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Phuket Gazette

Winds of havoc

Racing yachts wrecked and hundreds of tourists left stranded by fierce storm

INSIDE TODAY

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25 Baht

THOUSANDS DENOUNCE 'THAKSINOCRACY' AND YINGLUCK Brit tourist

SHUTDOW

FLOWER POWER: protesters peacefully force closure of Provincial Hall in anti-government move

By Saran Mitrarat

THOUSANDS of Phuket residents stormed Phuket Provincial Hall Wednesday morning, forcing the provincial government to shut down in protest of "Thaksinocracy" and the Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra administration.

"Phuket residents came here without being called on, which shows that they truly don't want this government any more," said former Rassada Mayor Suratin Liangudom.

"We have prepared a bouquet of flowers to give to Governor Maitri Inthusut. We have also brought a whistle for him. If he blows the whistle, it will signify that he stands with the residents of Phuket."

Protesters called on government officers to walk away from their stations for the next three days, as demonstration of their desire for PM Yingluck to dissolve parliament.

The protest started at 9am at Sanam Chai park, opposite Provincial Hall, and brought traffic in the area to a standstill.

About an hour after the protesters took over Provincial Hall, Governor Maitri appeared and accepted the bouquet and the whistle. He, however, has yet to blow it.

"We work under the rule of law for HM King Bhumibol Adulyadej and will not waiver in our dedication," Governor Maitri told the crowd. "We will continue to provide the best for all residents, and ensure that all are happy...



Protesters asked Gov Maitri to blow the whistle they gave him as a sign that he backs them.

says drink was spiked

A 21-YEAR-OLD British tourist told police that her drink was spiked when she was out on Soi Bangla, leading to her falling from her hotel balcony to escape an assailant.

Romany Mitchell was escorted to her room early in the morning on November 11 by hotel staff, and not seen by staffers again until she tumbled from her balcony. She was rushed to hospital for immediate medical attention.

Full story on Page 6

Cops catch accused pedophile

POLICE arrested a man for the alleged rape of his 10year-old neighbor. The girl told her parents that the man had raped her when she was supposed to be accompanying him on errands.

Full story on Page 3

Police nab illegal gang of loggers

MEMBERS of an illegal logging operation, one with a loaded gun, were caught with protected wood destined for the Malaysian market.

Full story on Page 9

1.8 MB

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This Week



Property

Usufruct: an alternative to leasing worth looking at. Page 14



Business

Triathlon champ takes reins of Thanyapura Phuket. Page 17



Community

Safety for Phuket beach-goers on the radar. **Page 39**





Food

Meat feast for family and friends at Rodizio Steak House. **Page 40**





Aviation

Hot air ballooning in Phuket can be a tricky proposition. **Page 44**



Thursd



Sport The Phuket King's

Cup Regatta sails into it's 26th year. **Page 49**



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Lacerated woman dies after hotel fall, killing

By Gazette Reporters

A CHINESE tourist died after falling from the second-floor balcony of a Phuket Town hotel on Tuesday morning while bleeding heavily from deep lacerations.

Jiang Chengyuem, 42, left a suicide note behind before leaping from The Pago hotel balcony with cuts across her throat, wrists, chest and stomach, said Phuket City Police Deputy Superintendent Prawit Engchuan.

Chinese tourists who were part of Ms Jiang's tour group gave police a rough translation of the text: "We'll be together forever. Even though you have gone, I will be with you."

Ms Jiang was rushed to Vachira Phuket Hospital for treatment, but pronounced dead at about 3pm, Col Prawit said.

Inside Ms Jiang's room, Phuket City Police found the body of Li Ming, 41.

"The room had two twin beds. The bed with the body of Mr Li in it was soaked with blood," Col Prawit explained.

"We found blood on the walls and floor too," he added.

Mr Li's face was blue. It is likely that he was smothered, Col Prawit said.

Also in the room police found shards of wine glass, a broken lamp, sleeping pills and several unidentified drugs.

Police believe that Mr Li had



A police marker sits next to a bloody footprint on the balcony of the Phuket Town hotel. Photo: Kritsada Mueanhawong

been dead for over 10 hours by the time officers arrived.

Ms Jiang and Mr Li were travelling with other Chinese tourists in Phuket and were expected to leave for China tomorrow.

"The group stayed in Patong the night before, and checked into the hotel at about 9pm last night," Col Prawit said.

Police are continuing their investigation.

Man with throat cut found in Patong pond

POLICE on Tuesday arrested Myanmar national Aung Htre, a 27-year-old foreman, for the murder of fellow construction worker Than Zaw, 24.

Mr Than's body was found in a lagoon behind the Patong Municipality offices last Sunday morning

"The body was found at 8am by local tuk-tuk driver Pattanapong Sombat, 36," explained Maj Weerapong Raktito of the Patong Police.

Mr Than's throat had been slashed and his torso had been stabbed at least 17 times, reported officers at the scene.

"He had multiple stab wounds in his chest and back, and deep lacerations under his right arm," Maj Weerapong confirmed.

Suspect Mr Aung confessed to police that he and two accomplices murdered the fellow construction worker after a heated argument over Mr Than wanting to borrow 200 baht, said Lt Col Somsak Tongkliang of the Patong Police.

"We have been issued an arrest warrant and are now seeking two men, who we know only as 'Ji



Police attempt to identify the body found floating in the pond.

Meng' and 'Sia'," Col Somsak said.

Both fugitives also lived at the same worker's camp, off Pisit Goranee Road, where Mr Aung and Mr Than lived, he added.

At the scene where Mr Than's body was found on Sunday, Patong Police Superintendent Chiraphat Pochanaphan ordered his officers to launch a thorough manhunt for the killers.

"I want you to check every construction camp and hotel in the area to see if any persons are missing," he told his officers.

- Thawit Bilabdullar

British tourist drowns after warning issued

A BRITISH tourist drowned at Karon Beach on November 20, hours after a heavy weather warning was issued for Phuket and other areas along the Andaman coast.

Police named the victim as Edward Joseph Brookes, 63, from England.

Mr Brookes disappeared in the surf in front of Karon Municipality Stadium at 2:40pm after enjoying lunch with his wife, Kata-Karon chief lifeguard Uten Singsom said.

"By the time lifeguards noticed Mr Brookes was in trouble, he was about 70 meters from the shore," Mr Uten said.

Lifeguards rushed out and brought him back to the beach. They administered cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), but were unable to revive him.

"While we were giving him CPR, beer came out his mouth," Mr Uten added.

Efforts to revive Mr Brookes continued as rescue workers sped him to Patong Hospital.

"He was pronounced dead on arrival," Mr Uten said.

- Irfarn Jamdukor

Cops arrest man for rape of neighbor's 10-year-old

By Kritsada Mueanhawong

POLICE arrested an alleged pedophile for the rape of a 10-year-old girl in Phuket on November 11.

The 24-year-old man, who lived across the street from the girl and her parents, faces charges of separating the child from her parents, molesting a person under the age of 15 and rape.

Police took the man from Nakhon Sri Thammarat into custody under an arrest warrant issued on November 15, four days after the girl's parents filed a complaint to Phuket City Police.

"We received a tip-off that he was hiding at a deserted resort in Karon owned by his uncle," Maj Ratthakhet Manmuang of the Phuket City Police said.

"When we arrived, we saw him walking around the area. We quickly served the warrant and brought him into custody," Maj Ratthakhet said.

At 6pm on November 11, the man allegedly came to the 10-year-old's house in Phuket Town asking her parents if he could take her along to buy snacks and go to Rassada.



The man has denied raping the 10-year-old despite medical tests proving that she was sexually assaulted.

"Her parents allowed her to go with him, as they had been neighbors for a long time, and they knew him," Maj Ratthaket

"When their daughter arrived home about an hour later, she told them that she had been raped. Her parents went to the man's house, but he was gone," Maj Ratthaket said.

Doctors examined the child and found clear signs of rape on her body.

The man denied all charges.

Ms Lalchhuanthangi hides her face.

Indian drug mule nabbed with B15mn of ya ice

CUSTOMS officers arrested a drug mule attempting to smuggle 4.5 kilograms of *ya ice* (crystal methamphetamine) into Phuket from Delhi, India, last Friday.

The Indian woman, Aizawl Lalchhuanthangi, 37, was presented at a press conference last Friday at Phuket International Airport.

"When Ms Lalchhuanthangi's suitcase went through the x-ray machine our officers were suspicious, as it showed up all black inside – making it likely that it was constructed to hide things," said Phuket Airport Customs Director Montira Cherchoo, who headed the press conference along with Phuket Governor Maitri Inthusut.

"The suitcase was also suspiciously heavy, 19kg, given its size," she added.

On searching the luggage of Ms Lalchhuanthangi, officers uncovered 11 bags of ya ice wrapped in black plastic and stuffed into to tea tins. Additionally, they found 62 cloth bags containing *ya ice* hidden among the saris and other pieces of clothing in the bag.

Officials estimate that the drugs have a street value of 15 million baht.

Ms Lalchhuanthangi confessed to police that she boarded a plane in Delhi just before 1am yesterday morning with the intent of smuggling the drugs into Phuket. She told police that she was paid 100,000 rupees (about 50,000 baht), and was supposed to be met at Phuket Airport by a Thai connection.

Tah Chat Chai Police charged Ms Lalchhuanthangi with possession and trafficking of a category 1 narcotic with intent to sell.

– Kritsada Mueanhawong

Stoney Monday founder faces trial for B80mn fraud

THE Australian who formerly ran the Stoney Monday Oasis Hotel in Patong has been arrested in Krabi and brought back to Phuket to face trial for embezzlement and six counts of fraud.

The alleged damages total more than 80 million baht.

Rell Vivien Hayes, 51, was arrested last Friday while allegedly selling property at an upscale resort south of Krabi Town. He arrived under escort at Phuket City Police Station at about 4:30pm the same day.

The arrest follows the Phuket Provincial Court issuing two separate warrants for Mr Hayes' arrest, in 2009 and in 2011.

The 2009 warrant was issued after American William Lawson Young successfully filed a claim against Mr Hayes for failing to complete a contract to build and hand over a house.

"After that, in 2009, Mr Hayes fled Thailand. We later learned through the Department of Special Investigation [DSI] that he had returned and was living and working in Krabi," said Weerasak Promthong, the lawyer repre-



Mr Hayes faces fraud charges. Photo: Facebook

senting the six plaintiffs against Mr Hayes.

However, it was an 80mn-baht deal to sell land to five Australian investors that led to the second warrant being issued in 2011.

"In 2008, five Australian businessmen transferred 80 million baht to buy land for a resort project in Phuket," Mr Weerasak said.

The deal was transacted through the Stoney Monday Elite Development Co Ltd, which at the time was owned by Mr Hayes'

wife, with Mr Hayes as a major shareholder, Mr Weerasak alleged.

"He transferred his shares to his Thai wife in 2011," he explained.

The couple allegedly defaulted on the deal, and failed to transfer ownership of the land to the company as prescribed by the Australian investors in the deal, Mr Weerasak said.

"The land was sold to another investor," he claimed.

Mr Weerasak also alleged that Mr Hayes' wife, who he declined to name, was reportedly convicted of fraud over the deal.

"The police arrested his wife for defrauding the five Australian creditors. In 2012, the court sentenced her to two years in prison, but she was later released on a good behavior bond," Mr Weerasak alleged.

Mr Hayes was later handed over to Phuket Prison, where he will stay awaiting his trial.

The *Gazette* notes that as of Wednesday, Mr Hayes was still listed on his Facebook page as Managing Director of the Stoney Monday Group of Companies. — *Irfarn Jamdukor*



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Chalong yachties in dramatic Counting boat rescue from sea barrier

A HANDFUL of brave members of Phuket's Ao Chalong Yacht Club (ACYC) scrambled to save a French expat's yacht from smashing into the sea wall in front of the clubhouse last Saturday morning.

The onslaught of strong waves that battered the Phuket coast saw the 30-foot yacht break free from its anchor at about 11am, sending the boat pitching dangerously toward the sea wall.

As the boat came within meters of the concrete retaining wall, Bruce Issell of the well-known DaVinci catamaran climbed on board to steer the vessel clear of danger.

"Other local expat yachties Gareth, Gunter Knutt and Billy Duif jumped into the water to fend the yacht off the wall," Phuket expat and long-term ACYC member Bob Mott told the Gazette.

"They were assisted by Khun Cha and a Burmese man, On Cho, who we all know as 'A.K.'," he

The volunteers struggled for an hour before finally clearing the



Yachtsmen from the Ao Chalong Yacht Club manhandle the boat away from the sea wall. Photos: Bob Mott

yacht of danger.

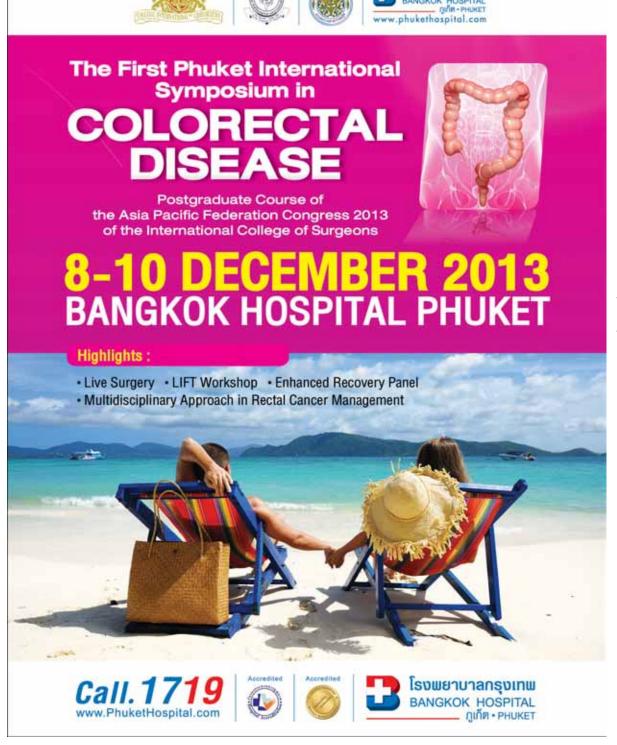
"The yacht came close, but never actually touched the sea wall," Mr Mott said.

The boat is now safe.

"They managed to get it clear from the wall and it will be moved out further into the bay when the weather calms down," Mr Mott explained.

Phuket Gazette





By Chutharat Plerin

DISASTER officials have yet to calculate even an estimate of the damaged caused by the storm that battered Phuket last Saturday.

At last report, on Wednesday, officers at the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Phuket office (DDPM-Phuket) were waiting for municipalities and local administration organizations to report the total cost of damage in their respective areas.

"We cannot process any claims for compensation under the government disaster insurance scheme without these reports," explained Boonruang Longlalad, chief of the DDPM-Phuket's Disaster Relief Department.

"The local administrations are now accepting claims from storm victims reporting the damage they have suffered to their property. Local officials will in turn report to us how much money is needed for repairs, so we can move ahead with processing those claims," he

The DDPM-Phuket has received official reports of the carnage at Ao Yon, where at least 20 sailboats were damaged.

"Fifty local fishing boats in Pa Khlok and another two boats at Chalong Pier were damaged," Mr Boonruang confirmed.

"Also, 18 households across the island were affected. Trees fell on three houses: one in Phuket Town, one in Rassada and another in Cherng Talay," he said.

"Ten houses in Thalang and fives houses in Mai Khao had portions of their roofs blown off," he added.

The strong winds saw flights diverted from Phuket International Airport for at least two hours, forcing hundreds of travellers to seek refuge in the terminal.



"From about 9am to 11am some domestic flights had to be delayed because of the weather," confirmed Phuket Airport Director Pratuang Sornkham.

"However, all the flights are back on schedule. There are no more delays for arrivals or departures," he said by midday Saturday.

Mr Pratuang explained that the delays affected domestic flights only, and that the delays were for safety reasons.

Meanwhile, Phi Phi Island suffered its own onslaught in the storm, with strong waves sinking a large passenger ferry,

Navy warns tour boat

THE Royal Thai Navy this week warned all tour operators to obey orders to stay in port during dangerous weather conditions following navy ships being dispatched to rescue tourists stranded at Koh Racha and the Similan Islands last weekend.

"If the ports are ordered to ose due to the weather, please do not launch your vessels.

"We understand it is your business, but please keep in mind that you are risking people lives at sea," cautioned Capt Thammawat Malaisukkarin, Director of Naval Civil Affairs at the Third Area Command.

The Third Area Command, based on Phuket's Cape Panwa, deployed two patrol boats to recover tourists at the popular day-trip sites after strong waves made it impossible for tour vessels to retrieve their passengers from shore last Saturday.

The HTMS Sriracha was dispatched to recover 157 tourists from Koh Racha Yai, about 25km south of Phuket.

"The Sriracha safely returned to Phuket with 157 tourists from China, Korea, Thailand, Germany and the UK at 8pm on Saturday," Capt Thammawat told the *Gazette*.

HTMS Pattani, which is stationed at the Navy base in Tab Lamu, Phang Nga, was sent to rescue 87 tourists from the Similans last Sunday.

"The tourists had been stranded there since Saturday night," Capt Thammawat said.

"They were all brought safely back to the Tab Lamu Navy base at about 11am," he confirmed.

Local authorities ordered Phuket Rassada Port closed as strong wind and waves lashed the coast and driving rain wreaked havoc with motorists across the island last Saturday.

PHUKET GAZETTE 5

the cost after the storm



At least 20 sailboats, several speedboats and more than 50 longtail boats suffered in the surf carnage at Ao Yon. Photo: Phuket Marine Police

beaching a cargo boat and heavily damaging at least six speedboats and 20 longtail boats.

The Andaman Jet Wave ferry, registered to carry 250 passengers, had yet to begin its daily operations of carrying tourists to and from Krabi and Phi Phi, explained Krabi Marine Police Inspector Chaiyasit Kancharoen.

"It was moored overnight at Tonsai Bay and started taking on water this morning," Lt Col Chaiyasit said on Saturday.

"Nobody was on board," he

large cargo ferry, which sustained heavy damage by the pounding of

boats were also damaged," Col Chaiyasit said.

"The boats were all moored close to shore," he added.

All ports in Krabi were closed due to the storm, Col Chaiyasit

"Once the storm clears and sea travel is safe, we will re-open the ports to regular shipping," he said.

Strong waves also beached a

"Six speedboats and 20 longtail

confirmed.

Department of Disaster Preven-



Switchbade, well known for competing in the King's Cup Regatta, was damaged in the strong surf at Ao Yon.

tion and Mitigation Krabi office (DDPM-Krabi) chief Thalerngsak Phuwayanapong reported that despite the heavy damage sustained by the fishing and tourist-passenger fleet, no deaths and no injuries were reported in Krabi as a result of the storm conditions

"Eight passengers on board a resort boat in Rai Lay Bay were rescued, along with 19 tourists at Koh Hong," Mr Thalerngsaak said, that at least 29 longtail boats were reported as damaged along the Krabi coast.

"But there were no deaths or injuries reported in those incidents," Chief Thalerngsak said.

At Nai Harn, strong winds brought down power poles by the road near the wind turbines.

"Three power poles along the road near the wind turbines at Nai Harn were pushed over by the wind. They were leaning over the road, but none of them fell and the road was not blocked," said Phuket Provincial Electricity Authority (PPEA) Engineer Permpon Tansakun.

"Fortunately not many people use that road. We placed road cones and flashing lights around the danger area and replaced the poles the next morning," he said.

"That was all the damage we had to fix from the weekend storm," Mr Permpon added.

Niramon Moresuk at the Chalong Municipality DDPM office confirmed that so far 27 people have filed disaster compensation claims.

"However, we have to check whether or not they are qualified to receive compensation. Some of them are not registered as residents of Chalong, so they cannot receive disaster insurance assistance," she said.

Ms Niramon urged all residents who suffered property damage from the storm to contact her office as soon as possible.

operators: 'lives before greed'



The Sriracha rescued 157 tourists from Koh Racha. Photo: Royal Thai Navy

Hundreds of tourists waited dockside as the ban took effect, as Rassada Port, located on the east side of Phuket Town, is a major jump-off point for tourists boarding ferries and tour boats to islands in Phang Nga Bay and along the Andaman coast.

The port closure followed the Thai Meteorological Department

issuing a weather warning for Phuket and the Andaman coast at 4am last Saturday. During the eight hours before the port closure, winds gusting up to 40kmh and waves of up to four meters high battered the coast.

Phuket lifeguards urged tourists not to enter the surf until the heavy weather had passed.

"Please beware of hard-hitting waves, even those right on the beach. The waves can knock you down and hurt you," said Wirot Saweangphol, a lifeguard at Karon

"Waves in Karon are very strong at the moment. Please be careful," he urged.

Nai Harn chief lifeguard Jula Nontree urged tourists to exercise the same caution there.

"The waves are not very high, but they hit hard close to the shore," Mr Jula said

- Chutharat Plerin



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Marine safety summit sails forward with local, international support

SAFER Phuket, a new marine-safety nongovernment organization (NGO), made a splash today with the announcement of the Coastal Water Safety Summit in January at the PIMEX Boat Show.

The announcement comes in the wake of over 200 tourists being stranded on nearby islands over the weekend due to heavy weather (see pages 4-5), and fatal rip currents on Phuket's west-coast beaches continuing to build on their notorious reputation.

"This is going to be a big event for Phuket, as all Phuket authorities, both government and private sector, will come together to brainstorm and coordinate ways

to ensure tourist safety at sea and along the waterfront," Phuket Governor Maitri Inthusut said at the announcement.

"This summit is a great opportunity for us to work along with the UK Embassy,"

The summit, along with other Safer Phuket projects already in motion (see Safer Phuket's monthly column on page 39), has received the full backing of the governor and Phuket Honorary Consul Martin Carpenter.

"There is considerable potential for this initiative and in working together. The British Embassy will continue to provide full support," UK Ambassador Mark Kent says on the Safer Phuket website.

Safer Phuket plans to focus on five key areas: enhanced lifeguard capabilities, international training standards, consistent beach management regulations and the establishment of a world-class search-and-rescue service, project organizer Duncan Stewart said.

The two-day gathering starting on January 9 will be held at the Royal Phuket Marina.

Government officers and members of the private sector will receive a variety of marine-safety training during the event, said Gov Maitri.

"We will also exchange ideas about what needs to be done to improve marine safety in Phuket," he added.

For Mr Stewart, the summit heralds "a



Signs for the need for change are everywhere. Photo: Isaac Stone Simonelli

new beginning in the island's commitment to improving coastal water safety through significant changes in safety standards and

- Chutharat Plerin

British tourist alleges drink spiked

By Irfarn Jamdukor

POLICE are have yet to release the results of a toxicology report for British tourist Romany Mitchell after she told them her drink in Phuket was spiked.

The tests were ordered after the 21-year-old student from Edinburgh reported to police that she was fleeing an assailant in her hotel room before she plunged from the second-floor balcony of the building on Nanai Road, Patong, early on November 11.

Ms Mitchell is recovering at Bangkok Hospital Phuket from an ankle and hip injury sustained in the fall. She was taken immediately to Patong Hospital, but transferred to Bangkok Hospital Phuket the next day.

"She is now in good condition. The doctor will check on her again before releasing her," Capt Nattaya Suwanpong of the Patong Police said.

Hospital staff have confirmed that Ms Mitchell was discharged from hospital care last night.

"She left at about 8pm. Although she was still wearing splints on her could move by herself with a crutch," a nurse told the Gazette.

Capt Nattaya yesterday questioned Ms Mitchell further about the incident.

"She told us that she only drank two glasses of alcohol. She went on to explain that a few minutes after having the drinks, she felt like she could not control herself, so she tried to find her way back to the hotel," Capt Nattaya said.

"From that point, she didn't, and doesn't, remember anything until she realized that she was in her room and that someone was attempting to assault her," he said.

In an attempt to escape, she ran to the balcony and fell, explained Capt Nattaya.

Police are waiting for results of a blood alcohol concentration test, as well as the toxicology report.

Hotel staff told police that Ms Mitchell and a female companion had left the hotel at about 10pm to have a drink at the Tiger Live Band bar complex on Soi Bangla.

"The staff reported Ms Mitchell coming back alone at about 3am. They said she wasn't walking straight, so a female employee right arm and her right leg, she helped her to her room and then



Rescue workers rush Ms Mitchell to hospital. Photo: Thawit Bilabdullar

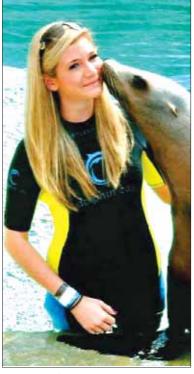
Nattaya said.

About 40 minutes later, they heard commotion. Outside, they found Ms Mitchell on the ground.

Police have started examining

left her there to rest alone," Capt CCTV footage that could offer clues to what happened just before her plunge.

"CCTV footage from Soi Bangla shows Ms Mitchell exiting the bar alone, and hotel footage captured



Romany Mitchell. Photo: Facebook

Ms Mitchell entering the hotel alone," Capt Nattaya said. Nonetheless, police are searching for other CCTV footage in for leads.

"We are also questioning more witnesses," Capt Nattaya added.



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Runaway Phuket Thai Post truck slams into cars on Patong Hill

A THAI Post lorry that failed to make the steep climb up Patong Hill, faltered then careened backward down the hill, slamming into cars and a pickup as it went on November 20.

"The truck slid down the hill at about 2:15pm. It ended up stopping at almost the same spot as the student bus that rolled backward down the hill two weeks ago," said case inspector Mai Sakchai Chunyong of the Thung Thong Police.

"Fortunately, no injuries were reported this time," he added.

Rescue teams and police took nearly two hours to clear the wrecks - four vehicles in all from the busy road.

The driver of the Thai Post lorry, Boonsong Klinyeesoon, 48, was charged with reckless driving causing property damage.

"Mr Boonsong said he lost trac-



The lorry crashed into three vehicles on the way down. Photo: Kathu PR

tion because the road was slippery from rain and he was not used to driving up that particular steep hill," Maj Sakchai explained.

"This is what caused the truck to roll backward, hitting three vehicles that were behind him," he added.

Maj Sakchai urged all motorists to pay careful attention when driv-

ing on Phuket's steep hills, especially when the roads are wet.

"Small vehicles, please try to not cut in front of big vehicles, and if you can avoid following too closely behind them, then please do," he said.

"If possible, just give way," Maj Sakchai recommended.

- Chutharat Plerin



The 20-year-old Gao Yang was posing for a picture at the iconic Promthep cape with a friend when the two slipped on the rocks. Photo: Jeff Gunn

Father identifies student's body after fall at Promthep

By Chutharat Plerin

THE father of a Chinese national and Singaporean exchange student underwent the heart-wrenching process of identifying his son's body after the 20-year-old national slipped from the rocks at Promthep Cape, fell into the sea and drowned last Wednesday

The 20-year-old Gao Yang and three friends arrived in Phuket on holiday last week. He and one of his friends, Liu Shu Jian, 21, were posing for a photo at the iconic promontory when they slipped on the rocks and tumbled toward the sea. Mr Liu was able to cling onto the rocks until friends and others nearby were able to pull him back.

Gao Yang was lost in the sea. Search efforts continued into the night, but were called off and due to the darkness and stormy weather. The fruitless search for Mr Gao resumed the falling day, heavily hampered by the weather.

On Friday, Gao Yang's body was recovered after it was spotted by a passing speedboat last Friday.

Gao Haiming, 49, arrived in Phuket last Sunday night with several family members.

"We can confirm that they have positively identified the body as that of Gao Yang," Qin Jian, Vice Con-



Liu Shu Jian also slipped on the rocks, but was able to cling to them until friends and others nearby saved him. Photo: Kritsada Mueanhawong

sul of the Consulate-General of the People's Republic of China, said.

A staffer at Vachira Phuket Hospital told the *Gazette* that the procedure of identifying the young man's body was highly emotional.

"Mr Gao and a group of relatives from China arrived at the hospital this morning. They were all crying deeply when they saw the body," the staffer said.

Chinese consulate staff in Songkla confirmed that Gao Yang's remains were cremated during a small ceremony at Wat Ketho in Kathu on Monday. The family was to return to Zhejiang, south of Shanghai, with Gao Yang's ashes after the ceremony.

In response to Mr Gao's fatal fall into the sea, Phuket Governor Maitri Inthusut last Thursday led officers to inspect the safety provisions at Promthep Cape.

"We have a few warning signs in the area, but that is not enough to let tourists know about the danger of falling from the rocks," Governor Maitri said.

"We will post more warning signs on the way down to the cape. The signs will be in English, Thai and Chinese," he said.

Governor Maitri did not support the idea of fencing off the area or installing railings on the rocks.

"That might greatly affect the natural beauty of the area, which is why tourists visit this location," he explained.

"We will order the local municipality, tour companies, tour guides and hotels to warn tourists about the danger of climbing down onto the cape," he said.

Rawai Deputy Mayor Teerapong Taodaeng confirmed that his office also would not ban tourists from climbing onto the scenic rocks.

"The best thing we can do is warn them of how dangerous the wet rocks can be," Mr Teerapong

"We will install the signs as soon as possible," he added.

Additional reporting by Kritsada Mueanhawong



Police say they are ready to crack down on taxis parking illegally as soon as they are able to identify the perpetrators. Photo: Gazette file

Taxi ranks put on chopping block

OFFICIALS put taxi ranks on the chopping block Tuesday in hopes of allowing police to take quick action against illegal parking.

As a result, all taxi rank operators in Phuket must identify themselves to local police stations by December 31.

"Almost all the taxi ranks on the island are in front of hotels and along popular beaches, so we want to clear these areas for residents and tourists," Jaturong Kaewkasi, Chief Transport Technician of the Phuket Land Transport Office (PLTO), told those in a meeting at the Organized Crime Center in Phuket Town.

The requirement was signed into effect by a Phuket Provincial Government proclamation issued on November 18, Mr Jaturong explained.

The move received support from Patong Police Superintendent Chiraphat Pochanaphan.

"Every time we inspect a taxi rank, the drivers say they have the PLTO's permission to park their vehicles along that section of the street," he said angrily.

"If the PLTO can clarify, then we will know exactly who should be working where, and take action accordingly," Col Chiraphat said.

Phuket Vice Governor Chamroen Tipayapongtada assured those at the meeting that the authorities will enforce a zerotolerance policy of drivers flouting the law after the December 31 deadline.

- Saran Mitrarat



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Chinese tourists on ladyboy tour safe after bus dies on steep hill

AN ENTIRE busload of 35 Chinese tourists were quickly and safely evacuated from a tour bus after its engine died while climbing the steep road up Patong Hill on November 21.

The tourists were en route from the Aphrodite ladyboy show on the bypass road to the famed Simon Cabaret ladyboy show in Patong when the bus broke down just before the Chao Pho Seua Shrine at about 10pm.

"I was driving up the hill when the engine suddenly stopped, so I immediately opened the door for tourists to get out. I was afraid the bus might roll backward down the hill," bus driver Suriya Soonsak, 28, said.

"It took about three hours to clear the bus off the road," said Capt Wattanathorn Bumroongtin of the Thung Thong Police.

Jaturong Kaewkasi, chief technical adviser at the Phuket Land Transportation Office (PLTO). confirmed to the Gazette that his office will investigate why the bus was not fitted with license plates.

"We will check with officers who were at the scene and with the transport operator that owns the bus," he said.

"The bus owner told us this morning that the bus underwent a safety inspection two weeks ago. Regardless, we will have it brought in for another one by our team.

"It is a serious offense to illegally operate a tour bus on the roads," Mr Jaturong explained.

He added that his officers will also investigate why 35 passengers were on board, when the bus is branded as registered to carry only 22 passengers.

in about an

hour.

- Thawit Bilabdullar

Russian pays from prison

Tourist hands over B310k for damaging statue of revered abbot

By Kritsada Mueanhawong

THE Russian tourist who damaged a statue of a revered Phuket abbot during a drunken spree last month has had relatives wire in 310,000 baht to pay for a new statue to be built.

Oleg Fomenko, 31, remains incarcerated at Phuket Prison following his arrest on October 24.

He faces charges for damaging a statue of revered historical abbot Luang Por Kongdet, who founded Wat Karon, and attempting to steal a lorry parked nearby.

Mr Oleg claimed he was drunk and could not control himself, and that he could not remember what happened on the night in question.

However, Mr Fomenko did admit to police that he was the man captured on CCTV showing a man dressed in black pushing over a statue of Luang Por Kongdet. However, said he had no recollection of his antics that night as he had been drinking.

On November 21, the Russian Federation's Deputy Honorary Consul for Phuket Santi Udomkiratak, fellow Russian consul officers and five members of the Russian expat community took part in a merit-making ceremony and passed on an apology from Mr Oleg.

The group also handed over 310,000 baht to the Wat Karon temple committee so that a new statue of the revered abbot could be built.

Karon Police Deputy Superintendent Sophon Borirak, local village chief Aroonsri Klunma, members of the temple committee and local devotees, were

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The Russian has yet to stand trial for damaging the statue of revered historical abbot Luang Por Kongdet.

present for the ceremony.

Over 200 residents gathered last month to demand an apology from the jailed Russian.

"Police should bring him to apologize here," Mr Aroonsri said at the time. "If police cannot have him released from prison for this, they should find a representative or ask the Russian honorary consul to apologize."

The statue suffered damage on some fingers and the body was

cracked, so we are offering money for a new statue to be built, Mr Santi explained last week.

'We understand how deeply Mr Oleg's action has offended Buddhists in the area because the statue of Luang Por Kongdet is revered by Buddhists across the

"We apologize for what he did," Mr Santi said.

Mr Oleg will remain in Phuket Prison until his case is heard in

"We don't know what penalty will be handed down by the court, but the police will send a letter to the court to confirm that Mr Oleg has already paid for the damage done," Mr Santi said.

"We will send a formal apology to the temple as soon as possible, and we will publish announcements advising Russian tourists not to behave like this when visiting any country," he added.

Teeth Whitening Center



Python snared near Phuket Town park

A PHUKET City street sweeper raised the alarm in Phuket Town last week when he spotted a five-meter python hiding in a storm drain near Saphan Hin Park.

"Many people were exercising in the area. I was afraid it posed a danger to them," the street sweeper said.

Saphan Hin Park is renowned as a recreational area where thousands of city

dwellers go for family picnics on weekends, and where hundreds exercise each morning.

Quick to arrive at the scene on Tuesday morning were Phuket's expert snake-handlers: the Kusoldharm Foundation rescue team.

Rescue worker Phoonsab Saeueng told the Gazette that despite his extensive experience in bagging - and releasing - snakes, this reptile was particularly difficult to lure out of its lair.



Rescue workers pull the 5-meter snake out of the drain.

"The python had secured itself inside the drain and was protected by steel bars," Mr Phoonsab

"We called in officers from the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Phuket office to bring the right equipment to lift the concrete hatch to the drain, and we called in a fire truck to use a firehouse to flush the snake out

from behind the bars so we could catch it," he

Despite the combined efforts of the three teams of rescue personnel, it still took an hour to snare the

"We bagged the python and later released it into the wild, where it shouldn't bother any more people," Mr Phoonsab said.

- Kritsada Mueanhawong

a

Illegal loggers captured holding protected wood

By Kritsada Mueanhawong

THE battle against illegal loggers in Phuket continued last week as Thung Thong Police arrested six suspects for the illegal possession of more than 50 kilograms of eaglewood with a street value of more than 300,000 baht.

One of the men was found with an illegal .45 handgun, fully loaded, under his pillow.

Armed with a search warrant, police arrested the suspects at two rental houses near Kathu Municipality Kindergarten at 8:30am.

Five of the suspects were arrested in one house, explained Thung Thong Police Superintendent Thitirat Asakit.

Col Thitirat named the five as Wiangchai Srichan, 34, Udon Srichan, 32, and Thanad Petrit, 45, all from Sa Kaeo Province; Sanan Kodking, 42, from Narathiwat; and Anucha Somsung, 38, from Yala.

A total of 53.2 kilograms of eaglewood was found hidden throughout the house.

"Wirat Sunsuwan, 38, from Songkla, was arrested in the house next door. He was found with a loaded .45 handgun under his pillow in the bedroom," Col Thitirat said

Suspect Mr Thanad told police that the five only collected the wood from a site near the Bang Wad Reservoir.

"We did not cut any trees. A man called Mr Sorn was to pick up the wood from us and he was going to smuggle it into Malaysia," he said.

"I think we have could made 300,000 to 400,000 baht, and this



There is a lot of eaglewood in Phuket, and a lot of people taking it, one suspect told police.



Chopping tools seized by police during the raid in Kathu.

eaglewood was not high quality. Eaglewood can be much more expensive, it depends on its quality," Mr Thanad noted.

Eaglewood trees are wanted for the aromatic resin they produce. The resin is used in making incense and perfumes. The samples seized in the raid on Monday had been treated and were ready to be sold.

"There is a lot of eaglewood in Phuket, and a lot of people taking it," Mr Thanad said.

Mr Wirat was charged for the illegal possession of a firearm and



Eaglewood seized by police.

ammunition. The remaining five were charged for the illegal possession of a protected species of tree, Col Thitirat confirmed.

"Police will continue to question the suspects so we can learn more about the network of illegal loggers operating in Phuket," he added.



One of the patients is visited by fellow protesters after the crash.

Six protesters injured in bus crash home, recovering

SIX of the Phuket protesters injured in a bus crash last Saturday, while en route to anti-government rallies in Bangkok, were transferred to Phuket hospitals last Sunday night.

"They were transferred from hospitals in Surat Thani," protest coordinator Amnuay Kumban said.

The six were admitted to Vachira Phuket Hospital, Provincial Hospital and Phuket International Hospital.

"Thanongsak Sompet, 30, and Pichit Osot, 63, are receiving treatment for head injuries.

"Jirayuth Sanguansit, 63, and Sakorn Khaothong, 59, are receiving treatment for serious bruises and back pain.

"Pensri Suwanmanee, 66, broke her leg and Rattanachan Somchan, 48, suffered a broken jaw," Mr Amnuay said.

The two drivers and the remaining 36 passengers were discharged from hospitals in Surat Thani shortly after the accident, he added.

The protesters' bus departed Phuket at 9:30am on Saturday to join the anti-government rallies in Bangkok, which have taken the capital by storm (see page 10).

At about 3pm, the driver lost control of the vehicle in the heavy rain and strong wind. The bus careened off the road, Mr Amnuay said.

– Kritsada Mueanhawong



Thousands of protesters peacefully gathered to demand change.

Anti-government protesters converge on provincial hall

From Page 1

...to live in Thailand."

The governor was then quickly escorted back to his office by 80 bodyguards, 40 civil volunteers and 40 police officers.

The officers will remain on site to ensure the protests continue to be peaceful, said Phuket City Police Superintendent Sermphan Sirikong.

"We are making sure the crowd remains under control and no third-party agitators disguised as protesters start causing trouble," Col Sermphan said.

"However, I believe that Phuket residents will not use violence during their protest," he added.

The protests in Phuket are part of the larger movement seeing protesters take a stand in provinces across the nation (see page 10).



Students are starting to learn Thai in hopes of cashing in with foreign-language abilities. Photo: An Thuy

Vietnamese focus on Thai before AEC 2015

VIETNAMESE people are increasingly learning Thai in preparation for possible changes in the tourism industry following the Asean Economic Community, which begins in 2015.

The Vietnamese government is promoting the study of a second language among Vietnamese in a bid to bring more tourist dollars into the country.

In recent years, Thai has become particularly popular among Vietnam's hotel staff and those employed in shopping malls.

Quang Tri province resident Houng Quac Hung, 25, said that following the government's initiative to promote language learning, many people had become interested in learning a second language, with a large number opting to learn Thai.

Mr Houng said most people agreed that if Thai was studied as a second language, it would enable one to find a good job, perhaps as a tour guide – a position that offers a higher-than-average income.

Many of the Thai language courses available in Vietnam mostly focused on conversational Thai, Mr Houng said.

The main reason people wished to study it was because an increasing number of Thai businessmen were investing in Vietnam, especially in the furniture business in Da Nang province, he added.

Bangkok battleground

Protesters storm ministries in growing political turmoil

A POLITICAL battle took place on two fronts Tuesday, with anti-government protesters besieging more government ministries and the opposition beginning its no-confidence onslaught against Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra in the House.

Thousands of demonstrators, protesting against a government-backed bill for blanket amnesty in political cases and vowing to "root out the Thaksin regime", surrounded the ministries of Interior, Agriculture, Transport, and Sports and Tourism on Tuesday.

On Monday, the protesters began their occupation of the ministries of Finance and Foreign Affairs, and the Public Relations Department.

Tuesday's siege forced officials at the centers to leave work early. Protesters locked the gates of the ministries of Agriculture, Transport, and Sports and Tourism with chains before moving to besiege the Interior Ministry, according to Metropolitan Police spokesman Maj Gen Adul Narongsak.

The protesters surrounding the Interior Ministry left the area at around 6pm.

The Criminal Court on Tuesday approved an arrest warrant for the key protest leader, Suthep Thaugsuban, in connection with the occupation of government buildings. Mr Suthep recently resigned as an opposition Democrat Party MP to head the rallies.

Police charged him with involvement in an illegal gathering and trespass on a government agency.

In the House, opposition and Democrat leader Abhisit Vejjajiva launched a no-confidence motion against PM Yingluck with an attack on her government's ricepledging scheme. He also questioned her integrity following failures to keep promises on policy platforms.

Opposition MPs accused the government of undermining economic stability through its populist policies.

PM Yingluck on Tuesday reiterated that authorities would not use violence against the protesters. "Everybody must obey the law and not use mob rule to subvert the rule



Protesters chant anti-Thaksin and anti-government slogans on the streets of Bangkok. Photo: Reuters

nation

of law," she told reporters.

Adding to tensions in the capital on Tuesday, an unexploded hand grenade was discovered outside a Democrat Party office in Phra Khanong district.

The Finance Ministry on Tuesday planned to use the civil service center on Chaeng Wattana Road as its temporary office in the face of the ongoing occupation of the ministry compound by the antigovernment protesters.

The permanent secretary for Finance, Rangsan Sriworasart, said on Tuesday the ministry and related offices had contingency plans to deal with crises such as this, to ensure that normal work routines would not be affected.

The ministry has several infor-

mation systems and data-backup centers in various locations to ensure that there is no disruption of work, including payment of salaries to ministry staff. However, installment payments for services performed by state projects' contractors, as well as hiring, and procurements by state agencies, could be affected as they are not part of the routine automatic-payments system of the ministry, the official said.

Tourism and Sports Minister Somsak Pureesrisak on Tuesday ordered the movement of its two offices – the Office of the Minister and Office of the Permanent Secretary – to the Department of Physical Education to maintain its work flow after the ministry building was seized by political demonstrators.

Officials were allowed to go home and work anywhere they could be reached by telephone and online communication. Mr Somsak acknowledged they could not remove some documents from their offices.

Suwat Sitthilor, permanent secretary of the Tourism and Sports Ministry, said officials were asked to leave the ministry before its entrance was closed. They were not let back in again due to safety concerns

Mr Somsak acknowledged the political demonstrations had impacted on the country's image as a tourism destination and could lead foreign tourists to postpone plans to visit Thailand.

Political observers on Tuesday saw it as a good sign that Mr Abhisit and the Democrats had attended Parliament for the censure debate, instead of resorting to street politics.

"I think by attending the debate, Abhisit is sending a signal to Yingluck that there is room for political dialogue to end the street protests," said Panitan Wattanayagorn, a political scientist at Chulalongkorn University.

"Abhisit and Yingluck must come together and calm down the protests," he said.

- The Nation



Floods hit south hard, four confirmed dead

SEVERAL districts in Southern provinces were declared disaster zones and at least four people were killed in the latest floods to hit Thailand, reported *The Nation*.

Flooding hit the provinces of Surat Thani, Prachuap Khiri Khan, Trang, Songkhla and Phattalung, following last month's inundation of the Eastern region of the country.

An 8-year-old boy who was seen being washed away in a flash flood from a train station in Tha Chana district of Surat Thani last Saturday afternoon. He was found dead the next morning; his body was located 100 meters downstream. A man was later reported drowned in Phatthalung while fishing at a lake.

The Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM) Trang officer Amnuay Chantarat reported that flooding in six districts from November 20 to 24 affected 22,500 people and caused 20 million baht in damage. Two people died and a third was missing.

Residents in Ranot, Krasae Sin, Sathing Phra, Singhanakhon and Khuan Niang districts around Songkhla Lake suffered a



Floods claimed four lives in the southern provinces. Photo: The Nation

two-pronged flood – from seawater inflows and runoff from upstream areas.

Women, children at risk

Grave concerns for Philippines typhoon victims in shelters

By Leila B. Salaverria

IN THE crowded typhoon evacuation centers in Tacloban, the Philippines, women and children have become vulnerable to rape, trafficking, prostitution and other forms of exploitation, the Philippines' Gabriela Women's Party warned on Monday.

The group urged the government to speed up the provision of basic social services to counter these risks, especially in areas battered by Super Typhoon Yolanda, known internationally as Haiyan.

The group aired the warning as the country commemorated for the first time on Monday the National Consciousness Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and Children.

Abnormal conditions during calamities have induced some people to exploit the vulnerable sectors of society, according to Gabriela representative Luzviminda Ilagan, who said the party-list has been trying to verify claims of abuse against women and children in areas devastated by the typhoon.

She noted that when Mt Pinatubo erupted in 1990, cases of prostitution in exchange for rice were documented in areas surrounding evacuation centers in Zambales.

Ms Ilagan said there had been reports of rape in Leyte and Samar, two of the provinces that took the brunt of Yolanda's fury, but these had yet to be confirmed.

If confirmed, Gabriela will provide counseling to the victims and coordinate with government agencies concerned for the filing of cases and the provision of other forms of assistance to the victims, she said.



In the crowded shelters, women and children are vulnerable to rape, trafficking and prostitution. Photo: Reuters

AROUND THE

Another Gabriela representative, Emmi de Jesus warned the government not to drag its feet in providing basic services in calamity-stricken areas.

The intense poverty and slow delivery of basic social services can and will spawn violence against women and children. "There is no electricity," she said, adding that "this makes nighttime more dangerous" for women and children.

The number of abuses against women and children has been rising, Ilagan said.

In 2012, the Philippine National Police Women and Children Protection Center reported 15,969 cases of violence against women and children, and 5,180 cases of rape and attempted rape. Of these, 3,861 involved children and minors. Another 249 cases of trafficking were also reported.

Philippines President Benigno Aquino III's handling of the response to the catastrophe has come under local and international scrutiny. The main criticism being the slow provision of relief to the survivors and the lack of urgency in the retrieval of the

bodies of victims, which were allowed to litter and putrefy on the streets for days.

The real death toll may take long to establish even with help from foreign forensic experts in identifying the bodies.

In Tacloban, recovered bodies are deposited in two public cemeteries: one at Basper village, 8km from the provincial capital; and the other at Suhi village, 13km from the city.

Unidentified bodies are buried uncounted, keeping the official death toll low.

Additional reporting by Nikko Dizon and Joey Gabieta

Philippine Daily Inquirer

In brief...

Malaysia calls for explanation over Singapore's spies

MALAYSIA'S Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) will summon the High Commissioner of Singapore to seek clarification on the alleged spying by Singapore on Malaysia.

In a press statement released on Monday, the MFA said it was extremely concerned about reports of alleged spying by a number of countries on Malaysia. The ministry said that the authorities have taken appropriate actions with regard to earlier allegations of spying by the United States and - The Star Australia.

Flights disrupted as volcano alert rises

FLIGHTS were diverted around Sumatra's Mount Sinabung as the volcano spewed ash kilometers into the air last Sunday.

The Center for Volcanology and Geological Hazard Mitigation raised the volcano's status to "awas" (beware), the highest level of the four-level alert system.

- Jakarta Post

Sabah sets sights on White Rajahs

SABAH officials on Borneo have launched a huge crackdown on illegal operations to boost tourists' safety, following the murder of Taiwanese tycoon Li Min Hsu and the abduction of his wife Chang An Wei from Pom Pom island by Filipino gunmen on November 15.

Also being targeted are illegal workers at resorts, including foreign dive masters, some of whom have been dubbed "White Rajahs", for being rude and arrogant.

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The Star



In brief...

- - -

Scotland reveals Independence Day for first time: March 24, 2016

SCOTLAND will become independent of the United Kingdom on March 24, 2016 if a majority of Scots vote to end their 306-year-old union next year, the Scottish government said last Sunday, naming its "date with destiny" for the first time.

Scotland's devolved government, which is controlled by the Scottish National Party (SNP), made the announcement as it prepared to release on Tuesday what it said would be the most detailed blueprint for an independent country yet.

Honduras ruling party takes the presidency on vow to tame gangs

HONDURAS' conservative ruling party candidate Juan Hernandez won last Sunday's presidential election after campaigning on a promise to tame rampant drug gang violence that has given the struggling nation the world's highest murder rate.

Mr Hernandez has repeatedly vowed to "do whatever it takes" to curb violence that has saddled Honduras with an annual murder rate of more than 85 per 100,000 inhabitants – at a time when public debt is mounting and the economy is stumbling.

Police disperse first Egyptian protest after new law

EGYPTIAN security forces fired teargas and dispersed university students who had defied a law passed on Sunday that restricts demonstrations, the state news agency reported,

Students of Al-Azhar University and Assiut University in Assiut province, south of Cairo, staged a protest in defiance of the new law, chanting against the army and police.

Nine arrested over fatal oil pipeline blast in China

CHINESE police have detained nine people in connection with oil pipeline explosions last week that killed 55 people in the eastern port city of Qingdao, state media reported on Tuesday.

Seven of the detained worked for Sinopec, which owns the pipeline, and two were from the city's economic and technological development zone, the Xinhua news agency said, quoting police.

The blasts forced Sinopec, Asia's top oil refiner, to cut production for at least two of its refineries in China's eastern Shandong province, according to industry sources.

Oil traders also expected Sinopec to cut back on crude purchases while a backlog of tankers outside one port clears.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

The explosions, caused by crude oil leaking into the city's storm drains, left a gaping crater in a major street, overturned scores of cars and shattered windows at nearby buildings. More than 160 people were injured and nine were reported missing.

The accident resulted from a "very serious dereliction of duty", the *Shanghai Daily* quoted Yang Dongliang, director of the State Administration of Work Safety, as saying.

The layout of oil pipelines and urban drainage pipes was unreasonable, pipeline supervision was negligent and oil leakage before the blasts was handled unprofessionally, Mr Yang was quoted as saying.



More than 160 were injured. Photo: Reuters

Initial reports said there was one explosion, but Xinhua later said the leak triggered two blasts, one near the leaking pipeline and the other close to where the drainage pipe empties into the sea.

— Reuters

Obama defends Iran deal

By Jeff Mason

PRESIDENT Barack Obama took on critics of a newly brokered nuclear deal with Iran on Monday by saying their tough talk was good for politics but not for US security.

Top Republicans – as well as US ally Israel – have criticized Mr Obama for agreeing to the deal, which the United States and its partners say may ultimately prevent Tehran from obtaining a nuclear bomb.

Under the interim deal, Iran will accept restrictions on its nuclear program in exchange for limited relief from economic sanctions that have gradually crippled its economy and slashed its oil exports.

Sunday's agreement, hammered out in marathon talks between six major powers and Iran in Geneva, aims to buy time to negotiate a comprehensive deal that the Mr Obama administration hopes will lay to rest international concerns about Iran's nuclear program.

It was widely praised in Iran and the region.

Israel, however, has argued that a partial deal is a bad deal and that easing sanctions, even temporarily, decreases the leverage that the United States and others have over Iran.

Mr Obama, who has long been criticized for his desire to engage with US foes, took heat as a presidential candidate in 2008 for saying he would talk to Iran, which has not had diplomatic relations with Washington for more



US President Barack Obama is now defending the newly brokered nuclear deal with Iran. Photo: Reuters

AROUND THE WORLD

than three decades.

On Monday, however, he alluded to those foreign policy goals during remarks that were otherwise focused on immigration reform. He noted that he had ended the war in Iraq and would end the war in Afghanistan next year, two things he also pledged to do as a candidate.

"When I first ran for president I said it was time for a new era of American leadership in the world, one that turned the page on a decade of war and began a new era of our engagement with the world," he said during a visit to San Francisco.

"As president and as commander in chief, I've done what I said."

Though the agreement forged in Geneva over the weekend is a first step, the White House sees it as a form of vindication for policies that Mr Obama espoused long before he won the White House.

If Tehran follows through on

its part of the pact, Mr Obama said, it would chip away at years of mistrust between the two countries.

To his critics, Mr Obama was especially direct.

"Huge challenges remain, but we cannot close the door on diplomacy, and we cannot rule out peaceful solutions to the world's problems. We cannot commit ourselves to an endless cycle of conflict," he said.

"Tough talk and bluster may be the easy thing to do politically, but it's not the right thing for our security."

- Reuters

Over 11,000 children killed in Syria

MORE than 11,000 children have been killed in Syria since the conflict there began over two and a half years ago, many of them summarily executed or targeted by snipers, a UK-based think tank said in a report published on Sunday.

The Oxford Research Group study, which called on all sides in the conflict to stop targeting children, said seven out of 10 of the children killed in the war had lost their lives in shell fire, by aerial bombardment or by improvised explosive devices.

One in four children had been killed by small arms fire, with al-

most 800 executed and almost 400 targeted by snipers. Over 100, including some of infant age, were reported to have been tortured.

The United Nations puts the overall death toll in Syria at more than 100,000 dead.

"One of the most disturbing things about this is that the evidence shows that children being killed by bullets are being deliberately killed," said Hamit Dardagan, one of the report's co-authors.

"The headline figure of over 11,000 deaths will change, but the pattern of killing won't," he said.

– Reuters



Changing, unchanged landscapes

By Bill Barnett

I CAN'T help but remember the first time I walked with Hong Kong lawyer and entrepreneur Gordon Oldham up the hillside overlooking Layan Beach back in 2003. His dream was to build a pool villa resort and residence along similar lines of the property he had invested in and managed in Bali for a number of years.

These days, as I drive up past Laguna Phuket and see the tropical rooflines of designer Tucker Bishop tucked away among the rainforest, or that ethereal tree tunnel entrance of the resort that transitions you to another place in time, I'm reminded just how much things have changed in Phuket, and also, how some special places have remained the same.

Over the span of a decade the boutique hotel, which is affiliated with the prestigious Relais and Chateau global marketing brand, has gained a strong reputation for being fiercely independent, yet catering to a loyal following.

From a property perspective Nick Anthony from Indigo, who helped sell out the villas in the first phase, had a belief in the concept of molding a hotel and residential offering into a single entity.

Now Gordon is at it again with the launch of The Pavilions Estate, or as the development team calls it – Phase 3. This time out, two products and pricing points are being offered.

First are 30 apartments in one and two bedroom layouts ranging from just under 9 million baht, up to ultra penthouse units at the 30

PROPERTY

Gazette

million baht level. That said, the bulk of the product is in the range of 8 to 10 million baht, which is one of the current sweet spots for investment-motivated buyers.

In a tribute of sorts to the current market momentum of hotel branded properties and yield induced buyers, the offering includes an optional rental program with guaranteed returns of 4% for the first three years and two months of free usage by the property owner.

On the villa side are nine threebedroom units with pricing averaging in the mid 40-million-baht mark. While the larger residence units are targeting a different buying set which is expected to be mostly end users; a hotel management option is provided.

As for the team behind the project, Gordon and Nick have been reunited with Indigo and positioned as lead agents. In Hong Kong, Jones Lang LaSalle have been tasked to shift properties in Phuket's most significant overseas market.

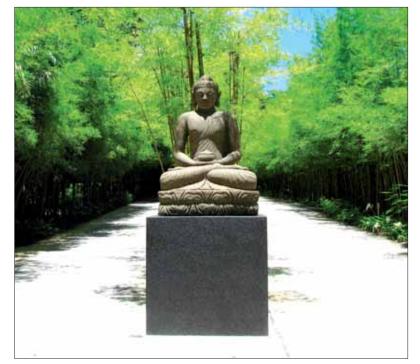
Just over a week ago, I attended a launch event for the property. Interest in the property and the island look at be strong. The success of other hotel investment offerings like Laguna Shores and Amari Residences has driven a bustling property trade.

Another key factor in regional markets such as Singapore and Hong Kong is that a series of government cooling-off measures is turning local buyers off of domestic purchases and driving them overseas. Money, after all, needs a cozy place to sleep at night and where better than an upscale boutique hotel managed estate?

If you haven't been to Pavilions lately, it's well worth a trip to see the upcoming work of architect Marc Tanner of Greenarc, with his vision of contemporary tropical escapes. Construction is underway and the first units are scheduled for a 2014 completion.

As for the Layan area, the development sentiment in the area remains strong with a new Anantara, Nikki Beach and the luxury Kajima project underway.

Bill Barnett is the Managing Director of C9 Hotelworks and can be contacted through C9hotelworks.com



The ethereal tree tunnel entrance of the resort. Photos: Supplied



The Pavilion will offer nine three-bedroom villas with pricing averaging in the mid 40-million-baht mark.

Real estate meeting



Nina Serebryakova was captivating.

THE American Chamber of Commerce Thailand (AMCHAM) held a real estate event at Angsana Laguna Phuket on November 22. Topics covered included new trends in leasehold ownership, regulating real estate agencies in Thailand, development news in Phuket real estate and other current property tends.

Speakers included Stuart Reading, Director at Laguna Resorts and Hotels, David Simister, Chairman of CBRE Thailand and Dexter Norville, Director of Jones Lang LaSalle (Thailand) Limited.

Open to the public, the event was a great chance for real estate professionals, investors, enthusiasts and speculators alike, to gain valuable insight into local and regional real estate trends, threats and opportunities.

Of the topics, the property industry regulation - or lack thereof - seemed to draw the most interest. - Phuket Gazette



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The ins and outs of usufruct

THE right of usufruct is rarely used and often overlooked when it comes to securing one s interest in immovable

Property Legal

By International Law Office

property. Usually, lease rights are registered against the property – providing use and possession rights for the benefit of the beneficiary until the lease is terminated or expired.

The right of usufruct, which is a property right, the same as a lease, is provided by the Thai Civil and Commercial Code (CCC), whereby the owner of an immovable property provides the usufructuary with rights of possession, use, enjoyment and management of a specific property.

A right of usufruct may be created either for a maximum period of 30 years or the life-time of the usufructuary. In the event that a usufruct agreement keeps silent regarding its term, it shall be deemed as valid for the life-time of the usufructuary. In case a right of usufruct is registered for the life-times of more than one person, it seems to be logically consistent to apply the life-time right. Upon its expiration, the usufruct ends by law and the property must be returned to the owner, unless the property owner and the former usufructuary agree to renew. However, the right of usufruct does not cease to exist upon the property owner's (who granted the usufruct for the benefit of the usufructuary) demise.

The right of usufruct must be registered against a specific property at the competent land department, and is subject to a registration fee. As it is a recorded property right, the right of usufruct can also be legally

BSOLUTELY

defended and enforced against a third party.

It is important to understand when considering register-

ing a right of usufruct that usufruct is a personal right of its beneficiary and therefore is not transferable to or inheritable by a third party.

It is interesting to note that a usufructuary is basically entitled by law to lease out the property, as holder of the management right to the property, up to the maximum lease rights for residential purposes of 30 years. However, it is of paramount importance for people to seek professional advice in order to understand the implications which may apply to their specific case, particurlarly in regard to enforcebility of lease rights in case of the usufructuary s demise.

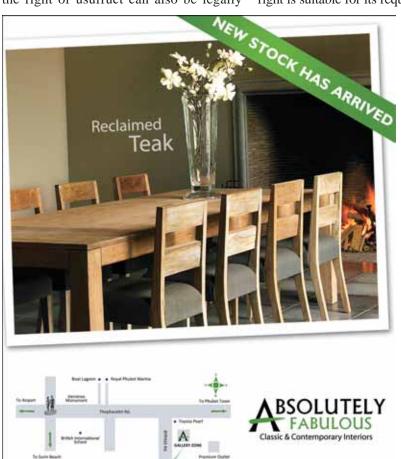
With regards to payment or consideration reciprocated for registration of a usufruct, it needs to be mentioned that the CCC basicially does not require any consideration for such. However, competent authorties might be reluctant in giving consent to registration of usufruct without any consideration or even scrutinizing such a structure in order to verify if it has been used to circumvent applicable laws.

In summary, usufruct can be an interesting alternative, particurlarly to a recoded lease right, in case a property owner wishes to provide a right of use, possession and manag ement to its beneficiary. However, a professional adviser should be consulted before entering into any such arrangement to help to determine whether or not such a property right is suitable for its required purpose.



Make sure you get professional legal advice before entering into any usufruct agreement.

This article was written by International Law Office Patong Beach Co., Ltd., a Phuket based law firm. In case of enquiries, by email (sam@ilo-phuket.com) or phone (+66-(0) 76-222 191-5).





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Protect yourself from cyber-crime



Finance By Don Freeman

AS AN expatriate living in a foreign country, you are particularly vulnerable to cyber-crime as you probably use the internet to access your financial accounts and the statements associated with those accounts. With that in mind, here are ten tips to help you foil potential cyber-criminals:

Security starts with your financial institution

Although it's inconvenient, your financial institution should have installed multiple layers of security or steps (e.g. passwords, personal questions only you can answer etc.) before even you can access your accounts. Plus, they should have advanced encryption software and firewalls installed. Moreover, there should be a secure way once you are logged into your account to send messages to and receive messages from your financial institution.

Know your rights and obligations

Make sure you have a clear understanding of what your rights (e.g. insurance against fraud) and obligations are in the jurisdiction your financial institution is based in should there be unauthorized access to or transactions using your financial account.

Ensure your technology devices are secure

Be sure to have the most up-to-date browser, anti-virus and spyware software installed on all of your technology devices and that you have the firewalls enabled. If you have more than one device, designate one that rarely (if ever) leaves your home to log-on to financial accounts or the email address associated with your accounts.

Have a super-secure email for financial accounts

Don't use the same email you use for personal correspondence, social media or one that you regularly provide to online sources as the email you give to your financial institutions. Moreover, never log onto that email address from an unsecure device on a Wi-Fi hotspot without a password.

Use different user names, passwords or PINs

Don't use the same user names or PINs for email, social media or any type of non-important online account for your financial accounts.

Keep your account info in a safe place

Ideally, you should memorize all

your account numbers, user names and passwords. Realistically, you should write this information down and store it in a safe place. And remember, it's not just cyber-criminals you need to protect this information from, as ordinary criminals, housekeepers and even friends or family could misuse it too.

Download and store financial statements in a safe place

Should your account be compromised or locked for suspicious activity and you are an expat in a foreign country, getting the matter resolved will not be easy. However, having the latest financial statements downloaded and stored in a safe place will help you to verify your identity with your financial institution and regain access to your accounts as quickly as possible.

Beware of Wi-Fi hotspots

Cyber-criminals have been known to set up phony hotspots for unwary tourists or expats in airports, hotels or elsewhere meaning you should never log on to any unfamiliar or unsecure Wi-Fi network and then log on to personal email or financial accounts.

Beware of phishing schemes

Phishing schemes targeting expats can range from the ubiquitous emails your spam folders usually collect,



An essential part of keeping your money safe online is to ensure technology devices such as USB sticks are secure. Photo: Arnold Reinhold

to actual phone calls or text messages. So before you give out any personal information in response to an email, phone call or SMS, be sure to confirm it's actually from your financial institution. Remember, most legitimate financial institutions will not contact you in this way and even if you do receive an email that appears to be from your financial institution (like one notifying you that your online statement is now available), don't click on any link in it as it might install malware on your device or take you to a phishing website.

Be careful with social media

No matter how tempting it is to rant online or on social media about a financial institution, you probably have enough information on your social media accounts to make it easy for cyber-criminals or even someone you know to try and access your accounts. Moreover, there are a number of background check services that could reveal enough missing information about you to enable a savvy cybercriminal or someone you know to access your financial accounts.

Don Freeman is president of Freeman Capital Management, a Registered Investment Advisor with the US Securities Exchange Commission (SEC), based in Phuket, Thailand. He has over 15 years experience and provides personal financial planning and wealth management to expatriates. Specializing in UK and US pension transfers. Call 089-970-5795 or email: freemancapital@gmail.com.

Be a responsible investor

By David Mayes

THERE is much wrong with our world unfortunately. I am guessing this is not news to most of you, and the corporate profit motive is widely accepted as being a major cause of many of the modern world's largest problems. I am often asked by clients how they can invest in the markets without inadvertently supporting or contributing to practices which would conflict with their sense of right and wrong.

The CEO of Nestle recently found himself in hot water for making a video in which he argues for privatization of the world's water supply. Monsanto is facing a mounting reaction worldwide against genetically

modified organisms, and Goldman Sachs is so interwoven with politics that it has come to be nicknamed "Government Sachs". Their stock is actually trading at less than ten times earnings at the time of this writing, and I expect the stock to be an even bigger value buy come the next market crash. This begs the question if it is ethical to seek profits from investing in the same companies we might then very self-righteously blame all of the ills of the world on when we meet up with friends and colleagues for some Friday night cocktails.

I am not saying that any of the above mentioned companies are in fact unethical, I will leave it up to you to come to your own conclusions. In fact, many positive contributions by big companies are often overlooked as soon as they make one slip up. Still, the fact of the matter is that many of the largest corporations on the planet do have a profit motive to do things like try to convince Washington to drop bombs on other countries so that they will receive the contract to either replace those bombs or rebuild that which was destroyed. While we all hope that those in decision making roles and holding political influence would have enough humanity within themselves to do the right thing when a conflict of interest arises between morality and opportunities for profit, there are no doubt instances where greed wins out. That is unfortunately the world we live in, and it is so interconnected that if you invest in "the indexes", for instance the S&P 500, the FTSE 100, or the DAX; you will no doubt end up holding some companies whose practices you don't agree with.

Many would argue that you should avoid investing in these companies. Indeed, you could look at the sector allocation of an index and reproduce it in your portfolio, excluding any companies whose practices you do not agree with or even certain sectors as a whole (the inner hippie in me finds the thought of investing in a company which makes bombs or drone technology very unpalat-



Would you feel right about investing in a drone warplane manufacturer?

able). The end result to your portfolio's performance is that it is likely to underperform, unless you or your advisor happen to have better stock picking abilities than the average Wall Street analyst, who in a very famous study were beaten by some dart throwing monkeys. You may of course get lucky and overperform as well, but I think in general this is the wrong approach.

Shareholder activism is much ore likely to have a positive impact on the world. If you invest in a company, theoretically you have some sort of a say in things. I doubt Monsanto is going to give up on GMO products because you send them a letter threatening to sell your 100 shares, but if enough investors gather together they can in fact have an influence. Unfortunately, most investors are passive and indirect as well. You likely invest in a fund who then invests in the shares, so you are not even a registered shareholder. However, if enough investors pressured

fund managers as well as other shareholders to take an active role in campaigning for companies to "take the high road" on certain issues, there could slowly be a change in corporate cultures that have somewhere along the way become dominated by greed.

Maybe I am too optimistic, but I believe if change is going to come from anywhere, this is where it needs to be. The leading multinational companies of the world are so entrenched that I find it hard to believe they will be unseated by a band of "righteous start-ups". They are here to stay, but that doesn't mean their collective shareholders can't guide them onto the path of becoming part of the solution.

David Mayes MBA lives in Phuket and provides wealth management services to expatriates around the globe, focusing on UK pension transfers. Faramond UK is regulated by the FCA and provides advice on taxation and pensions. Contact him at: david.m @faramond.com or 085-335-8573.



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Macca reins at Thanyapura

BUSINESS

appointed multiple world champion athlete, Chris McCormack, as Executive Chairman of the island's world-class megaplex as it takes a big stride into the future with the establishment of Thanyapura International to take its unique and ground-breaking "Thanyapura Active Healthy Lifestyle" concept to the world.

Mr McCormack will take up the reins at Thanyapura Phuket on December, 1, 2013 and be joined by new Chief Executive Officer Michael Gilliam.

Michael Gilliam, or MG, has not only been a fixture in Team Macca, as the McCormack juggernaut is known, since its inception but for 20 years has been a respected sports personality in Australia. As coach to many of the country's elite athletes, he founded the LifeVision personal training brand of gymnasiums and Sportoga, both of which he recently sold to concentrate on his new challenge in Phuket.

The team will be charged with further advancing Thanyapura Phuket's Active Healthy Lifestyle concept across all areas of sports,

THANYAPURA Phuket has including developing the junior athlete program at the Phuket International Academy Day School.

> Thanyapura Phuket's President Robert Hauck, will step up into a global role as Chief Executive Officer of Thanyapura International to spearhead the drive to export Thanyapura's recipe for success and philosophy of getting more out of life to the world, where he will be supported by the whole Thanyapura team.

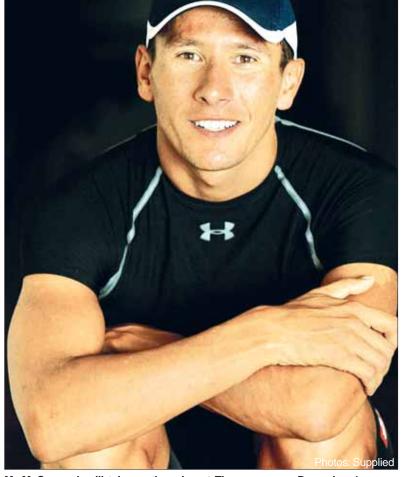
> Chris McCormack, winner of more than 200 triathlons, and widely considered one of the best ever to contest the swim, bike and run, said he was excited about becoming part of the Thanyapura project and was a big fan of its philosophy.

> "I came here to train and fell in love with the place," he said. "Phuket is my sport's emerging new power base and the opportunities are huge. However, I also deeply believe in Thanyapura's brand promise: 'Get more out of life'. It's not just about high performance and winning races. Thanyapura is for everyone."

Mr McCormack's winning mind, health and education, mentality on the sports field will be just as complimentary in the boardroom as his athletic credentials combined with a well-rounded healthy active lifestyle, attention to detail and mindful discipline set him up for a new and exciting chapter in his career.

Thanyapura International, meanwhile, will engage potential overseas suitors. "Following on our recent success in rebranding and the great interest we have received from the public, I'm delighted to lead the company's initiative to introduce the Thanyapura brand and concept to the wider global market under Thanyapura International," Mr Hauck said. He will assume his new role from December 1, 2013.

Thanyapura Founder Klaus Hebben added: "I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Chris McCormack as Executive Chairman and Michael Gilliam as Chief Executive Officer. They will be a tremendous asset to the company and I am confident they will achieve even higher levels of excellence in all important areas of our project."



Mr McCormack will take up the reins at Thanyapura on December 1.

Singha when you are winning

THE Phuket King's Cup Regatta, Asia's most famous international sailing competition, is to be sponsored by Singha Corporation in honor of the 86th birthday of His Majesty the King of Thailand.

Renowned as a long-standing supporter of a wide range of top echelon sports in Thailand and overseas, Singha's sponsorship decision is in line with the beverage company's sporting brand awareness, synergy and Corporate Social Responsibility objectives.

Singha's partnership with Phuket King's Cup Regatta enables the beverage company to enjoy brand activation activities to be conducted during the Regatta's nightly beachside party series and maximize its local and international exposure by leveraging on the magnetism of the Phuket King's Cup Regatta. The 2013 King's Cup will represent renowned yacht racing exhibition. the third year Singha has spon-

sored this legendary race.

Voravud Bhirombhakdi, Event Marketing and Business Partnership Director, Singha Corporation Co Ltd said: "The Phuket King's Cup Regatta is a unique and highly attractive sporting occasion, offering excellent brand exposure opportunities to Singha Corporation. We are proud to once more be a sponsor of this superb race, and we are pleased to be able to support an event to celebrate the 86th birthday of His Majesty the King of Thailand."

As a principal fixture on the Asian Yachting Circuit, the Phuket King's Cup Regatta under Royal Patronage annually features upwards of 100 boats, ranging from high tech to live-aboard ocean cruisers, multihulls and classics. International-standard race management is combined with lively beach parties to create this world-

- Phuket Gazette



Family Mart times 100

THE Family Mart franchise officially opened its 100th convenience store in Phuket last Saturday (Nov 23) in front of Central Festival Phuket on Chalerm Phra Kiat Road, revealing the retail chain's brand new look.

Another Family Mart store was also opened over the weekend at Central Festival Phuket, located near the bus stop and taxi stand on Vichit Songkram Road. The new stand-alone convenience

FOR ALL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENTS, HARD-

stores are open 24 hours.

Siam FamilyMart CEO Mr Nath Vongpanich said the new store covers 60 square meters and was constructed at a cost of 2 million baht.

"We have plans for more than 30 new stores in tourist spots in Phuket, Samui and Krabi in 2014," said Mr Vongpanich.

Central Retail Corporation (CRC) acquired controlling interest of Siam FamilyMart Co Ltd in October 2012.

The joint venture operating more than 700 stores throughout the country includes plans to open a total of 1,000 branches by the end of the year, and a total of 3,000 branches by 2017. The Family Mart franchise was started in Japan in 1981 and became the country's third-largest convenience store chain, expanding over the past 30 years to The Philippines, South Korea, Taiwan, China and Thailand.

- Phuket Gazette







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Changing for a Safer Phuket

WHILE wishing Safer Phuket (see page 39) the best of luck in its difficult mission to raise marine-safety standards in local waters to international levels, it is clear that the new NGO's success will depend on its ability to change a deeply-entrenched "culture of carelessness" that pervades locally, both on land and at sea.

This will be no small challenge. The need for better safety standards is both obvious and well documented in this week's edition (see pages 4-5), which recorded the Thai Navy's well-conducted effort to evacuate tourists from resort islands following a storm that caught the region off-guard despite weather warnings and ports being closed.

Fortunately, there were no reports of casualties, but the damage and destruction of several well-known racing sailboats from unexpected heavy seas once again highlights the dangers of inductively assuming that calm seas will always prevail at this time of year.

Of course, tragedy can strike under any conditions, as was most recently demonstrated by the drowning death of young Chinese tourist Gao Yang, who slipped from wet rocks and fell into the sea at Promthep Cape (see page 7) on November 20.

The young man's death was met with typical knee-jerk reactions, such as the Provincial Office promising to erect signs in a number of languages warning of the dangers of slippery rocks at Phuket's most iconic scenic vista.

Safer Phuket aims to garner partnerships with a variety of groups including the Phuket Lifeguard Club, local tambon administration organizations (OrBorTor) and the Royal Thai Navy. For the organization to achieve its aims, it will need to establish formal agreements with these and many other groups, liaising closely with them to engender a more proactive approach to maritime-safety issues.

Showing an understanding that change must come from all sides, Safer Phuket's website was launched with pages in both English and Thai. Its ability to attract Thai readers and sponsorship will likely determine its success. Far too often in Thailand safety issues are presented as a sort of "foreign" concept.

The expat community also has a role to play. All too often foreigners come here and, enthralled by this "culture of carelessness", readily engage in behavior they would never dream of back home.

It is essential that the expat community works with Safer Phuket to help in the considerable challenge of reversing this trend by setting safety examples, rather than "going with the flow".

Lastly, we hope the new NGO will use its considerable diplomatic clout to encourage Thai civil aviation authorities to order in-flight warnings to passengers aboard inbound flights about the dangers of rip currents, especially during the southwestmonsoon season, as has been advocated in vain in this space for several years.

Phuket Gazette

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Separating the women from the girls

Re: Gazette online, Party with red passion, November 18

When the Phuket Gazette newspaper writes that "girls will be modeling swimsuits" at an event, but it will actually be women young attractive women, presumably – it is perpetuating sexism.

Please consider how this usage of what was once simply slang, as in "going out with the girls", is now used routinely to label adult females that are sexually desirable. It is used to specifically diminish women's sexual power over men. They are men, we are but girls.

It wasn't alwayd like this females are "girls" until judged too old to be sexually desirable, then labeled "ladies". But of late, never just what we are, which is women.

In response to my posts on the forum, comments like "girls over 40 are downgraded to women" and most disturbingly that "the term woman is an insult" go to show how deeply ingrained this wholly sexist language has become.

I will concede the Western men flocking to Thailand are among the world's most chauvinistic. Indeed, Thai culture's inherent sexism may be the draw, but please do not perpetuate it.

Thank you for your attention and a chance to air my view, however unpopular it may be.

> Christy K Sweet **Thalang**

The not so little trucks that couldn't

Re: Gazette online, Runaway Phuket Thai Post truck slams into cars on Patong Hill [Video], No-

Perhaps it's about time all trucks and buses are banned from using Patong Hill and made to go the long way, as the hills of Kata and Karon are not as steep. Or, teach these drivers how to drive properly and force the companies to maintain their vehicles to a

.etters

to the Editor

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

higher standard. Well, I guess I can dream...

> **Ozmistv** Gazette forum

or media stunt to help make tourist feel safer. Note that it is creating the feeling of safety that is so desired by officials.

All cynicism aside, I was very pleased to read about Safer Phuket. I will be glad to stand behind this organization if it manages to uphold its ideals. There will be an upstream battle, but if we all row together, we at least have chance.

Henry Brunson **Thalang**

Sailing 101

Re: Gazette online, Phuket yachties in dramatic boat rescue from sea wall, November 23

Well, I am no boating expert, but for some guy to jump on a boat, rig the sails up in a pretty stiff wind and then steer it away from certain damage with the help of some human bumpers... That's what it is all about, people!

James Bond Gazette forum

Don't go drowning our cash cows

Re: Gazette online, Don't risk tourists' lives, warns Royal Thai Navy, November 23

I'm confused. If the port was closed, then how did the tour boats manage to risk so many people's lives by taking them out to the Similan Islands or Racha Re: Gazette online, Runaway Yai? There is no point in "closing" the ports if private operators are still going to risk the entire country's cash cows (our lovely well-fed tourists) by going out.

We just had a boat safety blitz here in Phuket following the tragic deaths of tourists in an overloaded Pattaya ferry that sank. Ensuring that common sense was installed in addition to life-jackets was obviously not done.

It seems that the only reason people aren't enraged is because nobody died this time – and if tourist had... I'm sure we would have had a – yawn – crackdown or blitz

Teachers' dreams face harsh reality

Re: Gazette online, Thailand ranked 55th in English proficiency, November 20

It comes as no surprise that Thailand ranks so badly when it comes to English. Many teachers come to Thailand with genuine aspirations of making a difference in this. But with all the red tape to obtain a work permit, visa runs, hopeless organization by schools and just a general disinterest by students to learn English, many teachers opt to move on to other more cooperative countries.

> Hannes Gazette forum

Losing traction

Phyket Thai Post truck slams into cars on Patong Hill [Video], November 21

The asphalt on this road is so slippery, as it has been worn out by the sustained traffic, the heat and the abrasion, due to lack of maintenance. Once the tyre has lost its grip on the road, there is little that can be done to regain the steering capacity of the vehicle, especially with the wheels blocked by efficient brakes. The same applies when driving on snowcovered roads.

> Claude Gazette forum

Burning desire to keep Quest to conquer island's flames at bay

FIRST PERSON

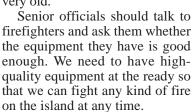
WE NEED better quality equipment to save people's lives and the lives of firefighters.

Last year, I was a volunteer with the firefighting team at the Lee Gardens Plaza Hotel [which caught fire after a car bomb detonated] in Haad Yai. We did our best, but people died. This memory still haunts me today. I was also among the many firefighters who fought the blaze at SuperCheap. I spent nine hours combating the flames with my fellow firefighters.

The firefighting equipment we had to use when battling these blazes, as well as countless others, wasn't very good. We need better personal protection equipment, such as self-contained

breathing apparatuses, firefighting suits and radios that can handle high temperatures and naked flames.

I would like to see every Phuket government authority check the fire station in their area. They will see that some equipment is very substandard,



We do serious work. We risk our lives to save people. Without having the right quality equipment, we risk our lives and the lives of those depending on us before we



Puchong Manavakrit is a volunteer firefighter with the Phuket City Municipality Fire Department. Born and raised in Phuket, Mr Puchong is in his final year of a computer engineering degree at the Prince of Songkla University, Phuket Campus. He has been a volunteer firefighter since he was 18 years old.

Here, he explains what is

needed to save the lives of tourists, residents and firefighters when combating blazes in Phuket.

even start fighting a fire.

In other countries, such as the United States of America, firefighters replace their equipment every 10 years. They have very high-quality equipment. I

wish there was a similar mentality

IN THE HOUSE

As more and more people come to Phuket to live, a lot more houses are being built on the island - and most fires start in houses. The top

three fire starters are electrical short circuits, candles and rice heaters.

Bypassing the fuse can start

fires. Photo: Inspectapedia

One thing that amazes me is that many people use a wire to bypass the house's main supply fuse.

This is very dangerous. People use the wire because it is cheaper than replacing the main fuse every time the power supply spikes, which happens all the time across

What makes the wire dangerous

is that it can become very hot when it carries a high charge of electricity, which can then start a fire.

It seems that people forget that safety must come first.

FIRE BOARD

Similarly, cheap power boards that are not fitted with fuses can also easily start fires. These cheap power boards are available at many local markets, despite the fact that they don't meeting the legal standard set by the Thai Industrial Standards Institute.

If you really need to use a power board, please, at least use one with a fuse installed inside. It will cut out when there is too much electrical current and prevent a fire from starting

The first thing to do when extinguishing an electrical fire is to shut off the power supply to your house. Do not use water to douse an electrical fire. As we all know, water conducts electricity.

If you have a fire that you cannot control, call the fire department immediately at 1129 or the police at 191 – or 1669 if anyone has been injured.

island transport

MOUNT Everest, K2, Cape Horn; the Sahara Desert - conquering these places represents the pinnacle of human potential and achievement.

To this list, I would like to to add the streets of Phuket!

For most, just a mere mention of the above places will conjure up images of sweat, tears, pain, joy, patience and adrenaline: all ingredients of "will power".

It is this power of will that enables us to accomplish what has mistakenly been tagged "impossible".

Now I'm certainly no Edmund Hillary (the first man to successfully summit Everest) or Moses for that matter, but like these superb achievers and many before and after them, I too find great pleasure in challenging the status quo – doing what was said to be inconceivable.

For the last two months, I've been doing exactly this. No, I didn't take on the Laguna Phuket Triathlon or Challenge - my ongoing achievement is of a whole other caliber: I've been depending on Phuket public transport day and night – to commute back and forth between my office in Koh Kaew and my home in the historic district of Phuket Town.

After wrecking my car in Krabi this past September, I was left with limited options to get me through the estimated two months it would take for car repairs. My finances don't justify renting a car and as for cycling or motorbikes forget it, life is already too short.

So I bit the bullet and embraced the local public transport system. I knew it could be done, as I did it years ago... surely it could still be

Contrary to many misinformed notions still perpetuated on various web forums, daytime public transport in Phuket is, for the most part, sufficient and reliable.



HERO: Phuket Airport Express

Island View

By Steven Layne

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

Between 7am and 5pm, it is possible to get to and from most beaches or communities on the island (with the notable exception of Pak Khlok) for 40 baht or less per way, and with minimal effort.

However, it is night-time commuting that appeared to be nearly impossible, as all local buses here retire when the sun goes down -"nearly" being the key word.

But for every will, there is a

Even though there are no bus stops along most of Thepkrasattri Road, the Phuket Airport Bus will stop for anyone along its route – just call them to give them a heads up – and be sure to check their route schedule online first (airportbusphuket.com).

I'm ever grateful to the Phuket Airport Bus, who I'll name as the hero of this story; as for the villain, that can go to the tax-funded multi-million-baht transport feasibility studies that have changed nothing for the betterment of Phuket transport.

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

Registration breakdown: getting used wheels without the green

What is the deal with buying a motorbike without a green registration book? If it is not stolen, how do I go about getting a new green registration book?

Kathu

Anuthra Nintaphol of the **Phuket Land Transport Office** replies:

The green registration book states the name of the registered owner of the motorbike, and that person must provide signed permission for any changes to be made in the book.

If the person selling the motorbike is unable to provide the registration book, I simply suggest not buying the motorbike. Not having the green registration book

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

Submit your issue at

www.PhuketGazette.net/ **IssuesAnswers**

is suspicious and could very well be a sign that the person selling the bike is not the owner.

However, it is possible to check. To do so, you will need to supply us with a copy of the owner's ID card and any supporting evidence proving that the seller is the

owner of the motorbike. It would

be ideal if you could bring the

motorbike to our office so we can check our records. If this isn't possible, photos of the bike and the license plate is helpful.

one attempting to sell it, then you can move forward with making a legal purchase. The owner will need to provide a purchase contract or receipt of purchase to you in order to prove that the transaction occurred.

To avoid a fine of 200 baht, you must have the green registration book transferred into your name within 15 days of the purchase date.

To get a new green registration book you will need to provide the following documents:

- Purchase contract or receipt of purchase;

- The police report stating that vehicle check (B500) and annual the owner lost the registration

- Signed copies of ID cards he owner of the motorbike is the to provide signed copies of the photo page in their passport, valid visa and an address verification document provided by the Immigration Office;

- the motor-

bike so it can Photo: Gandalf be checked; – a certifi-

cate affirming the vehicle is roadworthy.

There are several fees associated with transfer: transfer fee (B150)

road tax, which is 200 baht per 10,000 baht of the price of the bike. There is also a 55 baht fee to Once we are able to verify that from both parties, foreigners need have a new green registration book prepared.





YOUR

Phuket

SKAL RED PASSION CHARITY DINNER AT ZAZADA BEACH CLUB

Over 450,000 baht raised for charity on the night!



Singer EKA (center) entertained guests with here rendition of classic and contemporary soul music numbers. Photos: Mark Knowles



From left: Regent Cape Panwa GM Brice Borin; Zazada Beach Club Operations Manager Jay Leshark; Panwa Beach Resort by Marco Polo GM Claude Sauter; and Serenity Resort GM Urs Aebi.



GM of the Boathouse on Kata Beach Marie-Laure Fleury (left) and her friend enjoy the night's entertainment.



Paresa Co Chief Executive Officer and owner of Zazada Beach Club Poompong Patpongpanit (center) and guests arrive to join the fun.



Guests took the Red Passion theme to heart and dressed in their finest crimson outfits.



Guests enjoyed a night of music, fashion and food at the recently opened Zazada Beach Club

The Phuket Gazette's weekly

ISLAND TRADER

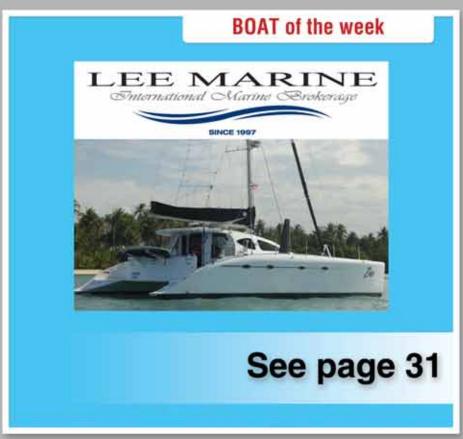
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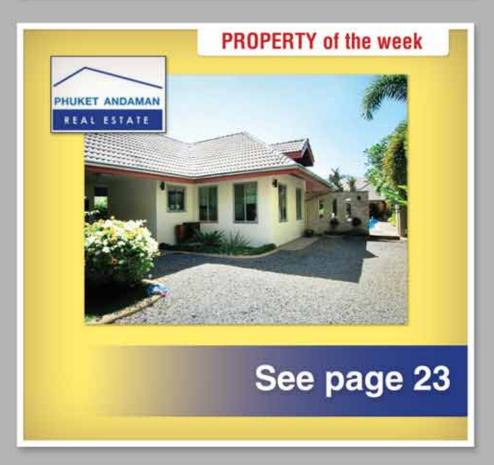
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*The Gazette is the top-ranked Website for Phuket. (Google Analytics)









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Property Classifieds

Properties For Sale

PHANASON GRAND



Bang Jo. Single storey, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, large plot 72.67sq wah, finished July 2014. Down payment: 130,000 baht only take over. Please call 081-487 4353 (English), 087-022 9660 (Thai).

QUALITY 3-BEDROOM **POOL VILLA**



7.9 million baht. Rental yield above 8% easily achievable. One left! Tel: 081-077 1765. Email: kez_turn@hotmail.com

3-BEDROOM VILLA IN KATHU

2 bathrooms, 3 aircons, ceiling fans, fully furnished, fitted kitchen, water filter and many extras, gardens front and rear outside bar, patio and carport. 6 million baht. Tel: 082-179 2103 (Thai). Email: sylviecox54@ yahoo.com

BEACH FRONT LAND

Land and house at Naka Island. 150sqm. Price: 1 x,xxx baht per sqm. Tel: 081-691 2446 (English). Email: wut@tarntaraspa.com

LAND FOR SALE LAYAN

11 rai, beautiful flat land, Chanote. Near beach. 3.9 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-927 4027 (English), 089-813 1447 (Thai). Email: atrennie@yahoo.com

Police Station

Simply write out your ad,

Khun Na: (076-325586)

pay and leave it with

or(081-3977307)

Live in Cherng Talay?

HOUSE & FURNITURE

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

HOUSE FOR SALE IN BAAN PROMPHAN

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

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. Tel: 081-892

CONDO AT ROYAL PLACE



Condo at Royal Place Project, bypass road, opposite Tesco Lotus. 37sqm, 2 floors, 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, kitchen, fully furnished, 2 aircons, washing machine, refrigerator, TV, microwave, cable, 24hr security with key card etc. Please call for more details. Tel: 086-476 9612. Email: annanoi1 @hotmail.com

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Laguna gateway

Chaba Supermarket

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FREEHOLD 2 BED **VILLA LAGUNA**



Laguna residences, Outrigger 2-bedroom end unit villa. Freehold title with lifetime golf membership in Laguna Golf Club and privilage card with 50% discount in Laguna restaurants and spas. Fully furnished. Selling price: 12.95 million baht. Please call 080-041 4464 (English) or email to rental1386@ gmail.com

LAND NEAR KATA **CENTER**

Great location, road access, 5 minutes to Kata Beach and main road, 1,450sqm with title deed. Contact Lychee. Tel: 081-891 3048 (English & German).

HABITOWN, **KOH KAEW**

115sqm, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 aircons, includes built-in furniture, 2 floors. Resale down 130,000 baht. Tel: 089-772 7012. Email: gyb_ giff@yahoo.com

HOUSE IN PHUKET VILLA 5 FOR SALE



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



Modern style. Sino-Portuguese, area: 36.50sq wah with 118sqm living space approx. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 car park. Sale down payment 500,000 baht. Tel: 087-270 9093.

LAND AT CHERNG TALAY

1 ngan, nice flat land, quiet area, Chanote. In Pasak Soi 5. Price: 2 million baht. For more information, please call 089-472 9118.

LAND/SEA VIEW FOR SALE

Beautiful (1,048sqm) seaview building land on Andaman hills, overlooking Patong Beach. Concrete road. Electricity and water. Only 8 million baht. Contact Mr Crane. Tel: +44-788-548 8091 (English). Email: craneprop@hotmail.

PRIVATE SALE OF HALFARAI

Baan Yamu

Condominium available for sale

PHUKET'S EXCLUSIVE RESIDENTIAL HIDEAWAY

· Secure residential and investment opportunity

Please contact: 091-034 9909 or 089-729 8126

E-mail: info@baanyamu.com

Tel: 076-310507

Award-winning design

Luxurious lifestyle facilities

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

UNOBSTRUCTED SEAVIEW LANDS

Seaview land at Yamu Hills with 180° panoramic seaview, 2 rai. 2 Chanotes, 5.5 million baht/ rai. Tel: 084-625 5090. Email: phuket.turquoise@gmail.com

CONDO AT RATCHAPORN PLACE



In Kathu for sale or rent. Near Phuket Country Club Golf Course. 36sqm furnished, aircon. 1 bedroom. Sale: 1.75 million baht. Rent: 13,000 baht per month with 1-year contract. Common area included. Tel: 089-472 9118.

65SQM SEA VIEW **CONDO**



Amazing sea view condos with private swimming pools on roof terrace. One bedroom and private parking. Great location. Tel: 084-844 6476. Email: richardphuket@ gmail.com To be 1 step closer to owning a dream condo, please view our website at http://property forsalephuket.co.th/

REGENT BANGTAO STUDIO UNIT

Foreigner freehold studio in Laguna with rental furniture package, 43sqm. Complete end 2014. Price: 4.6 million baht. Tel: 081-958 3421. Email: kjarukirati@gmail.com

MAGNIFICENT BEACH PROPERTY

Houses 20A/B, one property, famous Railay Beach, cliffs, gardens, rentals possible, management. Tropical hardwoods, one of a kind. Please read website carefully before inquiring. Tel: 081-396 5585 (English). Email: fil_lewitt@yahoo.com Forfurther details, please see our website at www.raileibeachclub.com

THE SANDS, NAI HARN

2-bed unit, ground floor. 150 sqm. A bargain at 6.6 million baht. Tel: 089-652 1951. Email: phuket.pn@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

URGENT

SALE/RENT



Patong. Newly built 40sq wah, 2 storeys, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, fully furnished, 2 aircons, kitchen with hood, refrigerator, dining room, living room, hot water, cable TV and internet. Near Sea Pearl Project Patong. Tel: 086-476 9612.

All classifieds in these pages are



 vour assurance that whatever's advertised here

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is seriously for sale.

Properties For Sale

PHUKET ANDAMAN

New Office just opened in Soi Sai Yuan, Nai Harn, next to 7-Eleven and opposite Tops Daily

www.phuketandamanrealestate.com | Kay@phuketandamanrealestate.com

Graphic Design - 3D - AutoCAD - Animation



Beautiful tropical villa. Fully furnished with pool and beautiful gardens Private living, two storey villa in great location of Soi Viset Road, Rawai Spacious exofic

13 MB. Chanote title with company.



Great location Nai Harn. Large 3 beds/2 baths 600sam land. open-plan living with western kitchen, Fully furnished. Quiet sought after soi. Pool covered veranda and sun deck with garden shower.

11.7 MB. Chanote title



Brand-new fully fumished 2-bedroom villa, ready to move n. Close to Soi Sai Yuan Road and easy access to everywhere 4.9 MB. Chanote title.

Urgent sale. Location Rawai



Modern fully furnished spacious villa 230sqm. Living and 600sqm. Land plot. Balinese style, 3 beds 3 baths. Large 48sqm terrace. Tropical gardens and pool.

Rawai 9.5 MB. Chanote title

Studio rooms, apartments and villas available for rent short term and long term Chanote title plots of building land available

Tel: 080-124 1245. Fax: 076-527637.

SINGLE HOUSE FOR SALE/RENT



In Thanapa Park View Village in Koh Kaew. 57sq wah, with 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, a kitchen, a carpark and a garden. Sale: 2.25 million baht. Rent: 11,000 baht per month. Contact owner directly. Tel: 089-615 9719. Email: nana 1225@gmail.com

CHERNG TALAY LAND PLOTS

3,750 baht per square meter. Tel: 086-950 2707, +32-49-329 7948 (English & Thai). Email: datacenter50@gmail.com For further details, please see our website at www.zoutdesk.nl/

NEW HOUSE IN ESTATE 4.7 MB

Near Central, quiet place, common pool, 24hr security, fully furnished, modern. Ready to move in. Tel: 087-897 0501 (English). Email: aleksa@thaievagroup.com

PATONG HOUSE ON HILL

House, 360sqm overlooking Patong, 3 separate apartments, good for rent, living room, kitchen, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 terraces, no furniture. 7.9 million baht, not neg. Tel: 081-824 1385 (English). Email: jbiwo@csloxinfo.com

ONE RAI ON **KOH YAO YAI**

Beautiful island. 1.1 million baht. Chanote. 5 minutes to the pier. Tel: 081-892 8208.

APARTMENT BUILDING

Renovated apartment building for sale in a quiet soi. Tel: 091-043 1121 (English & Thai). Email: saipet.phongen@gmail.comFor further details, please see our website at www.prakardpro perty.com/property/show/5806

LAND NEAR MISSION HILLS



Pa Khlok. 2 rai 32sq wah, 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

2-STOREY HOUSE **IN KATHU**

In Phanason near Kathu waterfall: House on a land plot of 580sqm and nice view. The property consists of 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Comes fully furnished. Western style open kitchen. Outside there is a private swimming pool with Sala, an outdoor jacuzzi and sauna, CCTV, alarm system. Price: 13.5 million baht. Tel: 076-322190, 081-892 0121 (English & Thai). Email: jerry40@loxinfo.co.th

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. Tel: 087-270 9093.

HOUSE FOR SALE IN SAIYUAN

Fully furnished 2 bedrooms. with garden and car park. Chanote title, 196sqm land. Price: 2.7 million baht. Tel: 076-613131, 081-077 8487 (English & Thai), 087-885 3377 (English & Thai). Email: newmai121@hotmail.com

3-STOREY 2-UNIT SHOP HOUSE

3-storey, 2 unit shophouse for sale at Rawai-Sai Yuan, 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Price: 12 million baht. For more details, please call 076-524545, 082-422 4547 (English & Thai) or contact by email at hkt_car dealer@hotmail.com

IN PATONG



Large villa with pool + 2 houses with 8 small apartments, Patong, sea views, freehold land 670sqm, quiet area with no traffic, sell for 35 million baht. owner directly. Tel: 089-290 9567 (English & Thai). Email: lars@industriby.se

SEAVIEW VILLA IN TOWN FOR SALE

650sqm. 4 bedrooms, pool, near BIS. Price: 38 million baht. Email: jin_koy@yahoo.com

CHALONG. 2.1MB **INVESTMENT**

Detached house, 2 bedrooms, large walled garden. Close to the sea. No title. Contact me for details and more photos. Tel: 089-817 4864, 082-270 9733. Email: pwhittall@aol.com

CHEAP LAND & HOUSE FOR SALE



The land of 35 rai and a house with aircon, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and kitchen at Tumbon Bornok, Prachuap Kirikhan, 20km from Prachuap Kirikhan town. The land is 1.3km from Petchkasem Road. Price is only 10 million baht. Nor Sor 3 title deed. Please call 085-894 6118. 086-615 9719 or send email to nana1225@gmail.com, lamkookaiiz@yahoo.co.th

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

VILLA + 2 HOUSES



This villa sits on 1.8 rai in Kathu, comprising 1 main villa, 1 detached apartment, 1 leisure building, fitted kitchen, 5 ensuite bedrooms, 9 bathrooms. Separate office/maids quarters. A large swimming pool and much more. 5-10 mins to shopping centers, Phuket Town, 4 golf courses, 15 mins to Patong. Secured by CCTV alarm system and electronically controlled gates. This villa has to be viewed to be appreciated. View online www.youtube.com: type in "big house in Phuket". Viewing by appointment only. CALL 084-293 7923 (Thai/Eng), 081-854 0061 (Eng), Email: mrgeoffcurry@yahoo.com

Private Home For Sale 21 Million Baht



Private home in Kathu on 650sqm. 2 storeys, 3 ensuite bedrooms, 1 office 4 bathrooms. Spacious living/dining area with access to a large pool and Jacuzzi. The kitchen is fully fitted, the house is 85% furnished. 5-10 mins to shopping centers, Phuket Town, 4 golf courses, 15 mins to Patong. Security 24hrs. View online www.youtube.com: type in "pool house in Phuket". Viewing by appointment only. CALL 084-293 7923 (Thai/Eng), 081-854 0061 (Eng). Email: mrgeoffcurry@yahoo.com

SEAVIEW



Layan 3.2 rai land. Please call 081-968 3549 (Thai), 081-787 4383 (English).

HOUSE IN VILLA DOWROONG

Phuket Town. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 47sq wah. Tel: 089-909 2771.

30 RAI IN TOWN

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

SEAVIEW CONDO IN PATONG

Fully furnished with all furniture, aircon, ready to sale and rent on short / long term. Please call 081-797 7199, 086-683

HOUSE IN KAMALA SALE



Near Phuket FantaSea, 90sq wah, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 aircons, kitchen, living room, garden and car park. Tel: 089-973 2688. Email: art_ta99@hotmail.com

Four storey townhouse on a small hillside 5 minute walk to the beach at the northern edge of Patong, City on one side, Jungle on the other, Patong Beach down the street, & walking distance to all Patong's del /- 270 sq meters 3,000 sq ft (approximately 23,000 Baht per sq meter) Top quality construction, materials and design. 3-phase, 30 amp wiring throughout. Water storage tank, pump, & central hot water. TEL: English/German/Spanish: 089 196 0940 English/Thai: 089 729 8665 Email: Woody@KhunWoody.com **Best Sea View Deal in Patong**

Property Classifieds

Properties For Rent

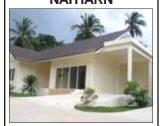
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Great value accommodation, available for short and long term. Daily from 900 baht or 14,000 baht per month. Contact us with your enquiry at:

info@resavaholidays.com www.RESAVAHOLIDAYS.com

COZY HOUSE NEAR NAI HARN



A high-grade built house, furnished and conveniently located minutes from Rawai and Nai Harn Beaches. 2 spacious bedrooms with en suite bathrooms. 1 guest toilet. Aircons. Large living-dining room. Telephone line with ADSL. Free water supply and garbage removal service. 22,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-383 0936 (Khun Nui). Email: hunt17@hotmail.com

RAWAI BEACH FRONT HOUSE

2 storey, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, near Fisherman's Way. 75,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-593 9559 (English & Thai). Email: supotpac@phuketemail.com

2-BED APARTMENT PATONG

140sqm furnished with 10sqm balcony, spacious sunken living / dining, 2 bebrooms, 2 bathrooms, full build-in Western kitchen, storeroom, European standard, quiet, full aircon, fast WiFi free, LCD, Satellite etc. Long term: 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 084-185 8536.

HOUSE FOR RENT THALANG

242sq wah house. Price: 20,000 baht per month. For living, office, restaurant. Tel: 081-691 2446. Email: wut@tarntaraspa.com

KATA OCEAN VIEW CONDO

Fully furnished, seaview and non-seaview apartments, available for long-term rental. From 19,000 to 40,000 baht per month. Located on Kata Hill. Tel: 076-330641. For further details, please see our website at www.oceanic-global.com

3-BED, 4-BATH SEAVIEW APARTMENT

Quiet area in Patong, fully furnished, 5 minutes to beach. Monthly or more. Tel: 081-892 8208.

SINGLE HOUSE FOR RENT/ SALE



In Thanapa Park View village in Koh Kaew. 57sq wah, with 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, a kitchen, a carpark and a garden. Rent: 11,000 baht per month. Sale: 2.25 million baht. Contact owner. Tel: 089-615 9719. Email: nana1225@gmail.com

FULLY FURNISHED HOUSE

1-3 bedrooms, Chalong area. Starting at 10,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-892 4311. For further details, please see our website at http://palaigreen. weebly.com

CLOSE TO KAJONKIAT SCHOOL

Villa Suan Luang. Detached house, 3 bedrooms, some furniture. 25,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-134 5817. Email: gung@nattayareal estate.com

FREEDOM APARTMENT PATONG

Fully furnished in European style, aircon, WiFi, 500 baht per day, 14,000 baht per month. Please call 083-380 6744, 084-845 0541.

CONDO IN PATONG

One bedroom, swimming pool, parking. For long-term rent. Tel: 081-892 1621.

PHUKET VILLA 5 VILLAGE



No agents! Not 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 long-term rent, 16,000 baht per month. For sale: price: 4.2 million baht. Call to see 087-270 9093.

CONDO IN KATHU FOR RENT



Short or long-term rent, fully furnished, swimming pool, fitness center, quiet and secure. 12,000 baht per month. Please call. Tel: 093-742 6801. Email: thaidoodee1@gmail.com

B.L. APARTMENT

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

SUPALAI HILL FOR RENT/SALE

2-storey house, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully furnished, WiFi. Please call 083-649 1218.

CONDO AT



In Kathu for rent or sale. Near Phuket Country Club Golf Course. 36sqm, furnished, aircon. 1 bedroom. Rent: 13,000 baht per month with 1-year contract and common area included. Sale: 1.75 million baht. Tel: 089-472 9118.

LUXURY VILLAS FOR RENT-KAMALA

2 villas in modern style. one of 3 bedrooms and one of 2 bedrooms, private swimming pool, big garden, jacuzzi. Contact Francesco. Tel: 085-790 7816. Email: francesco b o n t a @ g m a l . c o m www.villlacheloni.com

4 BEDROOMS WITH POOL

Near Laguna Phuket, large garden and pool-terrace, open style Western kitchen, fully furnished, 5 bathrooms. Available from February 2014. Tel: 089-875 9609 (English), 087-461 9234 (Thai). Email: claude baltes@gmail.com

CONDO AT ROYAL PLACE



Condo at Royal Place Project, Bypass Road, opposite Tesco Lotus. 37sqm, 2 floors, 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, kitchen, fully furnished, 2 aircons, washing machine, refrigerator, TV, microwave, cable, 24hr security with key card etc. Please call for more details. Tel: 086-476 9612. Email: annanoi1 @hotmail.com

CONDO AT ROYAL PLACE

Phuket city, bypass road, opposite fesco Lotus, 45sqm, 3 FI at the corner with swimming pool view I bedroom, 1 bathroom, kitchen, uilly furnished (2 aircons, hot water washing machine, refrigerator, TV microwave, 24 security and internet provided) Pis contact, 086-4769612

KATA SEAVIEW APARTMENT FOR RENT

Fully furnished, quiet, seaview, Kata Hill. Tel: 086-281 9311. Email: bao200@gmail.com

RENT APARTMENT PATONG CONDO

Pool, security, 46sqm studio, furnished. Tel: 089-728 4005. Email: thamad17@yahoo.com

RAWAI BEACH STUDIO

5 minutes to Rawai Beach, newly renovated, elevator, balcony, mountain view. 8,500 baht per month. Tel: 086-057 7714.

LUXURY POOL VILLA

Near Laguna, has all in a lush tropic garden. 1-year lease. 28,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-594 4067.

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Simply write out your ad, pay and leave it with Khun Anna: 076-388144, 086-4780201, 088-1685032

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Property Classifieds

Property Services

BUILDER CAN WORK NOW

Home construction, repairs, renovations at fixed prices. Tel: 081-892 8526 (Khun Peter). For further details, please see our website at www.phuketbesthomes.com

HOTEL/CONDO **MANAGEMENT**

Asset management + preopening services by experienced hoteliers. Email: resort gm@gmail.com

HOME RENOVATION

We provide services: home and pool renovation, sauna and stream room construction. Tel: 084-191 1288. For further details, please see our website at www.home renovationphuket.com

HOSPITALITY MGR. AVAILABLE

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PDS PHUKET DRAIN SPECIALIST

At Phuket drain specialists, we can guarantee that you will receive a quick and efficient service for everything from blocked drains to drain repairs to pipe replacement. Our team of highly qualified staff have a wealth of experience. in dealing with blocked drains. We operate a 24hr emergency service and ensure a quick response time. when you have a blocked drain, you know who to call. Phuket drain specialists we guarantee we will beat any quote. Tel: 081-090 9516 (English), 085-2246685(Thai). Email: kjoshea @hotmail.co.uk

Property Services Wanted

ELECTRICIAN

Electrician needed to check and determine property power, need to install generator and hook up. Tel: 087-884 8972.

Property Wanted

OFFICE/RETAIL SPACE **WANTED**

Office/Retail space wanted asap. Approx 20sqm. In Kamala/Surin area. Tel: 082-521 7745 (English). Email: mr craigwhite@hotmail.co.uk

VILLAS, CONDOS AT KATA, KARON

Successful property and rental management company seeks additional villas/condos. Email: resortgm@gmail.com

WANTED VILLA FOR LONG-TERM

Looking for a villa for long-term lease 50,000 per month. Preferences are: Hillside location, Security, Kamala to Bang Tao, Pool, Single story. Tel: 080-319 9255 (English). Email: 425zeds@ gmail.com

APARTMENT/HOUSE NEEDED

Our customers need urgently apartment rentals up to 25,000 baht per month, and house rentals up to 40,000 baht per month. For long and short-term contracts. Only Kata, Karon, Rawai, Nai Harn, Chalong. Tel: 082-420 7052. Please call or visit our website at www.stay onphuket.com

Accommodation **Available**

5 BEDROOMS ON BOAT

5 bedrooms, fully furnished, aircons, private and closest to nature. Email: rachai.mon tree@gmail.com

ORCHID KATHU HEIGHTS

Serviced apartment, Studio, 1 bedroom, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, rooftop pool, free WiFi. Tel: 076-203208, 081-892 0038. For further details, please see our website at www.orchid kathuheights-phuket.com

KARON OCEANFRONT LUXURY APT

Five-star one bedroom apartment with pool in a quiet area. Available 1 Nov-19 Dec 2013. Tel: 087-531 1124 (English). Email: dfeno cchio@hotmail.com For further details, please see our website at karonhill.altervista.org

THE NCHANTRA POOL SUITE

1-3 bedroom private pool suites for sale and rent. Tel: 076-510011, 081-979 7306 Fax: 076-614101. Email: info@nchantrapoolsuite.com More information, please see our website at www.nchantra poolsuite.com

SEA VIEW 3-BED VILLA, PATONG

Luxury villa of character w/ Patong sea view. Estate pool, private and secure. 60,000 baht per week; 200,000 per month; 1 million baht per year plus utilities, service extra. Minimum deposit of 20,000 baht. Tel: 086-587 0196 (English & Thai). Email: natawanpaeng @gmail.com

SPECIAL DISCOUNT

Luxury pool villas, near Laguna, has all daily, weekly and monthly. Tel: 089-594 4067.

LIVING IN BOUTIQUE **DESIGN**

1 bedroom, fully furnished, cozy and safe area. Tel: 089-668 3639. Email: zhunaumann @gmail.com For further details, please see our website at www.BaanPhitakTaweep.com

HOUSE FOR RENT

1-storey detached house, 2aircon bedroom, 1 bathroom, furnished, no pets. Tel: 081-537 9878 (English & Thai), 089-729 8472 (English & Thai). Email: tiwus@hotmail.co.th

NAI HARN BUNGALOW

Nice bungalow for long-term rent, quiet location, fully furnished, 2 beds, 2 baths, aircon/fans, cable TV, WiFi internet. 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-891 7408. 087-292 5309 (English & Thai). Email: gillies18567@hotmail.

POOL VILLA FOR RENT

2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, garden, swimming pool, in a very peaceful and secure compound. Long-term rental only. 45,000 baht per month. This price includes Internet, maid once a week, pool service every 2 weeks, and gardening once a month. Email: aom.phongpan @gmail.com

KATA NEW SEA VIEW APARTMENT

New 1 and 2-bedroom apartments. Long and short terms. Sea view, huge balcony, TV panels, WiFi, free parking. Sea view, pools, gym, expensive furniture inside. Email: osa.com@ me.com The best choice for living! For further details, please see our website at http://cooolrent.com

Accommodation Wanted

POOL VILLA WANTED

Wanted in Rawai/Nai Harn area: 3 bedrooms, fully furnished, secure villa with Western kitchen and pool. Must be in a quiet area. 40,000-50,000 baht permonth, 1month bond, 2-year contract. Tel: 088-760 5003 (English). Email: collettegaleano@gmail.com

VILLA WITH PRIVATE POOL

We are looking for a 2-bedroom villa with private pool from 12 December to 12 January 2014 on Phuket Island. Southwest preferred. +41-79-651 3602 (English). Email: orca_67 @hispeed.ch

Holiday Homes & **Villa Rentals**

VACATION RENTALS KATA BEACH

Superb 1, 2 & 3 bed apartments, holiday rent at Kata Beach. Email: resortgm@ gmail.com

BEACH CONDO / NEW YEAR FREE

2 bed/bath, 134 sqm. Serenity Resort, Rawai. Free Christmas / New Year. From 5,000 baht. Tel: 081-846 7770 (English). Email: stefan@stefan.asia

SERVICED APARTMENT **PATONG**

Fully furnished with swimming pool. daily and monthly special rate now. Tel: 081-894 4730 (English & Thai), 081-892 5983 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-292149. Email: nanaivillaphuket@gmail.

HOUSES:1 OR 2BEDROOMS

Fully furnished, WiFi, cable TV, pool. From 13,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-475 1200 (English & Thai). Email: info@welcome-inn.

Household Help

CAR CLEANER WANTED

Car cleaner wanted to clean the owner's 3 cars and a bike at Surin Beach. Every Mon, Wed and Fri. Pay 6,000 baht a month. Call Khun Maew on 087-891 1385. Email: sonyaklapko@yahoo. com

Household **Items**

3-SEATER-LEATHER RECLINER

3-seater-leather recliner + computer table, good condition. 25,000 baht. Email: Daniel. t.f.ng@va cationclub.com

Household **Services**

PHUKET HOME MAINTENANCE

Renovations, house repairs, painters, tilers, electricians, plumbers, carpenters, built-in construction. Fluent Englishspeaking boss. Free quotes given. Tel: 084-193 5124. Email: phukethomemainte nance@yahoo.com

Live in Town? Place your GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS at iTree Complete Printing Service Tesco Lotus **GAZETTE CLASSADS** - they work Simply write out your ad, because they're PAID! Hundreds of new ads pay and leave it with in print every week, all published simultaneously Khun Nan: (076-255425) and FREE - in the Gazette Online! 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. Then hand it to any of our agents

Then hand it to any or our agoints.
_ _ _ _ (heading)
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Classified ads are charged per line. Each line is 140 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.

Island Job Mart

HOTEL RECEPTIONIST

Thai for Hotel at Nanai Road, must speak English and use computer, good wages and commissions, paid for holidays. Please call for details. Tel: 088-444 7801.

RESTAURANT STAFF REQUIRED

Bang Tao: 1 experienced restaurant/bar manager (western), 2 experienced cashiers (Thai speak English), 4 waitress (Thai speak English). Kata: 1 experienced Thai chef. Tel: 076-390939, 080-693 3346 (English), 086-760 9608 (English) Fax: 076-390938. Email: pauli ackson 381970 @hotmail.com

PROPERTY RENTAL ASSISTANT

Tropical Properties is urgently looking for additional staff to assist with property rentals. Must be able to communicate in English verbal and written (email) and be able to work with Outlook and Office (basic). Experience preferred, Good salary plus commissions. Tel: 076-510954, 087-882 2856 (English). Email: luc@phukettropical-realestate.com

OPERATIONS EXECUTIVE

Bachelor's degree. Experience in Transportation/Hospitality Business. Computer Skills: Excel, Word, Outlook. Communication skills in both verbal and written English. Able to work under pressure. Must have negotiation skills on dynamic condition. Able to work shifts. 3 positions available. Please contact. Tel: 088-181 0372, 091-165 0176. Khun Rungrudee. Email: pgs.admin @phuketground.com for further requirement.

LAW OFFICE สำมัทงานตนายความ 🍩 นาทินตร์ และ เพื่อน

International Law Office, Patong Beach Co. Ltd.

OPEN POSITION

Accountant

Qualifications:

- Thai Nationality
- · Good accounting knowledge and skills
- Knowledge of Accounting Program Quick book 2008
- · 5 years of work experience in accounting
- · Fluency in English (written and spoken)
- · Computer skills

Please send English resume with work experience, references, recent photograph and expected salary to the following email: sam@ilo-phuket.com

International Law Office Patong Beach Co., Ltd.

17/6 Chaofa Road, Taladnuea sub-district, Muang Phuket district, Phuket province Tel: 66-76-222191 to 5 Fax: 66-76-222196

Location Phuket Town, Thailand



Shop Assistants Required

Paul Ropp Thailand Company Limited is now looking for shop assistants to join our team at Paul Ropp Recycle Store . The candidate must have the qualifications as under;

- Good communication skill in English
- Sales skill with experience will be plus
- Good attitude and appearance
- Flexible and able to work under pressure
- Computer literate
- Thai nationality

We offer good salary and commission. If you have above qualification and would like to us, please send your CV to pandhaj@paulropp.com or call us at +66(76)360859

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)

RAWAI

The Network property office (Saiyuan Rd)

KARON

EuroStyle Tailors (Luang Por Chuan Rd)

Tel: 076-282403

Tel: 076-344521-2

Tel: 076-290468

Tel: 076-342275

Tel: 076-232398

Tel: 076-258369

Tel: 076-255425

Tel: 076-325586

Tel: 076-613173

Tel: 076-396911

Tel: 076-282254 Tel: 076-280400

Cook + Waitress for Restaurant in Karon, urgently needed! Tel: 076-396075, 082-270 6385 (English & Thai). Email: tko schig2000@hotmail.com

COOK (EUROPEAN

FOOD) + WAITRES

TEACHING AT PSU

Prince of Songkla University International College, Hatyai Campus is looking for 2 lecturers: information technology lecturer and 3D animation lecturer. Please send cover letter and CV to psuic@psu.ac.th For further details, please see our website at www.uic.psu.

OFFICE ASSISTANT

Thai national, female, 25-40 years old, self-motivated and attention to details, enthusiasm for learning new things, good communication skills in English and good computer literacy (Microsoft Office). Tel: 076-613680, 087-267 3747 (English). Fax: 076-613680. Send CV to helena@phuket abc.com

Zeavola VACANT POSITIONS



Zeavola Resort Phi Phi Island SLH member

The Zeavola is the only 5-star resort on Phi Phi Island and is currently highly successful. In order to improve our performance further, the Zeavola Family is seeking applications from dynamic and talented individuals, who share our passion for providing excellent customer service. You should be highly motivated, confident and enthusiastic about assisting the team to reach new levels of service quality, and financial success.

Island-Based Positions Vacancies

- Room Division Manager / Front Officer Manager
 Restaurant Manager
- Asst. Food & Beverage Manager
- Reservation Supervisor
- Restaurant Captain
- Reservation Manager

Profile:

- ► At least vocational certificate or Bachelor's degree
- At least 3-5 years experience in the field
- Strongly result-oriented with people management and leadership skills Strong English communication skills and computer literate
- Strongly analytical with problem-solving skills and execution of work Benefits:

- Good salary + service charge
 Group insurance, social security, worker's compensation
 Duty meals in staff canteen / officer check at hotel restaurant as per position
- Private dress / uniform laundry Transportation to and from Phuket or Krabi by resort ferry
- ► Accommodation as per position at resort

Please send your CV to hr@zeavola.com or preecha@zeavola.com or call Khun Supattra Petnikom or Khun Preecha Onkong at 075-627000 for an appointment.

Human Resources Department

Resort: 11 Moo 8 Laem Tong, Koh Phi Phi, Ao Nang, Muang, Krabi 81000 Thailand Tel: 075-627000 ext. 1400 or 1401 and Fax: 075-627025

overlooking layan

EXPERIENCED SALES EXECUTIVE

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

- Previous sales experience in luxury property development
- Able to interact with prospective buyers
- Thai or Foreign National

Salary commensurate with experience

Send your resume with recent photo to:

office@thevillasoverlookinglayan.com www.thevillasoverlookinglayan.com

DETOX STAFF

Thai national: experienced detox consultant, OR we can train you in detox. Must speak and write English. Tel: 085-783 0141.Email: info@ phuketfit.com

GUEST RELATIONS

Thai National: work as guest relations in spa/ detox. We will train you. English speaking required. Good salary + benefits! Tel: 081-270 9772. Email: liam@phu ketfit.com

COPYWRITER

Siam Real Estate urgently require an experienced English speaking copywriter to write property listings. Can work from home in own time. Training given, Average listings: 60 per month. Good commissions paid. Tel: 076-288908.Email: richard@siamrealestate.com

WAITRESS WANTED

Thai national, waitress in restaurant. Good salary + benefits! Email: info@phuketfit. com

CHINESE SALES STAFF

Background in sales an advantage, visa documentation and work permit provided for suitable candidates. Please call 9am-4pm, monday-friday. Tel: 076-390939, 087-622 0762.Fax: 076-390938. Email: pauljack son381970@hotmail.com

SALES STAFF NEEDED URGENTLY

A busy Phuket Town gallery requires a Thai national with good spoken English. Excellent salary + commission given. Tel: 086-509 7510. Email: simon@colonial-con nection.com

NURSES TO FINNS

Every year, many elderly Finnish people are coming to Thailand. Some of them need help with their daily activities. If you are interested to work with them, please send your application and CV in English + photo ASAP to virpi.perala@suomi kotiphuket.fi Spoken English skills are required

JOB OPPORTUNITY PHUKET

RMC Client Services are seeking to employ appointment makers / telesales staff in Phuket. The job role will be to arrange appointments for one of our consultants and market the company's services. OTE 80,000 baht per month plus bonuses. Spoken English must be perfect. Email: kevin.hodges @rm c-clientservices.com

Gazette Online Classifieds – 10,000 readers every day!

Island Job Mart

YACHT STEWARDESS

Thai national, 2 females, good English, salary+tips. Tel: 087-384 2743.T Email: info@yachtcharter-thailand.com

DANISH STAFF WANTED

Danish speaking, 20-30 years old, Send your CV and photo to naturejob13@g mail.com

ALMALI RESIDENCE

Needs Supervisor Maid, English speaking required. Good salary. Tel: 091-654 6249. Email: secretary@almalire sidence.com

YACHTC CREW WANTED

Private 62' motor yacht, cruising S.E. Asia, is looking for experienced crew. Please contact by email with short resume. Email: boatcrewwanted@g mail.com

GERMAN TEACHER URGENTLY

German teacher at The Genius Language School, Patong, Phuket. 089-203 9270 (English & Thai), 089-185 5318 (English & Thai). Email: aood 16@hotmail.com

MARKETING ASSISTANT WANTED

English speaking Marketing Assistant with good computer and internet knowledge wanted. Tel: 086-690 0444. Please send CV to rico@ Princessyachtsthailand.com

RECEPTIONIST WANTED

Resort looking for receptionist. Smart, good spoken English 15,000 baht per month + commissions on sales. Tel: 076-398422,080-6988335 (English & Thai), 081-797 8650 (English & Thai). Email: info.resort@manoh ra.net

TWO CHEFS HIRING

Two Chefs are hiring in Kamala, Kata and & Karon. We are hiring Sous Chefs, line chefs, supervisors, bartenders, service. We want both full time and part time. Good salary. Tel: 089-727 5753. Email: jan@twochefs.com For further details, please see our website at www.twochefs.com

MASSAGE THERAPIST ABROAD

Zueri Home massage in Switzerland is looking for 2 massage therapists (female) to work in Switzerland's biggest city. We bring a 5-star spa to guests home. Are you interested? I am in Phuket doing interviews until November 5. Tel: 093-620 2260. Please contact George by phone or send email to info@zuerihomemassage.ch

Phuket Gazette

The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following position:

WEB GRAPHIC / CSS DESIGNER 1 POSITION

- ▶ Thai Nationality
- Minimum one year experience in web design
- Working knowledge of standard graphics tools, e.g. Photoshop, Illustrator
- ► Excellence in web design, CSS, web layout, HTML, template design and JavaScript
- Experience in creating pages for portable devices (iPhone, Windows Phone, BlackBerry, etc) would be a plus
- Excellence in web/mobile user experiences
- ► Knowledge of HTML5 would be a plus
- Knowledge of responsive web design a plus
- Knowledge of JQuery a plus
- ► Knowledge of SEO a plus
- Good communication skills including ability to convey creative concepts and rationale to other team members
- Able to work efficiently under pressure with careful attention to detail

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV to Khun Big (IT Manager), by email, fax or post to:

The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

79/94 Moo 4, Thepkrasattri Rd, T. Koh Keaw, A. Muang Phuket 83000 Tel: 076-273555, ext 705 Fax: 076-615240 Email: Big@phuketgazette.net

ASS'T BRANCH MANAGER 18 K

Assistant Branch Manager required. Salary: 18,000 baht + excellent commissions and benefits. Tel: 085-797 0005 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-264461. Email: ying@phuket pooltables.com

ENGLISH TEACHER URGENTLY NEEDED

At The Genius Language School in Patong. Tel: 076-296029, 089-203 9270 (English). Email: aood16 @hotmail.com

GUEST RELATIONS

English, Korean or Russian speaker+service mind. Salary 12,000-20,000. Dormitory ava. Tel: 085-184 9659 (English), 085-184 9682 (English). Email: tiffany.12321 @hotmail.com

BOOKING & OFFICE STAFF

Diving and tour company is looking for an office and booking staff. This is only for those with experience in a similar position. 12,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-980 7570.Fax:076-282 506. Email: oriental@orien taltours.pl

CUSTOMER RELATIONS REP

Must speak and write English. Thai national. Good Salary. Email: info@phuket fit.com

COOK NEEDED IN KATA

Farang food, 15,000 baht+bonus, work from 12 to 10pm. Tel: 081-370 5855 (English) . Send CV to jad.nahle@ hot mail.com

CALL CENTER

Newly established. Call Center (outbound) in Chiang Mai looking for Dutch, French, German speaking Agents WP+Visa provided after trial period for relocations room provided in first month. Interested applicant, please apply with CV at jobs@cmmd-intl.com

CALL CENTER NEEDS SWISS-GERMAN

We, Intercallservice Company, are seeking a Swiss-German speaking person for our call center in Phuket to support our customers in Switzerland. Good knowledge of French would be an advantage. We offer a 5-day week with Visa and work permit. Tel: 089-873 9123. For further information please contact Mr. Klaus. Email: info@inter callservice.com

CYCLING GUIDE WANTED

Looking for freelance cycling guide. Tel: 084-185 9448 (English). Email: info@andaman naturetours.com

THAI COOK WANTED

In Kata Beach sports bar & restaurant. Good working conditions. Salary + tips. Tel: 080-038 2462 (English), 091-159 0122 (English). Email: gary.mathe son@internode.on.net

The PARADISE KOH YAO

Boutique Beach Resort & Spa

'Island hideaway near Phuket'

The Paradise Koh Yao, a contemporary 70 room boutique resort is located on Koh Yao Noi Island, a 60- minute boat trip from Phuket.

Our eco-chic environment is complemented by our 'conscious living' ethos of barefoot luxury philosophy – NOW complimented with a yoga and a well-being center.

We are looking for superb leaders to join our dynamic team.

YOGA INSTRUCTOR (1 position)

Looking after all aspects of yoga and wellbeing at the resort – teaching 2 yoga classes daily, as well as consulting with guests

- qualified yoga teacher
- previous experience in equivalent property / position
- good communication skills / fluent in English language
- innovative and creative teaching methods
- Thai or foreign national

comprehensive remuneration/incentive package – we are looking for the best team leaders – please send your resume with picture to

gm@theparadisekohyao.com

www.theparadisekohyao.com

www.facebook.com/Paradise.KohYao.Boutique.Beach.Resort

OFFICE MANAGER

Thai male wanted, in Patong, know English and have computer skills. Tel: 081-088 1451

THAITEACHER NEEDED

Qualified Thai teacher wanted for small kindergarten. Email: millingtonjackie@hotmail. com

OPERATIONS MANAGER

Western English speaker, able to understand Thai, maintenance experience. Flexible hours, own car and must have license. Send CV to: phuket villasrental@hotmail.com

KARON CLIFF

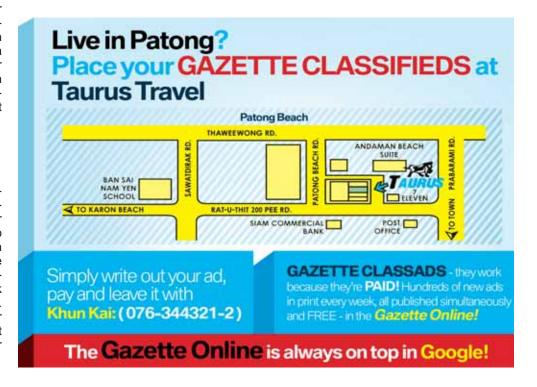
Hostess, maid, engineer, waiter, and kitchen staff wanted. Tel: 087-265 6089.

DIVE SHOP IN KATA

Needs Padi OW Instructor. Teach in English and German. Tel: 089-847 9147.

NURSES TO FINNS

Every year, many elderly Finnish people are coming to Thailand. Some of them need help with their daily activities. If you are interested to work with them, please send your application and CV in English + photo ASAP to virpi.perala@suomi kotiphuket.fi Spoken English skills are required



Looking for a JOB?

Looking for a better candidate?

Find more Recruitment Classifieds at WWW.PhuketGazette.Net!

General Classifieds

Bulletins

Business Opportunities

Alcoholics Anonymous

If you want to drink that is your business

LI YOU WANT Daily Meetings

Patong, Phuket Town, Chalong, Surin, Karon

081-895 4763 084-307 7408

Email: phuketaa@yahoo.com
Google AA Phuket

SPONSOR A CHILD

The Phuket International Women's Club is a volunteer organization raising funds for educational scholarships. We rely on the goodwill of donors and sponsors - small and large. If you would like to put something back into the community in which you live, contact us to find out more about giving a prize or being a sponsor. Please call 087-417 8860, 087-277 6948.

HOTEL FOR RENT

Patong beachfront hotel for rent, 12 guestrooms, close to Holiday Inn. Nice location. Express contact. Tel: 076-340 559.

HOTEL + LAND FOR SALE

31-room hotel with 1.5 rai land in Nanai 2. Special offer 72 million baht. Please call 087-886 5360.

Bar & Restaurant Equipment

COLD ROOM FOR SALE

Ready to work. Maintained every 3 months. Tel: 080-538 4735 or send email: momo f@hotmail.com

PIZZA REFRIGERATOR

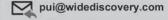
Pizza topping refrigerator, stainless steel, containers. Sale: 45,000 baht. For more information, please call 084-845 4743.



HIGH-QUALITY CAFE EQUIPMENT SALE

Used industry-standard restaurant equipment & furniture. Excellent condition. Only 2 years old. Many more items than listed here. View all in Phuket town. Contact for appointment.

C 081-5375970



Would you like to keep up on what's happening in Phuket - the good, the bad and the bizarre? Let us share it with you - every week!

TO: The Phuket Co Ltd, 79/94 Moo 4, Thepkrasattri Rd T. Koh Kaew, A. Muang, Phuket 83000		
YES, I want to receive the I for a full year - <u>52 issues!</u>	PHUKET GAZETTE To ensure clurity, please airmail. To provide the provided provided to the provided provided to the provided prov	
I hereby authorize payment against my Visa ☐ / Mastercard ☐ Pro not ☐ Thai Baht 1,560 for Phuket Special Delivery (Phuket Island only!) ☐ Thai Baht 2,800 for a domestic subscription (outside Phuket)		
☐ Thai Baht 9,000 for an oversea	as subscription (any country outside Thailand)	
_ _ _ _ _ _ Surname (as appears on card)	_ _ _ _ _ _ Given name(s) (as on card)	
Card #:	_ Exp. Date: Security Code:	
Issuing Bank:	Last 3 digits on back of card	
Signature:	Date:	
E-mail address:		
Please Deliver To:		
Street address		
_ _ _ _ _ _ City	State or Province Zip Code	
Country:		

POPULAR RESTAURANT FOR SALE

This outstanding little restaurant is located on the main beach road in Kamala. Fully equipped kitchen, inside aircon dining area, outside dining area, bar, charcoal BBQ station and a woodfired pizza oven. The cozy, elegant design is very inviting for customers. Google for Grill Bill Kamala! Tel: 081-089 0543 (English). Email: iii_sun ny_iii@yahoo.com

SHOP ON PHI PHI FOR SALE

One-unit shop with three floors and roof-top terrace. 8 years remaining on lease. Great location on T junction in the center of town. Please call 081-719 3375 (English) or email for details at phil price@hotmail.co.uk

GUESTHOUSE RESORT

Sale or long-term rent. Also 3-bedroom villa, 2 bathrooms, pool, quiet Soi, 18,000 baht per month. Must be seem to much to list. Tel: 081-808 1804. Email: ttpitstop1@ hotmail.com

MASSAGE SHOP FOR SALE

Chalong near Tiger Muay Thai, all fixtures and fittings included. Rent: 11,000 baht per month. Quick sale: 200,000 baht. Tel: 084-778 8230. Email: cheetham1980 @hotmail.com

RESTAURANT FOR RENT



Fully furnished restaurant for rent. Professionally equipped kitchen. 30-35 seats. Tel: 076-290402, 089-593 0307. Fax: 076-290401. Email: info@siampalmresiden ce.com

BAR FOR SALE PATONG

Good location, stock, 2 TVs, 2 fridges, approx 50 seating, great investment, walk in walk out. Relocating. 1.1 million baht. Tel: 080-536 8630.

BAKERY & RESTAURANT FOR RENT

3 years on contract or more. Ao Nang, Krabi, great location amidst lush garden surroundings. Full furniture and equipment, ready to move in. Please call 086-270 8223, 087-887 7857.

RESTAURANT CHERNG TALAY

1 rai, new premises, near by road, opposite Cherng Talay Soi 16, long-term rent. Please call 081-918 1071 (English). Email: boonguea @hotmail.com

HOTEL SALE FREEHOLD

21 quality rooms, nothing to spend. 2 large penthouses, 85% occupancy. 40 million baht freehold. Please call 086-601 1196. Fax: 076-296129. Email: kellyshotel phuket@hotmail.com, www. kellyshotelphuket.com

BALI MARINE INVESTMENT

Blue Water Express, Bali's premium fast boat ferry operator, is looking for an investor or buyer. Well-run, profitable, ready for expansion. Tel: 092-516 2650 (English). Email: erikvds@yahoo.com For further details about the company, please visit our website at www.bluewaterexpress.com

RESORT FOR LEASE



In the heart of Patong. 20 rooms, well furnished, fully operational with very good occupancy rates. 6-year lease for 6 million baht + rental fee 150,000 baht per month. Please call 088-765 0165.

UNIQUE OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

Unique retail space for rent, at The BOX Park in Cherng Talay. Space of 30sqm with a little balcony. Highly visible for all traffic, aircon, parking, SCB ATM, coffee shop. 12,000 baht per month. Tel: 085-797 0005 (English & Thai). Email: ying@phuket pooltables.com

BUSINESS PARTNERS WANTED

Global web-based business opportunity with unique, clinically-proven patches with immediate effect on pain stress, insomnia, improved energy and anti-aging. Technology approved in all EUcountries for hospitals. Business packages US\$ 499 to US\$ 1,500, including business center, products, brochures and visa account. Ideal for expats, therapists, networkers and everyone looking for a minimal investment opportunity with nolimit income potential. Full training and support. Write for info. Please call 085-059 1460. Email: midaz66@ya hoo.dk

PIZZERIA FOR SALE



Well running Italian restaurant and pizzeria with wood fired oven for sale in Khao Lak. 3 million baht, no key money, monthly pay rental, prime location, including all equipment. Tel: 076-484645, 084-058 8804, 084-629 7767 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-410624. Email: stardustbar@hotmail.com

INCREDIBLE PROJECT INVESTMENT

Luxury project for sale. 50% process done. Only 5 million baht. Tel: 080-891 1611. Email: aopoproject@gmail.com

BAR & GRILL NAI YANG

Bar & Grill, Nai Yang Beach. 160sqm with seating for 40. Only 70m from beach. Everything included. 900,000 baht. Offers considered. Tel: 084-852 4257 (English). Email: bobcoppage@yahoo.com

RESTAURANT FOR SALE IN CHALONG

Indoor-outdoor equipped. Rent: 5,000 baht per month. Sale: 150,000 baht. For more details, please call 082-807 9312.

FREE BIRD BAR IN NAI HARN FOR SALE

Great location, 3 TVs, 2 pool tables, seating 60 pax, includes fully equipped beauty salon, parking: 10 vehicles, 8 years left on lease. Sale: 1.8 million baht. Negotiable! Tel: 087-884 8972, 087-892 6204, 087-244 1322 (Thai).

GUESTHOUSE + RESTAURANT FOR RENT



4 storeys: restaurant on the first floor, 7-room guesthouse on the 2nd to 4th floor. 10 minutes from Patong Beach. Please call 076-345604, 084-189 3509, 089-971 3301.

General Classifieds

Business Products & Services

NEW CARDIO TENNIS

Ditch the gym, grab your racket. Non stop 60-minute fun workout with music. Only 300 baht per person. Lessons hitups also available. Tel: 090-706 6674, 090-071 7163. Your court or ours. Please visit our website at www.tennisjuniorpro.com

CHRISTMAS PRESENT

Train model. 1:22.5 scale, steam locomotive with sound, 2 passenger cars, 100ft of tracks. For more information, call 091-040 8869.

HOTEL BOOKING LIST SERVICE

Hotel registration and monitoring on Agoda, Sawadee and Booking. com For more information, please call 083-394 5863. Email: tperke@ googlemail.com

WORLDWIDE AIR TICKETS

Our service is for domestic and international flight tickets. Open daily from 8.30am to 9pm. Delivery service. Tel: 081-537 2655, 085-571 4489. Email: smileticket@hot mail.com

BUDS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL & **KINDERGARTEN**

Phuket's oldest international child care facility. High-quality, time-proven schedule and curriculum. Now in brandnew purpose-built school. Experienced native English teachers to teach ages 1.5-10. Monday-Friday 8am-5pm. Bus service available from Patong, Karon, Kata, Phuket, Rawai and Chalong. Tel: 076-384638, 080-624 7060 (English), 087-278 5511 (Thai), www.budsphuket.com

MASSAGE THERAPY AT YOUR PLACE

Thai traditional massage: 500 baht per hour. Aromatherapy massage: 1,000 baht per hour. Call for reservations. Open daily 9am-10pm. Tel: 092-464 8471.

THE KIDS CLUB **SOFT OPENING**

Soft opening on Thursday, 28th November 2013. 10am-7pm. Entrance fee: 200 baht per child per day & 50 baht per adult per day. Socks must be worn at all times. Our bar and kitchen will have some ongoing work on site but will not affect the play area. Staff wanted also. Thai national with good English speaking, reading, writing. Tel: 076-341310, 082-289 5809. Email: iw7@hotmail.com

Club Memberships Available

BLUE CANYON

Family for 820,000 baht. Includes transfer. Tel: 089-868 6842. Email: nagel.klaus@ web.de

GOLF MEMBERSHIP

At Phuket Country Club. For sale: 540,000 baht, free transfer, Tel: 083-176 2855 (English), 085-730 2214 (Thai).

EXCEPTIONAL

For sale: Life membership, Loch Palm Golf. Offers around 400,000 baht net. Please call 089-288 7717 (English). Email: asmailphu ket@gmail.com

BLUE CANYON GOLF MEMBERSHIP

Lifetime family membership in Phuket's most prestigious golf course. Includes transfer fee of baht 140,000. Email: jerdek56-asia@yahoo. com or call/sms 081-891 3051 (English & Thai). Serious offers only.

BLUE CANYON MEMBERSHIP

Life membership available. Tel: 084-349 2325. Email: peter@lifecartoons.com

Rings, Watches & **Jewelry**

TISSOT SEA-TOUCH

Very nice watch, original box, manual, orange strap. 14,000 baht. Tel: 091-040 8869.

Tablet Computers

IPAD 3 RETINA 64GB CEL+WIFI

iPad 3 with Retina, 64GB, Cellular and WiFi. Top condition. Apple Store: 25,900 baht. My price: 17,900 baht. Tel: 081-088 7980.

Miscellaneous For Sale **Education**

ENGLISH-SPEAKING TUTOR

English Speaking Tutor required 2 mornings a week for homeschool program - curriculum provided. Tel: 087-904 7113 (English). Email: akede ya@hotmail.com

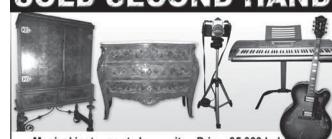
ARE YOU READY?

Hire us to deliver professional business English workshops to your staff at your place of work, using a curriculum that is customized to your business needs. 90-minute workshops: 1.500 baht. Private tutor: 750 baht per hour. Free consultations. Tel: 081-827 5574.

TEACHER LOOKING FOR JOB

American native English speaker looking for longterm employment in international school -Bachelor's degree & TEFL & Lifeguard Instructor. Private lessons available: Young children or business professionals. Tel: 092-371 4898 (English & Thai). Email: mayfieldlm@gmail.com

SOLD SECOND



- Musical instrument. Jazz guitar. Price: 35,000 bah
- Keyboard: Casio. Price: 25,000 baht. · Vintage French-style bookcase. Price: 170,000 baht.
- · Showcase. Price: 180,000 baht. · Camera: Asabipeniax. Price: 20,000 baht.

Please contact 081-667 1637 (Thai), Khun JP 082-539 6433 (English)

Shop **Equipment**

DEEP FREEZER BOX

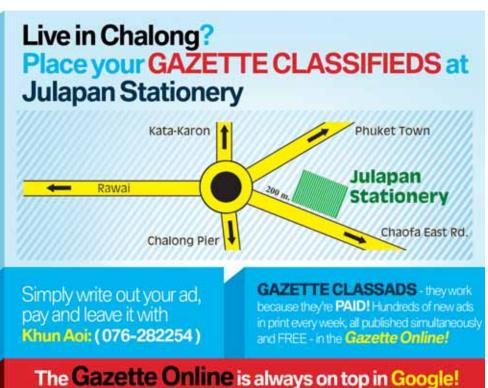
Sanyo. 80 x 60cm, 85 H, about 300 L. On 4 wheels Beige / gray. Price at Makro 9,000 baht. For sale: 4,000 baht. Tel: 076-354444, 089-729 1113 (English). Email: richard_melen@hot mail.com

Television Sets

SATELLITE TV

Satellite TV Thailand. We provide all sorts of satellite TV, including HD satellite service. You can order on line. We ship cash on delivery anywhere in Thailand. We also accept Paypal for international orders. Tel: 080-694 0663 (English & Thai), 089-821 3772. Email: sales @thailandpropertys.com







Wheels & Motors

Saloon Cars

HONDA CRV 2.0 MODEL 2002



145,000km, V-Tec engine, excellent condition. For sale: 315,000 baht. Please call 090-864 8726. Email: kip.macgre gor@gmail.com

2006 HONDA CITY ZX

For sale. 2006 Honda City ZX, Silver, 4-door, automatic, 130,000 km. Price: 275,000 baht. Contact Jo Wasana. Tel: 089-716 0265. Email: jowasana@yahoo.com

2003 TOYOTA VIOS S

120,000km only. New MP3 stereo and tyres. Full factory extras. 280,000 baht. Tel: 082-423 1247 (English).

SALE YARIS S 2006

Full options, Toyota service. For sale: 320,000 baht. Negotiable! For more information, please call 081-968

TOYOTA CAMRY VI 2.4 WTI VSC



Luxus model Toyota Camry VI-2.4i, 16V WTi VSC (167hp) AT - (only 77,000km). Integrated GPS navigation system. DVD. Bluetooth handfree mobile connection. Speed control, Antispin system, outdoor censors & rear camera. Leather and wood interior. Tel: 088-445 2800 (English). Email: fillip.moeller@ hotmail.com

DAEWOO AND MIRA **LEAVING SALE**

Daewoo Espero, automatic transmission in running condition. Sale: 65,000 baht. Daihatsu Mira manual, comes with TV and DVD player. Quick sale at 69,000 baht. Tel: 086-810 2683.

SIVER PROTON SAGA 1.3



Year 2011, automatic, 1 owner, 15,000km with insurance. Sale: 300,000 baht. Tel: 086-476 9612.

SALE-WILLYS JEEP 285.000 BAHT

Blue book, insurance until July 2014, new tyres, new brakes, new steering wheel, new springs, sell due to family reasons. For more information, please call 080-055 4003, 081-496 6277 (English). Email: dietmar.spitzer @mail.com

TOYOTA CORONA

color, good interior, automatic window, power steering. For more information, please call 084-184 1856 (English).

HONDA CIVIC MY09



4 door, E i-VTEC SA Ssp FWD 1.8i (ASL), year 2008. White color. Sale now: 670,000 baht with insurance, benzine and LPG. 1.800CC. Please call 086-476 9612. Email: jessy.bunto@gmail. com

HONDA CIVIC 2006

Sale Honda Civic 1.8 E (A) AS, silver/blue color, V-Tec, 123,000km, top condition, serviced by Honda, accident free, private used only. Price: 580,000 baht. Tel: 086-518 6880 (English), 089-990 4625 (Thai). Email: harryvo igt8@gmail.com

HONDA JAZZ 1.4 2008 FOR SALE

Black, Mugen style, 55,000 km. Automatic. Good condition. 435,000 baht from Scandinavian owner. Please call 087-001 1098 (Thai), 087-498 3407 (English).

78,000 BAHT

In very good condition, white



Motorbikes

BMW R1200GS & BMW 650GS FOR SALE

BMW R1200GS, year 2007, excellent condition, new price: 1.2 million baht, sale now: 645,000 baht. BMW F650GS, like new condition, 2007, new price: 700,000 baht, sale: 345,000 baht, includes new BMW panniers. Contact Mike by phone 081-787 1752 (English) or send email to mjoneilluk@yahoo. co.uk

DUCATI SF848 IMPECCABLE

Only 18 months young, 3,200km. Perfect condition, still under warranty. Many carbon parts. Sale: 750,000 baht. For more information, please call 086-120 1290 (English). Email: c_ronse@ yahoo.com

Pick-ups

FORD RANGER 245,000 BAHT

Good condition all round. New clutch, new cam belt, injectors and pump recently serviced. Tel: 083-507 3064 (English). Email: maff@fs mail.net

MITSUBISHITRITON 2012

GLX double cab, 17,000km, 4-door, Mitsubishi serviced warranty to 2015. Perfect. Price: 525,000 baht. Tel: 084-746 8607.

2012 TOYOTA VIGO PRERUNNER

Champ Prerunner, 3.0L 15,000km, manual, turbo diesel, black, leather interior. Price: 790,000 baht. For more information, please call 084-625 8225 (English), 088-824 5325 (English). Email: Liquidpooldesign@big pond.com

VESPALX 125 IE



Excellent condition, only 12,000km, must sell 69,000 baht. Patong. For more information, please call 087-893 1753.

KAWA VULCAN 900CC SPECIAL EDITION

900cc Kawasaki Vulcan special edition. Black color, 20,000km, 26 months old. Full service history. Very good condition. Green book, Phuket registration. 350,000 baht. Email: my.vulcan.is. yours@gmail.com

2012 HONDA CBR250R ABS-FOR SALE

Black CBR250 R, 13,000km, full service history. Good condition. Sale: 75,000 baht o.n.o. Please call 080-978 3102. Email: mikesaintclaire @gmail.com

Rentals

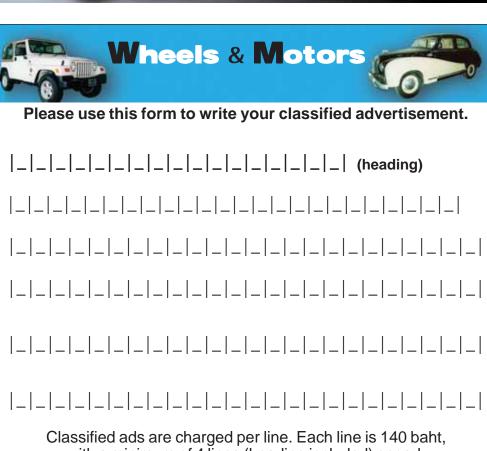
PHUKET CHEAP CARS FOR RENT

Short or long-term rent. For more details, please call 083-174 3880.

CAR RENTAL @ FAIR PRICES

We offer long-term and short-term car rental. One year rental starts from 12,000 baht monthly. Please ask for offer. Tel: 085-655 2613 (English & Thai), 084-847 4377 (English). Email: info@thaidreams.se





with a minimum of 4 lines (heading included) per ad.

All advertising must be paid for in advance.



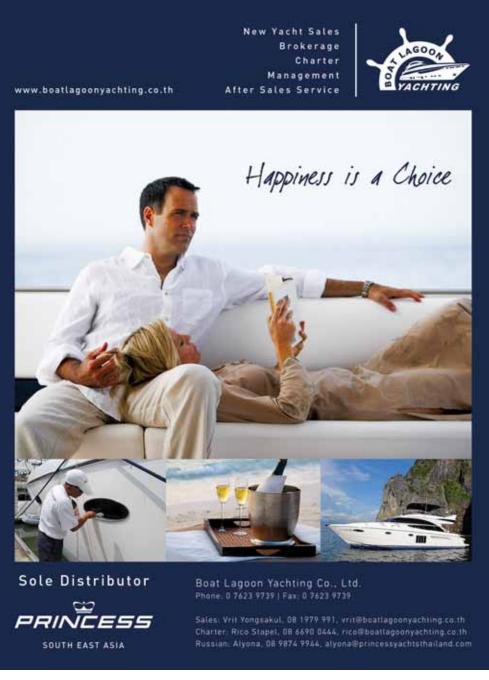
Simply write out your ad, pay and leave it with Khun Anand: 076-396911 081-536 5550

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

The Gazette Online is always on top in Google!

Boats & Marine





SELLING YOUR BOAT?

With high season just around the corner, now is the right time to get her listed, Boatshed phuket.com are always looking for new listings, big or small, power or sail, to meet the demand for quality boats. Contact Alan Giles. Tel: 084-842 6146. Email: alangiles@boat shedphuket.com

SEAHORSE MARINE 36' TRAWLER

2007. Cummins 270Hp diesel, aircon, generator. Great little boat! US\$ 99,950. For details contact Alan Giles. Boatshedphuket.com Tel: 084-842 6146. Email: alan gies@boatshedphuket.com

FOR SALE: HOBIE BRAVO 12'

Fantastic little Hobie Catamaran. Great for kids and adults wanting a fun dinghy boat responsive in light wind. Length 12'. Sail area: 86sqf/8sqm. Email jezntat@gmail.com or call our Thai mobile: 086-685 9359, or to Singapore: 65-977 38457.

1989 BERTRAM 505 CONVERT

Long range, fully equipped sportfishing yacht for sale. Price: 7 million baht. Tel: 087-834 5293. Email: info@the bigblues.com

13 METRE CRUISER

Wooden hull cruiser registered for 17 people. Cost 1.6 million baht, but will sell for 700,000 baht. Just refurbished. Tel: 082-414 6931 (English). Email: phil@krabikon nect.com For further details, please see our website at www.krabikonnect.com/#!boat-for-sale/c10mg

THAI WOODEN BOAT

36ft, Isuzu 110hp, radio, Furuno Fish Finder. 300,000 baht. Tel: 083-102 7801.

46FT YACHT FOR SALE



This offshore power cruiser 'Wild Thing' is perfect for Thai waters with a shallow draft because of the use of Arneson surface drives. She has diesel engines that use 60Ltr each while cruising at 35 knots. Using two 480Hp Volvo TAMD 75 EDC engines driving ASD8 Dropbox surface drives with 6-blade Rolla SS props through two 300 twin-speed transmissions, she can do about 25 knots in first gear and accelerate to 44 knots in second gear. Tel: 081-842 3961. For further details, please see our website at www.phuket butler.com/wild-thing.html

SAILING CATAMARAN



Epoxy Duracore Radical Bay for sale in Samui, hardly used, will take 1.4 million baht, includes trailer, perfect for charter or personal use, safe, light and fast. Tel: 081-894 0339 (English). Email: hilltribe@ poppiessamui.com

NEW KARNIC 1851

Deep V Hull, 90hp lean-burn, 4-stroke Suzuki O/B. Bimini and trailer. 999,950 baht + VAT. Now in stock at our Boat Lagoon Showroom. For details contact Alan Giles. Andaman Boat Sales. Tel: 087-283 1674. Email: boats@anda manboatsales.com

RIB CHOLAMARK 6M 140HP

Cholamark, 6m, engine Yamaha 140hp 2st 270h, trailer launch, GPS simrad cp 31, Fishfinder garmin. Perfect maintenance. Tel: 087-266-7209 (English & Thai). Email: alain.gt59@gmail. com

19 FEET BAYLINER BOAT

200hp mercury (EFI) includes trailer, cover and anchor, Blue book. Engine Mercury. Body: 180,000 baht and trailer: 80,000 baht, all together: 240,000 baht. Tel: 086-948 0095 (English & Russian).

BENETEAU OCEANIS 48 (2013)

Yanmar Diesel with dock and Go System. Presents as new. Euro 295,000. For details, please contact Alan Giles. Boatshedphuket.com Tel: 084-842 6146. Email: alan giles@boatshedphuket.com

Lambert Brothers Insurance Brokers Boat insurance quotations from different insurers Competitive rates Comprehensive coverage

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

All other types of

NEW BOAT SR-21 FOR SALE

SR-21. Price: 375,000 baht. We also produce 18-37ft boats. SR Marine, Phuket and Pattaya. Tel: 081-782 0921. Email: samran marine@live.com

ANTI-PIRACY TASK FORCE

Bespoke anti-piracy solutions for your yacht and crew, specialized in the Gulf of Aden. Security task force on board your yacht. Sail west with confidence. Tel: +1-954-762 7470. Email: asia.maritime. safety@gmail.com

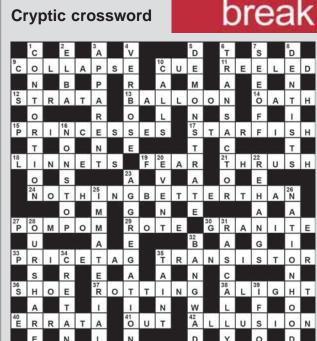




28ft, registered for 15 passengers. 200hp V6 Mercury motor, only 240 hours, recently totally restored. Perfect for snorkeling, diving trips, island hopping or water taxi. Navigation system + fishfinder. 5hp spare motor. Boat and motor in very good condition. Located at Boat Lagoon. Priced for quick sale at 330,000 baht. Tel: 086-747 9292. Email: claud strey@gmail.com







General Classifieds

Aircraft For Sale



UNIQUE RECREATIONAL AIRCRAFT (TRIKE - FLYING BOAT) FOR SALE!

Made in Italy - POLARISMOTOR.IT New model, 34 hours, all standard instruments

http://youtu.be/uRjli6ddzM8

FIB Polaris 582, Rotax engine High speed, variometer, compass, and engine temp gauge Wooden propeller, 3 blades (not the simple 2 blade) Wing: 19 sq meters, original from Polaris Tachometer, Lynx intercom headsets Hour meter, Exhaust temp gauge Electric starter / propeller gearbox Digital instruments, 2 helmets and trailer included Everything is original (34 hours)









Call Andy @ Phuket Airpark : +66 (0) 840-605 842

Price: 24,000 Euros (negotiable) ★ thephuketflyingclub@gmail.com

General Aviation

- Aircraft for Sale
- Aircraft Wanted
- Aircraft Sharing
- Aviation Services
- Aircraft Charter
- Flying Lessons

Please use this form to write your classified advertisement.

|_|_|_|_| (heading)

Classified ads are charged per line. Each line is 140 baht, with a minimum of 4 lines (heading included) per ad.

All advertising must be paid for in advance.

HAVE A PASSION FOR AVIATION?

If you have an aircraft for sale or an interest in aviation and wish to learn how to fly or buy an aircraft or arrange a private flight, etc. Website: www.aeropromgr.com/ newsletter

TECNAM P-92

- Price: 1.5 million baht
- Registration: U-B08
- Year of Manufacture: 2002
- Equipment: Full standard equipment
- Engine: Rotax 912-80HP 350hrs. Tel: 081-840 8418.

AIRPLAY ALTIS MICROLIGHT

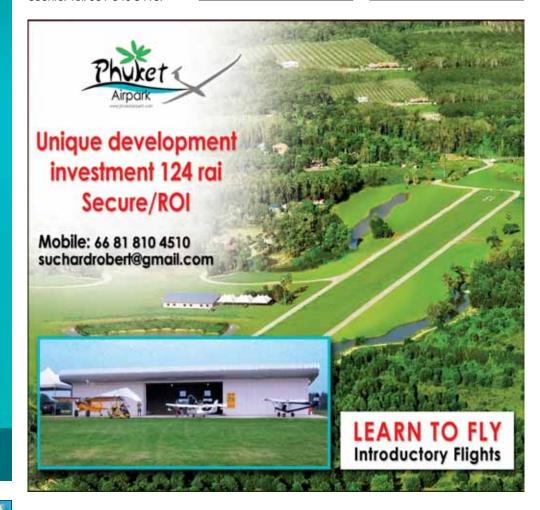
Superb trike with Konig radial engine. Great economical fun. Little used. Please contact for more information. Tel: 089-111 6457 (English & Thai), 081-397 7598 (English & Thai). Email: kajoda1954@yahoo.co.uk

YOUR HELICOPTER

Flying and owning your own helicopter has just become possible. Free complete flight instruction course with your purchase. Email: pat@ aeropromgr.com

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, KX 155 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









Phuket Governor Maitree Inthusut (standing next to bride, top left photo) presided over the wedding of Mrs Papassara & Mr Bundit Kerdvongbundit on November 12, 2013 at Royal Phuket City Hotel.



FAREWELL PARTY



Peter Komposch (center) was General Manager of Dusit Thani for five years. He will move on to his next adventure soon, so it's the time to say farewell and good luck to him and his

REGENT PHUKET CAPE PANWA WELCOMES MISS THAILAND UNIVERSE 2009



General Manager Regent Phuket Cape Panwa Brice Borin (middle) extends a warm welcome to Chutima Chantelle Durongdej (left) Dan Hetrakul (right) during their recent stay at Regent Phuket Cape Panwa.

TRISARA WINE DINNER



From left: Trisara Food and Beverage Manager Mr Narathip Vongpattamas; Chateau Palmer Wine Ambassador Mr Bernard de Laage de Meux; Trisara Hostess Ms Meena Chobngam and Trisara General Manager Mr Antoine Melon.

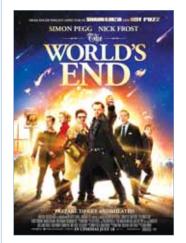
WARM WELCOME



A Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) delegation received a very warm welcome from Millennium Resort Patong, Phuket, General Manager Mr Gerard Tan (front row center) and Assistant Director of Sales, Ms Praisie Huang (the front row long sleeve light blue shirt) during the group's recent visit to the island.

Now playing

THE WORLD'S END

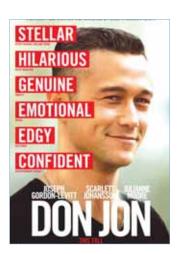


Starring: Simon Pegg, Nick Frost, Martin Freeman, Paddy Considine, Rosamund Pike Director: Edgar Wright Genres: Action, Comedy, Sci-Fi Premieres: November 28

20 years after attempting an epic pub crawl, five childhood friends reunite when one of them becomes hell bent on trying the drinking marathon again. They are convinced to stage an encore by mate Gary King, a 40-year old man trapped at the cigarette end of his teens, who drags his

reluctant pals to their home town and once again attempts to reach the fabled pub, The World's End. As they attempt to reconcile the past and present, they realize the real struggle is for the future, not just theirs but humankind's. Reaching The World's End is the least of their worries.

DON JON



Starring: Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Scarlett Johansson, Julianne Moore, Tony Danza Director: Joseph Gordon-Levitt Genres: Comedy, Drama Premieres: November 28

A New Jersey guy dedicated to his family, friends, and church, develops unrealistic expectations from watching porn and works to find happiness and intimacy with his potential true love.

RUAM PHON KHON LOOK TUNG NGUEN LAAN



Starring: Paowari Phonphimon, Phai Pongsathorn, Ying Li Si Chumphon, Apaporn Nakornsawan, Kratae and many other Many famous Thai country singers. Director: Pink Gun

Hongrattanaporn Genre: Comedy, Musical Premieres: November 28

Famous Thai Country (Look Tung) singers head to an upcountry temple to join in on a grand 'merit making' effort. A love triangle emerges along the way...





NOVEMBER 30

3340 BC Earliest known record of a solar eclipse.

1872 The first-ever international football match took place.

1934 First locomotive officially exceeded 100mph.

1966 Barbados became independent from the United Kingdom.

1982 Michael Jackson's Thriller was released worldwide. 1995 Official end of Operation Desert Storm.



NEON 1910 Photo: Lestat (Jan Mehlich)



KING 1954 Photo: pointnshoot

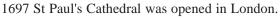
DECEMBER 1

1885 Soft drink Dr Pepper was served for the first time. 1913 Ford Motor Company introduced the first moving assembly line. 1963 Nagaland became the 16th state of India.

1981 AIDS was officially recognized.

1990 Channel Tunnel sections started from the UK and France meet

DECEMBER 2



1804 Napoleon Bonaparte crowned himself Emperor of the French.

1939 New York City's La Guardia Airport opened.

1971 The United Arab Emirates formed. 1976 Fidel Castro became President of Cuba.

1993 Colombian drug lord Pablo Escobar was shot and killed.



ECLIPSE 3340 BC Photo: sancho_panza



ELPRESIDENTE 1976 Photo: Marcelo Montecino

DECEMBER 3

1818 Illinois became the 21st US state.

1910 Modern neon lighting was first demonstrated.

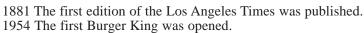
1959 The current flag of Singapore was adopted.

1967 The first heart transplant was carried out.

1976 An assassination attempt was made on Bob Marley.

1984 Bhopal disaster in India killed more than 3,800 people.

DECEMBER 4



1980 English rock group Led Zeppelin officially disbanded.

1991 Pan Am went bankrupt and ceased operations.



SINGAPORE 1959



TRANSPLANT 1967 Photo: Chernface141

DECEMBER 5

1766 In London, James Christie held his first sale. 1932 Albert Einstein was granted an American visa. 1933 Prohibition in the United States ended. 1945 Flight 19 was lost in the Bermuda Triangle.

DECEMBER 6

1768 The first edition of the Encyclopedia Britannica was published. 1877 The first edition of the Washington Post was published. 1897 London became the world's first city to host licensed taxicabs. 1953 Vladimir Nabokov completed his controversial novel Lolita.



DOCTOR 1885 Photo: cyclonebill

WHAT'S ON in Phuket

Nov 30, 8pm to late, Blue Party 2013 by Andaman Cruises

Phuket's yachting scene is looking forward to Andaman Cruises' annual celebration called the "Blue Party". The stylish event will be featured by DJ Romain Pelletti and take place at Ao Po Grand Marina on Saturday, November 30, 2013 from 8pm until late. Guests will be able to explore Phuket's Most Exciting & Stylish Contemporary Yachts and enjoy great dancing on the pier to the sounds of the DJ. Entry is free and there's a welcome drink and complimentary finger foods until 10pm. Cocktails, beers and wines will be available at the cash bar.

Nov 30, Thanyapura Junior **Challenge Triathlon 7am-12pm** As part of the Challenge Laguna Phuket Tri-Fest 2013, the Thanvapura Junior Challenge will be hosted by the Thanyapura Triathlon Academy. This triathlon event will give opportunities to the participating young athletes to experience the world class sports facilities at Thanyapura, including our 50m Olympic standard outdoor pool with biking and running routes set within the surrounding nature of Khao Phra Thaew National Park. Contact Julie Wang on 076-336 000 or email sportcamp@thanyapura.com, for more information see: thanyapura.com

Dec 1-6, 27th Phuket King's Cup Regatta, 6am-10pm

Recognized throughout the Eastern Hemisphere as the premier sailing event of its kind, the 27th Phuket King's Cup Regatta will host a week of incredibly close racing in the beautiful Andaman Sea



from December 1-6, 2013.

Dec 1, Challenge Laguna Awards - After Party, 10:30pm-1:30am XANA beach club is hosting two after parties for Laguna Phuket's 20th Triathlon. The Challenge Laguna Awards After Party on Sunday, December 1, will see the triathletes celebrating their sporting achievements in style, with entertainment provided by DJ Nemo Cools. Admission is free, and open to all, and those attending the awards will also receive a free drink token to be redeemed at XANA against beer, glasses of house wine and cocktails on arrival. For more information, contact Annabel Fox on +66-76-324101 or see the website: xanabeachclub.com

Dec 5, His Majesty the King's **Birthday**

HM The King's 86th Birthday. Also marked as Father's Day in Thailand.

Dec 6-8, 6-10pm, North Phuket **Culinary Arts Festival 2013**

December 6: North Phuket's longest dining table at SALA Phuket Resort and Spa and Renaissance Phuket Resort & between the two luxury resorts. **December 7**: Anantara Phuket Villas and Anantara Vacation Club present "Infinity Sunset Grill" with Thai cuisine over the Andaman Sea for Thailand's most stunning sunset.

December 8: JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa "The Best of the West vs the Feast from the East Buffet", a bounty of sophisticated tastes from the JW Marriott's 11 restaurants and bars stations for you to savor!

Dec 7, Beach Volleyball Fun Day with BISP, 1-6 pm

The event is open to children aged 11+ and adults, and no experience is necessary! Sign-up is from 1-2pm, with the tournament taking place from 2.30-5.30pm. Those participating can sign up as an individual or as a team of six (mixed teams of students and adults). Children under 11 can join 'Football Fun Activities' on the day, and do not need to pre-register. The event will also feature a special BBQ buffet - priced at just 590 baht ++ per person (with children eating at half price). Contact Annabel Fox on +66-76-32410or info@xanabeachclub.com or

Presented by Chor Creative Organizers.

Dec 12, Phuket International Women's Club Christmas Lunch, 12:00-2:30 pm

The ever popular Christmas lunch is once again at Twin Palms. This event fills up quickly, so prior booking is essential. Members: 1,000 baht; guests: 1,200 baht. For booking call + 66-76-316711 or email info@phuketiwc.com or visit phuketiwc.com The Phuket Gazette and PGTV's 'Phuket Today' show, (broadcast locally on PC, RC and KDTV cable networks, nationally on TrueVision 85 and 59, GMMZ and PSI, and internationally to over 100 countries around the region.) are proud long term sponsors of The Phuket International Women's Club.

Dec 16-18, 6-11:30pm, Asia **Superyacht Rendezvous**

The Asia Superyacht Rendezvous is a prestigious invitationonly event for superyacht owners, captains and their VIP guests. This year's event takes place December 16-18 at Kata Rocks. The annual Rendezvous is proudly sponsored by the Phuket Gazette, PGTV, and the 'Phuket Today' show, broadcast locally on PC, RC and KDTV cable networks, nationally on TrueVision 85 and 59, GMMZ and PSI, and internationally to over 100 countries.



17th Andaman Motor Show

Do not miss the 17th Andaman

Motor Show, which is the best

motor fair in Phuket. The event

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accessories, and finance options,

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visitors to this show. Not only

will you be with a superstar,

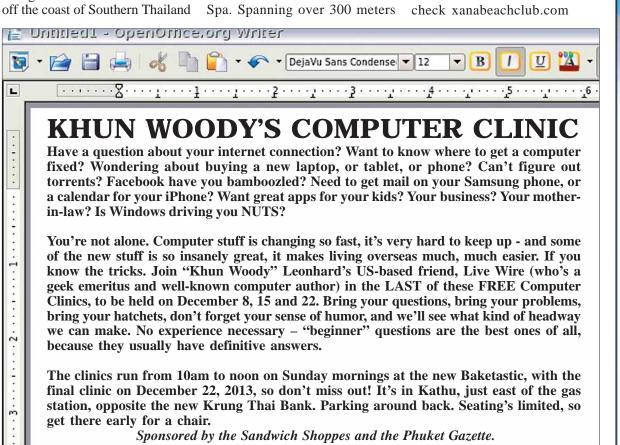
beautiful cars and pretty girls,

but you'll be able to join the

Andaman Photo Contest 2013

free of charge, with prizes

worth up to 30,000 baht.





Forever in blue

By Kanyawarat Pramprasert

IN TRIBUTE to the timeless fashion staple of jeans, Jungceylon department store in Patong recently hosted a fashion show dubbed: "I go Jeans Club Culture Concept".

Many top brands joined this mini fashion show, including Pepe Jeans London, Levi's, Lee, Mc Jeans, Wrangler and GAP.

Jeans provide a simple and casual look that is easy to mix and match. They're popular among both women and men, and worn on a variety of occasions. The jeans' uniqueness stems from its blue shade, made from denim or dungaree. It was Jacob David and Levi Strauss who invented them in 1873, originally with the American West cowboy in mind.

Jeans are timeless and never go out of fashion. Nowadays, there are various fits, including skinny, tapered, slim, straight, boot cut, narrow bottom, low waist, anti-fit and flare. Colored jeans designers have tried to make Jeans to meet different lifestyles by creating colorful denim, allowing more options for personalizing outfits and providing some more variety. Denim is not limited to trousers or shorts; it can be cut and shaped into various fashion items such as skirts, bags, dresses and more.

So join in the jeans fever this season and liven up your style with a modern yet classic Jeans item.



If there's one thing you have to have in your wardrobe, it's a pair of blue jeans. Photos: Supplied.

Wash them out

THERE are many ways to break-in a pair of dry jeans. But if you follow these guidelines you will get the best results:

Start with a pair of dry Nudie Jeans. For best results, choose heavy dry denim, 13 oz or more. The dry fabrics in lighter weights and stretch won't allow for the same strong abrasions and contrasts, and the fabric is not as strong as the heavyweight denims. Black denim does not have the same capacity to fade as indigo dyed jeans.

Wear your jeans everyday for at least six months. The longer you wear them, the more character and attitude they acquire.

Rub with a damp cloth if you need to remove

If you need to get rid of a smell, hang your jeans outside on a sunny and windy day. Additionally, you can turn them inside out, shaking them well.

When it's finally time to wash your well-worn jeans, turn them inside out and wash at 40 or 60 degrees Celsius. Stretch the inseam while the jeans are damp. Hang dry, don't tumble.

If you wash the jeans too early, the indigo just bleeds out over the whole garment, producing an even, dark indigo color.



Jeans can make one rough and tough, yet casually cool.





Plunging in before big splash in Bollywood

Diving

By Isaac Stone Simonelli

WITH her head down and pencil scribbling out numbers for a dive profile, it's hard to believe that the woman on the far side of Scuba Cat's *Scuba Fun* is about to make a big splash – not in the dive industry, but in Bollywood.

Manasvi Mamgai, Miss India 2010 and Elite Model Management recruit, is about to debut in her first Bollywood blockbuster, *Action Jackson*. But right now, double-checking her surface interval for a multi-level dive plan appears to be the only thing on her mind.

A tragedy on the set for one of her co-stars for a different film put a halt to workshops for Action Jackson, and Manasvi jumped at the chance for a spontaneous diving holiday to Phuket.

"I realized that once I get on the project, there is no way Prabhu Deva [one of Bollywood's most successful directors] would allow me to do this course... everything was on the spot... impromptu," Manasvi said taking a quick break from her studies.

"They [Action Jackson production] didn't really have problems, but they were really worried about what was going to happen, but I told them that I had done this before," Manasvi said.

It was a PADI Discover Scuba course in Hawaii last year that hooked Manasvi on diving, which brought her to Phuket to get her Open Water certification – so she can go deeper.

"They are scared. They call me everyday, are like, 'Are you okay?' Are you okay?'. I don't think they are scared about me, they are scared about the movie," Manasvi says with a laugh.

Unlike many of us, who have slogged through the cold waters of Europe and much of North America to get our certifications, Manasvi admits to having been pleasantly surprised by the wonders surround Phuket.

"We dived at Phi Phi Island yesterday and saw amazing stuff. We saw turtles, sharks, seahorses and lots of other stuff. I wasn't expecting to see so much here, but



Manasvi Mamgai: Open water diver, Bollywood star. Photo: Dean Noble

we managed, and we also have it on tape," she said with a smile befitting Miss India.

Though Manasvi made it back to

her workshops safe and sound... there was one lingering issue.

"They are not very happy about the tan, rest is all fine..."



Bamboo shark. Photo: Steve Childs

Bamboo shark release donation handed over to Go-Eco Phuket

AQUA Master Phuket handed over a check for 37,000 baht to local marine conservation group Go Eco Phuket to be used for a bamboo shark release on December 1.

The funds were raised by the Phuket dive community through a silent auction for a variety of top range Aqua Lung diving equipment at the Pro Dive show last month.

"The donation is to help fund a very special project here in Phuket that involves the release of 120 bamboo sharks back into the local reefs and ecosystem," Aqua Lung Thailand Sales Manager Scott McCreadie said.

The sharks to be released were raised at the Phuket Aquarium in hopes that once released they would help regenerate the local population, Mr McCreadie added.



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Life & style House and Garden Gardening in gumboots



Raised garden beds can reduce the chance of your plants getting waterlogged. Photo: Paul Sayer

Lush green growth is a sign that your garden is enjoying the rainy season. Photo: Extranoise

LISTENING to the rain plummeting down on the roof, I am reminded of the song in "My Fair

Gardening By Patrick Campbell

Lady" which includes the oft quoted line: "The rain in Spain stays mainly on the plain." A wonderful example of assonance, and part of an exercise in "speaking proper" delivered to Eliza Doolittle by Professor Higgins. But as an assertion, it does not, one might say "hold water". Rain anywhere falls more persistently on high ground than on low-lying "plains", so it is hardly a matter for surprise that this hilly island of Phuket should have experienced an October deluge. Indeed, it presently seems to be confirming Feste's observation as he sings in Shakespeare's Twelfth Night: "For

the rain it raineth every day." In any case, October, at the end of the tropical monsoon is one of the two wettest months on the Phuket calendar, with precipitation averaging 350 millimeters and humidity a perspiring 76%. But this year, the rainfall gauge is certain to have registered much higher readings, with floods recorded in many parts of the island. No

prizes for guessing the cause... or the solution.

Back to gardening. After heavy rain, wait a

few hours for any surface moisture to drain away. Soil that is saturated will become compacted too easily and turn to mud under

the tramp of heavy feet: every chance must be given to allow the ground to "breathe" and allow the water to seep away from the air spaces between the particles of earth. These pockets hold precious oxygen, essential fuel for roots. Waterlogged soil becomes "sour" and will, in time, cause

root rot. Remember the recent impact of flooding in Northern Thailand? Whole groves of fruit trees, rambutan, langsat and mangosteen, left to stand in pools of water, died within days.

Containers: A moveable feast

leave these till last. My garden slopes gently towards one corner and puddles form there during heavy rain. Wait until this standing water has gone before attempting any serious gardening in the vicinity. Adding organic matter or bags of compost to Phuket's heavy sub-soil will help, as will

forking and gently lifting the affected area. Even better, if you have the time and energy, raise the level of the flower beds in one more thing. Don't overwater your container plants

Though a mixed blessing, these downpours are by no means all bad news for the

gardener. Naturally, it limits the amount of time we can spend outdoors, but when the deluge does let up, we find that the saturated ground is much more workable than in the dog days of March or April when Phuket's

sun. The lush greenness of the landscape will tell you that most shrubs and trees are reveling in the conditions.

Now is a good time to prune that lush growth, and to plant the resulting cuttings in open ground, or to transplant container plants from your local plant nursery into your borders. It is certainly the best time to re-turf lawns that have become scruffy and worn. Grass needs lots of water when it is establishing itself and the moist soil beneath the sods will enable new grass to root quickly.

The soil, leached of nutrients by all these question. Oh! And deluges, will also benefit from an application of granular fertilizer – say 16-16-16. Spread around in these moist conditions, an accidental overdose is far less likely to cause root damage or leaf burn.

And most of all, think of all that watering that you no longer have to do. December will bring back the hot, dry weather and the need for daily hosings, but in the meantime, sit back and let nature do the work for you.

If you have a question or a garden that you would like featured you can email me at: drpaccampbell@gmail.com



AS WE all know, growing plants in containers allows you to have a garden even where space is limited. For example, you can install a planter box below a window or use pots to turn a small balcony or patio into a leafy haven. But all gardeners appreciate the versatility that containers bring: they can be easily moved around or replaced. A moveable feast. Moreover, they give you the chance to experiment with new plant combinations, and to grow plants unsuited to your garden's clay-like or alkaline soil. Thus acid-loving shrubs such as hydrangeas can be given the right potting mix. Prepared mixes are hard to find. Try a combination of top soil (loam) and compost (the stuff in white bags). Ensure your pot has a hole for drainage; cover it with a piece of netting and a thin layer of gravel, charcoal or even a few pebbles. Use a saucer to prevent staining.



Flooding can quickly kill fruit trees.

Containers are ideal for small spaces, and especially useful for a herb garden. Photo: Katemonkey



November 30 - December 6, 2013 Life & style Community Sights set on a Safer Phuket Sights set on a Safer Phuket

A NEW safety initiative was launched this week within Phuket's marine sector which aims to improve the island's coastal water safety through significant changes in safety standards and training. The initiative "Safer Phuket" has received executive level support, endorsed by Governor Maitri Inthusut along with backing from several Governmental departments and HE Ambassador Mark Kent of the British Embassy in Bangkok.

Martin Carpenter, the British Honorary Consul in Phuket and Safer Phuket co-founder commented: "We believe that with all the key stakeholders working together and with a common vision, we can establish a set of solutions that can be quickly implemented, are sustainable and that will be beneficial to all".

Safer Phuket came out of the widely reported delegation meeting between Governer Maitri and 18 European Community representatives in June of this year, where it was determined that focussed effort and attention were needed to improve a number of aspects of the Phuket tourist industry. Marine safety was one of the major areas highlighted during the meeting and this recognition of the need for change prompted an indepth review to identify potential solutions. As a result, the Safer Phuket initiative was born, which is timely, given the large number of serious incidents and loss of life in and around Phuket's waters in 2013.

The island's reputation as a leading world holiday destination has been undermined by numerous drownings and other safety incidents that have also been given widespread international media coverage. Ms Chompoo, the project's co-coordinator stated: "I have worked in the Phuket hotel and tourist industry all of my life and I want my child to enjoy the same employment prosperity and prospects that I have had. I am committed to Safer Phuket because we must take care to protect our future and our island



A lifeguard discusses beach safety with a tourist on Karon beach. The new initiative would add 50 additional lifeguard stands in Phuket. Photo: C Plerin

by safe-guarding our nationals, residents and valued visitors during their holidays."

Safer Phuket will focus on five key areas - enhanced lifeguard capabilities; standardizing international training standards; consistent beach management regulations; and the establishment of a world class

search and rescue service. In addition, Safer Phuket will also organize an international Coastal Waters Safety Summit in January 2014, in conjunction with the PIMEX boat show, which will seek to acheive consensus and bring collaborative direction to the Safer Phuket initiative.

The campaign will be run and managed by a newly formed social enterprise, operating on a not-

for-profit basis, with a mission to highlight relevant issues, create a voice, bring stakeholders together and provide funding to implement solutions. Safer Phuket Co-

founder Peter Grimes explained: "The need for improving safety never goes away, so we chose to be a social enterprise business so that we can secure ongoing revenues which will allow us to build a structured, sustainable platform and support infrastructure for the safety programs that

> we will introduce. We will not have to rely on charitable donations, and there- fore we can control our own destiny and provide transparency, confidence and security to our partners, tourists and all stakeholders."

Many might ask if Safer Phuket is different to previous initiatives or whether it will

be just another well intentioned scheme? Safer Phuket Managing Director and Co-founder Duncan Stewart, feels there is room for optimism: "We recognize that what we are trying to create will be viewed by some as challenging, which is exactly why we must succeed. Change is inevitable and our view is that we have a responsibility to manage that change so we can re-establish confidence and generate prosperity and security for all who live in or visit Phuket.

"Safety must be our number one priority and we need to respect the trust shown in us by the residents and visitors who choose Phuket as their home or vacation destination.

"We feel that Safer Phuket can make a real difference because we have unequivocal cross cultural, political and island-wide organizational support. Together with our partners, we have a collective vision shared and endorsed by the appropriate political and commercial forces which will provide the framework necessary for a safer future for Phuket," he continued.

"In the wider context, the time is right for change, so Safer Phuket will be a pioneer of positive change and help facilitate and manage Phuket's evolution to an internationally recognized safe

holiday destination.

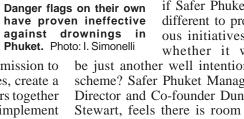
"With the 4th Asian Beach Games scheduled to be held in Phuket in 2014, the eyes of the world will be upon us, so we have launched the second wave funding campaign to support and enhance the current work done by Phuket lifeguards.

Safer Phuket will build, man and operate 50 new lifeguard towers across all of Phuket's main beaches. "We see this as a demonstrable statement of safety intent that lets the world know our commitment and intentions," Mr Stewart said.

The lifeguard stations and professionalizing of the islands lifeguards will be entirely funded by advertising and sponsorship of each tower and the positive news is that Safer Phuket is already in discussion with interested sponsors and supporters, even before its official launch.

- Phuket Gazette

The Phuket Gazette and PGTV are proud sponsors of Safer Phuket. For more info, visit: saferphuket.org or facebook.com/saferphuket











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A0 PHUKET GAZETTE Life & Style Sharing is caring

By Maciek Klimowicz

EVEN the most refined meal eaten alone can't match a simple dish shared with friends and loved ones. Sharing food with others is one of life's ultimate pleasures. That's because one of the things that separates man from beast, is not only what we eat, but why we eat. For humans, eating is not only a means of satisfying hunger, it's a social activity and often a celebration. A meal without company is like a dish without salt - this truth is hidden in the word company itself, originating in the Latin word *companio* – one who eats bread with you.

But the food I recently shared with my family in one of Patong's most original restaurants wasn't bread, or veggies, or noodles. What we had was meat, and a lot of it. There's other choices on the Rodizio Brazil Phuket Steakhouse menu but it's the meat that is the right one. Fifteen different kinds – from lamb sausages and chicken wings, to pork ribs and the mother

of all meat, the succulent Picanha menu can be used to actually enjoy beef. All this is prepared by a Brazilian chef, right in front of our eyes. "Eating here is entertaining, as you can see how the food is prepared, and then the chef comes out of the kitchen and cuts the meet right on to your plate. It's fun." Says Khun Nah, manager of Rodizio.

And indeed it is. Watching the meat skewers gently rolling over the open fire will make anybody hungry, and to ease the pain of waiting for the main dishes, there's an open buffet with a choice of soups, sides and a salad bar. Some of them - like the excellent Brazilian beef soup, could make for a full meal on their own

In normal circumstances you might spend much time browsing through a restaurant's menu, but one of the great advantages of Rodizio is that you don't have to. You're spared the torture of choosing the right dish for each member of your group, you just pay once, and eat whatever you like and as much as you like. So, the time you save not turning the pages of the eating with your friends and family and some researchers say eating together is one of the best ways of keeping the family happy. In a recent survey in the US, 2,019 adults were asked about their eating habits. Nearly three-quarters of them (72 per cent) stated they feel a closer family connection when everyone eats together.

But to be honest – I don't need the research or statistics. I can see that the people sitting at the table with me enjoy every second of it. The waiters are doing just enough to keep us happy but not overdoing it. The choice of wine and drinks will leave no one thirsty, the food keeps coming and disappearing from the plates. It's the Italians who say that one never gets old at a table with good friends and family, but I have a feeling Brazilians would agree.

Rodizio Brazil Phuket Steakhouse is open everyday from 5pm to 11pm. The restaurant welcomes groups of up to 60 and can host birthday parties, business meetings or any kind of event. For bookings call 076 346125 or visit rodiziophuket.com.



Looking at the chefs preparing the food is part of the fun.



There's enough for everyone! Rodizio can hold up to 60 hungry souls willing to eat all they can.



The recipe for the perfectly tender, juicy Picanha is the chef's secret.



At the end of the meal came grilled bananas - some of the best I've ever had. Photos: Maciek Klimowicz

Life & style

Eat like a tiger

By Shela Riva

THE newest attraction on the island might be best known for its feline residents, but Tiger Kingdom has a lot more to offer its visitors than just a few snaps with their famously friendly tigers.

For those who aren't enticed by the thought of interacting too closely with the tigers, have already done so, or are simply in pursuit of an exquisite meal in a venue with a trendy, open-air ambiance and a view overlooking the languid big cats, there is still plenty of reason to head to Tiger Kingdom – fantastic food at a great price.

The Tiger Kingdom restaurant, it is safe to say, is an attraction in itself. Whether you're up for set price a-la-cart dishes, an all-you-

can-eat buffet, or even just light starters and refreshments including coffee, cakes and coconut juice at the Lobby Zone – you'll be certain to satisfy the desires of your stomach with at least one of their dining options.

Their international buffet selection is certain to please all taste buds: whether your palate favors the Southeast piquancy of green curries, papaya salads, tom kha gai and Thai jelly desserts or the welcome familiarity of french fries, steaks, pastas and a vibrant spectrum of fresh fruits and veggies. If you're tired of Western food favorites, but find Thai flavors a tad too exotic, you can compromise with the milder Asian sapidity of Japanese cuisine and sample the restaurant's inviting myriad of sushi, sashimi, and



The all you can eat buffet includes a vast selection of Japanese favorites.



Not a fan of face-to-face tiger encounters? You're welcome in the Tiger Kingdom for a bite. Photos. Shela Riva

other delightfully light dishes.

The buffet is great value at just 400 baht per adult, and 200 baht per child – and for Thai residents, the fee is 200 baht per adult and 100 baht per child.

If you'd rather select your meals from the a-la-cart menu, dishes are priced from as low as 80 baht and include a variety of Thai dishes, pastas, spicy salads, and deep fried calamari to name a just a few – with a great range of international wines to accompany your choice.

The huge range of main dishes and desserts aside, I cannot lie, my next visit to the Tiger Kingdom will be exclusively for the Lobby Zone's divine appetizers - in the form of tomato and herb bruschetta, lathered with melted cheese, club sandwiches and the revitalizing, ambrosial fruit smoothies. The Tiger Kingdom is certainly one of Phuket's most popular tourist attractions for a reason – whether it's for their curries, calamari rings or the



Some of the western cuisine choices are a bargain. Prices start ad 80 baht.

Two Chefs better than one

By Mark Knowles

THE popular Two Chefs chain of restaurants has been one of the island's true culinary success stories. Chef friends from Sweden Billy Agren and Daniel Shamir founded the now thriving business with their first restaurant in Kamala in 2000. They were later joined by another chef Henrik Ojelind and have gone from strength to strength - there are now five restaurants and bistros, a bakery, delis, and a successful catering operation under the Two Chefs banner.

The most recent addition to the Two Chefs operation is their two new bistros, which opened last year in Karon and Kata. Using the years of experience gained at their successful restaurant operations, they decided to

open the new bistros to offer a relaxed vibe for casual dining and all-day breakfasts.

"It's a little bit simpler and a different menu, and we have more pastries and fresh bread supplied from our bakery upstairs [above their Kata bistro]," says Billy.

Open from 11am to 10pm, the Two Chef's bistros are perfect for a hearty late-breakfast, as well as for lunch or dinner. The menu has all the international favorites, albeit with a definite Swedish slant.

"We try to keep it as international as possible but since we're from Scandinavia, there's a definite Scandinavian touch," says Billy.

The Smorebrod Danish openfaced sandwiches make a tasty light lunch, with toppings such as Swedish meatballs and beetroot



They will make you breakfast, and your day. Photo. Supplied.

salad, or roast pork with curry dressing and fried onions - all served on Two Chefs signature dark wholewheat bread.

For something more substantial, there is a fantastic selection of pastas – the pasta a la Two Chefs comes highly recommended, with pork tenderloin, forest mushrooms with cream, white wine and fresh tagliatelle. Their crispy thin-based pizzas are also perfect for sharing with friends, the classic Milano with tomato sauce, cheese, salami, onion and garlic is irresistible.

For meat lovers, you can create your own grilled delights by selecting your meat - chicken, duck, pork, beef or salmon have it grilled to your liking and served with your selected sauce and sides, such as bearnaise, red wine, or pepper sauce and your pick of potatoes prepared eight different ways.

One of the best things about the Two Chefs bistros is the variety,

you can have a full sit down meal, or just pop in for a latte and a croissant; you don't even have to sit down, just grab a baguette or a loaf of ciabatta to take home, along with a selection of their homemade smoked salmons and small goods.

So if your down in the south f the island, make sure you drop by one of the new Two Chefs bistros in Karon and Kata which both recently re-opened for the high season - to enjoy some fabulous food in a relaxed atmosphere. People in the north of the island will soon be able to get a taste of Two Chefs as well, with their fourth Bar and Grill restaurant set to open on the 15th of December in Kamala at Icon park Condominium.

For more information check out the websites: twochefs.com and twochefsbistrodeli.com

Life & style An incandescent talent

By James Eckardt

SINCE the death of Walker Percy in 1990, Robert Stone has been the Big Kahuna of American literature. Here is what he has to say about Rachel Kushner: "The controlled intensity and perception in Rachel Kushner's novels mark her as one of the most brilliant writers of the new century."

There is no denying the power of Kushner's prose. But while Robert Stone was a charter member of Ken Kesey's "Merry

Pranksters" and his fictional characters are visionary seekers missionaries, blue water sailors, bushido warriors - are the poseurs in Kushner's New York art world really worth the ardor she lavishes on them?

Her new novel is The Flamethrowers (Scribner, New York, 2013, 383pp). Her

narrator is called Reno because that's where she grew up. Her great loves are ski racing, motorcycles and art. Fresh from university, the lanky, gap-toothed Reno lands in New York in 1975 when Soho was full of young artists living in lofts.

artists who hung out at the Cedar Bar in the 1950s -Pollock, de Kooning, Rothko - this new generation doesn't do or make anything. They dispatch their artistic ideas to a specialty workshop in Connecticut which manufactures the artwork on demand.

For example, the shiny metal canisters and cases of Sandro Valera. Pushing 40, the son of an Italian pioneer industrialist in rubber tires and motorcycles, Valera

> seduces Reno, improbably enough, when they shelter from a rainstorm in a Chinese movie theater: "The movie careened and clanged along, an old-fashioned opera full of cymbal crashes and agonies, the occasional gong, stringed instruments wearily ntangling and disentangling."

Reno moves into Valera's loft and his arty circle of pontificating artists, critics and gallery owners. A dinner party forms a long satirical set piece.

Reno owned a Moto Valera motorcycle at home and, with Sandro's reluctant connivance,

Unlike the paint-besplattered picks up a new one in Reno and rides off to the Bonneville salt flats for a photographic art project. Reno describes the scene with hallucinogenic clarity:

> "Pink gasoline and synthetic red engine oil soaked into the salt like butcher shop residue. The salt itself, up close, was the color of unbleached sugar, but the sunlight used it as if it were the brightest white. It was only when a cloud momentarily shifted over the sun and recast the earth in a different mood, cool and appealingly somber, that the salt revealed itself as a light shade of beige."

> Reno crashes her bike at 148mph in "an acute case of the present tense". Having been adopted by the Moto Valera racing crew, since she speaks Italian after a student year in Florence, she nonchalantly sets a new woman's land speed record with their experimental bike.

> In parallel to Reno's story is the one of Sandro's father, Roberto, a veteran of a World War I motorcycle battalion, who returns home disillusioned.

> "Italy had been all but ruined by its involvement in the war," he observes. "Rome's slum inhabitants were overrunning the city, zombie lumpen who seemed as if



One of the book's key scenes takes place at the Bonneville Salt Flats.

they were living in the Middle Ages, miserable people in faded black clothes, toothless by age twenty, stirring fires of scrap wood in oil drums to stay warm. For all they knew it was the year 800."

Enamored of Mussolini, Roberto Valera launches his rubber empire on the backs of semi-enslaved Indians in the Brazilian Amazon. Later, when his son and Reno come to Italy for a motorcycle show, the Red Brigades will wreak vengeance on the company.

Sandro's family and their aristocratic circle in Milan are as useless and hateful as the coterie of artists in New York. Only when Reno falls into a commune of idealistic militants in Rome does she find some kindred spirits.

She is back in New York and mounted on her repaired Moto Valera - "I was separate, gliding, untouchable." – in time for the city's own festival of anarchy: the Great Blackout of 1977. She floats through the mobs and the fires and the looting.

This is a sublime and powerful novel. I only wish Kushner's characters were worthy of her prose. And this is only her second novel. I will kill to find her first: *Telex from Cuba.*



The legend of the Emerging Buddha

By Anand Singh

WAT Phra Thong, or the "Temple of the Golden Buddha", at first glance may seem like any other temple in Phuket. This old temple, located in Thalang district in the northern part of the island, was built during the 18th century towards the end of the Ayutthaya period. Walking into the main chapel, visitors will be greeted with a peculiar sight that begs for a story.

A large golden Buddha image is set in the middle of the chapel, but only the upper half of it is visible. The rest of the Buddha image is actually buried deep underground. Wat Phra Thong, which is sometimes called Wat Phra Phood or "Temple of the Emerging Buddha", has a fascinating history which is shrouded in legend.

According to local stories, the Emerging Buddha Phuket's Emerging Buddha. Photo: TAT was first discovered many

years ago in a field used for raising cattle and livestock. That morning, a severe storm broke out and heavy rain caused the field to flood, destroying rice crops that the villagers had been growing, and felling several trees in the area. When the rains finally stopped, a young boy who was the son of a local farmer led his buffalo into the wet field for the animal to graze.

When he reached the field, the farmer's son tried to find a tree branch or a post to tie the buffalo to, but because the storm had broken most of the low hanging

branches that he previously used, the boy had to look elsewhere for a sturdy post. His eyes soon fell upon what looked like a huge tree stump in the middle of the field, covered with wet mud. Thinking he had found the ideal post, the boy tied his buffalo to the stump and left it there to graze.

The story says that when the boy reached home however, he suddenly had a strange seizure that caused his body to fall to



the ground. Later that morning, the farmer's son died. The farmer, horrified by the sudden death of his son was grief stricken. He gave his son a proper burial and after that, he set out to look for the buffalo that had been left in the field. When he reached the site where the buffalo had been tied, he was stunned to find the buffalo lying on its side, dead, still tied to the strange stump. Fearful of the strange object, the farmer cut loose the rope and with the help of a few other villagers, took the dead buffalo away from the site to be buried elsewhere.

That night the farmer had a dream. In his dream, a being came up to him and explained that the reason why his son and the buffalo had died was because his son had tied the beast to the "Ketu Mala", or the topmost part of a sacred Buddha image. The farmer woke up startled. The next morning, he asked a few villagers to go back with him to the field where the buffalo had been found

> dead. They found the mudcovered stump and began washing it with water and scrubbing away the mud. Soon the topmost part of the golden Buddha began to emerge and shine in the sun. The farmer had discovered a golden Buddha image, much of which was buried deep underground.

News of the discovery travelled rapidly and people began to flock to the statue to offer their prayers and seek the Buddha's blessings. Soon the Governor of Thalang him-

self came to know of the recently discovered Buddha image and it unsettled him to know that the sacred image had been buried under mud and dirt for years. He therefore ordered the villagers of Thalang to dig the statue out of the ground and take it to a more suitable place. The villagers tried to dig the Buddha image out of the ground. As they dug deeper, it is said that swarms of locusts and wasps started emerging from the disturbed ground that had been dug around the image. They wreaked havoc by stinging anyone who was digging around



Sacred golden Buddhas can be found throughout Thailand. Photo: Takeaway

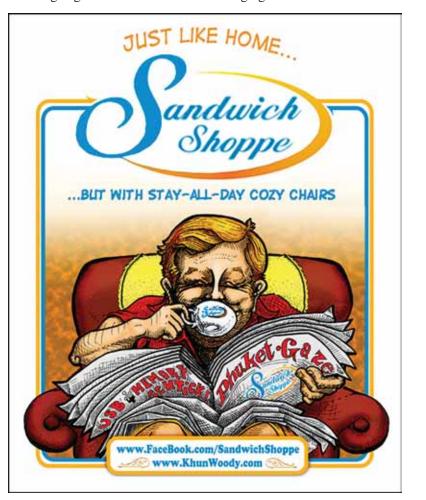
the Buddha, but spared the worshipers that were also there, only mere footsteps away offering their prayers.

Many diggers were hurt badly by wasp stings and some later died. When witnesses reported the occurrence to the Governor of Thalang, he ordered them to suspend any digging around the Buddha image. Instead the Governor of Thalang ordered the building of a shelter around the exposed top of the golden Buddha image. A roof was built to shield the image against sun and rain.

Many years later, a travelling monk came to Thalang and saw the buried golden Buddha. The monk was afraid that the golden tip of the image, the only part of the Buddha that emerged from the ground, could be cut off and stolen. He therefore encouraged the villagers to encase the exposed part of the golden Buddha with cement made from seashells and sand, concealing it from view. In my next column, we will find out more about the legend of the golden Buddha and how the temple of the emerging Buddha was built.



A Thai buffalo as described in the legend of the emerging Buddha. Photo: Heiko S



Up, up and... not so fast!

By Somchai Huasaikul

NEXT weekend, Chiang Mai will once again host the annual Thailand International Balloon Festival, which got this correspondent wondering: why doesn't Phuket enjoy a bigger slice of the hot air ballooning tourism industry?

As usual, when faced with an aviation query, I called on the local maestro of all airborne issues: Pat James, Managing Director of Aero



Such problems became apparent during the Phuket Navy League's inaugural Fourth of July event earlier this year, when many people who signed up for tethered balloon rides above the air park were unable to go up.

Tethered balloon rides are really the only viable option here in Phuket. In such cases the tethered balloons might ascend to a height of perhaps 100 meters before coming back down.

own so that it can only go to a certain elevation and doesn't get blown away by the wind. That's the only thing you can do in Phuket, simply because of the limitations in the number of landing sites. With the small size of the island, you would be blown out over the water very quickly. and salt water and the nylon fabric used to make the balloons simply don't go together. So flying hot air balloons in Phuket is pretty much a 'no go', simply because of the logistics involved."

"Hot air ballooning is restricted by winds, because their

size makes them act as a large sail. That is why you see hot air balloons usually flying at sunrise or at sunset, but not so much in the middle of the day when winds tend to be stronger. Even when a balloon is tethered, winds of just seven to nine miles per hour can wreak havoc on controllability," he said.

Other environmental issues can also factor in. Pat explained that during the Fourth of July event, heavy monsoon rains in

launch too dangerous. "The ground w a s 100 per cent saturated, and you $c\;a\;n\;n\;o\;t$ take the "envelope", the technical term for the balloon itself, out and lay it out on the ground. The last thing you want to do is get the envelope soaking wet, as it could get damaged as a result. So that was one of the reasons for the reluctance for the owner of the balloon and his crew to inflate the balloon in the morning. That afternoon, they went out and bought a huge tarp so that they could inflate it safely, but the following day the winds picked up and it started raining again."

Despite all the hassles, Pat insists that hot air ballooning offers a unique experience that is well worth trying.

"Hot air balloons are a lot of fun; they are really exciting to ride in so you should definitely try it if you ever get a chance. "You have to tether a balloon But they are temperamental and subject to the wind to a point that you need to be very cautious about the conditions."

Most hot air ballooning in Thailand takes place in the North, especially in places like Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai, where there is even a resort location that caters to hot air balloon enthusiasts.

Another hot air balloon hotspot in Southeast Asia is the ancient city of Bagan in Myanmar, where a company called Balloons Over Bagan has about half a dozen British-made hot air balloons offering sunrise flights for about US\$ 295 per person during the cool season.



"It's a perfect location and balloons can fly along the Irawaddy River all the way to Mandalay," he said.

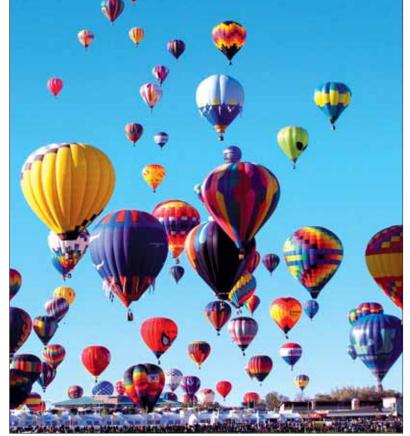
Other locales with large, annual hot air balloon festivals include Angeles City in the Philippines and the city of Albequerque, New Mexico in the US.

There have only been three or four visits by hot air balloon operators at the Phuket Air Park since it opened, including one that went untethered during the inaugural "Phuket Fly-In" event in 2010 and narrowly escaped damage after brushing with a tree on the air field.

As with most aviation pursuits in Thailand, considerable paperwork is involved. Registration of a hot air balloon to be used long term in the Kingdom requires that the applicant be in possession of a commercial pilot's license, even if the balloon is privately owned.

As a result of this and other permitting issues, most of the hot air balloons that have visited Phuket from abroad have been shipped in by air cargo.

Of course, wind is not the only potential danger when operating hot air balloons, which are fitted with one or more "burner" units on board that direct hot air up into the envelope from the basket, which is still typically constructed of wicker.



Hot air balloon enthusiasts fill the skies with color during the annual Balloon Fiesta in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Photo: Eric Ward

Asked why there are not more reports of explosions and other disasters, Pat said such events were not unheard of, but still extremely rare. The burner set-up is actually very similar to a kitchen gas cylinder. When there are accidents, they might be caused by someone accidentally ripping a gas supply hose or foolishly smoking cigarettes near the volatile vapors.

Hot air ballooning is typically a low-altitude, pleasure type of flying with a great history of tradition behind it.

"You launch at first light and from 45 minutes to maybe an hour and a half later, then the pickup crew is waiting for you. They lay out a picnic basket and you drink champagne. It's a tradition from the old days that continues to this day," he said.

Asked if hot air balloon ownership was an option restricted to the super wealthy, he said the costs involved are on par with owning a yacht.

"They really are not that expensive, but you need to understand

that it is a team sport. You need ground crews and experienced pilots. You need an absolute minimum of four or five crew members to operate a balloon capable of flying three to five passengers," he said.

The passengers are not restricted in their movements or themselves tethered to the wicker basket in any way, which makes the experience quite unique – and even those with a healthy fear of heights need not unduly fear freaking out at five hundred feet.

"You would be surprised at how safe you feel, because you feel as if you are wrapped up in a cocoon to somewhere between waist and chest level on most people. So there is no falling out, unless you hit the ground and go sideways or something. But it is very secure aloft and it is very smooth flying. With no winds on a crystal clear morning it is a wonderful sensation."

In untethered balloon rides, pilots typically navigate to relatively low altitudes, just high enough to catch the wind blowing in the direction they want to travel, typically 500 to 1,500ft.

Under the right conditions, an experienced captain can intentionally maneuver the wicker basket to brush the surface of a lake or tree canopy, then make a pinpoint landing at a desired spot "fairly easily"

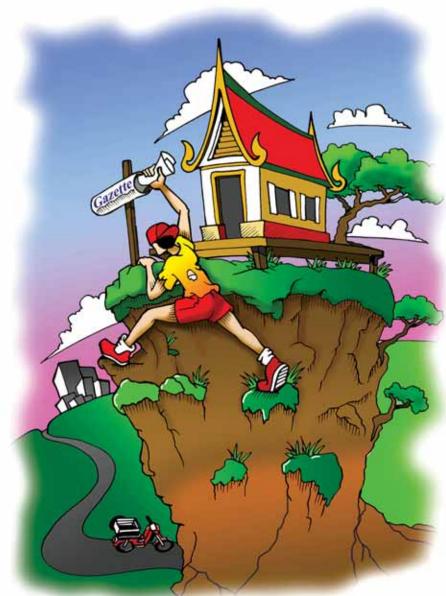
But barring some amazing technological breakthrough, it seems that the future of hot air ballooning in the Andaman region will remain quite limited. But that's no reason to curse at the sky: after all, it is those beautiful ocean breezes that keep Phuket so cool year round while places like Chiang Mai bake breeze-less in 40 degree heat.

For further information about the Chiang Mai balloon event visit: thailandballoonfestival.com Or for more information about recreational flying in Phuket, visit: aeropromgr.com



The Garant Mobel balloon prepares for lift-off. Photo: Somchai Huasaikul





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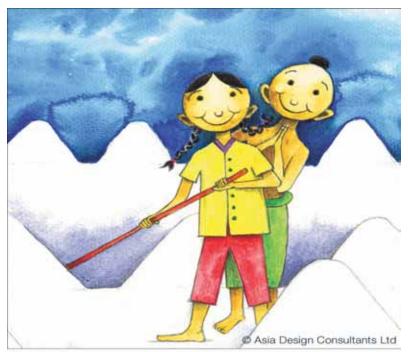


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November 30 - December 6, 2013 PHUKET GAZETTE



JUK'S SPOT THE DIFFERENCE: Find the 10 differences between these pictures.



Artist and brand consultant Miquel Kirjon lives in Phyket with his partner Lin Prachakrich and publishes a series of children's books "Juk's Adventures" in 9 languages. See juksadventures.com for more information.

Across:

- 9. Pass, slip, fall down (8)
- 10. Prompt about turn, note (3)
- 11. Staggered about the Spanish editor (6)
- 12. Levels return at arts (6)
- 13. Boon all moved to increase rapidly (7)
- 14. Promise a hot disorder (4)
- 15. Since press disturbed the Royal daughters (10)
- 17. First, has destroyed sea creatures (8)
- 18. Songbirds may be silent
- around the North (7) 19. Fare badly in terror (4)
- 21. Bird with a bad throat (6)
- 24. Betting another N'th arrangement can't be beat! (7,6,4) 27. Twice back, clean the
- gun (3,3) 29. Go off note in repetitive
- learning (4) 30. Hard rock in great dancing (7)
- 33. Act, gripe about the label saying how much (5,3) 35. Current control device for
- trains rots when dismantled (10)
- 36. Hose could be footwear (4) 37. Spoiling to ring off, about time (7)
- 38. On fire! Get off! (6) 40. Arts are maybe without
- singular mistakes (6)
- 41. Not in round socially acceptable time (3)
- 42. Implication all us back number one (8)

Down:

- 1. Against civil wrong, one on a distorted position (10)
- 2. The Spanish graduate in an isle off Italy (4)

- 3. Evident application possibly near time (8)
- 4. Observe, strangely talkative (7) 5. Deem star not out of order in
- show (11) 6. Rat's car not arranged by
- negotiator (10)
- 7. Say good-bye to fees of exchange (3,3)
- 8. Often, unpopular medical specialists dissent, possibly about time (8)
- 10. Telephones almost everybody, son (5)
- 16. No new post could be perpetual (7)
- 20. Equal time in competition (5) 22. Nags her harshly and puts up again (7)
- 23. A grating ego upset the

coming together (11)

- 25. Beside the point, I'm concerned with the matter (10) 26. I too hand no new national
- status (10) 28. Hours possibly are part for us (3,5)
- 31. Like a scoundrel, badly scar supporter (8)
- 32. Dawn bag from a Phuket stretch of water (4,3)
- 34. Can't re-arrange for
- Mediterranean islander (6) 35. Suggestion it is not in the
- vernacular (5) 39. Is of change, that being the case (2,2)

Cryptic crossword compiled by Patong Bill. Solution on page 31.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21):

December is forecast to be a month of more progress for those born under the sign of Sagittarius. Discussions that became too heated to continue in November can be started again, with positive outcomes predicted. Those celebrating a birthday during the coming days will be looking for more commitment in romance in the year ahead. Money matters are auspicious this weekend. The number seven can bring good fortune.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20):

Your intentions might not be as clear as you think this week. The stars recommend that Capricorns start the month of December by following up on communications that they assumed had been understood. It appears that air signs in particular are confused about what you want. Romance sparkles midweek; those who are single can be smitten by a water sign this weekend. Your lucky number this week is two.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19):

December is an auspicious time for Aquarians to remove themselves from unsatisfactory situations. The stars indicate that common sense will prevail where work is concerned and you are forecast to part company with someone who has let you down once too often. A half-hearted romantic relationship with a fire sign may end when you realize that this person's interests still lie elsewhere. Number six can be fortunate this week.

PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20):

A relationship with an air sign that you believed to be broken can be mended. The stars suggest that December will be a month for water to flow under the bridge and Pisceans will be able to see which people are really important to them. Your financial outlook is better, with focus on unexpected payments appearing in your bank account. The number two appears important this week.

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20):

Keeping fledgling plans private is advisable for Arians this week as there are signs that someone is ready to steal your thunder. December is forecast to be a month when you will find out who is really trustworthy and this can have an effect on your romantic life. Those who became involved with another fire sign have reason to doubt their sincerity. Your lucky number this week is nine.

YOUR

horoscope

By Isla Star

TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21):

A diplomatic approach is the best this week. Taureans' tendency to rush into solving problems can result in more damage being done. If you sit back and consider carefully, sensible answers will present themselves. Property matters are well-starred, with relocation highlighted to help you find more peace of mind. Romance appears out of the blue between now and the middle of the month. The number five is special this week.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21):

Your knowledge and talents are in demand during December and Geminis are advised not to give away too much away for nothing. A water sign is ready to take advantage of your good nature during the coming days and you should put your foot down before this gets out of hand. Hot days for romance are Wednesday and Thursday. The stars suggest that number three can be important this week.

CANCER (June 22-July 23):

As December gets underway, Cancerians should be feeling less pressure. The stars indicate that this will be a quieter month, giving you chance to contemplate what you would like to happen next year. Even if you haven't accomplished everything you set out to do in 2013, there are signs that solid groundwork will enable smooth progress in the months to come. The number one is forecast to shine this week.

LEO (July 24-Aug 22):

Thinking outside the box is forecast to put Leos ahead in the world of work. Information that comes to light during the first half of December can be used to your advantage before others get to grips with possibilities. Romance falls under tricky cosmic conditions this week - the stars advise that being too possessive in relationships can cause unnecessary friction. Your lucky number this week is four.

VIRGO (Aug 23-Sept 23):

Taking too many risks can land you in hot water during the first week of December. The stars suggest that Virgoans may be encouraged to make some wrong moves, with a

fire sign highlighted to be very persuasive. Finances can be particularly affected, and new investments are best left until the second half of the month. Love is luckiest on Monday and Tuesday. The number five can be special.

LIBRA (Sept 24-Oct 23):

Reunions fall under the spotlight for Librans during December. If this relates to family members, the stars suggest that all will be well, but catching up with a romantic partner from your past can be complicated. Where work is concerned, there are hints that an earth sign can cause you to miss a deadline; shouldering responsibility for this person will send the wrong signals. Number eight can attract good luck this week.

SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22): A colleague's sudden

departure from your world of work will be seen as a positive development by most Scorpios. The stars indicate that you will be starting the New Year with much better prospects

and a last minute holiday vacation could be on the cards for December. Romance with fire signs is sweet and sour, but a relationship with another water sign becomes more intense. Your lucky number this week is nine.

International Sport PHUKET GAZETTE 47 PATRICLE 13 PHUKET GAZETTE 47 PHUKET GAZETTE 47 PHUKET GAZETTE 47 PHUKET GAZETTE 47

By Somchai Huasaikul

IN A classic matchup between two future Hall of Fame quarterbacks, Tom Brady led the New England Patriots to a dramatic comefrom-behind overtime victory, 34-31, over Peyton Manning and the top-rated Denver Broncos in Week 12.

The much-hyped showdown between the pair got off to the worst possible start for the Pats when fumble-prone running back Steven Ridley was stripped of the ball early in the game and edge rusher Von Miller of the Broncos returned it 60 years for the games first TD.

Things only went from bad to worse for the Patriots, who ended up recording three fumbles in the first half, all of which the Broncos cashed in on. The Pats went into the locker room down 24-0 after the first half as their silenced fans sat freezing in windy, subzero temperatures the first half at Gillette Stadium in Foxborough.

The Pats came storming back in the second half, however, with Brady notching up 28 unanswered points after two Broncos' turnovers to take a four point lead early in the fourth quarter. After regulation time the score was locked 31-31 after Manning finally put together a good drive based mostly on strong running by running back Knowshon Moreno, who averaged 6.1 yards per carry and racked up 241 yards in total on the day.

Going into overtime, the Pats won the coin toss and their coach Bill Belichik made a gutsy decision to kick off to the Broncos, forcing them to play into the strong wind and

gambling that they would not be able to drive it all the way for a TD.

The gamble paid off as both teams had trouble moving the ball and took turns punting until former Patriot slot receiver Wes Welker was set to receive for the Broncos deep in his own end. Welker, still beloved by the Pats fan base, called off what had appeared to be a fair catch at the last second. The ball took a horrible bounce for the Broncos and hit a special teams defender on the leg and was quickly recovered by the Pats, who then went on to kick the game winning field goal to seal one of the greatest comebacks in NFL history.

AFC Play-off picture

The win put the Pats at 8-3 and with a very real possibility of the coveted # 1 seed in the AFC, which means they would get a bye in the Wild Card Round and then play all conference games at home. Meanwhile, all eyes will be on the 9-2 Bronco's this weekend, when they travel to Arrowhead Stadium in Kansas City to take on the Chiefs (4:30am Phuket time on CBS network; catch the action on line via www.nfl.com).

The Broncos won the first encounter between the AFC West division rivals in Week 11 in Denver, handing the Chiefs their first loss of the season. The Chiefs now also sit at 9-2, after injuries compromised their league leading defense and they ended up losing 41-38 at home to the San Diego Chargers by giving up 38 points in the last 31 minutes of that game after losing key defensive ends Justin Houston (elbow) and Tamba Hali (ankle) to injuries.



Tom Brady led the Patriots to an exciting over-time win against the Broncos. Photo: Keith Allison

FIFA wants 'divers' to have a conscience

By Brian Homewood

DETESTED in some countries and regarded as a cunning act in others, the practice of diving and feigning injury to win penalties and get opponents sent off has become ingrained in football almost everywhere.

Forwards have become increasingly adept at what is officially known as simulation, often provoking contact themselves yet somehow making it look like the defender's fault.

Referees have been caught in the middle and have to judge in a split-second whether a foul was genuine or enacted, often an impossible decision to make even with the use of slow motion

With the World Cup looming and the stakes higher than ever, soccer's governing body FIFA is hoping that it can appeal to the conscience of the players to stamp out a practice which many feel is ruining the game.

"We need fair play," FIFA's head of refereeing Massimo Busacca told Reuters in an interview. "You cannot win the game with simulation, what are you to tell your children when you

"Will you say, 'I won the game by simulation, it was cheating'? It should be an honor to win a game on merit."

Busacca's comments may sound idealistic, especially in the pressure-cooker atmosphere of a World Cup, but he was hopeful that players would listen.

"I'm always positive," said Busacca, a former Swiss and international referee. "We stress that we want fair play, we want to see football, spectators want to enjoy football, so you have to win the game correctly. If we continue to say that, in my opinion we can achieve results."

In some cases, he said, players would even own up if a referee asked them what had happened.

"It happened to me twice in my career, in the first division. I asked the player if he was sure it was a foul and he said it wasn't then I changed my mind...

"It wasn't in the penalty area but it was close. He said sorry and I changed my decision...imagine if we could have more of that in the future."

He added: "Of course, everyone wants to win, and such an important competition, sometimes the adrenalin and emotion are so much that you



FIFA Head of Refereeing Massimo Busacca talks about benefits coming out of implementing goalline technology. Photo: Sergio Moraes

forget, sometimes you do not think, it's like a habit."

"I think that because we have worked a lot on prevention, we don't see the really bad fouls anymore," he said. "I think the safety of the opponent is clear for the referee today. In my opinion we have reduced these bad tackles."

Young gears up for Bahrain

PHUKET based Australian racing driver Dylan Young will be heading off to Bahrain for round 2 featuring races 3-6 of the 2013 MRF Challenge Formula 2000 Championship to be held from November 28-30 alongside the FIA World Endurance Championship event.

Young has continued support from the island through his sponsors Wahoo Phuket, Kata Rocks and Indigo Pearl. Young will be hoping for a strong performance after an impressive opening two races of the season at the Airtel Indian Formula 1 Grand Prix last

The 24-year-old recently visited Kata Rocks and took the opportunity to give CEO Richard Pope a thrill behind the wheel of their resort buggy. Young jokingly said he was using the ride for some much-needed preparation for his upcoming Bahrain races. "Until Phuket builds a track maybe I have to get a little creative with training in between races so why not give a sponsor a spin around their development?"



Young shows off his skills to Kata Rocks CEO Richard Pope on the gentle paths of the Resort.

You can follow Dylan's career at facebook.com/dylanyoungracing or twitter.com/ dylanyoung or personally play a part in supporting his career at www.gofundme.com/ dylanyoungracing contact: +66 (0)81 089 0665 dylan@dylanyoungracing.com www.dylanyoungracing.com

Sport

Learning to rally right

RALLYING is when you and a partner hit the ball back and forth cooperatively. It

is a really fun and rhythmical way hitting the ball from a specific

to practice your strokes. There are a few keys to rallying that we will talk about in this tip and a couple of unfortunate human attributes as well. To rally is to be cooperative, it back deep and keep the rally not antagonistic.

You can rally straight ahead or cross-court - one of the keys to on one bounce. Yes, the rule rallying is finding rhythm with your is one bounce when you play. practice partner. If you like to hit But remember you are searchreally hard but they can't handle the ing for rhythm when you rally, speed then back off a bit. If you it's not necessarily the time to are hitting too slow and they can't scramble and run flat out for time it very well, maybe try hitting short balls. a bit faster. If your rallies are only lasting one or two hits something is wrong. You should be able to have partner you need the following: 10, 20 or 30 shot rallies.

Another key to rallying is that 1. A calm practice mentality/ both players are using similar arc don't play the point over the net. Don't hit the ball su- 2. A nice, smooth 3rd gear swing per high and don't skim the net 3. Good arc – aim through a 2nd either, hitting through a window story window that is one to two meters above 4. Finish each swing. Each of the net is perfect for thinking you are at the baseline, so there about the right height. Both of your is plenty of time. shots should proscribe an arc as you hit it back and forth. Remember: in tennis arc = depth and rally partner initially. They will depth is a good thing.

A weird by-product of being a good rally-er is by learning how to be a bit lazy. If your opponent's shot is short and you run quickly in to get it you have changed the dynamic of the rally and it now looks and smells like a point.

When the professionals on TV are rallying, they don't run for those

Tennis Tips By Roger Cochrane

short balls when they are warming up. They are practicing

area of the court (example: the baseline, so they stay on the baseline).

Let it bounce twice and hit going with the same rhythm. Yes, in a game you must get it

So to be a good rally practice

You may need a coach as your keep it going and hit the ball to your hitting area. Use the coach to learn to rally if you are having difficulty keeping the ball going with your friends.

Happy rallying!

Tip by Thanyapura's Tennis Head Coach, Roger Cochrane. Email: tennis@thanyapura.com



TALENT SHOWCASE: BISP's Baljit Gidwani gets air time as he scores a goal. Photo: Supplied

Academy tryouts

BRITISH International School Phuket (BISP) is holding football trials (try-outs) for outstanding male and female footballers (aged 14 to 17 years) who wish to be considered for a scholarship place in the high performance BISP/ Cruzeiro Football Academy. The tri- local professional team, Phuket FC with its youth als for scholarship applicants will be held at BISP on 25/ 26 January 2014, but applicants need to apply via the BISP website before December 1, 2013.

The high performance football academy is instrumental in the school's overarching philosophy to build a school and community culture of excellence and aspiration. Mr Neil Richards, BISP Headmaster says, "Young people will respond positively to the achievements of their peers, and in a climate of excellence across all disciplines – every student will thrive."

Academy footballers at BISP will be offered a balance between their academic studies and football at an elite level. Footballers in the Academy will be committed to attending high performance training where they must attend up to eight training sessions per week. This will include technical, tactical and physical training sessions. Footballers will also receive sessions on nutrition, mental preparation and injury prevention.

Mr Jonathas Candido is the Head Coach of the BISP/ Cuzeiro Football Academy. Prior to joining the BISP staff, he was the Brazilian Youth Football Coach and Scout at Cruzeiro EC in Brazil. The BISP/Cruzeiro Academy therefore has a close collaborative relationship with Cruzeiro Esporte Clube.

The BISP/ Cuzeiro Academy will also support the programmes. The three-way partnership between BISP, Cruzeiro EC and Phuket FC aims to develop competitive leagues and act as a feeder for Phuket FC and other professional teams. This unique collaboration is the first of its kind and is a model which will help develop young talent and provide pathways to professional clubs as well as university scholarships.

To participate in the trials at the BISP campus, footballers should arrive in Phuket on Friday, January 24. All triallists will stay in the school's boarding houses during the weekend. The total cost, including airport transfers, two night's accommodation and all meals and snacks is 2,800 baht.

To apply to take part in the trials at BISP on 25/26 January 2014 please complete the application form via the school's website before December 1, 2013. Applicants who are invited to the January trials will be notified before December 13, 2013.

- Phuket Gazette

For more information please email Head of PE at BISP rstockings@bisphuket.ac.th

Greet and eat with the pros



Triathlon champions and professionals recently came together at Thanyapura's DiVine restaurant for brunch last Wednesday to share training tactics and advice. The one-hour 'Meet the Pros' event featured eight-time Iron Man winner, Jurgen Zack, 2012 Olympian and three-time Laguna Phuket Triathlon winner Radka Vodickova, among seven other great triathletes who gave health and technique tips and shared experiences of the sport ahead of this Saturday's Laguna Phuket Challenge. Photo: Shela Riva



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Sport

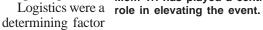


By Peter Cummins

IT WAS in June, 1986, when a number of leading lights in the Thai sailing fraternity came together with an idea: A Regatta for our King who would turn 60 the following year and the regatta to be held in Phuket, previously untouched by a sail-fest of such significance.

Then current-Commodore of the Royal Varuna Yacht Club, Chris J King was joined by such yachting stalwarts as Dr Rachot Kanjana-Vanit, Albert T Chandler, William Gason and Adolph Knees. All gratefully accepted architect,

ML Tridhosuth Devakul's offer, to place his newly-opened Phuket Yacht Club Hotel on beautiful Nai Harn Beach, as the Regatta's "home". Mom Tri's generosity ran for another 10 years. What better way to launch, simultaneously, the new hotel and the new King's Cup.



in the early days. For example, what types of boats, race management, safety and security, approval of the Provincial Government and, of course, a petition to HM the King to bestow his blessing, as Royal Patron of the new venture and to graciously bestow the permanent King's Cup Regatta trophy.

It was certainly the determination, generosity and vision of Mom Tri which were the major contributions to raising the regatta to its now highly-regarded, world-class status.

Initially, at the opening of the first event in 1987, a motley collection of itinerant keel boats and catamarans, based in, or passing through, Phuket, dinghies shipped overland from the Royal Varuna Yacht Club at Pattaya and various other craft, such as those berthed at various centers around Phuket's shores, were cajoled into joining in.

Logistics were a major problem, with the fleets divided into three main centers, ranging from Nai Harn Bay, the Meridian, the Club Med and the Pansea Resort in Surin in the north.

There were keelboats, beachlaunched and ocean-going catamarans, Laser dinghies and even wind-surfers. Over the years, many of these classes were dropped, due to difficulties of transporting, race management, security and safety. Such trivial inconveniences soon appeared. For example, all mooring and anchor lines for course markers which had been offered by the Royal Varuna, were too short. The average depth in the Northern Gulf where this equipment was used in race management was only some 20 meters. Around Phuket, the average depth was more like 50 meters.

Fortunately, with great support from the Royal Thai Navy, safety was never compromised – continuing through to the present.

Many of the competitors over the years have become "Regatta Recidivists", coming back year after year from the four corners of the world to take part in this marvelous festival of yacht-racing and beach life a la Phuket. In some cases, it is "simply to forget about life for a while", in the superb, stress-free ambiance of Thai-

land's island province.

Mom Tri has played a central

Throughout the almost three decades of the regatta, fleets change and, now, with so much interest in sailing and yacht-racing among Thailand's juniors, competing at world championships, the regatta committee has installed the Phuket Dinghy Series which has inspired youth in Southern Thailand to take up sailing since its introduction in 2010.

It has featured in four Phuket King's Cup Regattas and serves to empower the progression of youth sailing. The Series has become a sailing clinic that has gained in popularity among youth sailors (under 15 years old) for its solid coaching content and the friendship amongst participants from various sailing clubs.

This year, the Phuket Dinghy Series enters its fourth successful year and is sponsored by PTT Global Chemical. The company is endorsing the development of youth sailing and shares the vision of young sailor training as these competitors represent the future of sailing sport in Thailand. PTTGC has recognized the program as a practical starting point to bring sailing closer to the hearts of more Thai people.

Kevin Whitcraft, President of the Phuket King's Cup Regatta Organizing Committee, said, "The Phuket Dinghy Series brings many new Thai sailing talents into the arena of competitive youth sailing. It serves as an accessible means of competition for young sailors from many sailing clubs in Phuket, Phang Nga, Songkhla, and as far as Chonburi, in order to prepare them for the International Stage and the Phuket King's Cup Regatta.

I would like to thank our sponsor, PTT Global Chemical, for their highly valuable support of the Phuket Dinghy Series, and the company's assistance in growing the awareness of sailing sport in Thailand."

Bowon Vongsinudom, President & CEO of PTT Global Chemical, said, "PTT Global Chemical is pleased to support Thai youth sailors and the Phuket Dinghy Series as part of the prestigious Phuket King's Cup

Regatta. Sailing is a sport which is exciting, sustainable, environmentally friendly and increasing in popularity in Thailand. As part of our CSR commitment to providing support to trustworthy, social responsible projects, we are delighted to be the main sponsor for the Phuket Dinghy Series."

The first series of the 2013 Phuket Dinghy Series was held from October 5-6 at Naiyang Beach Resort; the second series was sponsored by The Kriss Resident Bang Tao over October 26 to 27. The final races, hosted at Panwa Bay by the Third Naval Area Command, Royal Thai Navy, were postponed due to unfavorable weather.

The Phuket Dinghy Series is now an integral part of the Phuket King's Cup Regatta, and winners of each class will receive a Royal Award which is to be presented along with other Regatta class winners at Kata Beach Resort and

King's Cup participants pay respect to HM the King.

Spa on December 6, 2013. His Majesty the King's personal representative Admiral Usni Pramoj, will preside over the Awards Ceremonies. M.L. Usni, himself, is also a "Regatta Recidivist", having officiated at all regattas, with the exception of 1988 and 1989.

Each year, the overall Regatta winner, receives the splendid permanent trophy, designed by Mom Tri Devakul. The trophy is impregnated with the number Nine, representing His Majesty as the Ninth ruler of the Chakri Dynasty. Nine "sails" in burnished metal, emanate from a silver column placed upon a base mirroring the sea. Atop this vertical column, is a replica of the symbol of the King, known in Thai as the: Tra Sanyalak", emblazoned with His Majesty's initials and topped with the royal crown. The whole edifice is mounted on columns of ash-wood, carved with the

regatta's title.

When one looks at pictures of the famous - and quite ugly-"America's Cup" trophy, fought over for almost 160 years, In the hallowed halls of international yacht racing, the Phuket King's Cup Trophy stands out as a work of art, fashioned by a man with a most artistic temperament.

So, the 2013 Phuket Regatta is set to start, with upwards of 100 entries and, the International body which controls such big

events, has approved three judges from the America's Cup judging panel "La cr me de la cr me" on the world scene.

So, this is, at best, a "mini-overview" of the regatta which has placed Thailand – and Phuket –in the vanguard of big world events.

The 26th Phuket King's Cup Regatta, which will be held from November 30 to December 6, is proudly sponsored by the Phuket Gazette and PGTV. For race schedule, see kingscup.com



Wild, Hauschildt win LPT



Switzerland's Ruedi Wild took home honours in the mens field at LPT last Sunday.

SWISS Olympian Ruedi Wild has triumphed once again at the Laguna Phuket Triathlon (LPT), successfully defending his title from his debut performance in the iconic endurance event last year.

In the women's field, Challenge Laguna Phuket Tri-Fest's headliner from Australia, Melissa Hauschildt, newly-crowned 2013 ITU Long distance World Championship and 2013 Ironman 70.3 World Champion, who made her LPT debut this year and snatched the title from a top-class field of fellow pros.

Both Ruedi and Melissa will compete at Laguna Phuket again this Sunday, (December 1) for the inaugural Challenge Laguna Phuket (formerly known as Ironman Phuket), the half iron distance race will be the culmination of the week-long Challenge Laguna Phuket Tri-Fest.

Wild was among a chasing pack behind runaway leader, three times LPT Champion Massimo Cigana up until kilometer eight on the run course where the hard-running Wild made a pass on Massimo who never quite found his running legs.

"I didn't think I had a good swim leg but I made up time on the bike and especially the run afterwards," said Wild "It feels great to have won today. I want to come back next year of course! "

Wild finished in 2:34:41, with a swim of 25:14 minutes; bike of 1:27:10; and a run of 40:08, and was followed home in second place by Italy's Massimo Cigana



Melissa Hauschildt from Australia, was victorious in the womens's field. Photos: Shela Riva

in 2:36:44, with Simon Agoston of Austria finishing third in 2:38:46.

Hauschildt was the top women's finisher in 2:45:24 with a swim of 27:26; bike of 1:31:40; and run of 44:06. Radka Vodickova of the Czech Republic, last year's women's champion, came in second in 2:46:53, and Tamsin Lewis of Great Britain rounded out the podium in 2:51:02.

A field of over 1,000 individual pro and age group athletes representing 43 nationalities jumped into the waters of Bang Tao Bay at 6:30am to tackle the 1.8km swim, followed by a 55km bike ride and a 12km run. There were also 75 relay teams taking part amid the event's renowned carnival atmosphere. This year's entries once

again break previous year's record.

The top male amateur finisher was Timothy Cosulich of the USA who took ninth position overall with a time of 2:49:37. The first female amateur was Thailand based French woman Carole Fuchs who finished in 3:09:04 at 49th overall.

The first Thai male finisher was Phuket's own Jaray Jearanai who finished 13th overall in 2:51:54; and top Thai female finsher was Nampetch Porntharukcharoen of Bangkok at 160th overall in 3:28:10 both defending their top Thai finisher positions from 2012.

The Relay section was won by the Hong Kong Tritons in 2:32:13, with GIS Triathlon Club second in 3:01:33 and Team Better Lucky than Good third in 3:10:40. - Phuket Gazette



Sport Swinning skills for life



A Corporate Social Responsibility initiative is providing swimming lessons for 200 local youth. Photo: Supplied

By Steven Layne

WATER is integral to the Phuket lifestyle – to the island way of life. Yet, surprisingly, many locals born and raised in this tropical paradise risk growing up without ever learning how to swim. Avoidable, tragic drownings are an all too common reminder and result of this deplorable lack of swimming knowledge and skills. It's easy for us to take our own childhood swimming lessons for granted, which leads many to overlook the fact that many local youths simply don't have the same access to resources and opportunities that we may have had to be able to learn the basic recreational, if not essential survival skill of swimming – one that really ought to be declared a human birth right.

Looking to make a difference, the owner of one local private school has joined up with Thanyapura in a pilot CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) initiative to facilitate swimming lessons for 200 local kindergartners.

Speaking to the Gazette about School owner and head mistress,

Kiranee Narabal said: "We are providing this opportunity for all of our K2 and K3 [4-6 year-olds] students, or six classes of about 30 pupils each, who will get swimming lessons for one hour a week over the duration of two months," she said.

Ms Kiranee went on to reveal how the idea for the program, which commenced early November, came about.

"As a member of Thanyapura, I've known about their wonderful facilities for some time and have been thinking about how we could collaborate. So I got to talking with head swim coach Randy Simon about opportunities for a local private school such as my own, where space and facilities are limited, and proposed the idea of providing regular swimming lessons for our kindergartners."

Ms Kiranee's "win-win" proposal was simple: her school would provide eager, local children, and with its world-class facilities, lifeguards and coaches, Thanyapura would facilitate the swimming lessons - all at a minimal cost.

"The parents are all pleased to the new program, Thalang Wittaya pay a nominal fee to cover the transport costs but we aren't

making anything extra," she noted.

Ms Kiranee emphasized that the program's objective is not only for her children to learn how to swim for the sake of recreation, but also to ensure that the kids acquire an important survival skill.

'As Phuketians, we should all have the basic knowledge and skill [of swimming]. It is my hope to raise the standard of our children and school by giving my pupils more enriching opportunities like this," she said.

Thanyapura head swimming coach Randy Simon reiterated the program's prime objective.

"First and foremost, our aim is to ensure that the kids feel comfortable and safe around the water – including not only being able to swim themselves, but being able to spot dangerous situations and being able to get help if they see someone that is in trouble," he said.

The pilot program is perfectly matched with Thanyapura's CSR philosophy to not only provide holistic sporting and health mental and physical – knowledge and opportunities for the local community, but to also seek out and foster the development and potential of the local talent pool.

Asked about his impressions of the program so far, Thanyapura's head swimming coach Randy Simon insisted that it's not only the kids benefiting.

'Working with the kids has been fantastic for us. They're really excited to be here and to have the opportunity to learn how to swim. Most of them take to the water quite well, and this is the perfect age for them.

"They're always anxious to get in the pool and at the end they don't want to get back out of the water... Just to see them smile and enjoy themselves makes it an exciting and worthwhile experience for all of the coaching staff."

Triathlon swimming

WORKING at Thanyapura, I have had the pleasure of getting to work



That's popular approach. I've seen legions of

with a number of triathletes of all different ability levels – from the novices preparing for their first triathlon, right up to the pros. I like the challenge that triathlon swimming presents because the approach is very different from pool swimming.

In a pool race, the athletes push as hard as they can. Once the race distance is completed, the event is over. With a triathlon, its just the first leg. Since most triathletes have come to the sport from a cycling or running background, the swim portion tends to be the most challenging. As it is also the first discipline in the race, it poses some unique challenges.

You want to get through the swim quickly, but you also need to conserve as much energy as possible for the bike and run. Swimming fast is all about efficiency so the good news is that any small gain made in this area will lead to bigger gains in energy conservation. So even a small drop in swim time should translate to bigger drops on the bike and run legs as well.

How to do that? Get stronger?

athletes in the pool swimming with paddles (some the size of kickboards). But I think that is missing the point. If strength were the key, then Arnold Schwarzenegger would have more gold medals than Michael Phelps. That's not to downplay the use of paddles, or minimize the importance of strength, but improving/ using both in swimming should be done in moderation.

So if increasing strength isn't the answer, what is? Improvements in stroke technique have a much bigger and longer-lasting impact on swimming performance than gains in strength. As a triathlete, you'll get plenty of aerobic work from your cycle and run training (even doing drills in the pool will have some small aerobic benefit).

Now that the Challenge Laguna Tri-Fest weekends will soon be behind us, its time to start looking at what gains you can make in your swimming. My word of advice for you: work smarter, not harder! See my article in two weeks for more.



Students participate in weekly hour-long swimming lessons. Photo: Supplied



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