and the more I learned and heard about the school's [PIAD] philosophy and what they were doing, the more it seemed like a good fit."

As principal and CEO at The Codrington School - The International School of Barbados in the Caribbean for the previous six years, Mr MacKinnon played a key leadership role in the school's international curriculum development.

Namely, he led the implemen-

tation and integration of all three International Baccalaureate (IB) programs there - the Primary Years (PYP), Middle Years (MYP) and Diploma (DP).

Prior to his tenure in Barbados, he spent nine years a St Andrew's School, The International School of The Bahamas, where he had also introduced and implemented the the PYP and MYP curriculums.

Born and raised in South Wales, Mr MacKinnon's beginnings in international education date back to the 1970s, when he first taught at a government

'Our commitment at PIADS is not only to academics, but also to social and emotional education.'

school in Ndola, Zambia.

After about three years there, he spent seven years in his native Cardiff, working and studying for enhanced qualifications, before going on to accumulate a plethora of international education experience through the 80s and 90s, having spent a further six years in Zambia, four years in Sri Lanka, a year in Greece and six years in Germany.

"One of the pinnacles of my career was when I was in Germany, where from 1991 to 1997 I had the opportunity to chair the International Schools' Curriculum Project (ISCP).

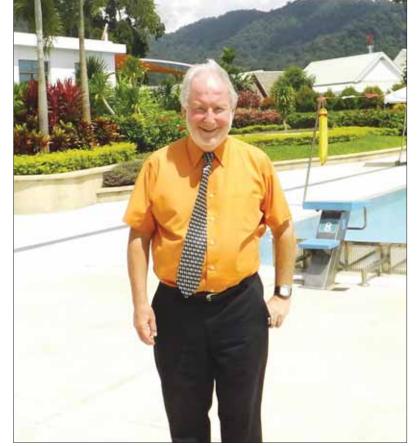
During that time, international education, particularly in regards to the IB curriculum, was starting to take off... The ISCP ultimately evolved into IB's PYP curriculum for 3 to 12-year-old students. Prior to that, IB only offered the DP," he explained.

Indeed, Mr MacKinnon with all his rich experiences and qualifications, is the ideal person to guide PIADS through its own international education evolution.

Education is not only an integral part of his own background, but for his family's as well. His wife Christina, a Scottish national, is an accredited Montessori teacher: his daughter, Rachel, 39, is the director of learning at the prestigious King's School in Sydney, Australia, and his son, Andrew, 34, is currently teaching English at a government middle school in Suzhou, China.

My kids chose the education path on their own... I certainly didn't discourage it though," he remarked.

Mr MacKinnon went on to talk about PIADS' immediate



A WORLD CITIZEN: After four decades across four continents. Dennison MacKinnon says Phuket is the kind of place he's been searching for.

is living

non-judgmentally

in the present.'

education development strategies, highlighting major developments and targets.

"The school just received PYP authorization from the IB in June. The next step is for MYP authorization, which we're aiming to do in early 2014. The way the review process is structured, we'll most likely also be getting authorization for DP at the same time as MYP,"

Mr MacKinnon revealed that another major objective of the school will be to obtain accreditation from the Council of International Schools (CIS), which he expects to take place, after a rigorous self-study process, sometime 'Mindfulness

in 2014 or 2015. Asked to high-

light the difference between IB authorization and CIS accreditation, he pointed out that.

while the IB authorization focuses on the academic side of the things, CIS takes the whole picture of school operations into account - from hazard safety standards, administration, governance and school fees, to its facilities and resources as well as academics.

"Considering that our immediate focus is on the MYP and DP authorization process, we don't want to outstretch ourselves. We must do it right, and not rush things," he affirmed.

As for other strategies, he outlined two primary focuses: teachers and enrollment.

"PIADS will continue to recruit and maintain the highest quality teachers. Not only based on qualifications and experiences, but also on their commitment to our philosophy," he said, adding that the

current faculty comprises 11 different nationalities.

"As for enrollment, we aim to gradually increase enrollment by ensuring people in Phuket not only know that we are here, but also are aware of our philosophy," he said.

This philosophy, he points out, is what really separates PIADS from others on the island, and in the region and world for that matter.

"Our commitment at PIADS is not only to academics, but also to social and emotional education.

" On the academic plane, the IB program is the gold standard... it is truly an international

curriculum for an international community. One advantage we offer is that our program integrates the entire curriculum

– PYP, MYP and DP.

In terms of social and emotional education, he noted that the school, along with its integration with Thanyapura's world-class facilities, including the Mind Center and Sports & Leisure Club, is a world leader in perpetuating the concept of secular mindfulness.

'Mindfulness is living nonjudgmentally in the present," Dennison says.

Finally, Dennison summarized the role of a modern educator, referring to a popular rhyme.

"The idea [of a teacher] is to be the 'guide from the side', not the 'sage on the stage'. PIADS emphasizes this type of studentcentered learning... This is exactly the type of place I've been looking for all my life."

Steven Layne



Life & style Life with Maneemas

WITH over two decades of work in the hospitality business, Surin Maneemas is now bringing his rich experience to bear on one of the fastest growing names in property development; Black Pearl Thailand.

Surin, 51, holds an MBA in business administration from Ramkhamhaeng University in Bangkok. He started his career at the Ambassador City Jomtien Hotel in Pattaya as banquet assistant manager. He came to Phuket in the early 1990s and was a food and beverage manager in several top hotel chains including Sheraton Grande, Novotel and JW Marriott. For the last two years, he has been executive assistant manager at Maikhao Dream Resort & Spa, an exclusive boutique hotel under the management of Black Pearl.

With the company's expansion, Surin has recently been charged with a new role - general manager and consultant to its newly established, "The Nine Hospitality Management". Under this new role, Surin will oversee The Nine Wine & Dining restaurant, soon to open in the grounds of the Royal Palace Condominium in Kathu.

As construction and interior design work are underway, Surin, a seasoned food and beverage manager, is relishing every aspect of its planning – from training staff; designing a menu; selecting wines, right down to the minor

THAI

gallery

By Nanthapa Pengkasem

details of choosing cutlery and napkins.

"The Nine restaurant is the latest concept in fine dining, says Surin. "This is a bar cum bistro set against the backdrop of a smart interior with live music. We will offer the best of royal Thai cuisine and international dishes cooked by established chefs. Our menu will feature a rich variety of old and new world wines."

Expected to open in January, The Nine will add to Phuket's lively scene of quality dining and with Surin at the helm, it will inevitably become part of the island high life, which, according to him, is quite a contrast to his humble beginnings.

A native of Trang, Surin and his eleven siblings were born to a family of rubber farmers. Some children were sent away to live with relatives just so his parents could keep up.

Surin ended up with his uncle who was a monk in a Bangkok temple. There, he received free meals and support for his education in exchange for service to the monastery. At dawn, he accompanied monks in their morning rounds of alms, carrying heavy food containers back to the temple. Any free time from his schoolwork would be spent cleaning the temple grounds.

"A life of servitude and a modest upbringing had advantages. It made me humble but also strong and disciplined."

Perhaps that explains why he excelled in his hospitality job. Aside from hotel work, Surin occasionally taught at the Phuket Vocational College. His speciality: the importance of attitudes and personality.

"In the service business you've got to have a service-oriented mind. And your personality is the first impression the clients see in you. I personally make sure that my staff are smartly dressed, welcoming and polite. It's summed up in what we in the trade call 'the three s': smooth, smart and smile."

He continues: "This is the quality that will bring us Thais to the forefront of our counterparts as we become part of the Asean Economic Community in a few years' time."

Surin enjoys his work but admits it has a drawback: being in the business of food and drinks, he finds it difficult to keep his weight down. "I used to weigh 86 kilograms but managed to come down to 72kg, which is more in line with my height. I am around food and drinks all the time and the temptation is too strong," says the good-natured Surin.



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.



Life & style The economic realities of 2015

A LOT of people have been talking about the drastic changes, which are meant to happen in the region

come 2015, when the Association of many new markets. South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), is to adopt a common economic community (the ASEAN Economic Community, or AEC) similar to the Euro Economic Area.

There are some obvious differences such as the lack of a common currency (which may just be a good thing considering the state of Europe at the moment), but in general, trade barriers are supposed to drop and skilled labor should in theory be free to move according to market forces within the region.

The general gist of the goals of the AEC can be summarized as follows: free flow of goods, services, investment, capital and of skilled labor.

The differentiating factor here compared with Europe, is that there is not free movement of people, but free movement of labor in eight professions comprising: doctors, dentists, nurses, engineers, architects, accountants, surveyors and those in the tourism industry.

So, we will not be seeing a mass exodus of farmers from the rest of the region arriving in Singapore looking for higher priced labor positions.

What we may see **Retirement Years** is small, specialized businesses and large By David Mayes corporations in the

region, suddenly entering

There are many price discrepancies among identical or similar products in the region. For example, go to Indonesia or Malaysia and you can enjoy Guinness Stout for a fraction of the price here in Thailand. There will likely be many opportunities to take advantage of these price differences, but eventually competition should eliminate them.

Where it gets tricky is with certain classifications, such as tourism. With all of those undeveloped islands sitting just over there in Myanmar, will Thai tourist companies really be allowed to go and develop businesses, which compete with locals and the military? It is hard to believe that many of the protectionist attitudes, which are very ingrained in the way of thinking of this region, are going to just disappear overnight come 2015.

My guess is, there will be a very strong local reaction to protect their interests when foreigners show up and are seen to be taking food out of the mouths of locals. One only needs to look at how ferociously the taxi drivers of Phuket defend their turf, despite what the written laws call for, and you get an idea



NO TRESPASSING: The AEC may stir up protectionist sentiments. Photo: Susana Fernandez

of how smoothly the transition to a free trade zone will be in reality.

I am sure there will be many small business opportunities that arise in the region come 2015, although I personally, would be well aware of whose toes you step on. Remember that assassination is still a very common tactic for dealing with competition in this region and it may become more popular post 2015. That being said, the region has a nice new logo to plaster onto flags and signs if nothing else. If you act quickly, maybe you can corner the market on ASEAN 2015 toothpick flags.

David Mayes MBA lives in Phuket and provides wealth management services to expats around the globe, focusing on UK pension transfers. He can be reached at 085-335-8573 or david.m@faramond.com

Kasikorn sees an increase in auto loan demand

with research now projecting record-high nationwide car sales of 1.37 million units for the full year.

Managing Director Akaranant Thitasirivit says that KLeasing has granted 63.6 billion baht in new auto loans over the first nine months of the year, up 19.46bn baht up 44.1% year-on-year (y-o-y). Hire purchase and financial leasing amounted to 32.84bn baht of the total, with the remaining 30.76bn baht granted under the company's Auto Dealer Floorplan product.

This year's lending so far, 78.6bn baht, as of 1.32mn to 1.37mn units.

KASIKORN Leasing has reported a 44% growth in September 30, is 96.34% of the full year target, while new auto loans for the first nine months of the year, non-performing loans stood at 0.89%. KLeasing's nett profit for the period has totaled 312 million baht.

> Executive Chairman Isara Wongrung said overall nationwide vehicle sales in the first nine months of this year had reached about 1mn units – a record high. In September alone, there were sales of 132,000 units, due mainly to the government's first-car buyer scheme, which has boosted demand towards year-end.

> According to Kasikorn Research Centre, overall car sales this year are now likely to reach a record - The Nation



KLeasing provided loan services at the recent Bangkok motor show.



Mr Akaranant Thitasirivit



Tisco predicts Asian stocks will rise

TISCO is feeling optomistic about Thai, Chinese and other Asian stocks, projecting the SET Index to rise to 1,450 points next year from the 1,300 level expected at the end of this year.

Khun Vorasinee Sangvornvetphan,

wealth strategist at Tisco Wealth, said yesterday that the return on equities had outstripped other investments this year:

"Bourses have been boosted by major central banks injecting more funds into their economies, resulting in increasing global fund flows. Asian stock markets are attractive thanks to strong economies amid weaker advanced economies.

"The Stock Exchange of Thailand will be supported by an



Vorasinee Sangvornvetphan

expected escalation in oil prices. That will push up the stock prices of energy firms and the energy sector represents about a quarter of total market capitalisation," she said.

Global capital is expected to con-

tinue to flow into Asia and that would drive the SET up further.

Gold is attractive for investment. Investors should allocate 60% of their portfolio to stocks and commodities and 40% to bank deposits and bonds, Vorasinee said.

The Chinese stock market should get priority because of relatively cheap shares. Foreign investors are expected to look at this market as a change in Chinese leadership will take place soon. - The Nation

A 3G auction in a 4G world

"The advent of new technology in Thailand should create new opportunities for consumers, who should be able to utilize the platforms to enhance their creativity and innovation. The introduction of the advanced technology should also bring about new players in the market. And it is undeniable that foreign players have potential to help upgrade technology in Thailand, thanks to their capital and know-how... Thais should receive world-class service from international players, with accessible coverage and affordable service fees. They deserve no less." - Editorial, The Nation, October 22

IN LAST week's Live Wire, I talked about the recent "3G auction," wherein AIS, DTAC and TrueMove each acquired three of their own channels near the 2.1 GHz frequency, for delivering 3G services. The auction, plagued by delays, infighting, legal drama, bureaucratic wheel spinning, political machinations, and an unknown amount of tea changing hands, has finally brought legitimate HSPA/HSPA+ ("3G") services to Thailand – the last country on Earth to get officially sanctioned 3G.

I've been saying for years that Thailand will probably get 3G just about the time the rest of the world gets 4G. And that's exactly what's happened.

I spent most of the past month in the US, and the pace of LTE ("4G") proliferation is breathtaking. Every cell phone service provider, except Sprint/Nextel, is heavily advertising and bragging about its 4G service. You can look anywhere in the US and see ads saying either, "4G is here," or "our 4G is coming soon."

Mark my words. In Thailand, we're going to see a similar, rapid shift in consumer demand as soon as 4G service materializes. Nobody - at least, nobody who can afford a new phone or tablet - will be satisfied with 3G. They're going to want 4G, even if the service is horrible.

Sprint/Nextel, once one of the largest cell phone network providers, has been caught flat-footed. Verizon, the largest US carrier, started rolling out 4G in December 2010. AT&T, the second largest carrier, has been clocked with the fastest 4G speeds in many locations in the US, although its network isn't as extensive as Verizon's. Sprint bet early on a technology known as WiMAX, and it's since sunk to the bottom of the pile. Apparently unwilling to commit to LTE, Sprint's currently in very bad shape financially – so bad that they've committed to selling 70% of the company to a Japanese firm, for a US\$20 billion cash infusion that will let it expand its LTE network quickly. SoftBank, based in Tokyo, has 23,000 employees worldwide. It was the first Japanese company to sell iPhones, and it's a leader in Japanese 4G. SoftBank has both the



sense and the cents to roll out a comprehensive US network, quickly, if they can piggyback on Sprint's current network.

4G phones are here. The iPhone 5, currently taking the world by storm, runs 4G/LTE, as do the new iPad mini and "Retina" iPad 4. The Samsung Galaxy S III and Note II both support LTE, as does the Tab 8.9. The HTC EVO 4G, too. Even Windows phones – the Lumia 920, HTC 8X and Titan II - run 4G. It won't be long at all before every major phone and tablet supports LTE, and consumers will be clamoring. Within two years, I'd bet a very large percentage of phones, tablets and laptop computers sold in Thailand will support 4G. Where will the service come from?

I vividly recall the early days of 3G, before any 3G signals were available in Phuket. People who should know better would actually say to me, with a straight face, that their phones ran 3G. How did they know? "The phone says '3G' right here on the cover, Woody, and the salesman said it was running 3G." Never mind the fact that Phuket had 3G phones for a full year before the first 3G signal arrived.

It'll happen again. It probably is happening right now, in fact, with the iPhone 5 set to officially launch in Thailand this week.

How will 4G arrive in Thailand? Excellent question. This is where it gets complicated, so strap on your hip waders.

As noted last week. Nation quoted Jesada Sivaraks, secretary to the NBTC vice chairman, as saying the price received for the 2.1 GHz 3G channels will be used as a basis for setting the reserve price "for a 1.8 GHz spectrum sale in the near future; the reserve price for 1.8 GHz slots earmarked for 4G are expected to be higher than in the 2.1 GHz sale." If the report is true, it means the government is already planning a 4G auction "in the near future" and the auction will cover channels around 1.8 GHz.

Unfortunately, CAT already has

channels allocated near 1.8 GHz, and it's very unlikely they'll give them up without a fight that'd put Hulk Hogan to shame. While those channels are currently being used for ancient 2G cell phone service, there doesn't appear to be anything in the original concession that prevents CAT from running 4G on the same channels. (Remember that the concession contracts were written long, long before the term "2G" even existed.)

The reality is a little more complicated because CAT supposedly loses its hold on the 1.8 GHz channels after old agreements with True and AIS expire, but you can expect the lawyers are sharpening their quills already.

TOT has a 4G pilot program underway in Bangkok. Like CAT, TOT operates under the old concession agreements, which are completely silent on the question as to whether TOT can run 4G technology over long-established channels. In this case, TOT is pilot testing LTE/4G technology at 2.3 GHz, using channels that were



CATCHING UP WITH THE 19th CENTURY: Thailand was one of the last nations to get official 3G - behind North Korea and Zimbabwe. Photo: Tripp

originally earmarked for "public telephone service in remote areas." I haven't heard from anyone involved in the tests, but will be sure to tell you as soon as I have some hard statistics.

Astoundingly, The Nation reported last week that TOT is looking to join forces with SoftBank to bring 4G to Thailand. Yes, the same SoftBank that's buying Sprint. SoftBank has reportedly confirmed that it's looking into the possibility.

But don't rule out some other approaches. You may recall that AIS paid a small (8%) premium to secure three specific 3G channels, in the 3G Auction last month. Analysts are now speculating that AIS bought those channels because they sit right next to channels being run by TOT. If the 4G auctions are delayed, the speculation goes, AIS may team up with TOT to offer combined 3G and 4G service on channels that are right next to each other, near 2.1 GHz.

The game is afoot. Everybody's hedging their bets. Hundreds of billions of baht hang in the balance.

Perhaps we're a small step closer to seeing more competition in internet service – a possibility that bodes well for everyone in Thailand.

Seth Bareiss holds computer sessions on three Wednesday afternoons a month, from 1 to 3pm, If you have a Windows problem that needs to be solved, drop by one of Seth's free afternoon sessions, or come to one of our free Sunday morning roundtables at Sandwich Shoppe Chalong. Details at woody.info, or in the Events Calendar. Sponsored by the Phuket Gazette and Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppes.

Live Wire is Phuket Gazette columnist Woody Leonhard's snapshot of all things internet in Phuket. Shoot him mail at: Woody@KhunWoody.com, Twitter: @PhuketLiveWire, or "like" his page at facebook.com/ SandwichShoppe.



Life & style

Rise into Cathedral's darkness

Stunning diving on a southbound liveaboard to Koh Haa

Diving

By Isaac Stone Simonelli

OUR dive team surfaces into the blackness of "The Cathedral", torch beams bounce off the vellow walls and catch stalactites hanging from the ceiling like delicate icicles well above us.

With BCDs inflated the team relaxes. Below, the water glows, changing from a sapphire blue to an emerald green within the depths - this is Koh Haa Yai.

In Phuket, or almost anywhere off Thailand's Andaman coast, if you hear about someone heading out on a liveaboard you assume they are headed up to the (now recently reopened for the season) Similan National Park.

The Similans continue to be ranked as one of the top diving destinations in the world. However. Tiger seahorse discovered such a distraction during the dive trip.

means that "hidden" treasures like the startling beautiful dive sites of Koh Haa (Five Islands) are left unexplored by many of our island's divers and visitors.

Our southbound liveaboard leaves Chalong Pier wrapped up in the dark of Friday night, we anchor off of Koh Phi Phi for our morning dive and then move toward Koh Haa's five uninhabited limestone outcroppings.

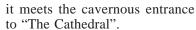
With no night dives on the books for Friday, the boat's guests crack the seals on a couple bottles of whisky and start fantasizing about the mega fauna that is also known to visit the islands. Black tip sharks, leopard sharks and manta rays all get their fair mention, but most on the boat are holding out for a whale shark.

Thankfully, no one was holding their breath.

Charismatic mega fauna is hit or miss even in places like the Similans. So a dive site or trip that only offers you a chance at spotting these incredible creatures, and nothing else, is a dangerous holiday gamble. Our trip, despite not giving us "standard" bragging rights of sharks, left the whole

> boat buzzing with excitement.

Our group of divers float at the ocean's surface waiting to descend for a second dive at Koh Haa Yai. The deep bottom, 30 meters below, is clearly visible. At the surface, we work our way toward the rock faces jutting out of the ocean, watching the bottom rise to about 18 meters where



Submerged, our group of divers scours the walls of the entrance, where the light begins to fade, searching for nudibranchs and ornate ghost pipe fish. In the middle of the enormous cave, a nudibranch, smaller than a child's finger nail, is caught by a diver's torch beam as it gyrates in the 'open" water.

A slow ascent to 12 meters reveals a large swim through to the cave's second largest entrance. Hovering at the opening, the blue of the ocean is framed



THE ABYSS: Divers explore the entrance of "The Cathedral" at Koh Haa Yai during a southern liveaboard trip.

by the jagged edges of the cave entrances on both sides.

A momentary ascent to the surface inside the cave leaves us in the darkness, bubbles from divers below tickle our chins.Immediately you know that this is the moment that will drive the chatter on the boat.

Bobbing at the surface, it was clear that a manta ray or a whale shark wasn't necessary

for inspiration.

The effects of the ocean and the rain over millennia are themselves awe inspiring. A cathedral in its own right, and only accessible to the world through diving.







The trip offered a kaleidoscope of fauna from puffer fish eating sea stars (left) to unusually colored devil fish crawling along the sea floor (below) and flamboyant nudibranchs. Photos: Isaac Stone Simonelli



Vice Governor announces the Andaman Culture Festival

Kritsada Mueanhawong

SIX local provinces are preparing to host the Andaman Culture Festival. From November 9 to 11 the event will highlight the cultural identity of the region under the theme "Andaman – The World Experience".

Phuket Vice Governor Sommai Prijasilpa said that Minister Worawat Ua-Apinyakul has instructed the six coastal

provinces of the Andaman region, which includes Ranong, Phang Nga, Phuket, Krabi, Trang and Satun, to hold events that will promote cultural tourism.

"For our

province, we are holding an the diversity of the whole event that is called the 'Andaman Culture Festival @ Phuket', in order to promote the culture and identity of Phuket," she said.

"All six Andaman provinces have unique cultural customs. The architecture, fashion, food and traditions of this region are unique.

"These identities should be highlighted for both Thais and foreigners to see. It will help promote cultural tourism of this region," she added.

All six provinces of the Andaman region will hold an event on the same day.

"Our event will be held on

November 9. The opening ceremony will be in Phuket. We have invited Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra to open the ceremony, which will be held at the Blue Elephant restaurant in Phuket Town. There will also be activities held on Satun road and Dibuk road.

"We will have a fair. The main stage will be set up in front of the restaurant building, which is of Sino-Portuguese architecture. The

'All six Andaman prov-

inces have unique cultural

customs. The architecture,

fashion, food and traditions

of this region are unique.

These identities should be

highlighted for both Thais

and foreigners to see.'

Blue Elephant should prove to be a very good background for the stage, and highlight one of Phuket's most unique cultural identities."

The fair will include some live music and performances that showcase

Andaman region. Satun road and Dibuk road will be blocked and on both sides of the street, stages and booths will be set up to exhibit the life-styles of people from the six Andaman provinces.

There will also be some performances demonstrating the Ronggeng dance from the Mae Jew Pramongkit group.

The island's Sino-Portuguese architecture will be decorated with colorful lighting during the event focusing primarily on Dibuk road.

PM Yingluck will be given a tour of homes on Dibuk road to show her how a true Phuket native lives. For more on this story, see page 12.



GOOD GOVERNANCE: Minister Worawat Ua-Apinyakul is playing an essential role in promoting tourism in the Andaman region.



Schoolgirls adourned in traditional Southern Thai costumes of the classical dance epic known as 'Manora'. Photo: Noppakun Dibakomud

Thai artists exhibited in Singapore



Dow Wasiksiri is a Thai university student, whose art is on display.

AN exhibition of contemporary Thai art has opened at the Singapore Art Museum.

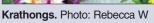
The show includes more than 50 works of art including paintings, sculptures, videos and mixed-media installations by both established and young artists. The exhibition will continue through January, 2013.

The show is called Thai Transience and is a partnership between the Singapore Art Museum and the Office of Contemporary Art and Culture of Thailand's Ministry of Culture.

Esteemed Professor Apinan Poshyananda, director general of the Office of Contemporary Art and Culture and guest-curator of the show, says the theme of impermanence was chosen because it reflects the unpredictable nature of life in Thailand. - Phuket Gazette

Loi Krathong is on the way







SINCE the Vegetarian Festival has passed, Thailand is beginning preparations for Loi Krathong, one of the most colorful Thai festivals. It is a time to give thanks to the Goddess of water and seek forgiveness for past misdeeds. The festival always occurs at night during the full moon of the 12th Thai lunar month. This year the event falls on November 28.

Loi literally means "to float," while Krathong refers to the lotus-shaped vessels containing candles, incense and flowers, which participants float down rivers and on lakes and ponds everywhere. The festival also includes beauty pageants, fireworks and Krathong making contests using materials such as banana leaves, banana tree trunks, coconut barks or paper. Each province has its own special features in celebrating this annual tradition, also known as the Festival of Lights. - Mcot/Phuket Gazette

Boathouse Wine & Grill







The legendary Boathouse Wine and Grill is a celebration of great French and Thai cuisine right on Kata beach, simply the best oceanfront dining on Phuket.

It is the perfect place for many special occasions such as friends gatherings, birthday celebrations, anniversaries, romantic dinners, weddings etc...or simply a cool cocktail at sunset.

The wine cellar houses over 800 bottles and has been awarded Best of Award of Excellence by Wine Spectator since 2006. It is the only such awarded restaurant in Phuket.

Daily Happy Hour from 5pm-7pm (50% off). Restaurant is open everyday from 11am-11pm.



Boathouse Resort on the beach 182, Koktanode Road, Kata Beach, Phuket 83100 +66 (0) 76 330 015 fb@boathousephuket.com www.boathousephuket.com www.facebook.com/boathousephuket

A Riveting evening of fine food and fine art

THE award-winning Indigo Pearl resort is a work of art. This postmodern interpretation of Phuket's tin-mining past, by Bensley Design Studios and John Underwood, is a kinetic sculpture of metal and industrial chic that makes any visit a special treat.

So to hold one of the now famous ThinkDesign Art dinners here is a master stroke.

We are seated at the Rivet Grill, which could double for a museum of modern art, with its high Gothic ceiling and studded and perforated metal wall hangings.

On specially designed easels around the table are six large paintings by tonight's featured artist Pierre Koukjian, which appear quite at home in this environment. Indeed some of them look as if they were commissioned to go with the surreal *décor*.

Beirut born Koukjian, is an award winning designer and painter who fled Lebanon for Europe in the mid 1970s and apprenticed in the field of jewelry-making as a young man.

He perfected his craft by using painting in the planning stages of his designs for some of the world's most recognized brands, until launching his own successful deLaCour atelier in 2002.

His latest series of bold portraits entitled Impressive People, is a collection of oil paintings that iconify public and not so public figures with a nod to Pop artists such as Andy Warhol.

The other artist in the room (no elephants this time) is Executive Sous Chef Robert Kirk who heads up the Rivet Grill. His task tonight is to match his culinary art to the paintings on display.

On the Menu

By Marc Mulloy



THE GIGGLING GENERAL: The smile makes him more dangerous.

The first painting is called Oriental Dream which features abstract Arabic lettering over a dream-like background that hints of exoticism and travel. For this pairing, Robert serves up a Mojito sperification shrouded in a mist of dry ice which bursts in the mouth.

The next painting entitled *The* Giggling General is a portrait inspired by a photo of a lineup of North Korean generals, explained Art Dinner organizer Michael Earle.

Koukjian portrays the chosen general as the most dangerous one precisely because he is giggling. A delicious 'mock-turtle' oxtail soup with Mas Portell sherry goes well with this painting.

Disturbed is the title of the next piece of art which is a haunting portrait of an attractive woman. Michael Earle turns off the lights to show how different lighting effects change the painting, disturbing indeed. Pan-seared jumbo sea scallops with leek puree and Sauternes sauce are less disturbing and go down a treat.

A boxer features in the next painting entitled How're You Doing? which gets into the ring with a char grilled US striploin served with kim chi no moto, pineapple glaze and steamed bok choy. The Costière de *Nîmes* we have been quaffing is also perfectly matched with this dish. It is a Château Mas Neuf Compostelle which is predominantly made from Syrah grapes (with 27 per cent Mourvèdre and a hint of Grenache). The smokey, smooth red is a knock-

We then have a trou normand in the form of a Mangosteen granite, Phuket honey and lemongrass air.

The fifth painting entitled Shouting depicts the Dalai Lama no longer being able to keep quiet. Both are refreshing.

The last painting is *The Last Bull*, which is paired with steamed grouper with artichoke, tomatoes, fava beans and a sauce vierge.

Dessert takes the form of elderflower cordial marinated strawberries with Tahitian vanilla ice -cream and this writer tasted his very first fresh blueberries, which were wonderful.

The Indigo Pearl resort was inspired by Phuket's tin-mining past, Pierre Koukjian was inspired by Warhol in this latest collection and the marrying of fine food and fine art is an inspiration in itself.

The ThinkDesign art dinners are sponsored by the Phuket Gazette. For more information on future events visit thinkdesignmagazine.com.



DO NOT DISTURB: Koukjiam plays with light and shadow in Disturbed.



The culinary art of Robert Kirk included using dry ice. Photos: Marc Mulloy





ART ON A PLATE: Grouper and scallops done to perfection.

The Sarojin takes honors at 2012 Wine List Awards

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THE winners of the 2012 Wine List of the Year Thailand Awards were announced on October 27 at a gala reception and awards dinner that was held at Trisara's new Seafood Restaurant.

Khao Lak-based resort, The Sarojin, took home three awards including the top "Best National List", as well as, "Best List Phuket and Region" and "Best Resort List".

Ten awards in total were awarded with local favorites, The Boathouse Wine & Grill, also claiming the "Best Restaurant List".

The Wine List of the Year Thailand Awards was founded by Australian-born Jon Hyams, a long-time wine and hospitality devotee, to reward excellence in the field of wine list compilation and to encourage the development of a wine culture here in Thailand.

The panel of highly respected judges, including Master of Wine, Peter Scudamore-Smith, judged the field of entrants in accordance with the judging criteria on September 2, in Bangkok.

Mr Scudamore-Smith said that he was surprised by the depth and range of the wine labels available in Thailand.

The decision to award The Sarojin with the top award of 'Best National List' was unanimous with the judging panel and they pointed out the list's creativity and the way it showcased the producers' brands rather than relying on listing wines heavily endorsed by the world wine publications.

The Sarojin's wine list features unique descriptive terms such as 'sommelier's seasonal selection', 'mouthwatering.... crispy whites' and 'purple stained mouth....big reds'.

"Sarojin's wine list was put together with great effort and study – a worthy winner," said Event Producer Jon Hyams.

"The judges thought the list was very clever because their descriptions talked to the consumer's desire to choose wine by flavor, style, grape variety and body and then by regions, countries, and vintages." he added.

For a full list and more information visit winelistoftheyearthailand.com

- Phuket Gazette



CHEERS: Event Producer Jon Hyams (right) presents the 'Best Resort List' award to Mr Dawid Koegelenberg, executive assistant manager of The Sarojin, Khao Lak.

Allegedly the best party of the year

By Chris Hudon

SPECULATION surrounding Paris Hilton's "modern day Woodstock" is spiraling out of control against a backdrop of some prominent figures saying that the two-day festival might not actually happen (see page 6).

The event requires the permission of Phuket Governor Maitree Intusut (still pending at the time of publication) before an agreement can be reached and plans finalized.

Following Hilton's personal announcement of the New Year's Eve (NYE) bash at a press conference in Bangkok recently, representatives of resorts on and

near Surin Beach have sent a letter of protest to Gov Maitree, suggesting a change of venue to Patong, citing:

"The very unsuitable choice of date (NYE)"; "...the definitely inappropriate choice of Surin Beach & Park; "the massive around the clock noise disturbance in the whole area"; and, "...the fear that a Techno event, as in other parts of the world, is often associated with drugs and alcohol, therefore attracting drug trafficking."

The letter, which focuses mostly on the location of the festival, also acknowledges the benefits such an event could have for local businesses, adding that, "attracting stars, VIPs and large numbers of guests could be a great way to promote Phuket as a prime tourism and entertainment destination."

It was also reported that Wolfgang Meusburger, general manager of the Holiday Inn Resort Patong, responded to the Surin resort representatives' letter by saying that their concerns were as valid for Patong as for Surin and that he hopes the festival won't be "dumped" onto Patong.

Meanwhile, local property Guru,

C9hotelworks.com says in this at Surin beach, with admission week's Gazette Property Watch column (page 14):

"Do the math and the entire proposition seems to be over the top. The organizers have only lately been scuttling to secure hotel rooms in the area. Come on guys, I have a good Rolodex, and trying to get a room at New Year's Eve, [which is] little more than two months away, seems to be sheer lunacy.

"Yet, the Sydictive spin has continued with pictures of Paris giving us a wai, and staggering estimates of expected attendees, which leapfrog stories about bussing in visitors from Mai Khao. This entire event has locals scratch-



Beach. Provided by promoter Sydictive.

ing their heads and asking, 'Is this real, imagined or just a last minute scramble to the finish line?"

One thing is for sure, if the party happens, it will be immense. In all cases when someone says they're going to do something, you have to assume that they're not lying. But, given the controversy surrounding this event and Paris Hilton's reputation for changing her mind, it's fair to say that the party may not happen.

And if it does happen, the way they say it will, it'll be one of the biggest and fanciest parties you might ever attend.

According to a recent Sydictive Element (promoter) press release, Bill Barnett, managing director of the festival is scheduled to be held ranging from 2,000 baht (general admission pre-sale) to VIP packages for up to 20 people, which would include a floating villa at a staggering price tag of two million baht.

Organizers say the main stage will be engineered with 3D mapping, incorporating an LED backdrop, to display special effects customized for each DJ.

The sound system will be of an international standard, and imported to ensure that the quality of music being produced by DJs is effectively broadcast. There will also be laser and hologram shows on the main stage, which will be afloat in the ocean.

For those of you who aren't familiar with the 'House' and 'Dance' music scene (probably anyone over 35), many of these names may sound foreign, but they're good. I would remind you that people once thought that Jazz was the devil's music, Elvis was too vulgar for children and that 2pac was a passing fad. So, bearing in mind that these artists don't necessarily rival those, by Phuket standards, it's still pretty stellar.

Several DJs on the bill have headlined at the world's largest electronic music festivals, including the LovEvolution Festival in San Fransisco and the Ultra Music Festival in Miami.

Band of interest would include: Pendulum (a stage show like no other), MSTRKRFT, Bassment Jaxx, LMFAO (Sexy and I Know It, Party Rock Anthem) and Akon, who has worked with Jay-Z and Eminem among others.

There will be a fireworks show for the countdown that will coordinate 'beat by beat' to the lighting, the songs that DJs are playing, the pyrotechnics and the stage's 3D



SHE'S BACK: Celebutante Paris Hilton is stiring up controversy in Phuket.





Some resort owners are afraid the party might attract drug traffickers.

mapping background.

All we can do at this point is continue to speculate. We don't

want to get your hopes up too much and it probably won't happen. But if it does...it should be epic.

Put some 'zing' into your TV.

ON Phuket Today this week, we meet two of the island's top blues rock musicians, Teddy and Patrick from Rockin' Angels, and join the exclusive Secret Na Thalang Dinner at the JW Marriott's Ginja restaurant.

But, right in the middle of the show, which airs seven times a week on TrueVisions channel 99 - as well as local cable - intrepid



Kristi and Chef Charlie.

chef-in-training Kristi gets a quick lesson from Chef Charlie Maurer at the Friendship Beach Resort in Chalong.

Chef Charlie introduces Kristi to the delights of a barbecued

Yellowfin Tuna with Wasabi Aioli and the delicate art of preparing crostini with a sweet basil and cashew pesto.

- Phuket Gazette







42 PHUKET GAZETTE November 3 - 9, 2012



Views of China and the World as seen through multi-national eyes*

This week and *every* week in your

Phuket Gazette

* The China Daily's mass-circulation newspapers employ more than **500** journalists, including **70** senior expatriate editors from the UK, the United States, Europe, India, Australia, South Africa and New Zealand. In the *Asia Weekly*, they feature news and commentary from authoritative writers across the globe.



Spa business is getting better in Asia, P12-15



BOLD STATEMENT

Singaporean entrepreneur offers beauty biz tips, P24



Member of the ANN News Network

Published in Hong Kong

Now available in the Phuket Gazette

Silly English words

Abibliophobia The fear of Hoosegow A jail or prison. running out of reading material. **Absquatulate** To leave or abscond with something.

Anencephalous Lacking a brain. Batrachomyomachy Making a mountain out of a molehill.

Bloviate To speak pompously Borborygm A rumbling stomach. **Boustrophedon** A back and forth pattern.

Bowyang A strap that holds the pants legs in place.

Bumbershoot An umbrella. Catercornered Diagonal(ly). **Cockalorum** A small, haughty man. **Codswallop** Nonsense

Collywobbles Butterflies in the stomach.

Crapulence Discomfort from eating or drinking too much.

Crudivore An eater of raw food. Discombobulate To confuse. **Dudgeon** A bad mood, a huff. Ecdysiast An exotic dancer Eructation A burp, belch.

Fard Face-paint, makeup. Fartlek An athletic regime. Firkin A small barrel or cask.

Flibbertigibbet Nonsense (again). Formication The sense of ants crawling on your skin.

Furbelow A fringe or ruffle. **Furphy** A portable water-container. Gaberlunzie A wandering beggar. **Gastromancy** Telling fortune from the rumblings of the stomach.

Gobbledygook Nonsense (again). Gobemouche A highly gullible

Godwottery Nonsense (again). Gongoozle To stare at, kibitz. Goombah An older friend who protects you.

Hemidemisemiquaver A musical

Lagopodous Like a rabbit's foot. **Lickspittle** A servile person Logorrhea Loquaciousness,

talkativeness. Malarkey Nonsense (yet again).

Mollycoddle To treat too leniently. Mugwump An independent politician who does not follow any party. Mumpsimus An outdated and unreasonable position on an issue. Oocephalus An egghead.

Pandiculation A full body stretch. Panjandrum Someone who thinks himself high and mighty. Ranivorous Frog-eating

Sialoquent Spitting while speaking. Slangwhanger A loud abusive speaker or obnoxious writer. **Snollygoster** A person who can't be trusted.

Snool A servile person.

Tatterdemalion A child in rags. Troglodyte Someone or something that lives in a cave.

Turdiform Having the form of a lark.

Vomitory An exit or outlet. Wabbit Exhausted, worn out. Widdershins In a contrary or counterclockwise direction. Yahoo A country bumpkin.



A Phuket bumpersticker. Photo: Chris Hudon



We're not having that 'duck thing' for dinner are we? Photo: Adair McNear

Death from the Ozone Layer

There's a new theory about what caused the extinction of the dinosaurs. It wasn't a meteorite that wiped them out.

It was their own farting.

"The animals, weighing from 80 to 100 tons, would eat...between 130 and 260 kilos of food every day," according to one report. "They would fart non-stop."

Their farts contained a high proportion of methane gas. During the dinosaurs' 100 million years of existence, "the atmosphere of Earth became charged with methane, which finally damaged the ozone layer and brought about great changes in the vegetation." This caused a food shortage that wiped the dinosaurs out.

This theory has frightening implications for the future of our species—and, indeed, for all life on our planet.

All those millions of dinosaurs farting non-stop for 100 million years must have produced a hell of a lot of methane. The question is, where did it go? It can't have vanished into thin air. Gas rises, so it must have risen.

And it's still lurking up there. Our planet is surrounded by a layer of lethal dinosaur farts.

Now, presumably the region of

Curmudgeon's Corner By Ye Olde Curmudgeon

saurian flatulence lies just beneath the ozone layer. We can call it the fartbelt. What would happen if the ozone layer began to deteriorate?

I'll tell you what would happen. The fartbelt would be shaken loose from the underbelly of the ozone layer and would begin to descend. Eventually it would reach ground level. It would cover the entire surface of our planet and poison the air we breathe. All living creatures would die in horrible convulsions of protracted agony from inhaling the lethal gases.

While I have no personal experience of the smell of dinosaur farts, I suspect that they must smell at least as bad as the beer farts emitted by me and my mates as we frolic in our local go-go bar. And if fresh dinosaur farts smell bad, just think how bad they'll smell after fermenting beneath the ozone layer for millions

But we need not despair. The captains of industry, ever alert to

save our planet (and their profits) in times of crisis, have come to our rescue.

We all know that cars and factories emit greenhouse gases. It now appears that they form a protective layer beneath the fartbelt that holds it up, keeps it in place, and functions as a fartshield. So long as we produce greenhouse gases, they will reinforce the fartshield and prevent the descent of the fartbelt.

It's true that the continued production of greenhouse gases will pollute our planet and contribute to global warming. But which would you prefer—to put up with a little discomfort from pollution and global warming, or to be engulfed in a gaseous sea of dinosaur farts that will kill us all?

This message comes to you through the kind courtesy of the automobile and manufacturing industries, which pay me well and have always known that greenhouse gases are beneficent.

Ye Olde Curmudgeon can be praised for his hard-hitting scientific analysis c/o s.tsow@ymail.com, except when he's drinking toasts to his paymasters, the captains of industry, in his favorite go-go bar.



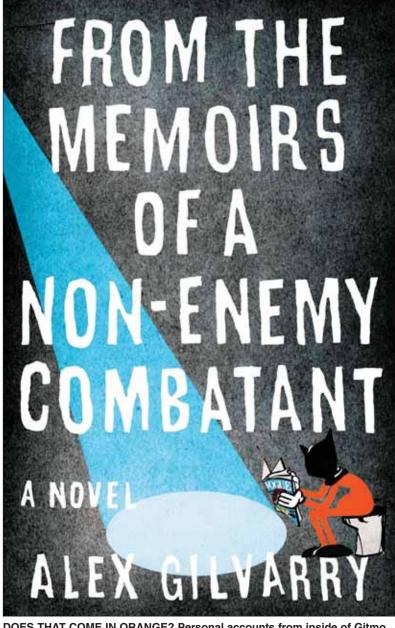
Was the sign-maker a Harry Potter fan by chance? (Thai-Cambodia Border)



We're not sure what they're selling in this Krabi shop but they had better not visit the border post above. Photo: Adair McNear

If you have a photo to share please send it to features@phuketgazette.net.





DOES THAT COME IN ORANGE? Personal accounts from inside of Gitmo.

The resident fashionista of Guantanamo

NORMAN Mailer was never known for his generosity to young writers. The one author he did adopt was the convict Jack Abbott, author of the prison memoir, In the Belly of the Beast. Mailer championed his cause and when Abbott was released from prison, he promptly stabbed a waiter to death.

But Alex Gilvarry has been named a Norman Mailer Fellow. His debut novel is called: From the Memoirs of a Non-Enemy Combatant (Viking, New York, 2012, 302pp). This tells the improbable tale of Boy Hernandez, a Filipino dress designer and rising star in the New York fashion world, five foot one inch tall, avidly heterosexual and fond of blondes, who is accused of fomenting a terrorist plot and is whacked away in Guantanamo.

Books

By James Eckardt

It's there that he writes his book.

You might think that this has all the makings of a farce. The New York fashion scene just begs for satire. But, to his credit and despite the clever laugh lines. Gilvarry is deadly serious. Here are the thoughts of his dress designer hero: "A dress is a performance – its only responsibility is to the moment. It is elegant and ephemeral. It can't sustain a woman's his FBI interrogator handed him a body for very long. Women's

changes are far too radical. In couture, some dresses can be worn for only a few hours, max. What's the saying? Elegance is a dress too dazzling to dare wear it twice."

How did Alex Gilvarry get started? His first girlfriend in Manila was pawing through a stack of

New York fashion magazines and Hernandez was instantly hooked. This moment, "transcended price and brand and the particular waif who wore it. It was between the individual and the clothes. All else meant nothing. This moment of catharsis is what we in the industry refer to as 'in the zone'. It's when a designer takes it to the next level to create something fresh and hot and unforgettable.'

New York is the young designer's dream and in 2002, on his first taxi ride from the airport, he has the driver stop at Battery Park so that he can gaze upon the Statue of Liberty. He is soon mentored by a former Manila fashion school classmate, Philip Tang. Halfway through the memoir, Tang displays his collection of dresses.

"This new line was much darker than the collections he had done before. It brooded and slouched. It was sorrow and anguish and jealousy and I saw myself. In the greatest art we see ourselves reflected back at us, do we not? Guernica, The Scream."

For the nuts and bolts of his rise, he depends on Ahmed Qureshi, a Brooklyn neighbor and extravagantly mendacious Pakistani con man. Ahmed fronts the money for his move to fashionable Williamsburg where he sets up his studio at a former toothpick factory overlooking the East River. His girlfriend is Michelle Brewbaker, a drama major at Sarah Lawrence who, after his downfall, will write a short-lived Broadway play about their romance.

Hernandez refers to his downfall as "The Momentous Event". On the night of May 30, 2006, he was settling into bed and waiting for Michelle to come out of the bathroom when a SWAT team burst into his apartment. He found himself on the floor with a boot to his neck.

Two weeks later in Guantanamo, pen and legal pad and suggested he

'He found himself on

the floor with a boot to his

neck. Two weeks later

in Guantanamo, his

FBI interrogator handed

him a pen and legal pad

and suggested that he

write his memoirs.'

write his memoirs.

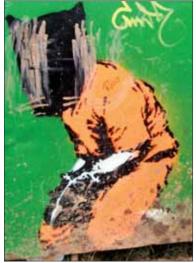
In these pages he neatly captures his guards, his interrogators and fellow prisoners, his martinet of the awful camp commandant.

He has been consigned to a "No Man's Land" because Ahmed Qureshi had been

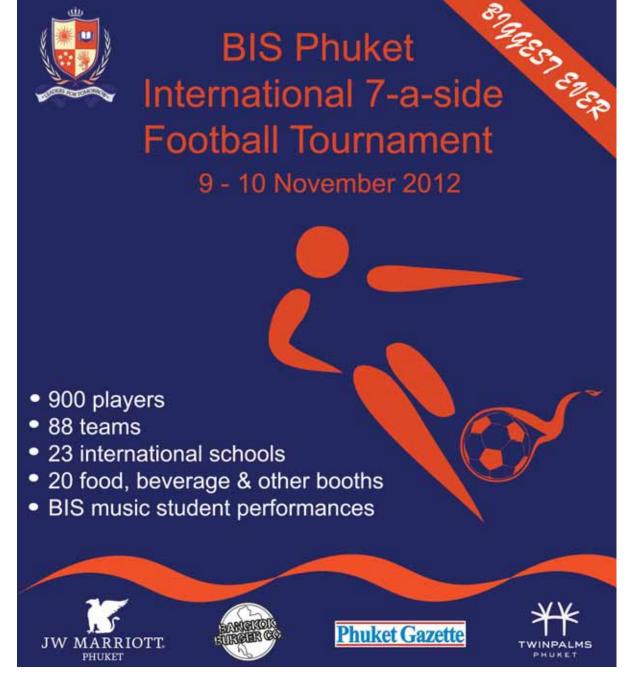
caught in a FBI sting operation trying to sell explosive ammonium nitrate fertilizer to Somali terrorists. He accuses boy Hernandez of being the mastermind.

Toward the end Hernandez writes: "Because everything I write about is in the past, I don't see myself as living anymore. This is what happens to you when you are arrested. The present is shifted instantly into the past, and what had once seemed unfathomable torment, misery, profound suffering – is now actual."

Will Boy Hernandez ever escape No Man's Land? He is soon to endure much worse treatment from the another government agency, the CIA.



Protest Grafitti. Photo: Peter Burgess



Adding yet more green to your living spaces

FOR years – five to be precise – I have kept about fifteen plants, potted in ceramic containers, on the patio outside my front door. The original idea came from my Thai partner who wanted "lucky plants" to grace and guard the entrance to the house. So we slowly acquired some of these talismans, mostly with unknown botanical names. They thrived in the shade provided by the house, kissed only by the sun for an hour or two each day.

With the exception of one "lucky" mistletoe fig (ficus deltoidea), which initially grew with great gusto, and then mysteriously gave up the ghost, they are still there... or almost. A few months ago, I brought several indoors to see if they could make it as house plants. I had already tried the usual culprits: softstemmed dieffenbachias, aglaonemas, philodendrons, calatheas and spathiphylums.

Most started well, but began to show signs of stress after a few weeks in the sin-bin, and had to be released outdoors. Anyway it was time for

something different. Two, now sentenced to life on the inside, have animal tags related to their appearance: a sansevieria stickye or elephant trunk, and a nolina recurvata or ponytail palm. More about these anon.

But the most successful of all these transfers was another odd plant, known in Thailand as



waan moracot. Its common name is Zanzibar gem, its actual botanical name – zamioculcus *zamifolia* – a real mouthful. No wonder it gets shortened to ZZ.

It is, moreover, the only member of its genus - a rare characteristic in the plant world.



SENTENCED TO LIFE: Elephant trunk can be successfully grown indoors. Photo: Berthold Werner

Not a rare presence in Thailand though, where specimens are often seen on front porches and patios. In fact, mine, originally just a couple of cuttings, came from an unpretentious Thai eatery in Karon.

With a name like zamioculcus, you would expect it to be exotic. And it doesn't disappoint. In fact

it has the look of a lush, heavyweight fern, with a clutch of thick, sappy stems up to an inch across, luxuriating from its base. These stems in turn have grown from a tuberous rhizome beneath the soil, a rhizome that stores water and starch, and thus enables the plant to survive in its native East Africa, where there are pronounced wet and dry seasons.

The succulent stems, each

carrying ten or more pairs of leathery, glossy, dark green leaflets on either side, taper towards the top. The plant even has bizarre flowers, in the form of a dense, arum-like spadix. ZZ looks primitive, almost as though it existed when dinosaurs roamed the planet.

The good news is that zamioculcus is almost indestructible: it will tolerate neglect, imprisonment in a pot and the various challenges of life indoors. Best in dry soil with some sand in the mix, it will nonetheless drop its leaves if it is left without water for too long. Apparently, it

is deciduous in its native Africa, especially if the wet season is slow in arriving. But my lounge lizard has shown no interest in sloughing off its clothes.

If your ZZ does show signs of shedding its leaflets, it probably needs a good drink.

Because it is considered a "lucky" presence, the Zanzibar



TROPICAL WONDER: Zamioculcus zamifolia. Photos: Michelangelo76; W Fitch

gem is relatively easy to find in superstitious Phuket. The Super Cheap, for example, usually has a few on offer.

The only drawback is that ZZ is slow-growing and, because of this, it is relatively



Mistletoe fig. Photo: Hear.org

(large specimens can be divided up), it is one of the very few plants that can be grown from single leaves, half buried in sandy potting mix.

That's probably why it is considered to be a lucky plant. Big

Best propagated from rhizomes

expensive to buy in this area. returns from small beginnings. Something from nothing. Zzzz...

Tip of the week Spicing things up

I AM currently growing chillies from seed. I used to have plants, which neighbors came and culled. Time to grow more. After all, the chilli is ubiquitous in Thailand. On any dining table they will be there - mixed with fish

sauce, ground down to make a red powder, or the fiery concoction known as naam prik. An ingredient in green curries too.

Though native to the Americas, there are many varieties



AY CARAMBA: A Cayenne pepper. Photo: Andre Karwath

which grow here, from the large more effectively given a and faintly sweet bell pepper in glossy shades of red, orange, yellow and green, to the familiar, long thin prik chee faa, and the smaller but even hotter *prik*

Available as seed in packets, they will germinate readily in moist, loam-filled pots. They can be transplanted when a few inches tall, preferably to an area of filtered sunlight. Later they will fruit

sunny situation.

Try mixing chillies with flowering plants. They go well together and make attractive bushes.



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SUDOKU: Each row, column and 3x3 sub-grid must contain the number 1-9 once only. © Kevin Stone (brainbashers.com)

Across:

- 8. Rip ten out of the publisher (7) 9. Angry, brief discussion a puzzle (9)
- 13. Pirate is right on top (5)
- 14. Islet producing roof
- coverings (5)
- 15. Greatest size to let rags get to (7) 16. Refer to men on it being out of order (7)
- 17. Is led to walk timidly (5)
- 18. Deceitfulness in person not reaching expectations (5)
- 20. Raises the back, son (5)
- 22. Last bit not to be borne (3,3) 23. Disregard confused reign
- hiding nothing (6)
- 25. Nonsense! No, I turn over real silver in bars (7)
- 27. Go, make good the condition

of the digestive fluid! (7)

- 30. Do not take rubbish (6) 31. Family backs man to drink
- water in Thailand (3,3) 32. Out to sea from a hill in

women (5)

- Phuket Town (5) 35. Rush maiden from Sheik's
- 36. Old you right in, in that place (5) 37. Wildly rant, sit in conveyance (7) 39 Sir, ain't moving from Phuket National Park! (7)
- 41. We set out for the course at
- the end (5)42. Time to completely see off
- unattractive old woman (5) 43. On, On, 'tis at possibly in the correct place (2,7)
- 44. Come on, maybe left in the eyeglass (7)

1. Caught bird behaving in a cowardly way (6)

2. Note Northern tracks in interior parts (8)

- 3. Maybe sited race where
- bound (11) 4. Eccentrically send tripe to head
- of government (9) 5. Additional words later changing a devotional book (7)
- 6. Trial between old knights from words about quarrel (5,5)
- 7. Set at liberty without charge (4) 10. First class right early school book (6)

11. Adhesive bandage rep turns up

around last (7)

- 12 Indigestible food for street dog cooked, note (6)
- 19. Adds up to full values (7)
- 21. Here Spanish referee turns up at source of groundwater (7) 24. Various ways to arrange for
- each alteration (11)
- 26. Concluding, mark one tune off as latest possible (4,6)
- 28. Date one particular form of recreation (9)
- 29. Green it, change the whole number (7)

- 30. Again go over old ideas about the mess (6)
- 32. Pulling untidily, cart it on (8) 33. Shortly established at

12

33

- Eastern property (6)
- 34. Condition Trades Union in written legislation (7)
- 38. Ought to show shoulder clearing Emergency Room (6) 40. Runs one French old secret character (4)

Cryptic crossword compiled by Patong Bill. Answers on page 29

SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22):

Proof that you are heading in the right direction comes just when some Scorpios are losing faith. A business or work related scheme that you have been trying to get afloat should receive support from another water sign. Financial worries will be helped by this person coming onboard. Those celebrating a birthday in the week ahead will have changing priorities in the coming year. Wear the color indigo to enhance your romantic charisma.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21):

After a non-fruitful period, your money tree is forecast to flourish during November. The stars advise setting your sights towards next year as long term investments are positively affected by the cosmic climate. Motivation to do more with your free time comes from a surprising source this weekend. In the realm of romance, an air sign has what it takes to capture your interest. Your lucky color this week is cherry red.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20):

The stars encourage Capricorns to make their feelings known this week. If this relates to work, another earth sign will be open to hearing your ideas for change. In the realm of romance, a fire sign has been waiting for you to share your vision of the future. Moneywise, this is not the most auspicious time to make important decisions – wait until the second half of November before agreeing to big financial commitments.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19):

Fact and fantasy can be hard to separate this week. Those born under the sign of Aquarius are advised to resist daydreaming and concentrate on what is really happening around them. Another air sign is likely to spin stories, but a fire sign can be trusted to tell the truth. Lucky days for love are Sunday and Monday. Finances are well-starred during the second half of the week.

PISCES (Feb 20-March 20):

A lazy start to the month can put Pisceans at a disadvantage. The stars recommend taking action before someone else gets in front of you. Where work is concerned, another water sign will do whatever they can to leave you behind. On a romantic level, those interested in an earth sign could be overtaken by a rival. Wear the color tangerine orange to encourage brighter energy to flow.

YOUR

horoscope

By Isla Star

ARIES (March 21-April 20):

Keeping secrets in the world of work is highlighted to backfire this week. Arians may think they are doing someone a favor by remaining silent, but this could have a negative affect on your personal situation. The stars suggest that taking a short break this month will set you up for a busy holiday season in December. Those seeking romance could learn that an earth sign is keen to get closer.

TAURUS (April 21-May 21):

This is an auspicious week for Taureans to step into the spotlight. Your chances of success during November are high as long as you don't linger in the shadows. A fire sign's support can lead to an important meeting midweek and another earth sign hasn't forgotten a promise made last month. Where romance is concerned, the stars recommend not jumping to conclusions too quickly as there can be valid reason for communication delays.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21):

It would be wise for

Geminis to accept what they cannot change. The stars suggest that your determination to bring others round to your point of view has been wasting valuable time. Listening to another air sign's advice can open doors to opportunity, but a water sign's words can cause confusion. Lucky days for romance are Tuesday and Wednesday. Wear the color dove gray to encourage a calmer perspective.

CANCER (June 22-July 23):



A work related matter remains up in the air until second half of November and Cancerians should concentrate on other issues in the meantime. The stars suggest that reaching out to friends you haven't seen for some time will be appreciated. Romance with an earth sign becomes more secure, but those hoping for more intimacy with another water sign will be disappointed. Your lucky color this week is coral pink.

LEO (July 24-Aug 22):

Leos are advised to focus on living in the moment this week. There are signs that being caught up in the past is cramping your style; take time out this weekend for quiet contemplation on what is happening now. In the world of work, it would be worth considering doing something you have never tried before. The stars advise that an earth sign has the right idea.

VIRGO (Aug 23-Sept 23):



Your practical side comes in useful at work this week. The stars suggest

that colleagues will appreciate Virgoans' ability to see through problems – expect financial rewards to come your way later this month. In the realm of romance, an air sign can sweep you off your feet this weekend. Those already committed could be confused when they learn of their partner's plans for the holiday season next month.

LIBRA (Sept 24-Oct 23):



Seeking out new knowledge can make November a month to remember

for Librans. Your determination to embrace different skills becomes stronger and this is an auspicious week to find out what you really want to do. The stars indicate that financial issues can best be solved with professional advice. Love with a fire sign is hot, but another air sign's cool response should send a clear message.

Sharapova aiming to win Wimbledon 2013

By Reuters

RUSSIAN Maria Sharapova will focus on trying to win Wimbledon next year rather than attempting to regain the world number one ranking.

"Wimbledon will be my priority next season," Sharapova, who finished the year as world number two behind Belarussian Victoria Azarenka, told Reuters on Tuesday after signing a sponsorship deal with electronics manufacturer Samsung in Moscow.

"This year it was different because of the Olympics but if you ask me about my main goal for 2013, it definitely will be Wimbledon."

Sharapova made her break-

through to the tennis elite by winning the 2004 Wimbledon title as a 17-year-old newcomer.

This year she won the French Open to complete a career grand slam and claimed the Olympic silver medal in London.

The 25-year-old also said she was hoping to finally end her winless streak against Serena Williams in 2013 after losing to the American in all three of their matches this year, including two finals, in the Olympics and at the WTA Championships on Sunday.

"She plays a very physical tennis and when she is in top form it's very difficult to beat her but I will try to take my revenge next year," said the Florida-based Russian.



STUNNING FORM: Maria Sharapova at the China Open tennis tournament in Beijing. Photo: Reuters



Allan Donald. Photo: Reuters

Allan Donald impressed with pace attack

SOUTH African bowling great Allan Donald believes the pace attack of Dale Steyn, Vernon Philander and Morne Morkel which will take on Australia in a three-test series next month is the best the country has ever produced.

Steyn and Philander are the top two bowlers in the world at the moment according to the ICC rankings, while Morkel has also earned a place in the top 10 at number nine.

Donald was one of the most feared fast bowlers of the modern era and took 330 wickets in 72 tests after South Africa returned to the international cricket fold in the early 1990s.

Despite featuring in some imposing bowling attacks himself, Donald did not hesitate when asked whether the current unit was better.

"I would have to say that, yes," Donald, who is in Australia as bowling coach for the Proteas, said.

"I'm not just saying that, because I was part of an attack with Shaun Pollock and myself and a few others, and I say that humbly and respectfully, I think this is as good as it gets.

"They've been bowling together for quite some time now, which is nice, so momentum's been built over the last couple of years, consistency in selection, and it's nice to have a group of guys that know what they're

"But still, the produce factor is always the key, and this is as big as it comes, coming to

The South Africans will be relishing the prospect of bowling against an Australian batting lineup which has looked fragile at times in the last couple of years.

The number one ranked test team has brought just four seamers on the tour, however, with uncapped all rounder Rory Kleinveldt making up the quartet.

England, the last team to win a series in Australia, used five quicks in the 2010-11 Ashes, albeit over five tests.

The series begins at the Gabba in Brisbane from November 9-13 before tests at the Adelaide Oval (November 22-26) and the WACA in Perth (November 30-

- Reuters

Premier League round up and look ahead

TOP flight referee, Mark Clattenburg, has been accused by Chelsea of using "inappropriate language" including alleged racist comments to John Obi Mikel and Juan Mata during last weekend's loss to Manchester

The official caused controversy during the game before these allegations came to light by sending off Branislav Ivanovic and Fernando Torres in Chelsea's 3-2 defeat. To compound Chelsea's misery, Manchester United's Hernandez scored a 75th minute winner from an offside position. Clattenburg will

not be officiating this weekend.

The Merseyside derby was all about Luis Suarez. David Moyes stoked the flames before the game claiming the Uruguayan has a tendency to go down too easily when challenged. Suarez played a part in Leighton Baine's own goal to give Liverpool an early lead, which he celebrated by doing a swallow dive in front of the Everton bench and David Moyes. The game finished 2-2 with Suarez denied a perfectly good injury time goal.

Arsenal beat QPR and Manchester City beat Swansea, both by 1-0 scorelines.

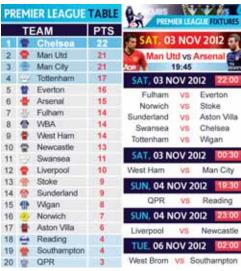
This weekend's big game is Manchester

United hosting Arsenal on Saturday.

United striker Wayne Rooney has just been selected as the only British player on the Balloon d'Or shortlist for FIFA's player of 2012. Japanese play maker Shinji Kagawa has been ruled out for four weeks but on the plus side, Ferguson has admitted that with Hernandez's scintillating form he now has a striker dilemma.

Arsenal welcomed Jack Wilshere back to the team in last weekend's win at QPR and England's starlet will be raring to go against Manchester United.

- Andrew Scott



Futsal World Cup kicks off in Thailand

THE FIFA Futsal World Cup kicked off in Bangkok and Nakhon Ratchasima on November 1.

Following a rough warm-up tournament, hosts Thailand played their first group match against CONCACAF (Confederation of North, Central American and Caribbean Association Football) champions, Costa Rica.

This followed the exciting opener between the other two sides in group A: Ukraine and Paraguay

In addition to Group A, the tournament will be played out by

the other five groups of 20 teams. Following are a pick of some of the teams and their key players to watch out for.

One of the Tournament favorites, Brazil, have included the winner of the last World Cup's Golden Glove Award, Tiago who is joined by Falcoa, the player of the tournament in the last two World Cups.

World number 1 Spain are expected to challenge Brazil (in advanced stages) and they have included the experienced defender Kike, 34, along with the in-form midfielder Fernandao.

This year's Asian champions, Japan have included forward Kazuyoshi Miura who has been capped 89 times by Japan's international 11-a-side team.

Arguably Asia's strongest futsal nation, Iran will be looking to improve on their strong showing at the last world cup in Brazilwhere they finished fifth.

Italy finished third at the last World Cup but only two players remain from the team that went to Brazil.



International Sport

Red Bull's Indian take-away keeps them ahead



Formula 1

By The Digby

THE 2012 season was McLaren's to lose, and they lost it. In a smoggy and boring Indian GP, Red Bull reaffirmed its control.

As in Korea, Vettel dominated for the second successive year. Webber had a KERS problem, so Fernando Alonso managed second place for Ferrari.

McLaren chose the wrong tyre strategy and underperformed until they switched to hards. At least McLaren did better than in Korea.

Vettel is now well ahead in the Drivers' Championship, with no-one looking like challenging him. Hamilton, who once looked like winning the season, is now battling Webber for fourth spot. Both of them are fighting Räikkönen for third spot.

Vettel is now 13 points ahead of Alonso, but even if Alonso scores no points this weekend, Vettel cannot seal the Championship until Texas at the earliest.

Alonso is seen by the media, fans, and peers as the best driver in F1. Ferrari's battle is not with an ordinary Vettel, but with the design genius of Adrian Newey.

In the 1980s and 1990s, Williams was a top team, and Newey was its designer. In 1992 Williams took the Drivers' Championship and Newey won his first Constructors' title from previously dominant McLaren. 1993 delivered another with Alain Prost. In 1994 the death of Ayrton Senna, who joined Williams, blighted the sea-

son, but Newey took his third consecutive Constructors' Championship.

He joined McLaren in 1997; titles followed in 1998 and 1999, and Häkkinen narrowly missed in 2000.

Newey joined Red Bull in 2006. They won the 2010 Drivers' Championship, and Newey became the only designer to win Constructors' Championships with three F1 teams. He won again in 2011, and looks set for 2012.

From 1992 the Championship was Newey's private battle with Rory Byrne until Byrne's retirement. Byrne engineered Michael Schumacher to 7 titles and Adrian Newey engineered Mansell, Prost, Hill, Villeneuve and Häkkinen to 6 titles.

In the Constructors Championship Red Bull is now 99 points ahead of McLaren, which is only 10 points behind Ferrari. So they are now fighting for second place in this championship. McLaren should make it.

Abu Dhabi is a modern track, with long straights and high and low speed corners, but fewer high-speed corners than Korea or India.

Low-speed performance is very relevant; braking stability and good traction are crucial. As in India there are two DRS sections and two detection zones.

It is the only F1 GP that starts in daylight and races into the dark. In Practice One on Friday and Three on Saturday, conditions are very hot. But Practice Two on Friday evening emulates race conditions.

Pirelli is supplying soft and medium compounds, which is disappointing. Tyre wear is not such a big issue in Yas Marina,



POLE POSITION: Red Bull's Sebastian Vettel during last weekend's Indian GP. Photo Reuters

and it would have been nice to see supersofts in action.

In 2011, Hamilton's bling glinted atop the podium; unlikely this year, unless Vettel retires as he did last year having taken pole. Vettel won in 2009 and 2010, and looks set to do so again. Alonso, Button and Webber followed Hamilton last year, and Räikkönen was not there, so expect a similar mix to India.

The race will be shown on the big screen at the Green Man. The race is 8pm on Sunday, and qualifying is at 8pm on Saturday.



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November 3 - 9, 2012

Sport

PHUKET GAZETTE 49

IronKids by the kids

By Andrew Scott

IN THE build up to IronKids 2012 on December 1, the *Phuket Gazette* interviewed six participants who will be featured in the paper throughout November. The first IronKid is 13-year-old Malaysian, Zoe Bowden.

Phuket Gazette: Why are you competing in the IronKids competition?

Zoe Bowden: To meet new people, to learn from others and also to have some exposure.

Every time you go for a race, there is always something new you'll learn or pick up.

Also... there are times you learn from your own mistakes as well as others' [mistakes] in order to improve yourself and how far you've stretched your ability.

It's not about winning all the time but improving my timing and studying what improvements I need to do or not do.

At the end of the day, the most important thing is to enjoy the race and have a positive attitude.

What's your training schedule like?

I train seven days a week. Gym work for 1.5 hours and the other 2.5 hours swimming. I go running six times a week, where I do drills, core muscle exercises and stretching. This is followed by running on the track.

On other days, I do hill work and also run on a trail with my coach.

Cycling is the only sport, whereby, I only have two days of training – and that is during the weekends. This is done together as a group and we cycle out on the road.

Other than that, I will be on the training bike while watching television for about 30 minutes, doing my cadence (timing exercises).

Which is your favorite part of the IronKids race – swim, bike or run?

My background is in swimming and middle distance running, as they are my two major disciplines. **Why**?

I swim with the PRAKL (Kuala Lumpur Amateur Swimming Association) Elite Swim Team, and I swim for the state; that is the Fed-



Zoe Bowden. Photo: David Bowden

eral Territory of Kuala Lumpur.

In the afternoon, after school, before my swimming lesson, I go for track training with the Kuala Lumpur Sports School Team. I am a swimmer and an athlete and I represent a state (KL) within Malaysia.

These are my specialties and I have trained for them from a very young age.

Which is your hardest part of the IronKids race, swim, bike, run?

Bike.

Why?

It was a matter of training hard on the bike and getting used to the idea that this is a continuous sport starting with swimming and then moving onto cycling and running.

Cycling is not my specialty and the thought of falling off the bike at a fast speed was a little scary. What do you hope to achieve at this year's IronKids?

To improve my timing and hopefully win my age category again. I'm not sure about being the overall winner for all age

categories, as this year I'm not here by myself, but as a team from Malaysia.

One of my fellow triathletes is an elite athlete and he is definitely faster than me no doubt, so watch out for him.

What other sports do you play?

I used to play football and basketball but stopped when I took up triathlon.

Now I don't really do any contact sports as it could affect my performance in triathlon if I pick up an injury.

Other than that, the only sports I allow myself to do are cross-country; athletics that involve running on track and road, and kayaking when I am on holidays. When did you start competing in sporting events?

I started competing at the age of 8, in swimming and running competitions for the school and inter-school. From this, I slowly entered bigger competitions out of the country.

Why do you like them (sporting events)?

I like them as I enjoy doing sports and this is also a form of physical fitness for me.

The other benefit is I get to meet different people all the time, which gives me the opportunity to learn from others and share their knowledge and experience.

Who's your favorite athlete?

I do not have one but a few I like are: Missy Franklin (swimming), Mo Farah (athletics) and Mark Cavendish (cycling) plus Ironman Legends like Jurgen Zack and Chrissie Wellington (Ironman Kona Champion), Javier Gomez (top three world ranking ITU triathlete) and Bradley Wiggins (Tour de France, cycling champion).

What does being an IronKid mean to you?

Ironkid means the beginning of my dream to be able to make it to the most prestigious race – the Ironmen/Ironwomen race in Kona, Hawaii and the Olympics!

Next week, the Gazette will feature another competitor taking part in this year's IronKids, held at Thanyapura Sports and Leisure Club on December 1.

Serena Williams to play at Hua Hin



Serena at the WTA tennis championships in Istanbul. Photo: Reuters

THE current form player on the Women's Tennis Association (WTA) circuit, Serena Williams, and current world No 1 Victoria Azarenka will compete in the Hua Hin World Tennis Invitation on December 29.

Ranked third in the world, Serena who brushed aside Maria Sharapova 6-4 6-3 in the seasonending WTA Championships on Sunday, will play a match for the first time in Thailand.

For Azarenka, it will be her second tennis exhibition in Hua Hin after she upset the then world No 1 Caroline Wozniacki last year in the final, before going on to claim her first major in Melbourne.

Azarenka and Williams have been the most dominant players in women's tennis this year. Azarenka has won 14 titles throughout her career – six in 2012 – including the Australian Open.

Serena is a true living legend. She has won an astonishing 45 singles titles, including 15 Grand Slam titles and an Olympic gold medal. She also has 12 Grand Slam doubles titles and three Grand

Slam mixed doubles titles. Serena has won six titles so far in 2012, including Wimbledon, the US Open and the Olympic Games.

Azarenka and Serena played each other five times in 2012, with Serena winning all five matches.

Lawn Tennis Association of Thailand President, Suwat Lipatapanlop said he was delighted that the two superstars had chosen to start their new year in Thailand.

"Victoria and Serena are the biggest names in women's tennis. We are absolutely delighted to welcome Vika back to Thailand again this year. She won the hearts of everyone who saw her last year. And it is a real pleasure to welcome Serena for the first time. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for Thai fans to be able to watch Serena play," Suwat added.

The Hua Hin World Tennis Invitation will be held at Centennial Park, Hua Hin on December 29, kicking off the long New Year-weekend celebrations in thrilling fashion.

Tickets are 1,500 baht and go on sale at all ThaiTicketMajor outlets and Major Hua Hin from November 3.

- The Nation

PSS unlucky against Para FC

ON Saturday, October 27, Phuket Soccer School's (PSS) U12 Academy team played Para FC at Thanyapura Sports and Leisure Club.

The game started well as both teams looked to get an early lead. PSS moved the ball well in and around Para FC's penalty box, unfortunately for PSS, the Para FC goalkeeper was in fine form, blocking all shots that came his way.

The first half finished 0-0. A lapse of concentration early in the second half by PSS let in the Para



FC striker, who fired a hard, low shot into the goal, to give Para FC a 1-0 lead.

PSS pushed on trying to find an equalizer but the Para defense stayed strong, lead by some inspirational goalkeeping.

The match was played in the right spirit and even though PSS

lost the game 1-0, positives still came out of the match.

Head Coach Martin Hill remarked, "It was a pleasure to host Para FC at TSLC. The two teams are finely balanced and our team finished the game knowing they had given it there all in a very close matchup." — *Phuket Gazette*



Sport Clear of relegation

By Steven Layne

THE Islanders ended their season in great form, sealing their Thai Division 1 status with a 4-0 win over JW Rangsit FC last

Going into the final match of the season, 13th-placed Phuket were under pressure to win in order to avoid relegation.

Meanwhile, their 16th-placed opponents – third from bottom of the 18-team table – had no chance of escaping relegation, and thus were only playing for pride.

The match was played at Phuket's Surakul Stadium, with thousands of fans packed into the ground's covered stand, not only for a good view, but also to avoid the late day sun accompanying the early 4pm kickoff.

The home side took charge from the start, scoring in the opening minutes, with team captain Nonthapan Jiensathawong converting one of his deadly free kicks – his fourth goal for the team this season.

Though possession was balanced through the rest of the first half with chances on goal enjoyed by both sides, the Islanders went on to double their lead in the final minute of the half. Cashing in on his side's brilliant passing game and after a period of sustained pressure, Ivorian import, Makalou Ibrahim (commonly referred to as Kanoute) scored his fourth goal of the season on 44 minutes.

With Phuket up 2-0 at the half, the pressure eased for them in the rest of the game, and to the pleasure of the crowd, they kept up their form to double their lead with two more goals — first by Thawin Butsombat on 63 minutes, and nine minutes later when Kanoute scored his second of the match and fifth for the season.

After the final whistle blew, Kanoute was awarded 'man of the match' for his strong attacking pressure and two goals.

The result ensured that Phuket finished in 13th place, one spot above this season's five team relegation pot, giving them another shot next season to fight for promotion to the prestigious Thai Premier League.

Five teams to be relegated from Division 1



REACHING GOALS: Thawin Butsombat drives towards goal with JW Rangsit's Captain, Jeerasak Itjan in pursuit, and JW's keeper Jestana Jumjestarath standing by. Photos: Steven Layne

this season are: Songkhla (14th place), Pattalung (15th), JW Rangsit (16th), Rajpracha (17th) and Chanthaburi (18th).

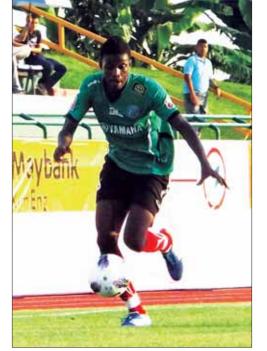
Three teams to be promoted from Division 1 to the elite Thai Premier League are: Ratchaburi (1st place), Suphanburi (2nd) and Bangkok United (3rd).

These teams will be replaced by the three teams who were relegated from the TPL: Thai Port (16th), BBCU (17th) and Thai Tobacco Monopoly Chiang Mai (18th).

As for the five teams to fill in the Division 1 vacancies, four are currently being decided in the Champions League Division 2 playoffs, currently going into its fifth of 10 scheduled weeks. It is being contested by 12 teams: Ayutthaya FC, Pak Nam Po, Roi Et United, Pattani FC, Rayong United, Pitsanulok, Trat FC, Rayong FC, Si Saket FC, Chiang Mai FC, Thai Honda FC and Trang FC.

The other promotion spot will be filled by Nakhon Pathom FC, who retains its Division 1 standing following the completion of a two year ban on competition.

Next season is scheduled to commence in February, 2013.







STRIKE FORCE: Makalou Ibrahim, left, was named 'Man of the Match' for his two goals, while Nonthapan Jiensathawong, right, scored the opening goal in Saturday's match.





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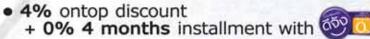
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SPORT



CLEAR FOR NEXT YEAR: Nenebi Slyvester celebrates Makalou Ibrahim's (no 16) first of two goals in the side's 4-0 victory over JW Rangsit. Photo by Steven Layne. Inset: Phuket FC President Pamuk Achiyarachai is hoisted up by fans in celebration. Pamuk rescued the team from financial collapse earlier in the season, hiring skillful new staff and players. Photo: Phuket FC fanclub





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PHUKET PROPERTY REVIEW

November 2012

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By Bill Barnett

Phuket's property expert and Managing Director of C9HotelWorks.com

COMMENT

A MULTI-BILLION baht property investment by Hong Kong's New World Group is leading a pack of world class real estate and tourism projects under development on the island.

An award-winning design team has been assembled that includes architectural firm WOHA from Singapore and Australia's Bar Studio.

Set to open in 2014, the Rosewood Phuket (pictured above), located on a prime beachfront site on the Patong headland will feature 87 upscale villas, along with 20 residences and a handful of hideaway homes.

The island's land trade is already buzzing over the prospective sales of

the branded tropical mansions that will top out at nine bedrooms. It's expected the project will follow a successful trend in hospitality driven residential offerings at Amanpuri Phase 3, Trisara, Sri Panwa, and Banyan Tree.

Significant overseas investors are again set to ignite an expanding footprint in Asia's leading, exclusive ultra villa sector. Allan Zeman's Andara Signature estate is already far advanced in its sales cycle with recent transactions led by high-net-worthindividuals from Mainland China.

On the East Coast, Point Yamu by Como, which is an investment consortium that includes an affiliate of Singapore's publicly listed HPL Group, will be launching a new offering of branded managed residences, as it works towards a much anticipated hotel opening next year.

Continued on page 14





RPM launches new phase

ROYAL Phuket Marina is launching La Reserve Residences, a new phase at the lifestyle marina, with starting prices from 4.99 million baht.

La Reserve Residences feature 40 one- and two-bedroom condominiums in two separate buildings each with its own private rooftop "Sky Pool" and large barbecue areas for alfresco dining. Additionally, the units are equipped with optional furniture and fit-out packages, allowing owners to purchase fully decorated and ready-to-move-in units.

One-bedroom condos range from 49 to 63 square meters of combined indoor and outdoor living space and ground floor units open onto lush gardens. All units feature guest bathrooms with dual access so your guests can gain entry without having to go through your bedroom.

The two-bed condos with 83 to 140 square metres of combined indoor and outdoor space, feature spacious, comfortable ensuite master bedrooms, while the guest bedroom is also ensuite. The upper-floor units have pristine views of Phang Nga Bay as well as the marina and waterways.

For more info about La Reserve Residences contact the sales office on +66 76 360 811 or visit royalphuketmarina.com.

A new way to look at Phuket

EVER wanted to swoop above the Big Buddha or soar along Soi Bangla? Or how about giving your friends or clients a three-dimensional map to your development?

Those innovative chaps at Helicam, Phil Clark and Johnathan Russell (right), have come up with a whole new way to look at the island.

Their abovephuket.com website combines a vast series of aerial virtual tours with strategic links and embedded data that allows users to hop from place to place, like a visual directory, where each page is a 360 degree image.

The effect of using the online resource is similar to the thrill of flying above the island in a helicopter. That is, in fact, how the pair put the map together in the first place, although the helicopters they use are a bit too small to take a tour in.

The remote control sports helis Phil and Russell use have been specially adapted and modified with GPS, so they can hover at a certain spot on autopilot, and electronically gyro-stabilized video mounts keep the video image steady while the copter is being



buffeted by the wind.

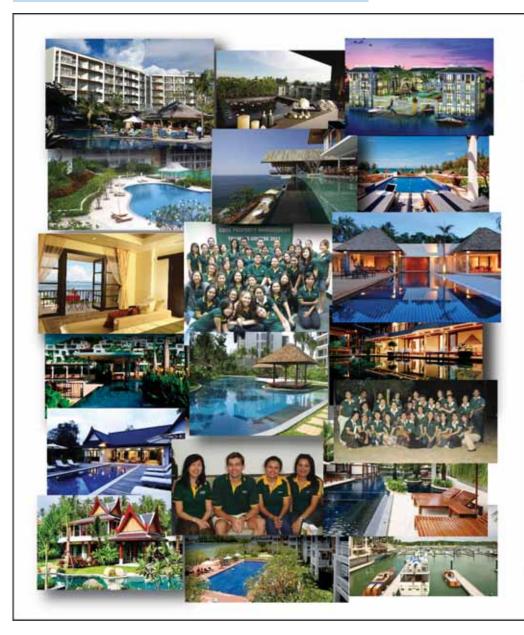
"Apart from our new electric helicopters, we also have a couple of planecams that can fly very high up; a slidercam, a mini crane, a cablecam, a glidecam and special timers for time-lapse photography," Phil explains.

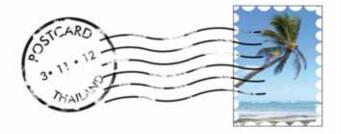
The ability to integrate CGI renderings with aerial video footage and the option to include detailed company info on abovephuket.com, means that getting a develop-

ment, villa for sale or any business location on the map will likely be a must have for the island's entrepreneurs.

"When people realized it wasn't Google they asked us where they could see it. So, we realized we had something special," Johnathan says. "With so many virtual tours under our belt we were able to build up a virtual Phuket map by filling in the gaps. We now have Phuket covered."

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Go south for the Harvest

AFTER working in real estate in the South of France, more precisely in the region of Aix en Provence, Patrice Sarda (right), CEO of the Harvest Winrich Group has recently moved to the south of Phuket.

The Nai Harn-based property specialist offers a selection of villas, condominiums, for sale or rent, either long term or for holidays. And that's not just on the island. Harvest Winrich also represents villas and condos as far afield as Bangkok, Pattaya and Koh Samui.

"Currently, the demand is so important for the holidays at the end of the year, it is extremely difficult to find villas or condominiums of quality available," Mr Sarda says. "But we still have exceptional properties available for this period and through January."

Mr Sarda believes that local prices must be in line with the market. "It's crucial to select and retain the property for sale and meet the expectations of our customers," he explains. "Today, we are looking for and we offer quality products, which meet environmental and ecological

standards our customers expect."

The veteran of the European property scene has brought a playbook to Phuket that emphasizes customer relations, regardless of their spending power. "Absolute discretion, attentiveness, courtesy and time spent with buyers are intangible rules observed by all our employees," Mr Sarda says.

"The bulk of our customers today want villas from 8.5 to 11.5 million baht. We offer villas with a pool and new 2 bedroom starter homes from 6.5 million baht. All these villas are excellent, constructed by experienced builders.

The market focus, however, has not stopped Harvest Winrich from servicing the luxury end of the market, and lists several villas and condominiums with 5-star services and amenities

"Some of these villas and condominiums start at 22 to 24 million baht, up to more than 50 million baht," Mr Sarda says. "Currently, we have exceptional villas with direct access onto the beach



in Chalong Bay, which are 600 sqm and are available at 43 million baht. We have also an exceptional duplex condominium of 400 sqm, swimming pool on the terrace, and a 180 degree sea view

across Karon bay for 52 million baht."

Harvest Winrich's offices are located in Nai Harn, 50 meters south of DaVinci's restaurant and opposite the Amalfi Italian restaurant.

SMART Expo (bring the kids)

THE SMART Property and Lifestyle Expo, at Royal Phuket Marina from 27-30 December, is taking the island's move to become a family-oriented holiday destination and applying it to the property business.

With a growing number of families looking to relocate to Phuket, the Expo is focused as much on family-friendly lifestyle as it is the luxury homes that will suit mum, dad and the kids.

During the four-day event, British International School will host a special Kids Activities Area where offspring can fully immerse themselves in creative play. The Expo will also offer the opportunity to test drive a supercar, take a ride in a private helicopter and win a cruise on the 80-foot marquee yacht, *Emily Rose*.

It won't all be for the kids, however, with food and beverage tastings, a live fashion show and glamorous cocktail parties, mum and dad will be equally pleased.

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5 questions for David Simister

Well-known for his no-nonsense, tell-it-how-it-is approach to the real estate market. CBRE Thailand's David Simister (right) talks about the trends and challenges Phuket's property industry will face in the months ahead.

1. What areas of the Phuket market are you confident will see a positive swing in the coming year?

DS: CBRE expects the tourism sector will see continuous growth. In Q2 2012, international airport arrivals were up 14.7% yearon-year and we believe this trend will continue into the high season and next year. We also see a stronger market and take-up for completed condominiums and expect next year to be a good year for well located high-end villas and middle market condominium projects that have been well thought out.

2.Do you think the trend for low-cost condos and housing will impact the value of higher-priced property?

DS: There has always been a low-cost market in Phuket. Previously, the low-cost market was characterized by small bungalows in dense estates. This is now supplemented by condominium towers offering lower priced units. The problem with

condominium projects is they are more vulnerable to speculation, particularly where low deposits and payments are offered. We think the low and high cost markets co-exist, but they are totally separate and independent.

3.Where do you expect see the major market growth on the island and why?

DS: West is still best. Projects located on prime west coast locations continue to do well and it remains the key area sought after by resort property buyers, whilst prime development sites in coastal locations on the west are limited. Areas north of the airport such as Mai Khao is now playing catch up with central west coast areas of Surin, Bang Tao, Kamala, Kata and Karon and is now becoming more established both in terms of hotel and residential developments.

4.Are there any emerging market trends that CBRE is looking to focus on for Phuket?

DS: There are no new emerging trends we are looking to focus on. CBRE will continue to concentrate on our core business activities, which include management of high-end quality projects, driven by providing high quality property management where the owners are individually or collectively prepared to invest in to preserve and enhance their property values.

CBRE also continues to provide consultancy advice to developers looking to enter or launch new projects in the Phuket market and on the sales and marketing of quality properties.

5.Beyond Phuket, are the markets in Phang Nga and Krabi receiving the interest they deserve?

DS: As a general rule, markets receive the interest they deserve. The cheaper prices and lower levels of activities relate directly to the range of amenities, infrastructure and market demand. Over time the markets

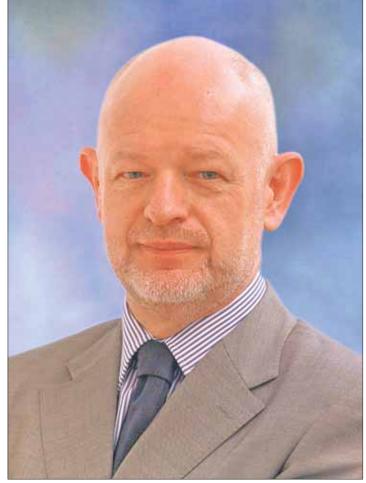
will change. Krabi, for example, is developing in a different pattern to Phuket with budget, mid-range and quality hotels entering the market at the same time.

If one took a poll of visitors at the Krabi airport, you are likely to find a lower level of interest in real estate purchase compared to visitors to Phuket. However, today a number of quality projects are for sale in Krabi and Boat Lagoon has launched a new marina.

Phuket faces the challenge

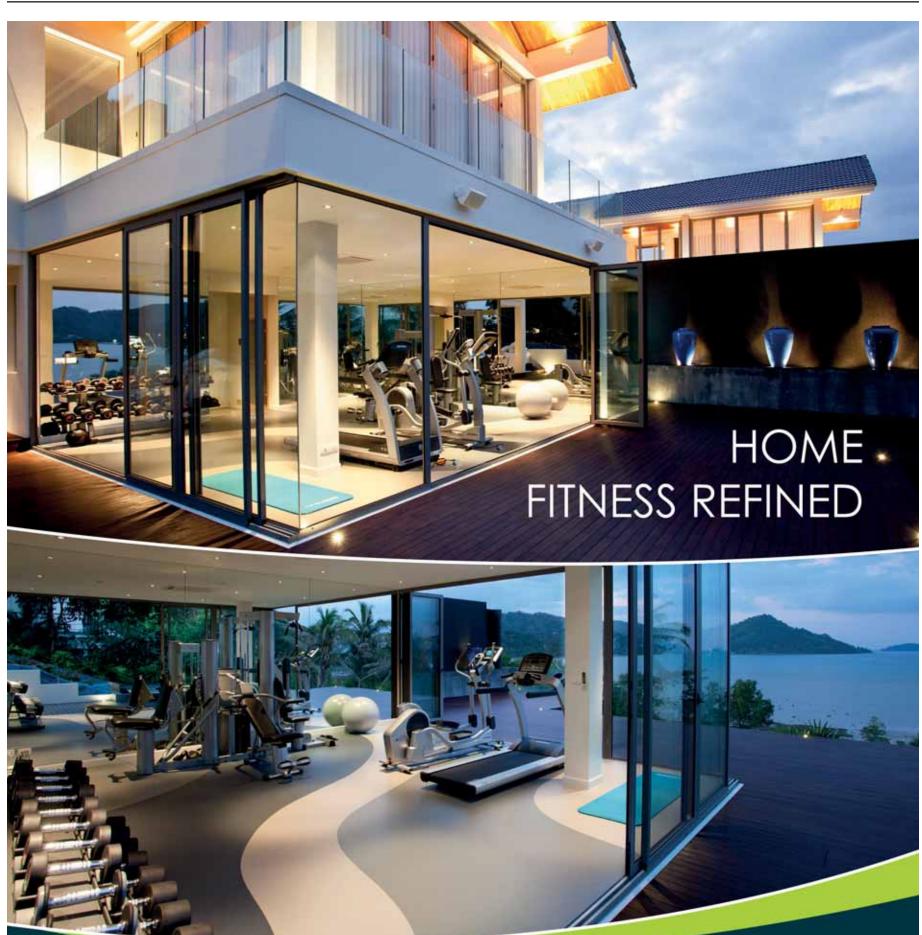
of balancing infrastructure development with the pace of tourism and real estate growth.

Phuket still remains the premier market in Southeast Asia and, despite the pressure on its infrastructure, the island's attractions, such as its beaches, golf courses, marinas, retail and leisure amenities will continue to attract a growing number of international arrivals. Phuket is set to maintain its premier position and we do not foresee any reason why this will change.





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The natural key to good design

HAVING enjoyed the success generated during its last two projects, the new development of Anchan Villas in Cherng Talay will most likely be no different.

Construction kicked off last year and is expected to be completed by April 2013. The three to five-bedroom pool villas are priced in the region of 23 million baht.

But talking price may become a little redundant now for, at the time of writing, only one unit is left out of twelve, the rest having been bought offplan.

The "contemporary Balinese style" Anchan Villas III is situated in the best possible neighborhood, being within a few minutes of Laguna Village and Banyan Tree Resort and Spa, and only a short ride from the airport.

All twelve units have similar look and feel to its highly successful siblings of phase one and two in terms of design and finishing touch, except that they now offer more "usable" space, with three to five-bedroom villas ranging from 515 to 1,150 square meters.

Developer Preechapol Sae-Tiw of Pearl Island Property Co says he pays particular attention to details.



NATURE MAN: Preechapol Sae-Tiw of Pearl Island Property Co, restaurateur and developer of Anchan Villas.

"For me the relationship man has with nature is key to any good design. Therefore all our houses are open-plan, spacious and airy, making it feel like living outdoors and close to nature. To feel comfortable in his skin, man has to be at one with his surroundings."

Even the choice of materials and color scheme are not taken lightly. The overall effect, says Preechapol, is to achieve a balance between comfort, beauty and functionality.

Phuket-born Preechapol, who also owns and manages the beachfront Lotus Restaurant in Bang Tao, says he started in the property business having observed the rising number of semiresidential holidaymakers and retirees to the island.

The first Anchan Villas were built on a plot of land owned by his family. ("You can be sure of the legality of the land," he smiles.) The success of each development was instrumental in driving him forward, completing by turn phase two and three.

Preechapol says that a good number of his clients are Europeans, Australians, with Singaporeans and Malaysians topping the Asian list. In fact, most of the new buyers are his former clients who have bought the earlier version of the villas and either want to upgrade or make an investment.

"From our experience, rental can yield a handsome return to our investing clients," says Preechapol, whose company Pearl Island Property also offers rental services to his buyers.

Preechapol says he is perfectionist who never compromises on his vision. His greatest achievement is when he makes his clients happy.

"I am a stickler when it comes to feedback. Good feedback and word of mouth are the strongest marketing tools, and ones that don't cost anything," explains the 35-year-old entrepreneur-restaurateur.

By Nanthapa Pengkasem



Forever England

Sudarat (Sandy) Kraitat is the scion of one of Phuket's most famous Hokka families and is a visionary on the local property scene.



SANDY Kraitat sits in her lovely garden overlooking Chalong Bay and welcomes the rising sun with a beaming smile. As well she might. Her residential and business property empire is growing by leaps and bounds and she lives in a most delightful part of it herself – on the beach at Fisherman Way.

Sandy was born in Rawai in 1958 and, after boarding school and college in Bangkok, she recalls being intrigued by her early exposure to the foreigners who were starting to discover Phuket.

She begged her parents to send her to England so she could learn to speak English properly.

She washed up in Oxford and fell in love with the architecture, countryside and Oxford's famous riverside pubs. After another year studying hotel management in London, she returned to Phuket to take up various work

including a job at the Pansea Resort.

In 1985 an American acquaintance asked Sandy if she knew of anywhere he could rent a house and she suggested that she build one for him on her family land overlooking Chalong Bay. In fact she built the first three detached houses in the coconut grove at what was to become the Fisherman Way residential estate. Completed in 1986, they were immediately rented by expats and Sandy had an epiphany about the future of sleepy old Phuket.

The Kraitat family had an abundance of land along Chalong Bay and Sandy developed it into one of the most highly sought-after residential estates. 35 detached houses now nestle amid this tropical idyll and Sandy feels a close personal bond with this land and, of course, she lives here herself, so it's perhaps no surprise that

Fisherman Way evolved into a something of a tropical Sylvan fantasy.

She added a pool, lagoons populated by sleepily gliding swans, flocks of raucous geese and sundry migratory bird species who also saw the attractions of living at Fisherman Way. There are even white buffalo, deer, rabbits, Guinea fowl and peacocks.

Sandy is a convivial lady with a ready smile, but with an exceedingly astute business mind. While visiting her children at their school in Perth, Australia, she foresaw the trend of smaller low-rise business parks in Phuket and pioneered this form of development when she opened Fisherman Way Business Center on Chao Fah East Road in 2004. The 25 shops were all rented immediately upon completion.

Early tenants such as Woody's

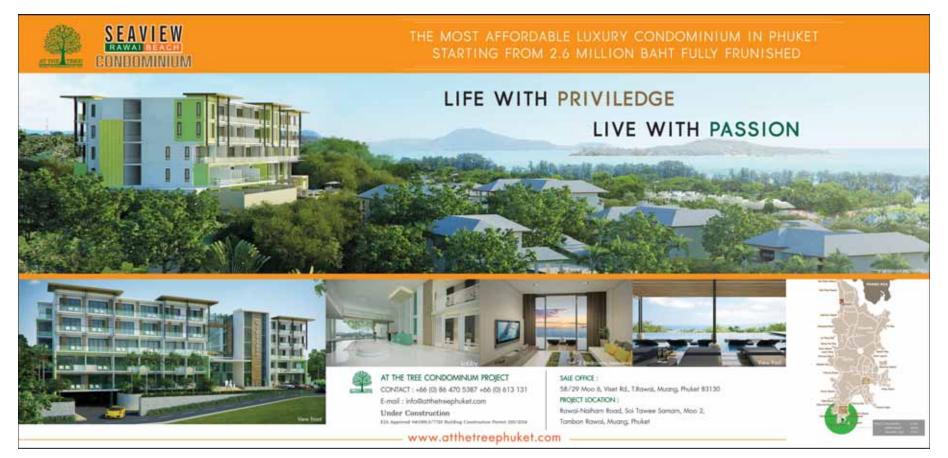
IDYLLIC: Sandy Kraitat (above) has created an English country estate on Chalong Bay (top) and a burgeoning business park empire (left).

Sandwich Shoppe and Wine Connection brought many visitors to the Center, so that it became something of a social hub in its own right. In 2012 Sandy opened Phase Two with an additional 15 shops and again these were all immediately rented.

In front of Fisherman Way Residential Park, Sandy opened her second Business Garden with 25 outlets in January 2011. So great has demand been that Sandy is planning to develop Phase Two along Vichit Road over the next two years, with another 40 shops.

Along the beach at Fisherman Way, she is just completing two beachside luxury pool villas and in November will "top off" something she has always wanted to open....a European-style Bed and Breakfast resort right on the beach.

By Baz Daniel





Life can be Perfect

FROM the opulence of overly-ornate million-dollar holiday villas to the bare bricks of barely-built suburban townhomes, Phuket most certainly has a range of properties to suit most pockets. But what is there for emerging middle-class families where both husband and wife are busy with work?

No one with a hectic work life wants the hassle of decorating a new home in their few free hours, and that is where Perfect Life is looking to fill a rare hole in the market.

The development, conveniently located behind the bypass road, with access to Phuket Town and most of the main shopping ops, is on the sprawling Topland estate, and offer a range of homes and decor options that will take the weight off busy first-time buyers.

Four home packages are available through Perfect Life. Carnelian and Amethyst are both 3-bed, 3-bath single Now Phuket offers homes for buyers with a hectic life.



detached homes with packing availability for two vehicles. The Emerald package is designed for the lrager 4-bed, 4-bath homes, while the Diamond package is for those execs planning a large family. Diamond's outstanding modern single-detached house style, features 5 bedrooms and bathrooms.

The development also features two parks, a playgorund, lake, two levels of security, CCTV surveillance and keycard access control.

But it is the interior packages that really set Perfect Life apart. These eclectic mixes of retro chic and opium den extravagance, define a style of living that the developers believe is exactly what middle-class homebuyers aspire to. Planned for convenience and simplicity, the designers have managed to imbue the home interiors with rich and diverse themes that are unique and, without question, eye-catching.

The Coconut connection

SEVERAL developments on Koh Maphrao, which is literally a stone's throw from Phuket, have been creating some excitement in the market. The first is The Village on Coconut Island, with villas ranging from 2 to 5-bedrooms available for holiday rental and facilities provided by the resort.



At the south end of Maphrao sits Jindarin Beach Club; a laid-back beach bungalow resort reminiscent of the good old day of backpacking but supported by modern conveniences. The prices seem out of the past as well, with plots starting from 1.5 million baht and palmthatched cottages from only 1.7 million baht. Holiday rentals will be available from early next year.

Still to come, the new Burasari Resort on Maphrao's northeast corner.







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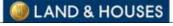
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A charmed life in Patong

With 246 apartments in four buildings stretched along 3 rai at right-angles to Patong Beach, the Charm Residences is an ambitious project, but one that is already proving popular. All of the studio apartments in Building A have sold out, with only a handful left in both B and C buildings. Once completed the blocks will be surrounded by lagoon-style swimming pools and a rooftop infinity pool and sun deck will be located on Building D. Prachote Sillawuttikul, (below) Director of Sales at Patong's bright new beachfront condo project, tells us all about it.



WHAT market are you focusing on with The Charm? Who are your buyers?

PS: We are focusing on every market as the location of the property is the best location in Phuket. Patong beach is a well known beach and it is suitable for all ages. Our buyers are both investment and holiday home.

What facilities does The Charm offer buyers?

PS: We offer high standards of amenities and facilities, like a 4-star hotel.

With the condo market currently booming on Phuket, how have you

managed to differentiate The Charm to stand out in the busy market place?

PS: We chose a great location to build a great product. The Charm Residence is the closest Patong Beach condominium with a good strong company and management team.

As a high-density construction project, what moves have you taken to assure buyers of your commitment to environmental protection?

PS: The construction follows the rules and regulations of the Environmental Impact Assessment to protect mother nature from any

pollution. All buildings have wastewater treatment systems with full scale as well as wastewater treatment for the main kitchen and all back office areas.

In your view, what market trends are we likely to see in the coming year and where will your company focus next?

PS: The Asian and Russian markets are growing very fast compared to the European market, which has slowed down, because among other reasons, the poor currency exchange rate. We are putting our efforts into all markets and make sure that we get market share from all of them.



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◆MANUFACTURE

TEL: 076-612870 076-261096 081-7881639 PEACE and quiet are becoming rare on Phuket and can now only be found in a few places, of which Mai Khao is definitely one. Here is a vision of the island as it used to be. The sand stretches for miles, palms sway in the breeze, barely another person can be seen and the sea is begging for you to swim.

There are a few bigname Mai Khao resorts but on the whole the area has yet to be overtaken by the development seen in other parts of Phuket.

One reason for this is because Mai Khao is part of Sirinat National Park and, as a result, much of the land is protected. The National Park is a fantastic attraction in itself, spread over 90 square kilometres and comprising a saltwater mangrove forest, a nature trail with a huge wooden walking platform and a wide variety of plants and animals.

Mai Khao remained undeveloped and largely ignored by tourists as late as the turn of the millennium and only two visionaries saw any potential in 'White Tree Beach' ... one reptilian and the other human.

Leatherback and Ridley's Sea Turtles have laid their eggs on Mai Khao since time immemorialliterally so, since this 850 kilogram species has been around for at least 150 million years. The second Mai Khao visionary was one William Ellwood Heinecke, Chairman of the Minor International Group with interests ranging from resorts and fashion, to cosmetics and fast food.

Bill Heinecke started his partnership with the Marriott Group from 1994, opening the JW Marriott on Mai Khao in 2002.

As well as establishing a strong



Mai Khao in Phuket's northwest has long been home to Andaman sea turtles. Now an influx of savvy luxury-seekers are discovering what the sea turtles have long known...Mai Khao rocks!

environmental ethos, JW Marriott was a pioneer in other ways that set the bar for, and became signatures of, subsequent Mai Khao developments.

Not content to sit upon his laurels, Heinecke created a new brand in 2008, named Anantara, literally "without end" in Sanskrit, positioned as an affordable alternative luxury brand and having an ethos of introducing guests to the delights of Thai culture that Heinecke clearly reveres.

Bill Bensley worked his creative magic in landscaping the 83 pool villas, spread around gorgeous pools and lagoons with wooden walkways, fountains and even splashing ducks in their very own "duck pool villa".

Complementing the luxury resort's accommodation is a host of services and facilities of the highest standard, including premium restaurants, bars, a spa and leisure options that includ diving and learning Thai cooking.

Anantara extended its brand in 2010 with the launch of their own Vacation Club, offering pool villas on land adjacent to the main resort. The response was dramatic and as a result they are now building a dedicated resort for Club Members on a piece of land opposite the Ananatara.

The new development set to open in 2013 comprises one, two and threebedroom suites as well as thirty spacious one and twobedroom pool villas all set in a lush tropical garden environment. Support facilities include the Anantara Resort's free-form swimming pool, children's wading pool, fitness studio, kids' club, spa and cooking school, as well bicycles to get around the laid-back area. Anantara say that the new property will set a heightened benchmark of quality and flexibility for vacation clubs in Asia in terms of exclusivity, space and choice.

This new alternative will expand upon the multiple vacation club option already available, embracing the use of existing Club Resorts plus

the opportunity to stay at Anantara Hotels, Resorts and Spas worldwide under a flexible "Club Escapes" program, and also access to 4,000 worldwide resorts through an affiliation with Resort Condominiums International (RCI).

In just a year of operation Anantara Vacation Club has exceeded all its targets and the growth here is just a first step in expansion plans that see new projects being finalised across Asia, the Middle East and the Pacific

Harold Derrah, CEO of Anantara Vacation Club, commented, "On the back of an incredibly successful launch and draw of Anantara's unique destination experiences, our rapid development plan is a natural progression to meet the growing demand and ensure that our members are offered increasing quality and diversity".

By Amelia Beefheart





Planning your own paradise

LET'S assume you have a newly cleared plot. A tabula rasa. Where do you begin.? Draw up a plan. It's the first step when you start any new project, so why not design a layout for your new garden?

Take into account all the area's characteristics. Which direction does — or will — the house face? Does the plot have existing trees? Are they worth retaining to provide shade, shelter or variety? Do you have boundary walls — useful for border or climbing plants? Or natural features such as damp areas or slopes that can be exploited?

If you plan to have a pool, or envisage a tiled barbecue area or patio, what container plants or furniture would enhance its appearance? Map out features such as lawns, stone or pebbled paths, flower beds, perhaps a trellis, a water or rock garden.

Buy a book with decent photographs to get a better idea of color schemes, plant size, and cultural requirements

As one English horticulturalist said: "The answer lies in the soil" And, indeed, it is your number one priority before installing plants. If Phuket offers one major challenge, it resides in its earth, which is gritty, clayey, compacts in dry weather, and

How to start a garden in Phuket.



is low on nutrients. Decent dark topsoil is a bonus, but will be shallow or non-existent, possibly alkaline from recent construction.

Either liberally augment your soil with bags of compost from your local nursery, or beg, borrow or steal a few loads of loam. The darker the better. Dig well in, especially where there is bare subsoil. Water well and add fertilizer. That's the donkey work done.

Time now for the artist in you.

Much more fun. The floral choices, moreover, are cornucopian. If you lack cover-giving trees or structures, and most foliage plants abhor full tropical sun, think of a quick fix - fast growing trees. If necessary, they can be discarded later.

To create oases of shade, try clumpy golden cane palms. Others, for example, the elegant foxtail or traveler's palm, are wonderfully sculptural, but look better fronting a wall, or complementing a grassy

area. Fast-growing, colorful and manageable trees include yellow oleanders, tecoma stans, any of the cassia, ironwood, acacia or caesalpinia brigade, perfumed champaks or fiddlewoods.

Select varieties that will not dwarf your garden's dimensions. And remember that almost everything grows at a rate of knots. Good for starters, but later your charges may need pruning.

Shrubs are the glory of any tropical garden. If attractive, variegated or evergreen foliage is key, then think yellow leaved pisonias or golden dewdrops (good for hedging), multi-colored caricature plants, crotons or acalyphas, magenta cordylines, or dracaenas, green veined sanchesias.

For sheer floral opulence, consider the allamanda or the chalice vine. Both produce enormous golden or cream trumpets; both will need the support of a trellis or wall. So, too, the fast-starting Rangoon creeper and the heavily perfumed Indian rubber vine. True climbers with tendrils – pink morning glories, bignonias, garlic or coral vines – will quickly ascend heavenwards unhindered.

Other personal favorites, and a staple of any tropical garden, include



white-blooming, delicately perfumed shrubs such as gardenias, wrightias, jasmines, tabernaemontanas and murrayas.

No garden is complete without a lawn. For a fast, luxurious lawn, use squares of healthy pre-grown turf, and make sure they are carefully laid on well prepared soil. Broad-leaved Malaysia grass is one option, but doesn't like shade. Zoysia may be better. Water daily for the first few weeks.

And talking of water, if you intend a water feature, use plants that thrive in the medium – lilies and lotuses, of course – but also reed-like papyrus and stately water canna. Starter fish such as hardy guppies and sword tails will complete the picture.

By Patrick Campbell



nately Nakalina offer a range of relaxed recliners and garden furnishings in durable teak and synthetic rattan to allow you to lay back and watch your garden grow. ABOVE: Nakalina's Pool Lounge. LEFT: A three-





Continued from page 1

On offer will be two and three bedroom hotel-managed Point Yamu Villas starting at 40 million baht and the exclusive Como Villas priced at the 180 million baht range.

In the past, the Yamu integrated development, which came onto a wider stage with the dream design team of Philippe Starck and Jean Michelle Gathy, has been a leading player in successfully selling out exclusive upscale properties.

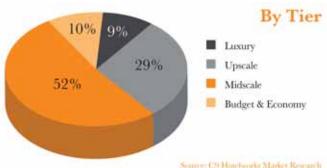
A series of large land and asset trades recently seem to be setting a tone of positive sentiment for island real estate. Bangkok's BTS Group, through a subsidiary, made news in the financial press

recently oversaw the 1.6 billion baht sale of a premium 455 rai site in Kamala.

Another
notable Thai
name, the
Minor Hotel
Group, acquired
the Bundarika
Villas and Suites and
publicly disclosed plans for a
total 3 billion baht investment

in both the acquisition, upgrading and expansion of an Anantara managed property. Industry sources have said the project will include luxury villas on a portion of currently undeveloped land.

Looking at regional investment, two notable



property deals that closed this year are Malaysian-based TA Global Berhad's acquisition of the Moevenpick Resort in Karon and the purchase of the Evason in Rawai by the Lum Chang Group from Singapore.

As Asia's key economies continue to defy the notion of a global gravity, a push of new projects into the island is likely to induce new momentum into top end villas, especially in mixed use hotel projects. Large developers are keen to tap into a, demonstrated strong, five year pattern of sustained

tourism growth in Phuket.
The ability to mitigate
financial risk and push up
investment returns is lighting a
fire of activity in what is,
historically, a capital intensive
business model.

One leading indicator of the island's prosperity remains airlift at Phuket International Airport, where mid year 2012 figures hit 4.74 million passenger with a year on year growth spurt of 43%.

By the end of this year, over 9.3 million travelers are expected to pass through the gateway – a new record.

Coupling on the tourism push is a development pipeline of new hotels that expects 5,080 rooms to come on line by 2015. The view from the top has 9% of these aiming at the luxury tier. As we head into 2013, we expect a significant amount of both transactions and new project planning to focus on the emerging partnerships between upscale hotels and branded real estate.

By Bill Barnett

Phuket's property expert and Managing Director of C9HotelWorks.com





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