



Phuket Gazette

th a little help friends

> Fab Beatles take the stage as Beatlemania takes over the island

> > **INSIDE TODAY**

January 25 - 31, 2014 | PhuketGazette.Net

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'I WILL PROTEST. I WILL CARRY ON HIS DREAM,' SAYS WIDOW

Fire burns on

Widow vows to pick up torch after husband is killed by explosion in anti-Thaksin protest

By Kritsada Mueanhawong

THE widow of Phuket taxi driver Prakong Choochan this week vowed to join the anti-government protests in Bangkok in order to carry on her late husband's fight for "justice for the nation".

"I will need a month to recover myself and process Prakong's will. After that, I will join the protests in Bangkok. I will carry on his dream," Tippayao Choochan said on Tuesday as her husband's coffin lay meters away at Wat Ketho in Kathu.

Mr Prakong, 46, died early last Saturday morning from injuries sustained when an explosive device was thrown at protesters during a street march in Bangkok the previous day.

His body was escorted home by road from Bangkok on Monday night and arrived in Phuket the following morning. The caravan carrying his remains received a hero's welcome as it crossed the Thepkrasattri Bridge onto the island as thousands of people lined the streets, cheering and blowing whistles as the procession

"He will not have died for nothing. I have never joined a protest, I only supported my husband. Now I will step up. Even if there is a bomb attack every day, I am not afraid of death. I will fight to make it right," Mrs Tippayao said.

What happened to my husband brought our family deep grief, but everyone understood him. We are proud of him and we will all move...

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Tippayao Choochan, the widow of Patong Taxi driver Prakong, mourns. Photo: Saran Mitrarat

The gift of life some can't give

SPECIAL REPORT

EVEN when a patient is bleeding to death and a hero has stepped up to give blood, there are no guarantees.

The Phuket Red Cross has a variety of criteria a person must meet to give blood - no matter what.

Are you over the age of 55? Did you live in the UK between 1980 and 1996? Do you know if you can give?

Full story on Pages 8-9

Bay's ninja moorings strike again

A LUXURY cruiser sank in Chalong Bay after striking a hidden mooring as it approached the pier this week.

All 32 tourists were safely transferred from the boat, but an estimated 10 million baht of damage was done.

Full story on Page 3

Two flee on foot from fiery crash

POLICE are hunting a pair of men who escaped after crashing their vehicle during a car chase that ended in flames.

Full story on Page 4









This Week



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New condotel project in Kata has great location, price. Page 13



Business

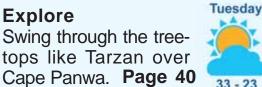
Post civil war Sri Lanka may be the next investor's oasis. Page 16



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How Phuket athletes faired at the National Games. Page 50







More bus drivers busted for drugs

By Saran Mitrarat

TWO more Phuket bus drivers tested positive for va bah (methamphetamine) on January 16 during an anti-drug blitz led by Phuket Governor Maitri Inthusut.

"We tested 33 bus drivers from two companies: Je-Siam Holiday Phuket and MKR Transportation," Muang District Chief Administrative Officer (palad) Suthee Sirianan said.

"Natthapong Chimree and Udon Sainate, both from MKR Transportation, tested positive for ya bah."

The men, who confessed to taking half a pill of the drug, will be admitted to a rehabilitation program, explained Mr Suthee.

"Usually, if a driver tests positive and admits to having used the drug, we send him to rehab. If he does not confess, we perform more rigorous urine tests at the hospital. If those results come back positive, we arrest him."

Kaengkla Jeangjedriw, the owner of MKR Transportation, said that he would give his drivers a second chance after rehab.

"I always give second chances to my employees. However, if they come back from treatment and test positive again, I will not allow them to work for me. There is no third chance," he said.

The blitz was the first step in a new initiative set in motion by Governor Maitri in response to the deadly bus accident at Patong Hill on December 29.

Phuket officials will begin ran-



Governor Maitri Inthusut (center) oversaw the random testing of bus drivers he ordered after the fatal bus crash on Patong Hill last month.

domly testing bus drivers from different companies without any advance notice.

"If bus drivers don't use drugs, the number of accidents in Phuket will decrease. Random drug testing is just one way to start solving the problem," Gov Maitri said.

Bus drivers were also tested

during the 10 Days of Danger safety campaign over the Christmas and new year holiday period, and 21 tested positive for either drugs or alcohol. Those tests were conducted on drivers about to head over the hills to Patong or leave on long-distance runs from Bus Terminal 2.

Tourist Police Volunteer denied bail pending trial

THE Phuket Provincial Court denied bail for long-term expat and former Tourist Police Volunteer Garry Halpin, who is being held at Phuket Provincial Prison.

"Mr Halpin was denied bail by the court and had also been denied bail by the Chalong Police on December 16," said Chalong Police Deputy Superintendent Jumroon Plaidoung.

Police are waiting for drug test results before handing the case to the public prosecutor by March 10.

"I do not know exactly when we will receive those results, but we should have them by the end of February," Lt Col Jumroon said.

The police have a maximum of 84 days – seven terms of 12 days each – in which to collect evidence in the case against Mr Halpin before they have to take it to court, explained a Phuket Prison officer. They began their fourth term on January 22, giving them 48 days from that date to complete their



Former Tourist Police Volunteer Garry Halpin points to drugs and drug paraphernalia. Photo: Gazette file

Mr Halpin, 52, was arrested in Chalong on December 14 and charged with possession of a Category 1 drug with intent to sell.

He was found with more than 18 grams of ya ice (crystal methamphetamine), drug paraphernalia, a digital scale and cough syrup.

- Chutharat Plerin



Rescue workers preparing to retrieve the second body.

Bodies found off Rassada

TWO male bodies, one of which had been violently assaulted, were found floating in the sea off Rassada in as many days this week.

The first body was retrieved on January 16 near Chokpanuchit fish processing plant and had stab wounds on the side of the head and signs of blunt trauma, said Col Chaleaw Taihoo of the Phuket City

"We think he was attacked and then dumped from a fishing vessel," Col Chaleaw said.

The second man was recovered near Por Pichaiawa fishing pier on January 17. There were no signs of violence on his body.

- Kritsada Mueanhawong



Buoys broke loose on moorings dropped in Chalong Bay in November 2012, making those placed in shallow water a hazard. Photo: Gazette file

Hidden mooring sinks B10mn luxury cruiser

By Chris Husted

THE luxury charter cruise boat Lady Andaman sank after striking a concrete mooring in the approach channel to Chalong Pier late on Monday afternoon.

The mooring punched a hole in the hull of the motor yacht as it was returning from Coral Island with 32 tourists on board, explained Australian boat owner "Sando", who declined to be named in full.

"It was about 4:30pm, coming up to low tide, when we hit the mooring. We were coming back from a trip with Australians, New Zealanders, Americans and Thais – who all took part in a Muay Thai fitness training session," he said.

"The mooring didn't have any buoys attached to it. I've been told

that many of the moorings now don't have any buoys tied to them [to show where the concrete blocks lie beneath the surface]."

The Lady Andaman made it to Chalong

much water that even three pumps the money," Sando said. could not keep the boat afloat.

"The speedboats were tearing past, ignoring the speed limit and making huge waves, which made it very difficult for the people trying to fix the hull," Sando said.

"Now the boat is sunk. It's a write-off."



Pier, but was The cruiser had just undergone a 1.5mn taking on so baht renovation. Photo: Reiner Kaufhold

Now I wish I hadn't spent

The Lady Andaman was not the first casualty of the Chalong Bay moorings, which were laid in November 2012 at a cost of 5.8mn baht. The next month yachties complained that buoys attached to the moorings were breaking loose, making shallowly placed moorings

The Lady

Andaman had

a full refur-

"The boat

had a full refit,

two new en-

gines, and was

an invisible hazard at low tide.

Two months later, the "Booze Cruise", returning from Coral Island with 15 tourists on board, struck a mooring and sank in Chalong Bay. No one was injured in that incident.

Phuket Marine Office Chief Phuripat Theerakulpisut on Tuesday blamed boat captains for ramming the hidden moorings.

"I inspected the site yesterday and confirmed that the mooring is not inside the approach channel [to Chalong Pier] – and we are not considering moving it," he said.

However, Mr Phuripat also admitted that many more unmarked moorings lay lurking beneath the water's surface in the bay and that his office had no idea of where those unmarked moorings might

Alcohol ban comes with Feb election



Only virgin drinks allowed before the election. Photo: Shezamm

PHUKET will face an alcohol ban starting on February 1 as caretaker Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra pushes ahead with the February 2 national elections.

"According to the Election Act, all alcohol sales are banned from 6pm on February 1 until midnight on February 2 because of the MP elections," Phuket Election Commission (PEC) Director Kittipong Thiengkunakrit confirmed.

The ban prevents all retail shops, restaurants, entertainment venues and convenience stores from selling alcohol during that period. Violators will be subject to a fine of up to 10,000 baht, six months imprisonment or both.

Anti-government protests that prevented all but one MP candidate from registering in Phuket have created unusual circumstances for the election.

Jirayus Songyos from the Pheu Thai party was the sole person who managed to enroll as a candidate for District 2.

At least one police officer will be stationed at each of the 363 voting areas throughout the province to provide security on February 2, Mr Kittipong said.

- Saran Mitrarat

Pot peddler picked up



Police staked out the port at Koh Sireh in order to catch Mr Min Min.

POLICE arrested a Myanmar national on January 17 for selling marijuana at the Phuket Fishing Port in Koh Sireh.

Min Min, 38, was caught with 295 grams of marijuana, drug paraphernalia and 980 baht in cash by officers from the Region 8 Police Crime Suppression Division.

"Undercover officers tipped us off, so we staked out the port," Maj Roongsak Maichandee said.

"We watched Mr Min Min leave a black bag under a tree. We approached him, asked to search the bag and found what we were look-

Mr Min Min confessed to selling marijuana and was charged with possession of a Class 5 drug with intent to sell. The maximum penalty for the charge is up to five years in prison, a 50,000-baht fine

Kritsada Mueanhawong



Bypass speed cameras gain night vision



Infrared is fixed in bypass cameras

SPEED cameras on the bypass road which had faulty infrared sensors are now in full working order.

"After installing cameras to monitor speeds on major roads on the island, we found that the cameras on the bypass road were not reading speed levels at night," said Lt Col Rungrit Rattanapagdee of the Phuket City Traffic Police.

"We contacted the mechanics from Nextech System Service in Bangkok to investigate."

Mechanics discovered that the cameras had defective infrared sensors, and quickly replaced them.

"Please limit your speeds to 90 kilometers per hour. Otherwise, you will find a ticket in your mailbox," Col Rungrit warned.

- Saran Mitrarat

Routes to end jams on course

By Saran Mitrarat

PHUKET Governor Maitri Inthusut led a survey on January 17 of two road projects that should ease traffic congestion on the island.

"With more than 50,000 vehicles travelling between Chalong Circle and Bang Khu Intersection in Kho Kaew daily, it is important to provide alternative routes and improve traffic flow," Governor Maitri said.

One of the projects examined was a two-lane detour that will allow travellers between Patong and Chalong to bypass the Darasamuth Intersection in front of Central Festival.

The 1.25 kilometer road will run from Vichit Songkram Road near the Soi Bang Yai turnoff to Big C to about 300 meters south of the Darasamuth Intersection off Chao Fa West Road near Soi Na Sua.

The road is on schedule to be finished by February 27, but will not be open to the public until April, Gov Maitiri confirmed to the *Gazette*.

The 9.8-million-baht project started in October last year.

The governor also visited the



Gov Maitri inspects the road near Soi Bang Yai, which will open in April and bypass the Darasamuth Intersection.

construction site of the Klong Koh Pee flyover project, which will traverse 700 meters of protected mangrove forest.

The 170-mn-baht project is set to be completed in August 2015. It will provide a direct route be-

tween Sakdidet Road Soi 7 and Saphan Hin.

Additionally, Gov Maitri examined the location of a proposed 80-meter flyover that would connect Chao Fa West Road near the Choor Su Gong Naka Shrine to

Muang Chaofa Road.

Though 10mn baht out of a 70mn-baht budget for general development and infrastructure in the province has been set aside for the flyover, Gov Maitri has yet to approve it



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Men flee police after crash, abandon bear



Police recovered a plastic bear bank, 9mm handgun, 20 bullets and list of suspected drug clients after the car crashed and the men escaped.

A POLICE chase ended in flames last Sunday after two men blew through a Phuket City Police checkpoint.

Officers pursued the suspects' silver Honda Civic until the driver took a sharp turn into Soi Nimit 1 in Phuket Town and crashed into the side of a house. The men managed to escape the vehicle after an engine fire erupted, explained Lt Wetchasak Juladung of the Phuket City Police.

"The two men fled the scene. We attempted to run them down, but were unable to find them," Lt Wetchasak said. It took local residents 10-20 minutes to control the flames with fire extinguishers.

Inside the vehicle, police recovered a letter from a woman in Phuket Provincial Prison, a list of names that they suspect are drug clients, a 9mm handgun, 20 bullets, three beers, ID cards, an ATM card and a plastic bear full of cash.

"We are now searching for the people identified on the cards. However, at this time we are not ready to reveal their names," Lt Wetchasak said.

- Kritsada Mueanhawong

Nearly tee time for X-Terminal

By Chutharat Plerin

THE new terminal at Phuket International Airport is on track to open on February 5, boosting the capacity of the island's critical tourism portal by 4,000 people per

Inthusut announced the news last week during an inspection of the new facility, currently called "X-Terminal".

"The actual construction of the terminal is finished. There is only cleaning up and interior decoration to be done. The grand

opening ceremony will be on February 1," he said. X-Terminal will serve as a pas-

senger and baggage check-in facility for departing international charter flights.

"Nearly one third of all international passengers arrive and depart on international charter flights," explained Kiettichai Wongmonta, head of the Engineering Maintenance Division at the Airports of Thailand (AoT) Phuket office.

"As no planes will dock at the X-Terminal, all tourists entering or leaving the country must still join the same queues to clear

immigration and customs at the old terminal."

A free shuttle bus will be provided to take tourists from X-Terminal to the existing terminal, he added.

As part of the larger 5.8-billionbaht airport expansion project, a Phuket Governor Maitri new international terminal, com-

> plete with its own immigration and customs clearance counters, is under construction.

"Once complete, this will be dedicated to serving international passengers only and the existing main terminal will be refurbished and used

for domestic passengers," Mr Kiettichai said.

Gov Maitri. Photo: Provincial PR

As in the current terminal, X-Terminal will also have free WiFi.

We are still ironing out a few technical issues with the free WiFi in the old terminal, but once that is done we will make sure the new terminal also has free WiFi for passengers and visitors," Mr Kiettichai said.

Among the other major projects underway as part of the expansion project is a five-story car park, which is expected to provide much-needed relief for motorists who currently must use



The Phuket International Airport X-Terminal will have a grand opening ceremony on February 1. Photo: AoT

the old, overburdened parking lot

"The new car park will be able to accommodate 1,500 vehicles when it opens in March," Mr Kiettichai said.

It is not yet decided whether taxis or other transport vehicles will be allowed to use the parking lot.

"The project is making good progress and is on time for completion by the May 3, 2015 deadline," Mr Kiettichai confirmed.

"We expect five more aircraft bays to be finished in time for the upcoming Songkran Festival in April," he noted.

"Work is also underway on a new office building and a new cargo building. The project also includes new equipment that will make it much easier for us to handle the increasing number of people using the airport."





Mr Prakong's mother, Choey, 84, receives a kiss from her 7-year-old grandson at the funeral.

Protest widow vows to fight on for justice

From Page 1

...on to support the protest."

Mr Prakong's mother, Choey Choochan, 84, was visibly shaken by her son's death.

"He was too young to die. Prakong was the seventh of nine children. He was only in his 40s," she said at the funeral, weakened by grief and in need of assistance.

"However, I am proud of my son. He died fighting for Thailand. It was the right thing to do."

Mrs Choey described Mr Prakong as a loving son.

"I live in Rassada while he lived in Patong, but he visited me often and always brought me food when he came," she said softly.

Mr Prakong visited his mother before leaving for Bangkok. She wished him luck – it would be the last time she would see him alive.

"He came to ask me to join the protests in Bangkok. I said I couldn't go as I am too old. I would only fall during the marches and rely on him to carry me.

"I told him that I hoped he would return home victorious," Mrs Choey said, then broke into

Mr Prakong's body will be cremated at the temple at midday Saturday, January 25.

in about an

nour.

Government offices shut down

By Irfarn Jamdukor

ANTI-GOVERNMENT protesters on Monday were on the move to close every government office in the province.

"We will spend the whole day closing every government office by covering their sign with a black cotton sheet," Phuket protest co-ordinator Amnuay Kumban said.

The protesters began their march at 10am and closed most government offices on the island, including Phuket Provincial Hall and the Phuket Employment Office, which issues work permits to foreigners.

"We are asking for their cooperation to not work for the Thaksin regime and to pressure the prime minister [Yingluck Shinawatra] to resign from office," Mr Amnuay said.

The group promised not to close Phuket International Airport, Phuket Bus Terminal, Phuket Provincial Court, Rassada Port, schools or hospitals.

Protesters arrived at the Phuket NBT staffer told the *Gazette*.



One of the buildings closed by protesters was the Srisoonthorn Municipality office. Photo: Thawit Bilabdullar

office of the state-run National Broadcasting Services of Thailand, better know as NBT or "Channel 11 television", at about 11:30am on Monday.

"They chanted slogans for about 30 minutes," one Phuket

"We closed our office, but they soon left. Then we reopened."

People's Democratic Reform Committee (PDRC) leader Suthep Thaugsuban on January 19 called on protesters in Bangkok to force all government offices in the capital to close the next day, and called on fellow protesters in southern provinces to do the same.

"At this stage, we have no idea how long the offices will be closed," Mr Amnuay said. "We are waiting for more instructions from Bangkok."

entral taxi rank becomes co-operative

THE taxi rank serving Central Festival Phuket announced on Tuesday that it had become a cooperative and is now looking to roll out several projects to boost its service quality.

Last year, Central Festival Phuket was asked to manage the group once it was legally formed. However, Central Festival Phuket Operations Division Manager Preecha Ritthiratree handed the responsibility back to the Taxi Andaman Phuket Limited Co-operative on Tuesday, along with a handful of requests.

"We ask that they do not threaten passengers or steal. They

e-mail: promjaiphuket@gmail.com

www.promjaidental.com



Mr Pom holds the legal taxi papers.

will need to wear uniforms and appropriate shoes," Mr Preecha said.

Mr Preecha also explained plans to upgrade vehicles to limousines in order to serve high-end custom-

In addition to catering to the

luxury market, the co-operative is aiming to provide "lady taxi" services, which will be for women who wish to have female drivers.

"The idea is to have women feel confident in their safety when taking our cabs," said former Taxi Andaman Phuket president Pom

Mr Pom was ousted from his position after he and his brother, Sern Sukkasem, were charged by the Department of Special Investigations (DSI) for using physical violence to extort money from fellow Central Festival taxi drivers.

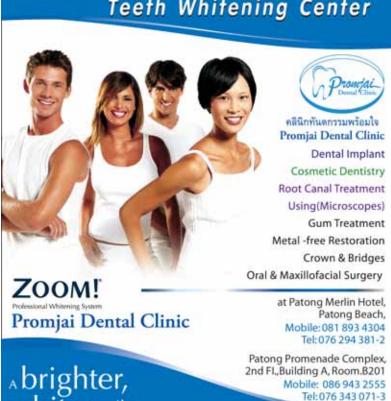
Mr Pom was re-elected as president by the group in September.

In October, the case was handed back to the DSI by a Bangkok judge, who demanded more evidence.

The co-operative has 90 days from the date of their registration, January 16, to vote on a new president and committee members, Phuket Provincial Co-operative Office Chief Taywakrit Khemkhaw said.

"We set the meeting concerning elections for January 24, but postponed it because of the protests. However, I think we will have everything taken care of by the end of February," said Mr - Saran Mitrarat

Teeth Whitening Center



Red Cross lucky draw winner steps forward to claim B750,000 in gold

THE top prize winner of the Phuket Red Cross lucky draw didn't know for several days that he had won because he didn't check his tickets.

"I never expected to win," said Jittipong Sungthong, 34, a science and technology teacher at Phuket Rajabhat University.

"I buy these tickets every year to show my support for the Red Cross. This year, I bought a book of 10 tickets. I didn't bother to check them until I heard that the winner hadn't come forward. Then I looked at the numbers and realized that I'd won."

"I plan to use the money to further my education or maybe start a small business for my family."

Mr Jittipong received his prize, 750,000 baht worth of gold, from Phuket Governor Maitri Inthusut and Phuket Red Cross President Pawinee Inthusut at the governor's



Red Cross lucky draw winners claim their prizes at the governor's mansion.

mansion on January 19.

The second-place prize of 375,000 baht in gold was awarded to Somchai Thopsungnern, 50, a car equipment salesman.

The third prize of 187,000 baht worth of gold was given to Aumphan Jampathong, 53, a housekeeper at Kata Beach Resort

Mrs Pawinee expressed her thanks to all those who had supported the fair.

Those lucky draw winners who have yet to claim their prizes may do so by going to the Phuket Provincial Red Cross office in Phuket Provincial Hall or any District Office.

– Kritsada Mueanhawong

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Park Chief still sour over beach's missing morning glory patch



A section of the beach does remain covered with sea morning glory.

OFFICERS vowed to continue their investigation into a luxury resort that allegedly cleared swaths of sea morning glory from the beach as part of a beautification project, although the hotel has already replaced the plants.

The original raid of the Mai Khao resort on January 15 was led by Sirinath Marine National Park Chief Cheewapap Cheewatham, who was accompanied by officers from the Cherng Talay Police.

'We will not withdraw the complaint against the Anantara Phuket Layan Resort & Spa, as doing so would signify that we are ignoring our duty," Mr Cheewapap told the Gazette on Tuesday.

The plants cleared were allegedly outside of the land marked on the resort's Chanote and part of Sirinath Marine National Park.

"We found that the hotel hired Tananon Co Ltd to clear the area, which is outside the boundaries marked on the resort's Chanote land title," he explained.

Mr Cheewapap presented to the resort's management photographs of the beach before it was cleared as evidence that the plants had been removed.

The resort is accused of breaching Section 16 of the National Parks Act of BE 2504, which

states that it is illegal to "hold or possess land, or clear or burn the forest, do by any means whatsoever things endangering or deteriorating soil, rock, gravel or sand, or carry on any activity for benefit, unless permission is obtained from the competent official."

"The resort has worked closely with the relevant authorities to ensure compliance with regards to the replanting of a small number of shrubs surrounding the property," Anantara Phuket Layan Resort & Spa's General Manager Boyd Barker said in a statement released after the raid.

He went on to reaffirm the resort's commitment to the envi-

However, Mr Cheewapap said the director of the Public Sector Anti-Corruption Commission (PACC) would this month be inspecting how land titles in the park had been issued.

The PACC almost a year ago quietly dropped its investigation into titles covering more than 500 rai of land in Phuket that may have been illegally issued.

Mr Cheewapap was unable to confirm further details about the PACC visit to Phuket.

– Kritsada Mueanhawong

Donation denial

THE recent call by the Phuket Regional Blood Center (PRBC) in their desperate need for A-negative blood during the high season, which is usually spattered with Westerners entangled in motorbike accidents, is reminiscent of a life that was not saved about six months ago.

The man Mr Hoogeveen tried to save was the late Marc Harrington, a 66-year-old British expat who sustained a serious head injury on June 22.

Three weeks after the accident, Vachira Phuket Hospital appealed for blood donors. A second call was made on July 30, to which Mr Hoogeveen was prompted to respond.

'I called the PRBC, willing to

donate some blood. To my surprise, they refused my offer because I am too old according to the Thai standard," he told the Gazette shortly after the rejection.

"Hopefully they will notify Mr Harrington or his family about this age-standard, so he knows there is A-negative blood available, but he won't receive it."

Mr Harrington unfortunately

never received this information as he succumbed to his head injuries on August 13.

WHY HE WASN'T ALLOWED TO DONATE

The PRBC confirmed to the Gazette that first-time donors must not be more than 55 years of age. Only those who have donated previously may donate after the age of 55, provided they have a doctor's approval.

"We cannot accept donors older than 55 who have never donated blood before, even if they otherwise fit the criteria," PRBC nurse Chaleewan Wichadit said.

PRBC Director Pornthip Rattajak explained, "After donating blood, the donors' bodies

PIM Hoogeveen, a 61-year-old Dutchman, offered his blood to save a life. He responded to an urgent call for A-negative blood donations. His donation was refused.

The Gazette's Shela Riva investigates the process behind donating blood on the island the restrictions and the rewards.

compensate for the loss of fluid. If the donator is too old, the compensation mechanism will not be as efficient. There is a higher risk of fainting or unconsciousness, especially for a first-time

"If you donate every three months, your body will be habituated to compensating. If you

> donate for the first time and you are older, the body may respond shock or fear."

> > OTHER **REASONS FOR REFUSAL**

Other restrictions are in place to protect the health of both donors and recipients.

Some of the factors that could put the health of the donor at risk

are being under the age of 17, being older than 70, weighing less than 45 kilograms or being preg-

'If only one person with

Rh-negative blood gets into

an accident... it exhausts our

stock quickly'

Director of the Phuket Regional

- Pornthip Rattajak,

Blood Center (PRBC)

There are far more restrictions intended to protect the recipients. They are presented on a questionnaire donors are asked to fill out before each donation.

PRBC will not accept donations from those who: lived in the UK between 1980 and 1996 for a period of six months or more, or have had sexual contact with the same gender.

Donors will be rejected if they have had the flu within the past seven days or malaria within the past three years.

Even healthy people may be turned down if they have consumed alcohol in the 24 hours leading up to donation or taken medications containing aspirin within three days of donating.

The final protective screening takes place at the time blood is drawn, when three test tubes are filled with blood to test for HIV, syphilis, and Hepatitis B and C.

> THE DEMAND FOR **RH-NEGATIVE**

Although the PRBC receives about 2,000 standard units (450cc) of blood per month (people weighing less than 50kg may donate only 350cc), it has an almost constant shortage of all four Rh-negative blood groups: A-negative, B-negative, AB-negative and O-negative.

"Only 0.3 per cent of the Thai population have blood that is Rh-negative," said Vathu O-art, PRBC Public Relations and Blood Recruitment Coordinator.

"If only one person with Rh-negative blood gets into an accident, it can take up to five units of blood to help them, which exhausts our stock quickly."

Sixteen per cent of the world's population has Rh-negative blood, 40-50 per cent of which are Europeans, but the PRBC rarely benefits from these statistics.

"Ninety-seven per cent of our donors are Thai locals," Ms O-art explained.

Remarkably, given the regular need for Rh-negative blood and the higher incidence of this blood type among Europeans, donations from tourists are generally not accepted.

As a result, Rh-negative donors at the PRBC make up about three in every 1,000 donations.

WHY TOURISTS MAY NOT DONATE

Despite the fact that foreigners are much more likely than Thais to have Rh-negative blood, the rules of the Thai Red Cross do not al-

Reserve land to serve as home to B250mn mosque complex

LAND within a forest reserve was approved last week for the construction of the 250million-baht Phuket provincial mosque complex in Thalang.

On January 15, Phuket Governor Maitri Inthusut signed off on the use of more than nine rai of the Pa Bang Khanun Forest Reserve near the Thalang Technical College, on the way to Phuket International Airport.

"Our budget was approved by Cabinet last year, and we would like to build the mosque in honor of the 84th birthday of HM King Bhumibol Adulyadej," Phuket Doomluck told the *Gazette*.

The site will be home to four buildings: a provincial mosque, a halal exhibition hall, a grand hall that can fit up to 2,000 people and accommodations for those travelling to Mecca for the Hajj.

"The accommodations are necessary because it will be more comfortable for us to wait at the mosque than at the airport," Mr Komon noted.

As soon as the Islamic Committee receives the approved budget, the first phase of construction will begin with the

Islamic Committee President Komon 150mn-baht provincial mosque. The second phase of the project will see the other structures – the halal exhibition hall, the grand hall and the accommodations for travellers – built for 100mn baht. It will be located on a nine rai and two ngan of

> "The mosque is meant to serve Muslims in Phuket and the surrounding provinces and will be a place for religious activities and worship. It will be especially important for travelling Muslims during their journeys to Mecca," Mr Komon said.

– Chutharat Plerin



Governor Maitri (center, right) poses with Komon Doomluck (center, left). Photo: Provincial PR

leaves blood in short supply

low the PRBC to accept donations from tourists, Ms Rattajak said.

One reason is that travel increases the risk of exposure to disease.

A second reason is that those who donate blood must have a permanent address in Phuket.

"In rare cases, perhaps under emergency circumstances or if a family member of a tourist recipient is here with them and wishes to donate, the doctor may consider accepting their blood."

However, the PRBC does accept expatriate donors, but the expat must have lived here for six months before donating.

THE BLOOD SUPPLY

To ensure there is enough blood available for all recipients, particularly Rh-negative blood types, the PRBC maintains a wide network of sources across Thailand.

"If we don't have a particular blood type in stock, we can request it from other provinces. Here in the South, we have 12 blood banks distributed across three provinces: Phuket, Nakhon Sri Thammarat and Songkhla," said Ms Rattajak.

"We can also request it from the Bangkok blood center and the Thai Red Cross."

The Rh Negative Club also plays a role in making sure those who need blood receive it.

"The Rh Negative Club is a local group of donors who have supplied us with their contacts. When Rh- negative blood is needed, we can contact them," said Ms Rattajak.

"On paper, there are about 150 members in the club. We now have about seven Rh-negative club members who come in regularly to donate."

Between club members and



A nurse prepares to screen samples of blood for diseases that might harm recipients. Photo: Leslie Porterfield

other donors, the PRBC receives an average of 10 units of Rh-negative blood per month.

When these donations are not enough, the PRBC appeals to the public for donors.

BLOOD MATCHES

Ms Rattajak explained that it isn't always necessary to match recipient and donor blood types, and that every donations is valuable

Type-O blood can be given to a patient with any blood type, as long as the Rh-factor matches. That is why those with type-O blood are called 'universal donors'.

O-negative blood can be given to

patients with A-negative, B-negative and AB-negative blood.

"We try to save O-negative blood for O-negative patients, because Onegative patients can only receive O-negative blood," she said.

"However, in an emergency, the doctor may decide to use Onegative blood."

Just as O blood is the universal donor, type AB is the 'universal recipient' and can receive blood from any blood type as long as the Rh matches. However, type AB cannot donate to any of the blood groups except its own.

REWARDS OF DONATING

For those who are eligible to

donate, giving blood is rewarding in many ways.

The PRBC often expresses its gratitude by giving gifts, and Vachira Phuket Hospital offers incentives to those who donate often.

Announced in October last year, the Vachira deal is as follows: donating 18 to 23 times cuts medical and hospital room expenses by 50 per cent; donating more than 24 times cuts 100 per cent of medical expenses and 50 per cent of hospital room costs. This program aims to draw in more expatriate donors – which may be the much needed solution to the persistent Rh-negative dilemma.

Donation day to-do

What you need:

Registration form and donor card or another form of identification

What will happen:

Question session regarding medical history and assessment of whether you are well rested and strong enough for blood-giving

Assessment of pulse, temperature, hemoglobin and blood pressure

Blood screening for: ABO and Rh blood types and blood-related diseases, including Hepatitis B and C, syphilis and HIV/AIDs

Platelet donations are tested for bacterial contamination

Sterile needle is inserted and blood is drawn (5-10 minutes)

Refreshments are offered for replenishment: Ovaltine – a sweet syrup drink as sugar makes you feel refreshed after donation – and folic acid/ folacin will be given to replace blood cells

A badge is given according to the number of times you have donated. One of the Thai Princesses has graciously offered to present a badge of honor to those who have donated 108 times or more



Bangkok security locked down by emergency decree

THE caretaker Cabinet on Tuesday imposed an emergency decree covering the capital and its outskirts for 60 days.

The decree authorizes the authorities to announce a curfew, limit people's movement and even censor the media, National Security Council secretary-general Paradorn Pattanatabutr said.

Officials operating under the decree would have some immunity from legal consequences under the Penal Code, he added. To enforce the decree, the authorities

of Peace and Order. Caretaker Deputy Prime Minister

have set up a "Peacekeeping Center",

replacing the Center for the Administration

Surapong Tovichakchaikul will supervise the center's policies, with caretaker Labor Minister Chalerm Yoobamrung as director in command of the center. Police chief General Adul Saengsingkaew and the Defence Ministry's permanent secretary Nipat Thonglek have been named as operating

The decision to impose the decree was made by caretaker Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra and some members of her Cabinet, including Surapong and Chalerm,

In a sign of possible disagreement, there were only military representatives instead of commanders present at the meeting yesterday, sources said.

With a lack of military chiefs at the center, the police under Gen Adul will be at the frontline, Ms Yingluck said.





Rice farmers are threatening to join

Rice payments add pressure to protest woes

RICE farmers in parts of the North and Northeast are demanding long-overdue payments that were promised in the government's controversial rice-pledging scheme.

Under the scheme, the government is to buy rice from farmers at above-market rates. But farmers in many parts of the country say they haven't been paid for months and have no money to buy seeds and tools this year.

In Phichit on January 20, farmers joined with supporters of the People's Democratic Reform Committee to blockade the provincial hall, The Nation reported.

Meanwhile, about 1,000 farmers gathered outside city hall in Chiang Rai and demanded payment for their long-overdue subsidy. Protest leader Theethawat Sitthisom said the rally was peaceful and not linked to the PDRC.

In Ratchaburi, farmers threatened to block a key intersection linking the South of Thailand and the Central region. Some of them vowed to join protests in Bangkok. Protest leader Walit Charoensombat said 27,000 farmers registered for the scheme in Ratchaburi, but fewer than 4,000 had received payments.

Capital protests turn deadly

Grenades hurled at anti-government protests kill one, injure 68

THE political crisis has entered a dangerous new phase after two bomb attacks on protesters in Bangkok killed one man and injured scores.

The police have launched manhunts for suspects in the two attacks, one of whom was caught in clear CCTV footage throwing a grenade into a crowd.

No side has taken responsibility for either attack. The People's Democratic Reform Committee (PDRC) blames the government, while the government claims the PDRC staged them in order to provoke the Army into launching a coup.

The first attack was on January 17 when a grenade was thrown at protesters as they marched down Banthat Thong Road. One man, Prakong Choochan, 46, died the next day from injuries sustained in the blast (see page 1). He was one of 40 people hurt in the explosion.

Mr Prakong was hit by pieces of bomb shrapnel that pierced his chest, damaging a main artery and lacerating a lung. He died of excessive loss of blood and complications such as acute renal failure, according to Ramathibodi Hospital.

Chief of the Center for the Administration of Peace and Order (CAPO), Surapong Tovichakchaikul, claimed an "ill-intentioned group" was responsible for the attack.

"There was an attempt to prevent police from controlling the situation and collecting evidence, which suggests that an ill-intentioned group wanted to create a situation whereby the government



Anti-government protesters carry a fellow protester injured in a grenade attack in Bangkok. Photo: Reuters



would be blamed. The attack was not aimed at protest leaders as claimed," he said.

Protesters claimed the attack came from an empty building close to the scene.

In a room inside the building, an assortment of war weapons was found. Officers from the Army Ordnance Corps entered the building with TV camera crews and protester guards. In addition to the grenade safety pin, they found weapons including unassembled parts of an M16 assault rifle, according to the pro-opposition Bluesky satellitebased television channel.

Bluesky reported that police also found a refrigerator, clothes, a bath towel, food and a red cap in the room.

Another attack took place on Sunday, when a grenade was tossed into the crowd at Victory Monument, injuring 28 people.

The suspect was captured on CCTV throwing the weapon from inside a nearby building. It has been suggested that he bears a strong resemblance to an aide to Seh Daeng, the red-shirt militant who was killed during the 2010 red-shirt protests.



Foreign media under fire for 'simplicity'

FOREIGN reporters are finding it increasingly difficult to cover the ongoing protests in Bangkok as the atmosphere in the capital becomes more tense and anti-foreigner sentiment increases.

In late November, German journalist Nick Nostitz was attacked by People's Democratic Reform Committee guards at a rally in Bangkok after he was accused of being a "red-shirt journalist" by a PDRC leader on stage.

Since then, other journalists such as the BBC's Jonathan Head and The New York Times' Thomas Fuller have also faced criticism for supposedly biased reporting.

Protesters claim foreigners are failing to understand the realities of the situation in Thailand, spinning a simplistic narrative of the crisis as being solely about Thailand's rich versus the poor.

Speaking at a forum at the Foreign Correspondents Club of Thailand in Bangkok, Mr Head said the problem was that brief television reports did not give journalists the opportunity to fully explain an issue as complex as the crisis in Thailand, The Nation reported.

"It's not about not understanding Thai-ness. It's because we have to explain a complex issue in very little time and space," he said.

Mr Head said the BBC had never taken sides and that favoring one side would make their work even more difficult.

Meanwhile, German journalist Mr Nostitz has found himself unable to cover the PDRC's protests due to the danger.

Thousands protest over Indonesian maid abuse

By James Pomfret

THOUSANDS of people rallied in Hong Kong last Sunday to demand justice for a young Indonesian maid who was severely beaten by her employer in a case that has sparked widespread outrage and a police investigation into accusations of torture.

The ill-treatment of foreign domestic workers in Asian and Gulf regions such as Hong Kong, Singapore, Taiwan and Dubai has been a longstanding problem but the severe injuries suffered by the Indonesian maid have drawn fresh attention to the risks faced by this migrant community.

"We are workers. We are not slaves," chanted a crowd of several thousand domestic workers and their supporters as they marched to Hong Kong's government headquarters.

Some waved the red-and-white flag of Indonesia, while others held up grisly photographs of the battered face and body of the 23-year-old maid Erwiana Sulistyaningsih.

"We have to end modern day slavery like this," said Ila Hasan, 32, a domestic worker from Java who wore a red shawl and a blue bandana emblazoned with the word "Justice".

"The employer isn't human. These things shouldn't happen."

Hong Kong has around 300,000 foreign domestic helpers, most of them from the Philippines and Indonesia.

While cases of such harsh treatment are rare, Hong Kong's policies on migrant workers have



Domestic helpers and their supporters rally in the thousands in Hong Kong to demand an investigation into the alleged torture of Indonesian maid Erwiana Sulistyaningsih by her employers. Photo: Reuters

region

often made maids reluctant to report abuse for fear of losing their livelihoods and being deported if they fail to find new jobs swiftly.

Hong Kong police and the labor bureau are now investigating the case and will interview Erwiana on Monday, said Eni Lestari, the head of advocacy group the International Migrants' Alliance, which has been in close touch with the victim.

A second maid, identified only as Susi, who claimed to have been abused by the same employer, also gave a statement to police, saying she had frequently been beaten and abused.

No formal charges have yet been made against the Hong Kong employer, who also reportedly threatened to kill Erwiana and her family if she revealed the abuse she suffered.

Erwiana is now recovering from her injuries at a hospital in

Sragen, a city in central Java, after flying out from Hong Kong in early January.

"She was subjected to intense heat. Most of the bruises are on the face, legs and arms. And she is in a very poor, weak condition," said hospital spokesman Sri Yoko.

"This is not an isolated case," said Lestari, who estimates her group receives four to six complaints of physical assault each month from maids in Hong Kong.

"The only difference is we were able to bring it to the public and to the media and that put pressure on the police." - Reuters

In brief...

Myanmar called to probe deaths of 60 Rohingya by mob

THE United States this week urged Myanmar to investigate reports that security forces and Buddhist mobs attacked Rohingya Muslims in Rakhine State last week, killing as many as 60 people.

Activist Aung Win, based in the state capital of Sittwe, said he was unable to reach the Maungdaw township because security forces had "encircled" it, preventing anyone from checking for dead bodies.

Rakhine government spokesman Win Myaing denied anyone was killed. – *Reuters*

Minimum wage rise impossible: Hun Sen

CAMBODIAN Prime Minister Hun Sen on Tuesday said it would be impossible to double the garment workers' minimum wage to US\$160 a month, though he wished them to have better lives.

Base salaries were already higher than those of workers in India, Bangladesh, Myanmar and Laos, he said. – *Cambodia Herald*

Laos struggles with issuing land titles

INSUFFICIENT budget, modern equipment and personnel are impeding Laos officials in charge of issuing 120,000 land titles this year. At least 50 billion kip is needed in order to issue more than 200,000 titles and reach the target of issuing one million titles by 2015, said Land Department Director Siphandone Sihavong.

He added that some 700,000 titles had been issued since Laos began issuing titles in 1997.

- Vientiane Times

Aquino accused of orchestrating impeachment of supreme judge

OVER breakfast in his official residence, Philippine President Benigno Aquino appealed to Senator Ramon Revilla Jr to vote to impeach then Chief Justice Renato Corona in 2012, the senator said on Monday.

At the resumption of Congress session following the holiday break, Sen Revilla took the floor and lambasted the Aquino administration for plotting to undermine the opposition in the 2016 presidential election by linking him to the alleged 10-billion-peso pork barrel scam.

The senator denied involvement in the purported racket, accused the whistleblowers of conniving with a syndicate in the Department of Budget and Management to mount the scam, and skewered the administration over a host of issues that he said digressed from the President's reformist mantra.



President Aquino. Photo: Reuters

Sen Revilla dropped the bombshell toward the end of his address to Congress, asking: "Is it right for the President of the Republic to interfere with a legal process that is supposed to be independent?"

Revilla said that then Transportation Secretary Mar Roxas personally drove him from Cubao, Quezon City, to the President's residence *Bahay Pangarap* ("House of

Dreams") inside the Malaca ang palace compound in Manila.

"Mar Roxas led the discussion on why Chief Justice Corona should be impeached. Then before we were done, I was surprised by what the President told me: [in Tagalog]: "Pal, be considerate. Do it as a gesture of goodwill. He should be impeached'," he said.

Abad seconded, according to Revilla, by saying: "Let's help each other, Senator."

Senator Revilla said he was shocked and thought the President was "dictating" what he should do, but that he managed to tell his host: "Mr President, I will do what is right. I believe that we should fight for what is right."

"And the rest is history," he said. "CJ Corona was the first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court to be impeached."

- Philippine Inquirer



In brief...

Pope gets tough on predator priests says ex-prosecutor

POPE Francis will not show leniency towards pedophile priests because truth and justice are more important than protecting the Church, the Vatican's former sex crimes prosecutor Monsignor Charles Scicluna said on Saturday.

The pope set up a commission of experts last month to address the sexual abuse of children in the Catholic Church.

CAR names new leader, EU to send support troops

CENTRAL African Republic (CAR) lawmakers on Monday chose their capital's mayor, Catherine Samba-Panz, to become interim president and lead the country out of months of sectarian killings. At the same time, the European Union agreed to send in 500 troops to help restore order.

US offers to send envoy to rescue jailed missionary

THE US has offered to send an envoy to North Korea to win the release of a jailed missionary, but signalled that any real talks with Pyongyang will require it to give up its pursuit of nuclear weapons.

Kenneth Bae, a 45-year-old Korean American, has been held for more than a year by the North, which has convicted him of trying to overthrow the state and sentenced him to 15 years hard labor.

Seven more bird flu cases in China

ANOTHER seven people in China have been infected with the new and often deadly H7N9 strain of bird flu, the World Health Organisation (WHO) said on Monday. At least 24 new cases were confirmed last week, indicating a fresh wave of the virus.

The H7N9 bird flu virus emerged in March last year and has so far infected at least 175 people in China, Taiwan and Hong Kong, killing approximately 50 of them.

Photo evidence documents alleged Syrian war crimes

SYRIAN officials could face war crime charges after a military police photographer provided evidence showing the systematic killing of 11,000 detainees, the Guardian newspaper reported, citing three lawyers who had examined the files.

The photographs will put pressure on President Bashar al-Assad, who the United States and its Western allies say has committed war crimes against his own people. Mr Assad denies any -war crimes.

But the evidence shows emaciated, bloodstained corpses that bore signs of torture.

The three lawyers examined the evidence and interviewed the source in three sessions

The inquiry team said it was satisfied there was "clear evidence, capable of being believed by a tribunal of fact in a court of law, of systematic torture and killing of detained persons by the agents of the Syrian government. It would support findings of crimes against humanity and could also support findings of war crimes against the current Syrian regime."

One of the lawyers, Sir Desmond de Silva, told the Guardian that the evidence "documented industrial-scale killing".

"This is a smoking gun of a kind we didn't have before. It makes a very strong case indeed," he said.



President Assad denies any war crimes. Photo: Reuters

Nuclear deal activated

By Fredrik Dahl and Justyna Pawlak

IRAN has halted its most sensitive nuclear operations under a preliminary deal with world powers, winning some relief from economic sanctions on Monday in a ground-breaking exchange that could ease a threat of war.

The United States and European Union both suspended some restrictions against the OPEC oil producer after the United Nations' nuclear watchdog confirmed that Iran had fulfilled its side of an agreement made on November 24.

Iran should be able to recover US\$4.2 billion in oil revenues frozen in foreign accounts over the six months of the deal, as well as resume trade in petrochemicals, gold and other precious metals. But EU and US officials stressed that reaching a final accord will be difficult.

Israel, which has called the interim pact a "historic mistake" and has repeatedly warned it might attack Iran to prevent it developing nuclear arms, said any final deal must end any prospect of Tehran building an atomic bomb.

The interim accord marks the first time in a decade that Tehran has limited nuclear operations that it says are aimed mainly at generating electricity and the first time the West has eased its economic pressure on Iran.

"This is an important first step," said EU foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton.

She said talks on the settlement



Leaders of Iran and the six world powers at the United Nations palace in Geneva on November 24. Photo: Reuters

are expected to start in February. "This temporary relief will not

fix the Iranian economy. It will not uranium to a fissile concentration come close," said a senior US of 20 per cent, a short technical official.

"Iran is not and will not be open for business until it reaches a comprehensive agreement."

The deal took months of secret

negotiations between Washington and Tehran and marks a new thaw in relations that have been generally hostile since the 1979 Islamic revolution.

Under the interim deal, Iran agreed to suspend enrichment of

> step away from the level needed nuclear for weapons.

It also has to dilute or convert its stockpile of this highergrade uranium,

and cease work on the Arak heavy water reactor, which could provide plutonium, an alternative to uranium for bombs.

Analysts said much was still

unclear about how world powers could achieve their goal of ensuring Iran cannot develop the capability to build a nuclear weapon.

The UN nuclear watchdog will play a key role in checking that Iran implements the deal.

"The accord gives the powers and Iran plenty of flexibility in trying to reduce Iran's nuclear threat to a level the world will accept," said Mark Hibbs of the Carnegie Endowment. "But it hasn't spelled out how they will work with the International Atomic Energy Agency to resolve allegations Iran has been working on nuclear weapons." - Reuters

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Spacecraft Rosetta roused from slumber COMET-CHASING spacecraft

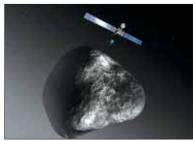
AROUND THE

world

Rosetta woke from nearly three years of hibernation on Monday to complete a decade-long deep space mission that scientists hope will help unlock secrets of the solar system.

Rosetta, which was launched in 2004, is due to rendezvous with comet 67P/ Churyumov-Gerasimenko and land a probe on it this year in an unprecedented maneuver.

Scientists hope data the probe gathers will allow them to peek into a kind of astronomical time capsule that has preserved clues



An artist's take on Rosetta. Photo: Reuters

for millions of years as to what the world looked like when our solar system was born.

The mission will perform several historical firsts, including the first

time a spacecraft orbits a comet rather than snapping a few fly-by pictures, and the first time a probe has landed on a comet's nucleus.

Rosetta is also the first mission to venture beyond the main asteroid belt relying solely on solar cells for power, which is why it had to be put into a deep sleep for 957 days.

Once it is fully up and running, it will start to approach the comet. By November it should land its probe.

Until the end of 2015, the probe will gather data on the comet's surface and examine how it changes as its nears the sun. - Reuters

Living it up in the Ozone



ALL INCLUSIVE: Each of the project's 145 apartments will come fully furnished, while the development will feature standard facilities and amenities. Photos: Supplied

ACCORDING to chemistry and geology textbooks, "ozone" is a pale blue gas – an inorganic compound comprising three atoms of oxygen – which plays a crucial role in the earth's stratosphere, absorbing much of the sun's deadly radiation to make this planet habitable for humans.

Perhaps this "life enabling" property is what developer Phuket Pro Property had in mind when naming their latest project, "Ozone Condotel Kata Beach".

Indeed, its location by itself is a key selling point; located in the Kata town center, future residents and guests will be within a stone's throw to some of the island's finest dining venues; hundreds of restaurants, coffee-shops and bars, banks, a post office and petrol stations.

Situated less than a kilometer from Kata Beach, or within a ten minute walk by foot, the 500-million-baht, eight-story development will offer a total of 145 units in four room types

The basic Type A studio unit plans feature 31.39 square meter apartments that will offer "modern living... optimal size bathrooms and open-plan kitchens." The project offers a total of 113 of these studios

There will be six one-bedroom Type B units, featuring 41.1 square meter apartments that are "more comfortable with more work space, more living area, private bedroom and balcony."

Larger Type C units are also one-bedroom apartments but sized 52.47sqm and boasting two balconies.

Finally, there will be 20 Type D one-bedroom units in two variations – 41.48sqm and 43.3sqm.

All units will have a breakfast bar and a private walkout balcony, aimed at enabling guests and residents to "enjoy romantic el fresco-living, the aroma of ocean-air and the natural beauty beneath the warmth of the Phuket sun."

As part of a promotional offer-

PROPERTY Gazette

ing, all apartments will come fully furnished with a bed, wardrobe, airconditioner unit and refrigerator.

The project website (see end info) describes the project's interior design concept as "a modern con-



SIXTY-NINER: From 2.16 million baht.

temporary look... the answer for your future lifestyle... with elegant shades of color and furnishings of a high standard."

Meanwhile, the exterior of the building is described as "modern... with quality and strong elements, surrounded by beautiful natural gardens and recreational facilities."

Facilities will include in infinity pool on the top floor; sundeck; sky fitness club; lobby lounge, free wifi; 24-hour security and guarded parking.

Above all, the apartments, aimed at Western and Thai second-home buyers and investors, are reasonably priced from 69,000 baht per square meter, or starting from 2.16mn baht.

This strategic lower-mid tier pricing only complements the project's superior location.

At a recent pre-sales launch event, Mr Satchapol Thongsom, Phuket Pro Property Managing Director acknowledged an oversupply of condominium projects and units in Phuket.

"According to records from the Phuket Land Office, up to October, 2013, there were a total of 4,300 condo units registered in 30-plus projects across Phuket. Of these [the titles of] only about 2,300 [units] had been transferred, meaning that about 2,000 were still waiting to be sold," he told the press.

However, Mr Satchapol doesn't see this necessarily as an obstacle, as he believes the location and affordable pricing and combined with his company's dedicated post-sale service, makes the Ozone Condotel Kata Beach stand out from the rest.

Construction is set to begin in April, this year, with the completion date at the end of next year.

The developer has reported a good reception of the project, with already 60% of its units reserved.

- Phuket Gazette

For more information and inquiries, see kataozone.com or call the sales office on 076-390777, 093-5740900

Centara's Krabi property count now five

CENTARA Hotels & Resorts is set to greatly expand its presence in the Southern Thailand province of Krabi following the signing of management contracts for three new properties within the same master development in Klong Muang, Krabi.

The properties are Centara Pelican Bay Resort & Spa Krabi, Centara Pelican Bay Residence & Suites Krabi, and Centara Pelican Bay

Villas Krabi.

Perry & Son Co Ltd is developing all three properties, with Centara signing the management contracts on November 21, 2013.

Centara opened its first Krabi resort, Centara Grand Beach Resort & Villas Krabi, in 2006. A second resort, Centara Anda Dhevi Resort & Spa Krabi, followed this in 2012.

"Krabi has emerged as a prime tourist destination in recent years, and has enormous potential for the Centara Pelican Bay Residence & Suites Krabi

future," says Thirayuth Chirathivat, chief executive officer for Centara Hotels & Resorts.

"We are very proud to have been a leader in developing Krabi for visitors, and these three new ventures give us superb scope to add to our presence in this beautiful part of Thailand."

Chris Bailey, senior vice president for sales and marketing at Centara Hotels & Resorts, says that the addition of the three properties will further help develop tourism in the region.

"The three resorts offer three different holiday styles within an area of outstanding natural beauty," he says.

"They will give us a tremendous strategic marketing

advantage, and will further raise the profile of Krabi as a quality destination."

First to open will be Centara Pelican Bay Residence & Suites Krabi, which is currently in its pre-opening period and is due to have its soft opening before mid-2014.

The property will have 92 residential units, with

one restaurant, a swimming pool, a business corner and a beach club.

Design and planning for Centara Pelican Bay Resort & Spa Krabi will start in the middle of this year, with the soft opening due in the first quarter of 2017.

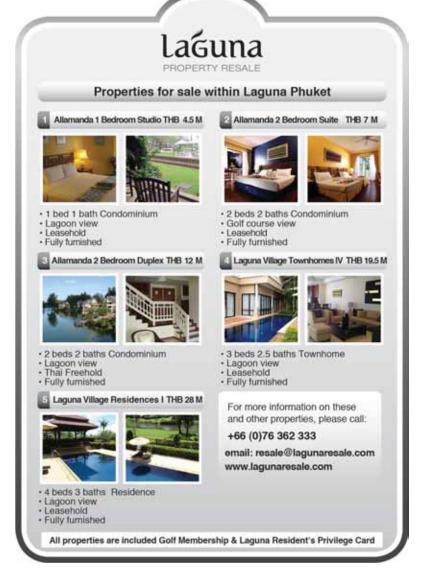
The resort will have 210 rooms. Facilities will include two restaurants and a bar, a swimming pool with snack bar, a Spa Cenvaree, a banquet room,

a business center, a fitness center, and a kids' club.

Centara Pelican Bay Villas Krabi will be an all-villa resort. A mock-up villa has been completed, and master planning and construction will take place alongside Centara Pelican Bay Resort & Spa. The opening is expected to be at the same time.

Centara Hotels & Resorts is Thailand's leading operator of hotels, with 47 deluxe and first-class properties covering all the major tourist destinations in the Kingdom. A further 18 resorts in the Maldives, Vietnam, Shanghai, Bali Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Mauritius Indian Ocean, Ethiopia brings the present total to 65 properties.

— Phuket Gazette



The medium remains the message



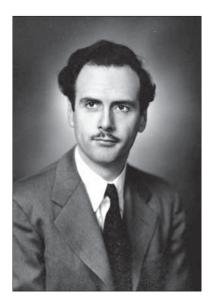
A CRASH back in time in our memory machine today takes us back to the 1960s and the groundbreaking work of Marshall McLuhan. His forward looking views on the effects of popular mass culture continue to be relevant to this day, over half a century later.

Little did readers of *The Medium is the Message* realize, that the speed and time he considered a vital component of opinion making would be transformed by modern technology in such a profound way. In the past, families gathered around a dinner table and gave thanks to a God which they imagined was installed in some heaven-bound paradise.

Today, social groups gather at tables with smartphones, and instead of giving thanks, they snap photos and upload them to Instagram, Facebook and Twitter before even sticking in a spoon. The angst of possibly damaging the digital imagination is huge. No one really cares how it tastes – the key point is to share the experience with the masses, and fast.

For marketing, mass communication is a sacred manta or object of desire but the entire concept of

the "long tail" of the internet age has created entirely new customized niche offerings that can be targeted to segments, sexes, age group's or any other microcosmic demographic realty we can imagine. Too small or too big have taken on entirely new meanings.



Marshall McLuhan, author of the seminal book on advertising: The Medium is the Message.

Back at ground zero, the hotel industry remains at the bar, hanging out with the dinosaurs. The sector has, sadly, become a sheep-like entity of followers, rather than doers. In Asia, they have jumped into the back of the schoolroom and remain happy to simply go

along for the ride. While Thailand's hotel owners complain of low room rates, quantity over quality and the growing power of wholesalers and online travel agencies (OTA's) hoteliers simply take the slap on one cheek and turn the other in morbid expectation of another to follow.

What has happened to the industry's ability to innovate and embrace change? All too often the blame game goes back to antiquated practices. Take the annual business plan, which actually started some six months before a year actually starts, and by the time you reach the end of the "year", eighteen months have passed. For god's sake! How much changes in just 24 hours, much less over 13,000 hours in that ill advised cycle?

New business strategies that can be launched, managed and targeted in the span of short term measurable metrics too often get bundled in to the "too hard" basket. Once business starts to slide, the hotel remains stuck – like a train headed down a tunnel to a head-on collision. The entire logic of long term business cycles needs to be thrown out the door and perhaps monthly, weekly or even daily business plans need to become the new norm.

Action or reaction? It seems the only time hotels can react to online



If an average patron with a smartphone can share their photos with the masses, why can't hotels do a better job at digital marketing? Photo: jcmedina.

media is when things go wrong. Be it a damning TripAdvisor comment or else a public relations debacle. Why it is that only crisis can spur action beyond the long term tunnel vision of hotels and not the ability to recreate your marketing each and every day?

What's even more astounding is the trend of hotels to outsource vital functions like social media or other new media avenues, they seem afraid to dedicate resources, or else consider the practice too arcane to embrace. Perhaps the 50-something general manager needs to send his twelve-year-old kids to handle this side of the

business, as they are likely more turned into the new world order.

Is change too much to ask for some 50 years after McLuhan's prophetic insights? It all comes down to how you wish to traverse the new business universe. Are you content to be driven by a stranger, who may very well fall asleep at the wheel and crash the vehicle, or will you take charge of your own destiny with a brand new set of tools? Decisions, decisions... the clock is ticking hotelman.

Bill Barnett is Managing Director of C9Hotelworks he can be contacted through C9hotelworks.com

Asia Pacific region to be primary focus for corporate expansion

THE US Federal Reserve's recent announcement that it will cut monthly purchases of mortgagebacked and treasury securities - to US\$75 billion from \$85 billion, which started this month – is likely to have positive implications for the Asia real estate market. Since the Federal Reserve's summer announcement that it might begin tapering at some point in 2013, the market has been struck with uncertainty about when and how fast this tapering might come, making business decisions difficult. However, the announcement can be perceived as business friendly, as it clarifies that rate and extent of tapering will both be moderate. The

benefits of the Federal Reserve's announcement will be as follows: Provides clarity around the Fed's policy stance; Highlights better economic prospects in 2014; Frees up corporate decision-makers to implement plans for the coming year.

The world's largest commercial real estate and investment firm CBRE maintains its view that the Asia Pacific region be the primary focus for global corporate expansion due to comparatively robust fundamentals of steady urbanization, rising wealth and favorable demographics.

Overall, the clarity around the Fed's announcement will allow firms

to make business decisions that may have been on hold for the past few months. CBRE expects this to play out particularly in Asia in 2014 and eventually provide support to the rental market as firms seek to grow. There will be around a six to 12 months lag time before we see the impact on rentals from the improvement in business sentiment.

However, given the likely extension of the Federal Reserve's zero rate, in Asia it appears that excess liquidity will continue to be the dominating factor in determining asset prices, at least in the coming 12 months. Property yields are therefore likely to remain low over this timeframe. — CBRE





Hua Hin condo glut, Bangkok stable

BANGKOK'S condominium market has maintained stable growth, but Hua Hin's is suffering from oversupply, according to a survey by property agency Knight Frank Chartered (Thailand).

Managing Director Phanom Kanjanathiemthao said both Thais and foreigners have postponed purchasing decisions due to political turmoil.

He said buyers should exercise caution when venturing into lower-cost condo investments in the city's outskirts, especially the tail end of Sukhumvit and in Nonthaburi's Bang Yai district. The markets of the two outer business-district zones of Ratchadaphisek and Paholyothin are more stable at this time.

Meanwhile the Hua Hin market, which consists principally of Thai buyers, has seen a surge of supply in the past two years and thus has slowed down. Some projects offer a large number of units, making the overall market stagnant. Competition may be fiercer, but at the same time, buyers also have more choices.

Both Hua Hin and nearby Cha-am have been affected by developments such as The Energy, which boasts up to 6,000 units – this is the main reason supply has surged way beyond demand. Other developers typically build projects with about 200-300 units only, he said.

"As Pattaya and Hua Hin already have a large supply of condominiums, many developers have turned to Khao Yai [in Nakhon Ratchasima province]. If early movers are successful, other developers will follow. If the early developers aren't successful, they have the option of turning their project into a hotel," Phanom said.

- The Nation



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Sri Lanka: Next frontier for investors

WHEN most Westerners think of Sri Lanka, the island nation off the coast of South India that was once known as Ceylon,

Island Investor

Why visit or invest in Sri Lanka?

International Airport in

By Don Freeman My flight to Mattala

they probably think of tea (as the country has long been a major tea exporter), science fiction author Arthur C Clarke (who spent most of his adult life living there) or the now defeated Tamil Tiger guerillas (who were notorious for suicide bombings) – seemingly not an up and coming frontier market for tourists and investors alike.

However, Sri Lanka has a recorded history dating back some 3,000 years, as its strategic location, along with deep harbors, has always made the island an important stop for travellers (like Marco Polo who wrote that it was the finest island in the whole world), explorers and traders for centuries. With Portuguese explorers arriving in the 1500s, followed by Dutch traders in the 1600s and ultimately the British who took over the island from the Dutch during the Napoleonic Wars. The British stayed until after World War II, when independence led to simmering tensions, and ultimately, a very destructive civil war between the majority Buddhist Sinhalese and the Hindu/ Christian Tamil minority.

No one knows for sure how many Sri Lankans died or were displaced during the 26-year civil war that lasted until 2009, but the conflict is estimated to have cost the country more than \$200 billion or five times the country's 2009 GDP. To add to the country's miseries, the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami killed some 35,000 people, displaced hundreds of thousands more and devastated the infrastructure in the areas it hit.

Today, Sri Lanka is once again open for business and is increasingly coming onto the radar of both foreign tourists and investors alike - something I observed on a recent two week holiday there. But is Sri Lanka set to become the next hot frontier market for all investors and how might retail investors take advantage of the growing number of investment opportunities there?

Southern Sri Lanka took about a three and a half hours and I arrived at the new international airport built to bring in more tourists like myself along with business travellers. In fact, I was told the new airport (just opened in early 2013 and one of three in the country) cost over \$200 million (financed by the Chinese) and will be able to handle up to 6 million passengers per year once the second phase is completed, plus it's located near a recently completed port (also financed and built by the Chinese) – meaning the airport is also part of an important cargo and logistics hub.

Nevertheless, I did not see any foreigners at the new Southern airport (but then again, it's not yet fully serviced by international airlines) and like most tourists who do venture to Sri Lanka, I headed straight to a beach area immediately for surfing. After I arrived at the beach, I still did not see many other foreigners and while locals told me they are seeing more foreign tourists since the end of the civil war, I never once saw a single McDonald's, Pizza Hut or KFC in the South, albeit, I was told that some Western fast food chains now have locations in the big city of Colombo.

I should mention that the Sri Lankan economy has traditionally revolved around commodities like gems, tea, spices, rubber and coconuts, along with apparel making, rather than services like tourism, that's starting to change because the end of the civil war has led to new hotels and other infrastructure (like the new airport I arrived at) to be built, upgraded or planned, so that modern day Marco Polos can rediscover the island. After all, there are plenty of reasons for foreign tourists to visit Sri Lanka when you consider that the island is small enough to be crisscrossed in a few days and has:

1. Eight world heritage sites, both natural and man-made.



Tea has long been one of Sri Lanka's main exports, but other areas of its economy are growing fast after the end of the bitter civil war. Photo: Bernard Gagnon

- **2.** Hundreds of other historical sites.
- A number of scenic national parks with impressive biodiversity including everything from elephants to leopards and a vast variety of birds.
- 4. Plenty of festivals and religious places, as the country is home to Buddhists, Muslims, Hindus and Christians, all who revere Adam's Peak as a sacred mountain.
- **5.** Sporting activities including everything from land activities like golf to water activities like surfing and diving.
- Beaches for year-round swimming or surfing depending upon which side of the island you are on.

More importantly, Sri Lankans are friendly, fairly well educated (a 94% literacy rate) and almost everyone you meet there can speak English. These qualities have helped the country to develop and grow a niche outsourcing industry (including publicly-traded Indian BPOs who have set up operations there) serving Fortune 500 companies globally. In fact, Sri Lanka has the highest number of UK-qualified accountants outside of the UK and this has attracted the attention of financial services firms who have set up their portfolio and analytics divisions there.

However, before Sri Lanka can truly live up to its branding as a "knowledge island", the country still needs to work on improving basic infrastructure like roads and internet or telco bandwidth - especially outside of Colombo. With that said, Sri Lanka is apparently the only country in South Asia that can supply electricity to customers throughout the entire day without blackouts, plus it has the most liberalized economy in the region because foreign investors receive preferential tax rates, constitutional guarantees on investment agreements and exemptions from foreign exchange controls – plus 100% repatriation of profits and 100% foreign ownership is allowed in most areas of the economy.

Watch this space next week for part-two of Don's in depth analysis of the Sri Lankan retail investment market.

Don Freeman is president of Freeman Capital Management, a Registered Investment Advisor with the US Securities Exchange Commission (SEC), based in Phuket, Thailand. He 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

A time tested formula

Finance

By David Mayes

A question I am often asked by clients, who do a bit of stock trading on their own portfolios, is how to determine the appropriate position size. Indeed, there have been studies that show that this aspect can be just as impor-

tant as the actual security selec- even been slightly modified and tion in the long run. The reason this is so important is that in short-term trading, as in many games of chance like roulette or blackjack, wins and losses tend to come in streaks. Back in the 1950s, a formula came out of research at Bell Laboratories that is still the backbone of the position sizing strategies for much of the investment world, and has

is called the Kelly Criterion. While I will include here for any fellow math nerds out there, you do not need to be one to incorporate the basic idea into your stock trading. You can use the basic idea to make it slightly more systematic than "I think I'll buy 1,000 shares because it is a nice round number", although there

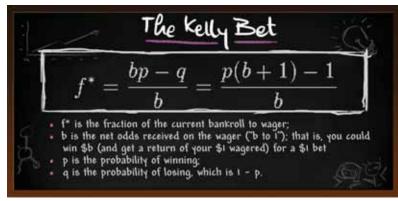
Warren Buffet.

are some advantages to trading in round lots and not going into position sizes that are not divisible by 100 shares. Anyway, the formula is as follows:

applied to long term investing by such gurus as Bill Gross and

The formula I am referring to

For simple bets with two outcomes, one involving losing the entire amount bet (i.e the loss realized at your stop loss point), and the other involving winning the bet amount multiplied by the payoff odds (this could be a price target or your historical average winning %). The Kelly bet (see graphic above right) explaned is: f* is the fraction of the current bankroll to wager;



b is the net odds received on the wager ("b to 1"); that is, you could win \$b (and get a return of your \$1 wagered) for a \$1 bet; **p** is the probability of winning; q is the probability of losing,

which is 1

In laymen's terms, what this will yield is a proportion of your trading bankroll to risk on any one idea or trade, and this will be sensitive to the probability of a loss or a win. If you are a frequent trader, your own prior probability should be available from tracking your own success rate. Keep in mind that if you

balance risk and reward, you can have a statistical edge even if you are only right 40% of the time. You simply need to make sure your losses are smaller than your gains by using stops and being

The reason the formula works well is because as you experience a string of losses, each subsequent trade places less capital at risk, whereas during a winning streak, it edges up. The main thing to remer ber is that if you take your investment capital and allocate something like 10% as risk capital, you would only use that 10% as the bankroll in the above formula, not your entire life

disciplined enough to follow them.

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. He can be reached at david.m@faramond.com or 085-335-8573.



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UAE woos foreign direct investment

UNDER the directive of HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, UAE Ministry of Economy recently announced that preparations for the 4th Annual Investment Meeting (AIM) scheduled from 8 to 10 April 2014 at the Dubai International Convention and Exhibition Center are in full swing.

Delivering the speech on behalf of HE Sultan Bin Saeed Al Mansoori, UAE Minister of Economy, HE Abdulla Al Saleh, Undersecretary, UAE Ministry of Economy, Foreign Trade Sector said that the past three editions of AIM succeeded in putting the spotlight on challenges and opportunities facing investments in the region and globally.

He added that the fourth edition comes at a time the UAE has moved to the forefront as a key investment destination globally.

Al Saleh said that the UAE had become a tier-one investment destination thanks to its

conducive business environment backed by its unique features and advantages like its strategic location, logistics infrastructure, high flexibility and increasing inflow of foreign investment.

In Al Mansoori's speech, delivered by the undersecretary, Al Saleh lauded the UAE government's initiatives in maintaining a lead position when it came to international and regional investment inflow.

This year's meeting will focus on the theme "In-

vestment Partnerships for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth in Frontier and Emerging Markets". Representatives of 165 countries have been invited to the forum that is expected to attract over 10,000 visitors.

HE Al Saleh said that the AIM 2014 comes at a time when global growth is still in low gear and the drivers of growth

are shifting, according to the IMF's latest World Economic Outlook (WEO) report. The IMF had forecast global growth to average 2.9% in 2013. However, much of the pickup in growth is expected to be driven by advanced economies.

Speaking about UAE, HE Al Saleh said: "In the UAE, the economy is back on the growth path, thanks to a balanced national strategy based on our comparative advantages and supportive policies toward entrepreneurship and private sector development. Increased government spending and a significant resurgence in tourism, transport and trade has contributed to this upswing."

On UAE's Expo 2020 win, HE Al Saleh said that the successful bid will whet the appetites of foreign investors to invest in UAE services sectors in 2014.

He commented: "For the first time, developing countries absorbed more FDI

> than developed countries, with a 52% share."

He said that AIM has attracted the participation of a variety of economy ministers, undersecretaries, decision-makers, economists, experts and analysts, businessmen and investors in addition to the media of the world and the region.

Al Saleh stressed that the UAE has succeeded in attracting FDI through globalization and its strong role as a prominent player in the modernized globalized economy.

Al Saleh added that the UAE has the advantages of the ideal economic and investment environment supported by a modern integrated structure of airports and ports, communications,

transportation and logistics services. Mr Dawood Al Shezawi, CEO, AIM's Organizing Committee said that international and regional investors are keen to



The view from the Burj Khalifa skyscraper in Dubai, United Arab Emirates; the tallest manmade structure in the world. Photo: Panoramas

attend this global event that will review a host of investment options, and share practices and experiences, with a focus on simplifying and maximizing investments in emerging countries.

He noted that the event will see participation of more than 10,000 senior officials

from the UAE and the world.

The inaugural session on April 8 will witness the release of the foreign direct investment report for 2013, and discussions on legislative and regulatory frameworks for investments. This year, the new addition will be the Ministerial Roundtable, a high level forum involving ministers from various countries, business leaders, representatives of multilateral agencies as well as world renowned experts from research centres and academia.

In the last two days of AIM, the focus will be on investment in the agricultural sector, tourism and entertainment industries, infrastructure and logistics sector as well as discussions on investments pertaining to Expo 2020, risk management, dynamic institutional investments and investments in

the sectors of energy, manufacturing and financial operations and a panel discussion on investments in China as well as case studies on best practices of investment in emerging markets.

Al Shezawi said that AIM 2014 will look into investment opportunities in emerging

> markets in Asia, Africa and the rest of the world.

> Al Shezawi concluded: "The forum will focus on the challenges facing the global economy and their impact on foreign direct investment as well as the necessary legislations to promote investment partnerships and maximize investments, mergers and acquisitions. AIM will also assess significance of investing in different economic sectors and other issues critical to investments in modernized global economy."

- Phuket Gazette



Dawood Al Shezawi, CEO of

The Phuket Gazette and PGTV are proud media sponsors of the 10th International Property Show (IPS), which will coincide with the Annual Investment Meeting 2014, from April 8-10 in Dubai and is expected to attract 300 companies from 80 countries.

More international brands enter Thai market

INTERNATIONAL brands in the meters, a 2.6% increase year-onluxury and fast fashion categories continued to enter the Thai market or increase the number of stores in major malls in Bangkok due to the strong retail market. They have entered the market in the form of owned stores, franchises and distribution deals, according to a recent research report by CBRE, an international real estate advisor.

"International brands expanding their business lines in the Thai market in Q3 2013 include the fourth store of Christian Dior at Siam Paragon; the second store of Tory Burch at The Emporium and the first store of Miu Miu at Siam Paragon. H&M also opened their flagship store at CentralWorld," said Ms Jariya Thumtrongkitkul, Senior Manager of Retail Services, CBRE Thailand.

The report also shows that the overall occupancy rate for Bangkok retail space stayed at 95.4% as of Q3 2013. The total supply was 6.28 million square year. A total of about 120,000 sqm of space in shopping malls and department stores is expected to be completed during Q4 2013, bringing the total retail supply to 6.39 million sqm by the end of 2013.

HE Sultan Bin Saeed Al Mansoori,

UAE Minister of Economy.

Looking at the overall Asia Pacific markets, retailer demand for leases in Q3 2013 continued to be led by fast fashion retailers, as groups in this sector entered new markets and introduced sister brands to locations where they already have a presence. Japanese and Korean groups in the fast fashion and cosmetics sectors in particular were hungry for cross-border expansion, while department stores also became more active. Likewise, luxury sector high-end brands continued to add new stores in Beijing and Shanghai but were more focused on core areas in top cities as opposed to expanding elsewhere.

In particular, in Southeast Asia, rising demand for new trends and styles from the Asia for new market entry and emerging middle class continued to spur the entry of fast fashion retailers into key markets. In Q3 2013, H&M launched its first store in Jakarta in early October. after the opening of its new flagship store in Bangkok. Zara opened its first store in Hanoi and its sister brands Bershka and Stradivarius established their first outlets in Manila.

Beyond Southeast Asia also saw Abercrombie & Fitch sign a lease for a 2,200sqm space in Shanghai for its first store in mainland China; Forever 21 opened its first store in Shenzhen with a 2,200sqm unit; and COS – a spin off brand by the H&M Group opened its first branch in Singapore with a 550sqm store.

"Retailer demand is expected to remain firm overall, and will continue to be led by bridge brands and mid-range fashion groups, with many retailers in these categories focusing on key markets in China and Southeast expansion. In markets where they are already established, retail groups are looking for brand extension opportunities to launch their related brands in premium locations," said Mr Sebastian Skiff, Executive Director, CBRE Retail Asia.

"We expect core luxury retailers will remain active, although most groups already established in key markets such as Beijing, Hong Kong, Shanghai and Tokyo are now focusing on the upgrading and repositioning of existing stores to improve customer experience. The relatively newer to market category now actively opening stores in the luxury segment are the creative or affordable luxury brands that will continue to build their presence across core markets like Shanghai, Beijing, Chengdu, Hangzhou and other key Chinese cities," said Mr.



- CBRE

Time is of the essence

THE sustained work of the Phuket Regional Blood Center (PRBC) in organizing blood donation drives that have saved countless lives over the years should be applauded. However, it might be time to reconsider some of the more restrictive criteria over who can donate blood when it is a matter of life and death.

Thanks to relatively recent advances in medical science, tremendous strides have been made in understanding how to transfuse this life-giving substance since our earliest, desperate forays into the field, which initially involved animal research and animal to human transfusions.

Fast forward to the new millennium and the science behind blood donation and transfusion is generally well understood and accepted, although how this potentially life-saving technique is performed and administered can vary widely country to country for a number of reasons, from religious and traditional beliefs to legal considerations.

Here in Phuket, the biggest challenge confronting the local blood bank is the lack of negative blood types relatively common to Caucasians, but extremely rare among Asians.

Many *Gazette* readers have read countless emergency appeals for donations of negative-type blood following accidents that befall visiting tourists and expats over the years.

Often these appeals end well, with the island's hospitals, the local media and the blood bank cooperating to find the true heroes: those willing to stop what they are doing at a moment's notice to, quite literally, give the gift of life to save another.

Unfortunately, in the case of emergency patients with negative blood types, there have been cases when people have succumbed to their conditions simply because of a lack of suitable blood. It's not that there weren't people willing to give it, but that those who were didn't qualify.

It is hard to imagine blood so ill-qualified in a life-or-death situation that it is better to let a patient die from massive blood loss than to take a chance on a patient who is a little too old to give blood, or is possibly a carrier of Mad Cow disease – loosely described as anyone who lived in the UK between 1980 and 1996 for a period of six months or more.

Furthermore, though the Red Cross is right to be protective of the health of older donors, it should consider raising the age limit on first-time donors, and in emergency cases where older donors are willing to accept potential health risks in order to help another, it should allow them to do so.

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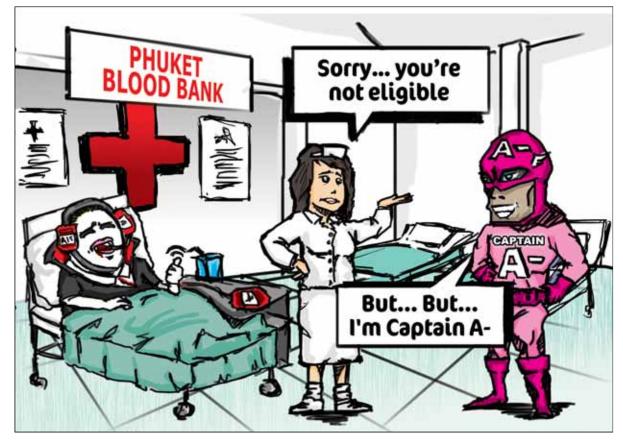
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One-way isn't the only way to fix hill

Re: Gazette online, Phuket Poll: How to stop Patong Hill carnage?, January 18

Construct new roads from Kathu to Kamala and Chalong to Patong to reduce the amount of traffic on Patong Hill. This also would relieve traffic along the coast road.

Mr Ree Gazette forum

...make the fines a lot more painful...

Re: Gazette online, Phuket Poll: How to stop Patong Hill carnage?, January 18

Fine the bus company 100,000 baht per incident, 500,000 baht for each injury plus cost of repairs, and 1 million baht for each death.

The bus companies will immediately clean up their act with better equipment and drivers.

Jim Gazette forum

...pare the hill down...

Re: Gazette online, Phuket Poll: How to stop Patong Hill carnage?, January 18

I think the best way to handle the problem is to remove most of the big hills that hamper the drivers.

They removed big hills to put in the airport bypass road so why not remove part of the hills and level them out some; it's the best answer to this problem because enforcing a bus ban is a joke.

> Ben Gazette forum

Cowardly attack

Re: Gazette online, Phuket protesters mourn death of Prakong, blame government, January 18

Very sad you cannot protest in a peaceful manner for something that Mr Prakong and many thousands believe in.

Letters

to the Editor

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

A lethal attack on a peaceful protest is cowardly and inexcusable. I hope the perpetrator is brought to justice; it's a miracle more were not killed.

My thoughts are with his family.

Bjay Gazette forum

Don't use our taxes to build a mosque...

Re: Gazette online, Phuket's 250million-baht provincial mosque to be built in forest reserve, January 18

This is another Yingluck disaster. An entire complex of buildings in a protected forest area!

I am all for religious freedom for any religion, but everybody should pay their own way and no taxpayer's money should be spent for this undertaking. I note many new and quite elaborate mosques on Phuket lately. Is some of the money which I pay in taxes going into them?

> Guenter Bellach Gazette forum

...it's legal use and a good place to meet...

Re: Gazette online, Phuket's 250million-baht provincial mosque to be built in forest reserve, January 18

It's forest reserve, yes, but not national park. Forest reserve status stops people from encroaching on it, but the government has full legal right to use the land. Anyone who has driven past there knows it's not anything special.

It will be a good location for all Muslims from the islands and

villages of Phang Nga to meet up prior to flights.

Michael Gazette forum

...but why can't they use the airport?

Re: Gazette online, Phuket's 250million-baht provincial mosque to be built in forest reserve, January 18

I am surprised that with so much land available in Phuket they are encroaching onto Forest Reserve Land. I am not in any way anti-Muslim – my best friend and his family in UK are a prominent Muslim family in Newcastle.

But I am confused that Muslims who are travelling to Mecca cannot wait in Phuket Airport for their flights, like everyone else, and require to be accommodated in Thalang?

Is the Thai Government footing the bill?

Bjay Gazette forum

Don't focus on pot

Re: Gazette online, Police pounce on pot peddler in Phuket, January 18

Who cares about busting an herb peddler. The authorities have bigger problems on Soi Bangla that have never been addressed. These cops act like they just caught Jack The Ripper

Tonglen Gazette forum

Speeders are wealthy

Re: Gazette online, Too fast to be furious: Phuket speed cameras can't keep up, January 15

I think people who drive over 200kmh have expensive cars and a 500-baht ticket just makes them laugh.

Alessandro Carafa Facebook

Creating a family for the ill far from home

FIRST PERSON

I WORKED for years in medical and geriatric facilities in Switzerland and I became convinced that a nursing home abroad could provide a better quality of care, because of lower costs. In a rough comparison between Switzerland and Phuket, we figured that for one third the money in Phuket, you get eight times more caregiver

I wanted to create a nursing home on an intimate scale. Since our patients have left their families to join us, I wanted to give them the feeling of being with another family in a warm and cozy place. My desire was to create a five-star facility in every respect, from level of care to food to facilities to furniture in the room.

Our patients – I call them guests – live in normal houses, as families do, on a small cul-de-sac. We have four houses now, with one more under construction. Once that's completed, we won't expand anymore. We think getting bigger than that would affect the kind of care we want to give.

The houses are identical, with four private bedrooms with en suite bathroom, a kitchen, living room and small swimming pool. They're not huge – I wanted them to be on the same scale as our guests' houses probably were.

One of the houses is the main building, which is our social center. Guests eat together there, do activities, or relax and receive treatments such as massage or manicures around the pool. Our guests come and go between their homes and the main building as they please.

Right now we have eight Swiss guests, one American and one



Anita Somaini, 51, is the owner of Baan Tschuai Duu Lää, a nursing facility in Rawai. She has degrees in nursing, emergency nursing and pharmacology, and worked for 20 years in hospitals, geriatric institutes and pharmaceutical companies in her native Switzerland. She came to Phuket in 2010.

Here, she talks about why Phuket is a good place for a nursing home, and explains how she cares for patients with Alzheimer's and dementia.

German. They suffer from Alzheimer's, dementia, or Parkinson's, but we also accept patients with other illnesses and those who need rehabilitation after a stroke, surgery or an accident.

If necessary, we are able to provide round-the-clock care. In that case, the guest has three nurses who take care of him, always the same three, working on eight-hour shifts. The nightshift nurse sleeps in the same room with the guest.

The one-on-one care leads to close staff-guest relationships. Some of our guests with Alzheimer's or dementia lose the ability to communicate as their disease progresses - either they can't talk or they can't be understood when they talk. But because the staff know them well, they are able to understand what they

In nursing institutions elsewhere, Alzheimer's and dementia patients sometimes need to be medically "calmed down" because there isn't the manpower to care for them. Here that's not necessary, and sometimes we can even

reduce medications.

Another benefit of our staff-toguest ratio is that guests have the opportunity to do a wide range of activities, such as painting, music, games, singing and swimming. Sometimes they help with cooking or garden work, as they did at home. Our aim is to maintain or improve the physical and mental abilities of guests for as long as

All of the staff who work with guests are nursing school graduates - we have 37 nurses, including a head nurse. We also have a relationship with Bangkok Hospital Phuket, where we send our nurses for refresher courses. Once every month or so a doctor visits to do checkups.

All of the guests staying with us now will be here until the end of their lives, but we can accommodate short stays too. If a family is taking care of a relative themselves, they may want time off, and can bring their family member here for a short period.

It might seem counterintuitive, but sometimes the best care for a loved one isn't at home, it's

Airport expectations hit rough turbulence



One assumption is that scheduled flights will depart. Photo: Gazette file

PHUKET is an international tourist destination - few can argue differently. Islanders may whine that it isn't what it used to be, but even they are likely to admit that one of the benefits of progress is having an international airport, with international standards.

The airport does meet standards, doesn't it?

World travellers and even domestic puddle jumpers have some basic hopes for an airport, such as WiFi, helpful staffers at information and aircraft that depart.

Recently a friend had a 4am international flight, and I – being the gentleman I so rarely am – offered to scoot on up to the airport to send her off.

At this wee morning hour Terminal 1 was delightfully empty. We scanned the monitors for her airline: Nothing. We doublechecked the ticket on her mobile. It confirmed: Terminal 1.

A nice staffer shook his head after looking at the phone and pointed us to the information booth with a genuine Thai smile the kind that reminds you why millions flock to this country of hospitality.

The lady at the booth spoke reasonable English, and explained that the check-in for the flight had been moved to Terminal 2, and pointed us in the right direction. Terminal 2 was the place to be.

The only flight on my friend's airline had left 15 minutes earlier

Island View

By Alex Stone

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

to a different destination, and between us and the answer to what was going on was a sea of wildly dressed Chinese tourists mobbed around the check-in.

We queued up. About 20 minutes later, an attendant clearly confused by our presence said, "I'm sorry, your flight was cancelled."

It was explained that passengers should always check to ensure flights are not delayed or cancelled before departing for the airport.

Two other passengers for the flight stood with us in the quicklyemptying Terminal 2.

The manager was called. He seemed baffled, but quickly overcame his surprise that people who paid for flights would expect to be able to fly.

Working with a laptop, he was able to swing last minute tickets that allowed all three passengers to make their connections in Shianghai.

All was done and dusted, and my friend was off. Phuket International Airport had buckled down and made it happen.

Walking out past the information desk, toward the sliding doors opening and closing, like the jaws of Phuket, I had to give it to the airport – at least it had WiFi.

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

Carpooled visa runs

Is it legal for me to ride share with other expats during visa runs using my own vehicle? The other passengers would only pay for their portion of the fuel.

Rawai

Manaporn Likitmanon, Highway Police Inspector, replies:

Yes, you may use your personal vehicle for a visa run with passengers who split the fuel cost.

It would be illegal to profit from these trips, as Land Transport Act BE 2522 prohibits drivers from using personal vehicles for business purposes.

Please note that to drive legally in Thailand you need a Thai driver's license or an international driver's license; you will also need the latter to drive in another country.

Sunchai Chokkajaykij, Phuket **Immigration Police Superinten**dent, replies:

It is not a problem to give a ride to other people and accept their money to share the cost of fuel.

If, however, you profit from doing so – for example, by receiving more than just the cost of the fuel – we consider it operating a business. If you do so without the appropriate legal documentation, you will be breaking the law.



Traveling together is fine, just don't profit from it. Photo: Caio Conechoni

Tenant property damaged: who pays? Recently the ceiling of my rented

house's carport collapsed partly onto the bonnet of my car causing quite some damage to the car.

Whose insurance (if any) covers this situation?

Phuket

International Law Office, Patong Beach Co, Ltd replies:

The major rights and obligations of a landlord in private rented accommodation are stated in Chapter III of the Civil and Commercial Code. Tenant and landlord are also free to stipulate specific details in their lease agreement, either verbally or in written form.

Chapter III does not obligate landlords to carry insurance for tenants' belongings. However, tenant and landlord may negotiate their own agreement on this point before the lease is signed.

In this case, whether the landord is responsible for the damage to the car depends largely on the private agreement made between the parties since Chapter III is silent on this issue.

Assuming that there is no such agreement, then the liability of the landlord for damage that occurs on leased property will be governed by general negligence principles.

A judge will look to see whether a landlord has fulfilled his duty of care to a tenant to provide and maintain safe conditions of the leased premises. This determination is subjective and depends on the facts particular to each case.

Another option to consider is car insurance. Typical compulsory car insurance will not cover the damage to the insured car in this case. However, additional insurance, if the tenant has it, may do so. The best approach is to call your insurance company to check your coverage.

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

Submit your issue at

www.PhuketGazette.net/ **IssuesAnswers**

20 PHUKET GAZETTE January 25 - 31, 2014

YOUR

Phuket

TIGER KINGDOM THANK YOU PARTY



From left to right: Waritsara Gunphongam, Customer Relations; Monthita Sangpetch, Chief of Customer Relations; "Ms Mod" (full name omitted per request), CEO of Tiger Kingdom; Kwanchanok Hirun, Customer Relations; Thananintr Sarasophon, Customer Relations



From left to right: Monthita Sangpetch, Chief of Customer Relations; Sutavadee Chailerd, Customer Relations; "Mr Mod" (full name omitted per request), CEO of Tiger Kingdom; Waritsara Gunphongam, Customer Relations; Thapanintr Sarasophon, Customer Relations; Kwanchanok Hirun, Customer Relations.

AEC SEMINAR AT PEARL HOTEL



Phuket Governor, Maitri Inthusut presided over the official opening ceremony of a seminar at the Pearl Hotel, aimed at preparing the government for the 2015 Asean Economic Community.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF ITALIAN CUISINES (IDIC)

Executive Chef of Dusit Thani Laguna Phuket, Silvano Amolini (center) showcases the official dish of IDIC 2014, Spaghetti al dente with tomato sauce and basil to guests during the International Day of Italian Cuisines.



"TROPICAL JUNGLE NIGHT"





Centara Grand Beach Resort Phuket celebrated its New Year's Eve gala dinner with a "Tropical Jungle Night" theme, in which guests enjoyed the night in colorful, tropical fashion.



The Phuket Gazette's weekly

ISLAND TRADER

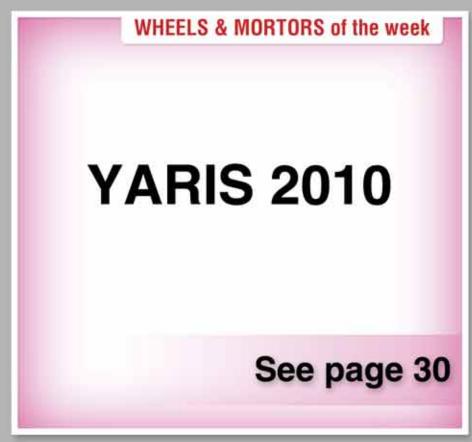
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January 25 - 31, 2014 | PhuketGazette.Net

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













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Property Classifieds

Properties For Sale

POOL VILLA FOR SALE



400m from the Heroines Monument, Pa khlok Road, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, large living room, big European kitchen, 4 aircons, teak wood furnishing, parking for 2 cars, autogate, pool, 460sq m land, 27 sq m building. Sale: 5.8 million baht. Please call 089-854 0277. Email: ca tayacht@csloxinfo.com

HOTEL 10MB FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Rawai. Cause divorce. 680 sq m land. Chanote title. Financing plan, private loan owner, 10 beds, bar, shop, 60m to Rawai Beach pier. Contact Richard. Tel: 084-242 8914 Email: siambbre sort@vahoo.com

NAI HARN HOUSE FOR SALE

Only 5.5 million baht, 2-3 bedrooms. Tel: 080-250 3132

BARGAIN MODERN POOL VILLA

Modern private pool villa in secure villa complex, just off Soi Sai Yuan. 6 million baht, full Chanote title. Price is firm. Tel: 080-124 1245. Email: kay@phuketandamanreal estate.com

Land For Sale On Viset Road

สนใจที่ดินแปลงนี้ ทำเลดี ติดถนนวิเศษ (สามแยกใสยวน)

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

PATONG STUDIO CONDO

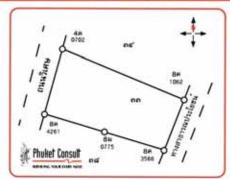
Cozy, fully furnished, 50 sq m, 10th floor, sea view. 3.5 million baht. Tel: 097-183 7552 (English) . Email: molly lion baht. The house has been myong@gmail.com

BARGAIN DETACHED POOL VILLA

1,293sq m, close to beach and great location. 12.5 milempty for three years and in need of renovation. Structure and roof is sound. Great opportunity for the right person. Tel: 080-124 1245. Email: kay@phuketandamanreal

Big house in large garden

estate.com



TITLE DEED WITH SEA VIEW

เนื้อที่ 323 ตาราชวา | AREA 1,292 SQM ความกว้าง 27 เมตร 27 M. IN WIDTH ความลึก 48 เมตร

48 M. IN DEPTH

CALL 081-892 1057

Ideal For Commercial Purposes

TOWNHOUSE IN KRABITOWN

3-bedroom, 2-bathroom, 110 sq m, 2.75sq wah Chanote (company if required) . 1.8 Tel: 084-185 4746 million baht. Tel: 084-626 9522 (English) . Email: asho akwillow@yahoo.co.uk

520,000 BAHT KAMALA LEASEHOLD

Hotel room, 30sq m, complex has 2 pools and jacuzzi. Tel: 084-716 0502

HOUSE FOR SALE

5 bedrooms, swimming pool, large garden. Separate maid's quarter. US\$ 500,000.

CHEAP LAND SALE

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

HOUSE AT THE CORNER FOR SALE



Quiet location and only 500m from the main road, Thepkrasattri, the Heroines Monument. 70sq wah x 280sq m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, big living room with openplan kitchen (9x9m), separate kitchen, car park for 3 cars, small storehouse, 2 aircons, cable TV, 1 phone line TT&T. Price: 2.995 million baht including furniture. Must see! Tel: 081-607 8000. Email: jochen schmitz16@gmail.com

4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fitted kitchen, furnished, 48 sq wah, 3 aircons, carport. Cherng Talay. For more information, please call 083-105 9689

6 RAI LOVELY LAND PAKHLOK

Quiet area, nice mountain view. Flat land, easy to build or for investment. 3 minutes to monument. Chanote title. Priced for quick sale at only 3 million baht per rai. For more information, please call 081-894 5848 (English & Thai) . Email: vass_t99@ yahoo.com

FOR SALE SEA VIEW

1 bedroom apartment at Eden Resort Karon. Only 15 apartments in complex. Fully furnished, gym and 20x5m swimming pool. Please call 087-882 9604. Email: artlpmj @yahoo.com

SEAVIEW VILLA

650sq m. 4 bedrooms, pool, near BI S. 38 million baht. Please send email to jin koy@yahoo.com







Four levels, swimming pool, jacuzzi, 600sq m built up area, hardwood floors, imported windows, Sneidero I talian kitchen, 3 ensuite bedrooms, 2 living areas. Fully furnished to high standards. 200 meters to the beach. 21 million baht.Tel: 090-156 2050 (English). Email: nickbat ley79@hotmail.com For further details, please see our website at www. facebook.com/ TheEva SeaView

A Luxury Villa REDUCED to 42 MB. from 48 MB.

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

All classifieds in these pages are



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

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HOUSE FOR SALE

Live in Cherng Talay?

Place your GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS at Chaba Supermarket



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

GAZETTE CLASSADS - they work

because they're PAID! Hundreds of new ads and FREE - in the Gazette Online!

The Gazette Online is always on top in Google!

Properties For Sale

VILLA FOR SALE IN THALANG

4 ensuite bedrooms plus maid room, 12m pool. Western kitchen, BBQ, Sala, CCTV system, parking for 3, tropical garden and deepwell water (108m depth) on 1,624sq m land plot. 4 minutes to Tesco Lotus Thalang, 7 minutes to beach and 10 minutes to PI A. 19.5 million baht. Tel: 081-970 7019. Email: nisaya@hotmail. com See more photos at http://sdrv.ms/1cQuOcD

URGENT SALE-MODERN VILLA



A spacious family home in Boat Lagoon, modern contemporary, 4+1 bedrooms, 4 baths, large dining area, fully furnished, 616sq m. Tel: 076-238 948. Email: sale@phu ketpropertytrip.com

PRIVATE THAI-**BALINESE POOL VILLA** FOR SALE IN RAWAI

3-bedrooms private Thai-Balinese pool villa in quiet tropical environment. Few minutes away from Rawai Beachfront, ensuite bathrooms, private carport (2 cars), large terraces, 8x4m swimming pool, living area: 269sq m, land: 696sq m. Chanote. Price: 11 million baht. Tel: 080-789 4500 (English & French).

FISHERMAN WAY VILLA FOR SALE



2-storey pool villa with separate big guest bungalow and carport on 1,293sq m of land. Living space villa = 270sq m, with partial built-in teakwood furniture. Price: 12.5 million baht. Tel: 091-245 7809 (English & Thai) . Email: weidner@oxinfo.co.th

RAWAI POOL CONDO **PAY IN 12 YEARS**

Down 200,000 baht + 16,000 baht per month, furnished, ready to live. Cash sale: 2 million baht, 1 bed, 1 bath, kitchen, 12-car space, 200m to Rawai Beach pier. Tel: 084-242 8914

HOUSE IN VILLA DOWROONG

Phuket Town. 3 beds, 3 baths, 47sq wah. Tel: 089-909 2771

NAIHARN UNIQUE THAI STYLE

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms -1km to Nai Harn Beach. 6.9 million baht. Please call 081-081 9875. Email: soundof music999@yahoo.co.uk For further details, please see our drop box at www. dropbox.com/ sh/ ixn53lu67 undl4e/ uEaX CFm_I 5

POOL VILLA MISSION HEIGHTS

3 bedrooms, 3.5 bathrooms, huge living room, large swimming pool, priced 12 million baht or 15 million baht, depending on your needs. For more information, please call 076-528024, 087-060 8400 (English) . Email: picharly@ rawai4@yahoo.com gmail.com

HABITOWN KOH KAEW FOR SALE

115sg m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 air-cons, includes built-in furniture, 2 floors. Resale down 150,000 baht. Tel: 089-772 7012. Email: gyb_ giff@yahoo.com

LAND FOR SALE

1 rai + 81sq wah, 192sq m, Rawai, Soi Salika. Ready to build. Tel: 089-645 5049

2 RAWAI POOL VILLAS PAY IN 25 YEARS

Freehold, 1 million baht down + 35,000 baht monthly. Cash sale: 7.5 million baht, each villa has 5/6 beds, 5/6 baths, 300m to Rawai Beach pier. For more information, please call 084-242 8914. Émail:

LAND NEAR KATA CENTER

Great location, road access, 5 minutes to Kata Beach and main road, 1,450sq m with title deed. Contact Lychee. Tel: 081-891 3048

30 RAI IN TOWN

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

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 delights

/- 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.

Email: Woody@KhunWoody.com

Best Sea View Deal in Patong

man/Spanish: 089 196 0940 English/Thai: 089 729 8665

LAND & HOUSE **FOR SALE**

Location: Phanom District, Surat Thani, near Khao Sok National Park.

- Land: 120 rai + rubber plantation, 8 years old. 6 million baht.



- House: 1-rai area, furnished, 2 bedrooms, 2 aircons. 1.9 million baht. Please call 081-667 1637, 082-539 6433

LAND CHANOTE

1 to 5 rai, Sakoo, 10 minutes south of airport. 5 minutes to beach, 3.5 million baht per rai. Tel: 087-076 6016. Email: kanchanajit09@gmail.com

HABITIA KOH KAEW



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

PHUKET



Modern style, Sino-Por-

CONDO IN SUPALAI PARK



For sale. Near Sengho Bookstore in Phuket Town. Studio, 30sq m, floor 15, sea view, aircon, furnished. Price: 1.55 million baht. Ready to move in. For more info call 089-472 9118

NICE KAMALA HOUSE FOR SALE

Kamala freehold house with land. Only 1.2km to beach. This house has very nice 560sq m land, good for swimming pool or another apartment for rental. 6.9 million baht. Negotiable. Contact Lewis. Call for viewing now. Tel: 089-497 4445 (English), 089-394 2981 (English & Thai) . For further details, please see our website at www.thailandsold.com

SEA VIEW, 350SQM 11.9 MILLIÓN BAHT

4 units only, 80% construction progress done. Tel: 087-465 8883 (English & Thai), 089-724 6026 (English & Thai) . Email: info@mindpro perties.net For further details, please see our website at www.mindproperties. net/ Sea_ View_ House_ For Sale_at_Cape_Panwa_Phu ket_ PKET002-Property.htm

CONDO AT RATCHAPORN PLACE



In Kathu for sale or rent. Near Phuket Country Club Golf Course. 36sq m 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

NEW CONDO: URGENT SALE/RENT



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

THE SANDS, NAI HARN

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

CHEAP LAND & HOUSE FOR SALE



The land of 35 rai and a house with aircon, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and kitchen at Tambon Bornok, Prachuap Khiri Khan, 20km from Prachuap Khiri Khan town. The land is 1.3km from Petchkasem Road. Price is only 10 million baht. Nor Sor 3 title deed. Please call 086-615 9719

Classified Advertisements

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

|_|_|_|_|

Classified ads are charged per line. Each line is 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.

PRIVATE SALE OF **HALFARAI**

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



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. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms with living room, dining area/ kitchen, terrace and car park. Soi Mountain View Kathu Waterfall. Tel: 081-535 7585, 084-119 4262

THIDA HOUSE 27MB

Properties For Rent

KATA SEAVIEW APARTMENT

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

PHUKET COUNTRY CLUB STUDIO

60sq m apartment, fully furnished, located in golf course near Central Festival and Patong. 18,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-801 9797. Email: cuaca2000@hotmail.

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

RENT HOTEL 50,000 BAHT MONTHLY

Cause divorce. Bar, shop, 10 beds + partner, Agoda and Booking.com, 60m to Rawai Beach pier. Contact Richard. Please call 084-242 8914. Email: siambbresort@ya hoo.com

NAIYANG BEACH HOUSE



3 bedrooms and furnished, cable TV, internet, near Phuket airport, long-term rental: 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 076-241594, 089-652 1751 (English & Thai). Email yuiruangsri@yahoo.com

RENTAL HOUSE KOH KAEW



Land and house, 5 minutes to BI S, 3 bedrooms, 3 aircons, fully furnished. 35,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-693 5424

NAIHARN 2-BED BEACH CONDOS

Spacious apartments for rent, kitchen, garden, shared pool, beach 3 minutes walk. Email: resortgm@gmail.

BEACHFRONT CHALONG

Furnished, 2-bedroom apartment, pool, WiFi, cable, quiet, secure. Long term: 12,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-470 6104

KATA OCEAN VIEW CONDO

Fully furnished, seaview and non-seaview apartments, available for long-term rent. From 19,000 to 40,000 baht per month. Located on Kata Hill. Tel: 076-330 641. www.oceanic-glo

CONVENIENT STUDIO

33sq m studio/ apartment, furnished, kitchen, 10 minutes to Central. 6,000 baht per month. Email: paulistathai@ hotmail.com

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 bonta@gmail.com See our website at www.villa cheloni.com

LOVELY APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Please visit our website at http://pukeyomefc2.web fc2.com/ phuketcondorent. htm Email: chrispalmer56@ gmail.com

FOR RENT RAWAI/NAI HARN



Vassana Residence and Palm Breeze Resort. Low season prices starting at 30,000 baht per month for long-term rent. Sea view rooftop deck and bar over looking the Andaman Sea. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. LCD TV in every room, washing machine in every apartment, swimming pool. 160sq m in size, free WFi. Tel: 087-882 9604. Email: artlpmj @yahoo.com

Oranee Hildebrand 176547 Exp: 27 April 14

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NICE HOUSE CHALONG

400sq m, furnished, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, European kitchen, 4 aircons, swimming pool, jacuzzi. Rent: 20,000 baht. Sale: 4.9 million baht. Tel: 082-809 2873 (English & Thai)

PARADISE FOR RENT



2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, pool villa, very q uiet, western standard. aircon, WiFi. Tel: 083-395 5330 (English), +41 07-9661 4061. Email: c. spleiss@robert-spleiss. ch Please visit our website at www.naiharn-villa.

PHUKET VILLA 5 FOR RENT



Comes with 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 aircons, big living area. No furnished, built-in kitchen and car park. Located behind Kajonkiet School on Chao Fa West Road, just only 5 minutes to Central Festival. Available in January 2014. For short or long term rent. Please call to see and have more information: 087-270 9093

RAWAI POOL STUDIO

1,000 baht per day, 25,000 baht per month. Available for 1,2,3,4,5 bed. Private Studio, each has bedroom, bathroom, aircon, LED TV, desk, fridge, kitchen, pool, parking. 200m to Rawai Beach pier. Tel: 084-242 8914. Email: rawai4@yahoo.

SEA VIEW CONDO IN PATONG BEACH

1 to 2 bedroom serviced apartments for rent on daily/ monthly/ yearly basis and Kata Beach villa, furnished, sale also. Book now. Please call 081-797 7199, 086-683 07 86. Email: highstylecon dominium@gmail.com

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 million baht. Contact owner. For more information, please call 089-615 9719. Email: nana1225@gmail.com

LUXURY POOL VILLA-RAWAI

3/ 4 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 3-storey, fully furnished luxury pool villa in Rawai/ Nai Harn. Available January for longterm rental: 52,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-267 1282 (English) . Email david_rosamond@ya hoo.com

VILLA WITH POOL FOR RENT OR SALE

260sq m, 4 bedrooms in q uiet area. 400sq m yard with 5x8m pool. Fully furnished and eq uipped. 55,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-921 4260. Email: Odni.gg@gmail.com

PRIVATE THAI-**BALINESE POOL VILLA** FOR RENT IN RAWAI

3-bedrooms private Thai Balinese pool villa in quiet tropical environment. Few minutes away from Rawai Beach front. Fully furnished, ensuite bathrooms, private carport (2 cars), large terraces, 8x4m swimming pool. Long-term rental. Available now. Tel: 080-789 4500 (English & French) Email: christophe.soula@ hotmail.fr

PATONG TOWER GORGEOUS CONDO

Beautiful Patong Tower Beach Condo with stunning 280-degree panoramic views of the ocean, mountains and town. Large outdoor patio and wrap-around balcony. Completely renovated, internet and washing machine. Available from 21 March, 2014. Email: PatongTower Rental@yahoo.com F or further details, please see our website at www.Patong TowerRental.com

STUNNING KATA **BEACH VIEW**

3 beds, 3 baths. 70,000 baht per month, long term. Tel: 081-003 6902. Email: con tact@purist.biz

WALK TO KATA BEACH

2 bedrooms/ 3 bathrooms. furnished, new home. 500m to beach. Available 18 January 2014. 30,000 baht per month. For more information, please call 081-472 1010 (English & Thai)

NEW FURNISHED 3-BED VILLA

Brand-new, fully furnished, modern 3-bed/ 3.5-bath villa with private garden and swimming pool. (5 minutes to Ao Po Grand Marina and Mission Hills Golf Course) . Tel: 081-893 5270, 093-014 5072 (English & Thai), 081-893 5270 (English & Thai) . Email: srdupouy@gmail.com For further details, please visit the website: http://phuket renthouse.com/ 10296/ show case

HOUSE FOR RENT



3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 aircons. Fully furnished with small garden, quiet area. Rent: 18,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-690 0626. Email: bcarrent@ hotmail.com

APARTMENT & HOUSE AVAILABLE

Studio, 1-bed, 2-bed apartment and houses for short & long-term rent. Kata-Karon, Patong, Kathu area. Tel: 086-940 5187 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-333077. Email: nirvanaphuket@hotmail.it For further details, please see our website at www. phuketislandrealestate.com

HOUSE AT SAIYUAN



Fully furnished. 60,000 baht per month. 3-month deposit. Tel: 081-6930935. Email: phuketaccount@ hotmail.com

Property Classifieds

Property Services

HOTEL/CONDO **MANAGEMENT**

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

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

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Experienced property managers (hoteliers) are seeking additional properties to manage and/ or rent. Own maintenance staff, dedicated marketing manager. Email: resortgm @gmail.com

HOME RENOVATION

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

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), 085-224 6685(Thai) . Email: kjoshea Please call or visit our website @hotmail.co.uk

Property Services Wanted

HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT

And rental/ marketing management for resorts, condos, villas, estates by experienced hoteliers. Email: resortgm @gmail.com

Property Wanted

IN KATA, KARON, **PATONG**

Experienced hoteliers provide property management (with own maintenance staff) and effective rental services. Email: resortgm@gmail.com

VILLA/GUESTHOUSE/ HOTEL WANTED

For purchase or rent long term: 15-40 rooms, no more than a 30minute drive from Patong. Must be in a quiet location and have a sea view from at least 30% of the rooms. Tel: +41-79-289 1259. Email: hotel.phuket.wanted @gmail.com

WE WANT TO RENT A RESORT

Phuket, preferably Kata or Patong, but open to all ideas. Experienced hoteliers. Email: resortgm@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 shortterm contracts. Only Kata, Karon, Rawai, Nai Harn, Chalong. Tel: 082-420 7052. at www.stayonphuket.com

Accommodation Available

ROOM FOR RENT@SURIN BEACH

One bedroom, 44sq m, fully furnished, 5 mins to Surin Beach. Tel: 083-060 7475 (English & Thai). Email: porn kawee@gmail.com

NAI HARN BUNGALOW

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

PRIVATE POOL VILLA

3-bedroom private pool villa located minutes from the famed Laguna area. Tel: 084-842 2262 (English & Thai), Email lita.hine@hotmail.com

BOUTIQUE ROOM FOR RENT

1 bedroom, fully furnished, safe, cozy area. Tel: 089-668 3639 (English & Thai). Email: zhunaumann@gmail.comFor further details, please see our website at www.BaanPhitakTa weep.com

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 I nternet, maid once a week, pool service every 2 weeks, and gardening once a month. Email: aom.phongpan @gmail.com

ORCHID KATHU HEIGHTS

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

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

5 BEDROOMS ON BOAT

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

KATA NEW SEA VIEW **APARTMENT**

New 1 and 2-bedroom apartments. Long and short terms. Sea view, huge balcony, TV panels, WFi, 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

VILLA WITH PRIVATE POOL

We are looking for a 2-bedroom villa with private pool fon Phuket I sland. Southwest preferred. +41-79-651 3602 (English) . Email orca 67@hi speed.ch

Holiday Homes & Villa Rentals

VACATION RENTALS KATA BEACH

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

2- BEDROOM BEACH **APARTMENTS**

3 minutes walk from Nai Harn Beach, spacious, large gardens and shared pool. Email: resortgm@gmail.com

NAI HARN BEACH 4-**BED CONDOS**

Large renovated condo, can sleep 8 pax. Rooftop terrace, garden front. Beach 3 minutes walk. Email: resortgm@gmail.

PRIVATE POOL VILLA FOR RENT IN RAWAI

3-bedrooms private pool villa in q uiet tropical environment located few minutes away from Rawai beachfront. Fully furnished, ensuite bathrooms, private carport, 6x3m swimming pool. Weekly, monthly rental. Available from 06/02/2014. Tel: pizza oven and used eq uip-080-789 4500 (English & ment. Tel: 081-416 7475, 084-French) . For further details, 845 4743 (Thai) . Pase see please see our website at www.phuketpondockvilla.com

Household Help

ELDERCARE

Man with poor vision/ hearing needs someone to do light housekeeping. Must speak some English. Full or part time. Tel: 080-520 5087 (English), 081-085 0801 (English & Thai) Fax: +1-413-622 2635. Emai: edwardpinion@msn.com

Household Items

SHELVES, DESK & KIDS' BED

Selling dark brown shelves from I ndex, one office desk, a kids' bed and more. Very cheap. Tel: 086-025 0604 (English) . Email: hcumber lege@hotmail.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

MRK KITCHEN SERVICE

All you need for a professional kitchen: stainless steel work, gas system, air conditioner, security camera, wood-fired our website at www.mrkkit chen.com

Live in Town? Place your GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS at iTree Complete Printing Service Tesco Lotus **GATE 3 GAZETTE CLASSADS** - they work Simply write out your ad, because they're PAID! Hundreds of new ads pay and leave it with 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.

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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

DIVE AND SURF SHOPNeeds Thai female staff hasi

Needs Thai female staff, basic English. Tel: 089-874 9147.

KARON CLIFF

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

3 WAITRESSES FOR RESTAURANT

Three English-speaking waitresses wanted for restaurant. Thai nationals Only. Tel: 081-270 9772. Email: liam@ phuketfit.com

WEBMASTER/ GRAPHIC/IT WORKER

Knowledge in photo and video and good English skills required. Thai national only. Tel: 086-690 0444. Please contact rico@princessyachts thailand.com

SALES ASSISTANT (RETAIL)

To assist customers in finding items, provide excellent customer service at all times and build good guest relations. Good spoken English and pleasant personality is a must. Base salary 20,000 baht + commissions. Please send your resume to nina@tiger muaythai.com

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 @phuketabc.com

Phuket Gazette

The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following position:

CLASSIFIEDS ADMINISTRATION 1 POSITION

Qualified candidates will be:

- Thai nationals, aged 22 years up
- Service-minded with an outgoing personality
- Able to work well with large numbers of advertisers, both foreign and Thai

and should have:

- A Bachelor's Degree from a recognizable university
- A good sense of organization and respect for details
- Knowledge of basic office software, InDesign and PageMaker would be a plus.

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV to Khun Anna at **Anna@PhuketGazette.Net**

The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

79/94 Moo 4, Thepkrasattri Rd, Koh Kaew A. Muang, Phuket 83000 Tel: 076-273555, ext 102 Fax: 076-615240

DANISH STAFF WANTED

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

EUROPEAN CHEF HIRE

Best Western Premier Bangtao Beach Resort & Spa is looking for chef, sous chefs, bartenders, and service staff. We want both full time and part time. Good salary with work permit. Tel: 081-905 8353. Please call or send email to hrbangtao@ceanresort group.net

Authorized Agents for Classified Advertising:

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

VILLA MANAGER (LIVE IN)

Manager of house team, House keeper, Food & Beverage, Re-pairs. Excellent speak English, leadership, service minded skills. Own car. Tel: 087-881 0003. Send CV to hr@luxuryvillas andhomes...com

British International School, Phuket

The British International School, Phuket is a leading international day and boarding school (18 months-18 years) offering a quality education to the international community of the Asia-Pacific region. For August or as soon as possible, we require the following:

Art Technician

Qualifications

- · Thai nationality
- · Ability to communicate in English
- · Interest in the visual arts and the workings of an art department
- · Able to work in a team and independently
- Able to use equipment in design technology to assist in the cutting and preparation of materials

Head of Refectory

Qualifications

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

Human Resources Officer

Qualifications

- · Thai Nationality, not over 35 years old
- Bachelor's Degree in Human Resources, Business Administration, Business Law or related field
- Some experience in HR, Recruitment and Training are preferred
- Proficient in using computers and able to read, speak and understand English
- Cooperative team member, able to maintain good staff relations and service minded

A/R Accountant

Qualifications

- Bachelor's Degree in Accounting / Finance / Business Administration or related field
- · Good command of English
- Computer literate
- At least 1 year experience in accounting
- Customer relations skills and service mind are essential

Please send a short letter of application, Curriculum Vitae, recent photograph and e-mail/fax and telephone contacts of referees to: British International School, Phuket



59 Moo 2, Thepkrasattri Road, Koh Kaew, Muang, Phuket 83200 Tel. 076 335555 # 2113 Fax. 076 335573

 $\textbf{E-mail:} \ kojchapanl@bisphuket.ac.th, sirirats@bisphuket.ac.th\\$

(Fisherman's Way Business Center, Chaofa East Rd)

CHALONG

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

Julapan Stationery (Chaofa East Rd)

Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppe

KL Mart (Patak Rd, Chalong Circle)

Tel: 076-344521-2 Tel: 076-290468 Tel: 076-342275

Tel: 076-282254

Tel: 076-280400

Tel: 076-282403

PHUKET CITY

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

Tel: 076-232398 Tel: 076-258369 Tel: 076-255425

CHERNG TALAY

Chaba Supermarket (at the Laguna gateway)

Tel: 076-325586

RAWAI

► The Network property office (Saiyuan Rd)

Tel: 076-613173

KARON

EuroStyle Tailors (Luang Por Chuan Rd)

Tel: 076-396911

Live in Town? Place your GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS at iTree Complete Printing Service Tesco Lotus Phuket Town Bangkok Bank McDonalda GATE 3

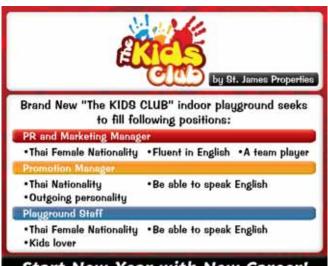
Simply write out your ad, pay and leave it with Khun Nan: (076-255425)

GAZETTE CLASSADS - they work because they're PAID! Hundreds of new ads in order or any work of the All in the light of the page of the pag

and FREE - in the Gazette Online!

The Gazette Online is always on top in Google!

Gazette Online Classifieds – 10,000 readers every day!



Start New Year with New Career! Call Now: 081-085 0008.

LAGUNA BAR HIRES (THAI)

Manager, bartender, cashier and sexy ladies, staff must speak English. Tel: 090-652 5610.

GUESTHOUSE MGR RECEPTION

Guesthouse on beach road seeks experienced manager with English language skills. Tel: 085-159 7400 (English). Email: dshumny@yahoo.

STAFF FOR GERMAN COMPANY

German-speaking staff wanted. Working from home possible. Tel: 084-065 8036. Please contact via email for further info. job@heimarbeitsplatz.com

CAFE&BAR STAFF WANTED

Thai nationality only. Salary 15,000 to 30,000 baht + good benefits. Staff dormitory available. Tel: 085-184 9682 (English) ,085-184 9659 (English) Email: recruit@chamberof secrets.co. For further details, please see our website at www. chamberofsecrets.co

MOUNTAIN BIKE GUIDE

F ull time bike guide. Must speak good English and provide excellent customer service. Also help in sales office. Tel: 087-263 2031 (English) Email: info@amazingbike toursthailand.asia. For further details, please see our website at www.Amazing Bike ToursThailand.asia

EARN 30,000-120,000 BAHT/ MONTH

Cruise ship staff needed. Work 3-7 month shift. All expenses paid. Must speak English. Tel: 093-728 1003 (English). Send resume/ photo to jobs@seastaffing.com

LOOKING FOR MANAGER

Thai national with good English. Salary 15,000 baht. Tel: 089-870 2796.

MECHANICS

Looking for qualified mechanics for project on a yacht. Email: boatcrewwanted@g mail.com

GERMAN CC NEEDS STAFF

We are seeking Germanspeaking people to work as a Call Agents, part and full time in our home office. Please contact us for further information. Send mail to: job@ callcenteragent.at

THAI EMPLOYEE - OFFICE JOB

Want an interesting job? New internet firm needs an employee, 20-35 years old, very good English and PC. CV in English only. Tel: 076-322663, 090-070 9633 (English & Thai). Email: massi mo.reve@gmail.com

BRANCH MANAGER

I SS Facility Services require Branch Managers for 2 new locations in Had Yai and Koh Samui. Preferred applicants are English-speaking Thai nationals, degree educated with previous experience in property or hotel management. Excellent salary and benefits on offer. Tel: 076-610315, 081-958 6879. Email: scott.d @th.issworld.com

REAL ESTATE OFFICE STAFF

Siam Real Estate are opening new office in Laguna and require Thai staff with good English, computer and admin skills. Salary + commissions. Tel: 076-288908. Send CV to jobs@siamrealestate.com For further details, please see our website at www.siam realestate.com



Marketing Staff Wanted

Staff required to join a marketing team to work at Central Festival. Thai female with good English communication skills.

Please call 089-594 6888. Email: info@arthouse.asia



Residence Phuket is a private residential Condominium development at Kalim Bay and consist of 51 apartments.

As soon possible, we require the following:

General Manager

- At least 5 years experience in managing staff
- Must be able to read, speak and write English and Thai fluently
- Computer literate
- Accounting skills
- Technical knowledge is very helpful
- Team player with a service mind
- Maintain good staff relations
- Flexible attitude and representative personality
- Must live in Phuket area

Please send a short letter of application, recent photograph, Curriculum Vitae including email and telephone contacts of references to:

Contacting the Residence.

Secretary of the Management office. **Telephone:** 66 (076) 344350 | **Mobile:** Ae 084 689 5098 **Email:** ae@kalimresidence.com **Address:** 302 Phrabaramee rd Ban Kalim Patong Beach,
Kathu Phuket 83150 Thailand

THAI COOK WANTED

Thai food+ European snacks. To

work cafe bar Karon Beach,

must be able to speak reason-

able English. Tel: 081-891 9461.

STAFF FOR

RESTAURANT

Chief cook, cook helper, bar-

tender, waitress, good salary,

Thai national. Tel: 081-116 1245

(English).

YACHT STEWARDESS

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

SENIOR & JUNIOR COOK

To assist Head Cook in maintaining a successful and profitable F & B Department - Degree in F & B Management or related degree, trained in traditional Thai and Western foods. Thai national, fluent in English. Starting salary 14,000 to 17,000 baht per month plus service charge. Position available now. Tel: 086-6041 333 (English) Please send CV to gm @ccshideaway.com

VS Asia Co., Ltd. was established in Phuket, and has experienced over 35 years as professional in printing & information technology and post-production for clients in Europe, Asia and worldwide, which co-operate with our business partnership company as a headquarter in Europe.

Text & Content Editor

Job Description:

- Command of German language
- Work with editing text program
- Creative with art and design
- Team worker and cooperate with other related department

Qualifications:

- Male/Female, Thai Nationality
- Fluent German Language in reading + writing
- Good knowledge of Computer (Windows or Macintosh) and Internet
- High responsibility and punctuality
- Able to work both with team and independently

Salary & Welfare:

 Salary, Work Permit, Incentive, Social Security Insurance, Tax, Food, etc.

Interested applicants should submit your resume stating qualifications, previous work experience and position applied for along with a recent photograph to:

VS Asia Co., Ltd. (Human Resource Department)
42 Moo3, Palai2, Chaofa Rd., Chalong, Muang, Phuket 83130
Tel. (00)66-76-380600 Fax. (00)66-76-380605
email: info@vsdma.com



International Law Office, Patong Beach Co. Ltd.

OPEN POSITION

Accountant

Qualifications:

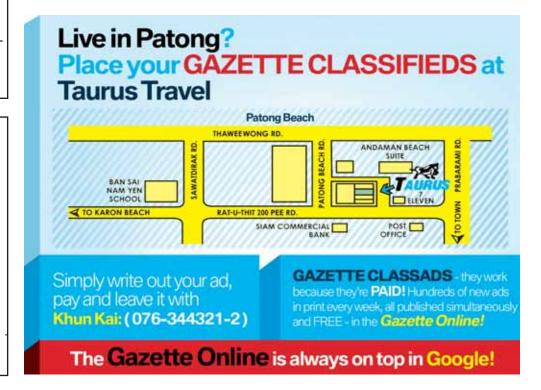
- Thai national
- Good accounting knowledge and skills
- Knowledge of Accounting Program Quick Book 2008
- 3 years of work experience in accounting Fluency in English (written and spoken)
- Computer skills

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



Looking for a JOB?

Looking for a better candidate?

Find more Recruitment Classifieds at WWW.PhuketGazette.Net!

General Classifieds

Bar & Restaurant Equipment

GAS GRIDDLE

Never used, quick sale, stainless steel, free standing. Contact Joy. Tel: 089-970

BQ116 ICE CREAM MACHINE

Soft ice cream machine, never used, still packed. BQ116. Production capacity: 10-14kg per hour (14-20 l/ h) Cups per hour (60g per cup): 160-230. For sale at 1/3 of its cost. 49,000 baht. Please call 082-414 0600. Email: bkkjedi@gmail.com

BAR FURNITURE ETC. FOR SALE



Full set of furniture, fixtures, fittings & equipment for stylish bar - only 1 year old - or take over the large bar premises (include accommodation) with all equipment in place. No key money just " q uick sale price" for the gear. Tel: 081-787 5938 (English & Thai) Email for list of equipment: nittayakm@gmail. com For further details, please see our facebook page at www.facebook. com/ WhiteSpacePhuket

Bulletins

Alcoholics Anonymous

If you want to drink that is your business

والتجرز الأمار إل LUE CU erwo et new

Patong, Phuket Town, Chalong, Surin, Karon

Daily Meetings

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. I f 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

PHI-PHI.COM **FOR SALE**

Koh Phi Phi's key travel portal http://phi-phi.com is for year + 2 year extention (3sale with or without the company that runs the travel website. Sale for personal reasons. Contact Phil. Tel: +44-01983564289, +44-079 1513 5318. Email: pdr123 @amail.com

SHOP FOR SALE

I nside Patong Promenade, fully stocked baby clothes, 3 year lease left. 2 million baht. Contact Tik. Tel: 084-746

DIVE CENTER FOR SALE

Once in a lifetime opportunity: Paradise Diving Asia Company Limited is selling its 12 years established 5star dive center / retail shop at Nai Yang in Phuket, plus it's uniq ue location and connections. Tel: 081-891 5539 (English), 081-894 9517 (English) . Email: paradisediver @ive.com

LAUNDRY FOR SALE

Established business for over 5 years. Good location. Tel: 083-105 9689

POPULAR EXPAT PUB SALE/LEASE

Popular profitable expat sports pub for sale / lease. Located on busy Sai Yuan Road in Rawai. Serious inq uiries only. Tel: 088-752 4540 (English) . Email: Pete scustompins@aol.com

BAR FOR SALE

No key money, low rent, good stock, take on a new 1 year contract) . 1.3 million baht ono. Tel: 090-067 3033. Email: lyntoncraig@gmail.

HOTEL/GUESTHOUSE/ **VILLA WANTED**

For purchase or rent long term: 12-40 rooms, no more than a 30-minute drive from Patong. Must be in a quiet location and have a sea view from at least 30% of the rooms. Tel: +41-07-9289 1259. Email: hotel.phuket. wanted@gmail.com

SPORTS BAR

Lively and trendy, pool table, 3 flat screen TVs, 2 bedrooms at rear, cheap rent, website. Please call 084-840 0704. Email: nm.window cleaning @hotmail.co.uk

RESTAURANT FOR SALE

Kata Beach, fully equipped indoor/ outdoor area, very beautiful, 3 million baht. Email: phuket8757@gmail.

RESTAURANT IN KAMALA BEACH

Fully equipped kitchen, inside air-con dining area, outside dining area, bar, charcoal BBQ station and a wood-fired pizza oven. The cozy, elegant design is very inviting for customers. Google for Grill Bill Kamala! **€**I: 081-089 0543. Email: iii_sunny_iii@ yahoo.com

2 BARS FOR SALE

Bangla Road, Patong, 3 years lease. 2.5 million baht and 4.7 million baht. For more information, please call 087-184 6739.

INVEST IN SWISS STOCKS

Business Opportunities

The best Swiss stock fund for small and mid caps. Performance 2012+24%, 2013+ 30% in Swiss-France. www. swiss activealpha.ch or contact Niklaus Siegrist. Tel: 089-291 5437 (English& German) . Email: niklaus.siegrist Area 3,800sq m with twin @invest-partners.ch

NEW DISCOTHEQUE BANGLA PATONG

For rent, 500 seats, complete, ready to open. Please call 081-895 7597. Email: info@phu ket-besthomes.com

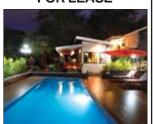
DUMPING

Soil, sand, construction, debris. Please call 081-893 5717

BUSINESS SALE

Money making company of waterprofing, thermal insulation, construction chemicals, electrical materials and lights etc. For sale. Tel: 081-893 5717

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. For more information, please call 088-765 0165

BRING GROUP TO MY SPA!

World-class spa for big group in Boat Lagoon. Big commission. Contact Waree Spa. Tel: 081-569 1661

RESTAURANT FOR SALE

house, good lease, low rent, main Rawai Road. Sale: 1.3 million baht. Please call 089-646 7176

INCREDIBLE PROJECT INVESTMENT

Luxury project for sale. 50% process done. Only 5 million baht. For more information, please call 080-891 1611. Email: aopoproject@gmail.

BOUTIQUE MASSAGE SHOP FOR SALE

Patong. Located Nanai Road. 7 beds. Fully stocked. Eq uipped with high-end furniture. Well presented. Rent: 20,000 baht per month. Reluctant sale: 350,000 baht. Call 087-073 4233 or email: judgedread73@hotmail.com. Pics available.

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For sale. Tired of the traffic and high prices of Phuket? Or just want a weekend getaway? I have built in Farang spec and style, a beautiful retreat, a main house with 2 big garages, a guesthouse with garage, a bungalow and a 900sq m exercise gym. I tall rests on 24 rai and is currently a working shrimp farm, but could be used for many purposes, located 2 hours north of the island. 12 million baht, this price will not last long, the houses are worth more than 12 million baht. Please call 081-728 8269 or email jrp@lox info.co.th

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!

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For sale: secondhand sea container 40ft. I can send a photo. Please contact Rob for more information. Tel: 084-744 4648 (English) Email: vb331@hotmail.com

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Family for 820,000 baht. I ncludes transfer. Tel: 089-868 6842. Email: nagel.kla us@web.de

LAGUNA GOLF CLUB

350,000 baht + transfer, expires 2024. Please call 089-868 6842. Email: nagel.kla us@web.de

PHUKET COUNTRY CLUB

Family life membership 500,000 baht. WII split transfer fee. Tel: 081-750 1064 (English). Email: tomultma (English). Email: akedeya@ nn1@gmail.com

BLUE CANYON GC MEMBERSHIP

10 year individual membership for sale. 350,000 baht. For more information, please call 087-088 2665 (English) Email: robin_briars@yahoo. co.uk

BLUE CANYON CC MEMBERSHIP

Blue Canyon Country Club lifetime family membership for sale. Asking 840,000 baht with transfer. I nterested parties please contact Mike. Tel: 091-224 1773 (English) Email: ohmer13@hotmail.

LAGUNA GOLF MEMBERSHIP 23Y

Rarely available. Price: 730,000 baht. In Phuket from December 20 - January 1. Please call 076-362150, 081-083 4935 (English) Hong Kong: +85 20 9460 0660. Fax: +85 20 3015 0806. Email: gperchthold@ gmail.com

Miscellaneous For Sale

SOLD SECOND HAN

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- 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)

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Home schooling your 6-9 year old child? Join our home school group in Chalong. Please call 087-904 7113 hotmail.com

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Phuket Mental Health Counseling. Experienced, licensed, US Counselor for children, teens & adults. Please call 086-271 8153 (English) Email: parwgk@aol.

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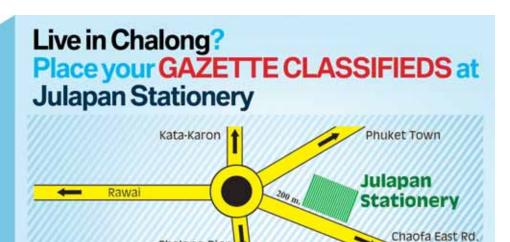


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2012 FORD FIESTA

Full option, light blue with blue leather interior, Bluetooth, 27,xxxkm. For sale: 485,000 baht. Tel: 081-003 6902. 084-274 8626. Fax: 02-1233 5433. Email: con tact@purist.biz

2012 FORD FIESTA S

22,000km, 1.6ltr automatic transmission, top line, power all, dual airbags. 1 year MFG warranty. Runs and looks brand new. Sale: 440,000 baht. Tel: 083-448 1101, 087-942 7318 (Thai), 080-012 2929 (English)

VOLKSWAGEN PASSAT HIGHLINE

Year 2001, automatic, dark green, 151,000km, good condition. 172,000 baht.Tel: 076-381124, 084-744 2165 (Thai). Email: roger_som mer1@hotmail.com

YARIS 2010



Top, white color, automatic. F or sale: 380,000 baht ono. Contact Tik. Tel: 084-746 4477

2009 **TOYOTA AVANZA**

Automatic, black, big trunk, 7 leather seats, aircon, 26,000km, never rented. Single foreign owner. Stereo MP3/ USB. 400,000 baht. Tel: 082-414060. Email: bkk jedi@gmail.com

NISSAN WINGROAD 1.6 2001

Good condition, 152,000km. Regularly serviced; always kept in garage. 150,000 baht ono. Tel: 080-521 3190. Email: johann.wipplinger@ hotmail.com

Pick-ups

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4-door, GLX, double cab, 17,000km, one owner, no accidents, warranty to 2015, as new. 525,000 baht ono. Please call 084-746 8607

HILUX VIGO 3.0 D4D

89,000km, 1 owner, December 2006. Price: 585.000 baht. Tel: 089-723 4029

SILVER PROTON



Year 2011, automatic, 1 owner, 15,000km with insurance. For sale: 300,000 baht. For more informaion, please call 086-476 9612

Motorbikes

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HONDA PHANTOM 2003

Classic, 2 owners, restoration 2012, lots of chrome. 52,000 baht. Must see! Tel: 085-478 7531

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HONDA WAVE 125I

Disk brake, electrical starter, 19,800km, perfect condition, 32,000 baht. Farang owner. Email: pierrekojfer@gmail.

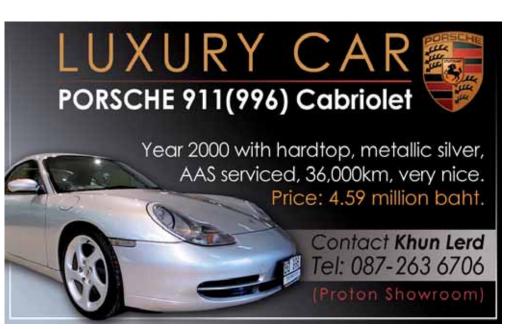
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Максим Волков +66 (0) 84 745 9900

Adam Blackmore +66 (0) 81 892 8919 sergio.l@simpsonmarine.com maksim.volkov@simpsonmarine.com adam.blackmore@simpsonmarine.com

BENETEAU OCEANIS 48 (2013)

Yanmar Diesel with dock and Go System. Presents as new. Euro 295,000. Contact Alan Giles. Boatshedphuket. com Tel: 084-842 6146. Email: alan giles@boat shedphuket.com

NEW BOAT SR-21

375,000 baht. We also produce 18-37ft boats. SR Marine, Phuket and Pattaya. Tel: 081-782 0921. Email: samranmarine@ive.com

TASAR DINGHY

Two sets sails. Launch and road trailer. Asking price: 130,000 baht. Email: Sailing alone2001-mail@yahoo.com

U.S. 42FT BERTRAM



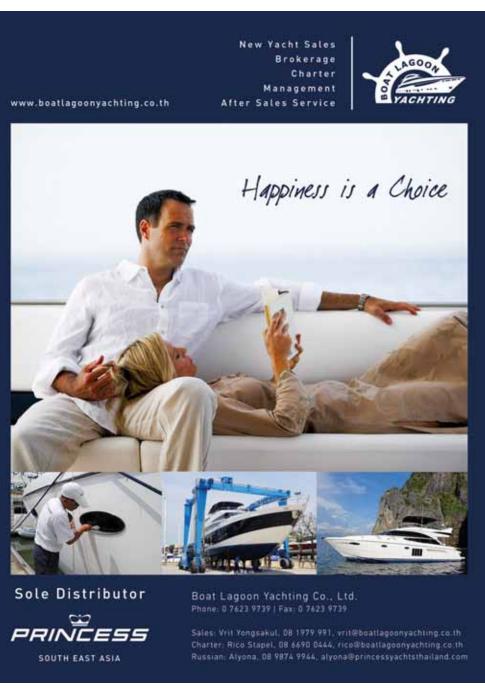
Strong, seaworthy boat, hull in good condition. Needs re-powering with Hino engines to make a perfect game fishing charter boat. 3 million baht. Thai registered. Engine cost 500,000 baht. Call Andy: +441 7715394550. Email: as.ac@hotmail.co.uk

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

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FOR SALE: HOBIE **BRAVO 12'**

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PRINCESS P42 **FOR SALE**

42' Flybridge, 2008. Excellent condition at an attractive price. Tel: 080-142 0420 (English). Email: jmi chellemonnier@orange.fr

25' SPORT CABIN CR **IN KRABI**

Maxum SCR 2013 refit US factory. 5.7ltr Merc with just 5 hrs. Aft cabin, sleeps 4. Full options. Thai registered, with book. Like new. 2.8 million baht or best offer. Tel: 082-272 5413 (English), 084-411 6938 (English & Thai) Email: larry@middle-earth.

HARD TO FIND TEAK BOAT



This 80-year-old solid teak boat is ideal for a Phang Nga Bay liveaboard, or a land-based guest house. 1,500,000 baht. Call John on 090-798 5605. Email: johnemango@yahoo. com F or current pictures and finish out options, www.facebook.com/ Teak BoatPhuket

DINGHI FOR SALE



5-meter Hypalon, 40hp, includes trailer, waterski. 250,000 baht. Tel: 084-855 2097. Email: katanlupe @vahoo.com

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

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@ive.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) .

DINGHI PERFECT



Caribe CL14 Yamaha, 60hp 4stroke, shower, anchor, seating for 6 pax, maximum 35 knots, runs perfect, including galvanised highway trailer. Only 275,000 baht. Tel: 089-886 1788, 086-906 4134.

2009 POWER CATAMARAN



45ft. 4 cabins. Volvo D-41 PS 300. Genset, aircon. "Bose" surround. Ray marine. Low hours. Fully loaded. Fast and economical. As new. Bargain. Only 339,000 euros. Tel: 089-971 0278. Email: eddyelan@yahoo.com

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HYPALON DINGY 3.3M



Brand-new, UV cover, storage cover, pump, oars, kits. Only 110,000 baht. Tel:089-971 0278. Email: eddyelan@ya hoo com

A STEAL FOR A QUICK SALE

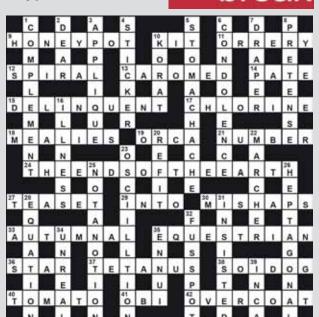


2007. I talian demo yacht. Cranchi 47ft. Hard top. Fully loaded with tropical aircon, genset, electrical winches, garage, roof. Ray Marine premium navy, BBQ, ice maker, 3 fridges, " Bose" sound, neon light. Twin 570hp with reliable shaft drive, under 300hrs. Brand-new condition. Price: 335,000 euros. Tel: 089-971 0278. Email: eddyelan@yahoo.com

SOLUTION TO THIS WEEK'S

Cryptic crossword

COFFEE



Aircraft For Sale

Rockwell Commander 114 HS-AWS



Built: 1976

Registration: HS-AWS (in Thailand for the last 6 years) Previous Registrations:

N4798W – USA N479GE – USA I-ECCE – Italy

G-BVNL - UK

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

Specs:

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

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

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

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

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

HAVE A PASSION FOR AVIATION?

I fyou 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
- Eq uipment: Full standard eq uipment
- 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), 081-3977598 (English & Thai). Email kajoda1954@yahoo.co.uk

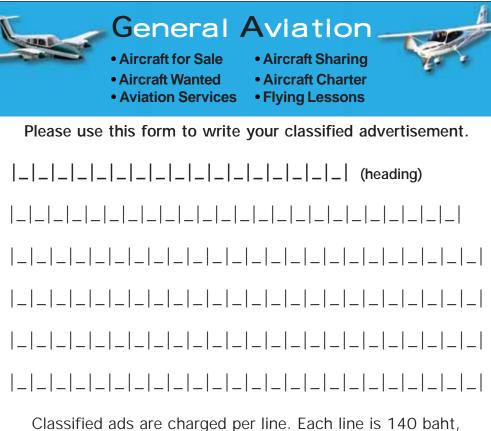
YOUR HELICOPTER

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

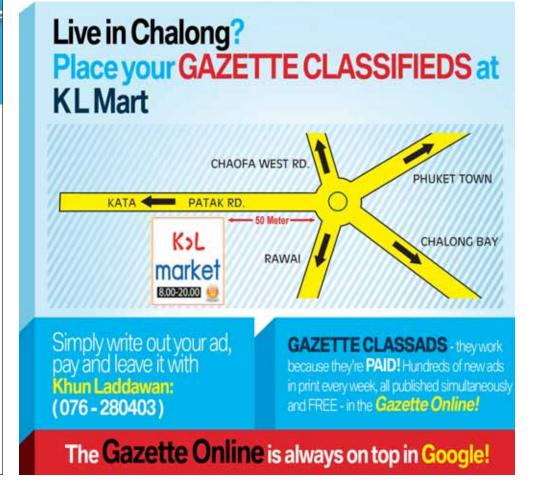
I would like to sell my Robin aircraft or trade it for a 4-seat Cessna or Piper (based in Hua Hin) . The Robin: TTAF 300hrs. SMOH 60hrs. This is a well-eq uipped, two-seat aerobatic aircraft. Has the Christen inverted oil system. Excellent inside and outside. King KMA24 audio panel, KX155 nav/ com, KI 203 voi 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





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January 25 - 31, 2014 PHUKET GAZETTE 33

THANYAPURA PHUKET



ALL SMILES: Thanyapura Phuket's Director of Sport Events Virapol Cholvibul gave a big welcome to the former WTA ranked no 20 Alisa Kleybanova (left), along with Coach Julian Vespan (right). Kleybanova is currently training at the world class facilities at Thanyapura as part of her preparation for the WTA Pattaya Open.



Having ridden 810 kilometers in 10 days from Bangkok to Phuket with Siam Bike Tours, led by Thanyapura's Triathlon Senior Head Coach Jurgen Zack, the group of 21 cheerful cyclists arrived safely at their final destination – Thanyapura Phuket for some much needed rest and relaxation.

CHILDREN'S DAY CHARITY

Led by Ms Rinrapat Puwanutchotchai, Amari Phuket Director, Human Resources, and the human resources team, the hotel donated 50 stuffed animals to support Patong Hospital on Children's Day.



WINE DINNER AT JW MARIOTT MAI KHAO BEACH, PHUKET



From Left: Chef Fabrixzio Corcetta, Italian Chef; Chef Riccardo de Pra (who owns a Michelin star restaurant in Italy); Ms Kewalin Sukumjittanon, Senior Marketing Communications Manager and Mr Joerg Delin, Director of Food & Beverage.



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Project owner: L.H. Musing Mill Co., Est. Mininging Director: Hisly is largely and Health and Complete Complete

SHANGHAI LOVE STORY THE MUSICAL

ASIA'S most popular classic period drama is coming to Phuket with an all-star cast of Thailand's hottest celebrities for a free performance at the Grand Hall of Central Festival Phuket on Saturday, February 1 to celebrate the begining of the Chinese

New Year.

All are invited to celebrate the special 1920s style Chinese New Year & Valentine's Day stage show starring "Aun" Witthaya Wasukraipaisarn, "Ja" Natta Wiranut,,"JJ" Chakrit Kanok-pojjananon

and Nirut Sirichanya.

The show starts at 4pm and admission is free for this one-night performance based on the classic Hong Kong period television drama, The Bund, dubbed as the Godfather of the east.

Dress for the occasion in traditional Chinese (Qipao) and

Western (Gatsby) style. For more information and to reserve the best seats in the house contact the marketing department at Central festival Phuket. Email: marketingpf@central.co.th. Tel: 089 294 0516



1755 Moscow University was established on Tatiana Day.

1919 The League of Nations was founded.

1924 The 1924 Winter Olympics opened in Chamonix, in the French Alps, inaugurating the Winter Olympic Games.

1949 The first Emmy Awards were presented.

1981 The widow of Mao Zedong, was sentenced to death.

1996 Billy Bailey became the last person to be hanged in the USA.



COLONIZED 1624 Photo:mdanys

IN USSR 1990 Photo: Renee Comet

JANUARY 26

1841 The United Kingdom formally occupied Hong Kong.

1905 The world's largest diamond ever was found.

1924 Saint Petersburg, Russia, was renamed Leningrad.

1965 Hindi became the official language of India.

1992 Boris Yeltsin announced that Russia will stop targeting United States cities with nuclear weapons.

JANUARY 27

1785 The University of Georgia, the first public university in the US,

1944 The 900-day Siege of Leningrad was lifted.

1973 The Paris Peace Accords officially ended the Vietnam War.

2013 241 people died in a nightclub fire in Santa Maria, Brazil.



FINED 1896 Photo: Nathan E Photography



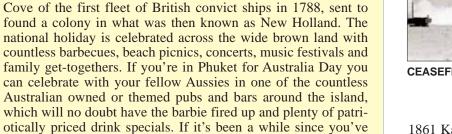
CEASEFIRE 1992 Photo: US Army Africa

JANUARY 28

1624 Sir Thomas Warner found the first British colony in the Caribbean, on the island of Saint Kitts.

1820 A Russian expedition discovered the Antarctic continent. 1896 Walter Arnold of East Peckham, Kent became the first per son to be convicted of speeding.

1956 Elvis Presley made his first US television appearance.



Talay who are offering Australia Day specials on there famous meat pies, not to mention their traditional Australian chocolate and coconut covered lamington cakes.

GiG's Jam Club

Come to Join us. Start from 03.00 PM Come and have fun with us See you all: Rawai Phuket

Australia Day

JANUARY 26 is Australia Day, which marks the arrival in Sydney

tasted an authentic aussie meat pie, head up to Lady Pie in Cherng

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nuclear weapons testing.

GLORY 1949 Photo: Alan Light

JANUARY 29

1861 Kansas was admitted as the 34th US state.

1916 Paris was first bombed by German zeppelins.

1936 The first inductees into the Baseball Hall of Fame were announced. 1996 President Jacques Chirac announced a "definitive end" to French



TV STAR 1956 Photo: Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, I nc.

JANUARY 30

1790 The first boat specializing as a lifeboat was tested. 1847 Yerba Buena, California was renamed San Francisco.

1933 Adolf Hitler was sworn in as Chancellor of Germany.

1959 MS Hans Hedtoft, said to be the safest ship afloat and " unsinkable" like the RMS Titanic, struck an iceberg on her maiden voyage and sunk, killing all 95 aboard.

JANUARY 31

1747 The first venereal diseases clinic opened at London Lock Hospital.

1915 The first large-scale use of poison gas in warfare.

1930 3M begun marketing Scotch Tape.

1950 President Harry S. Truman announced a program to develop the hydrogen bomb.

1990 The first McDonald's in the Soviet Union opened in Moscow.

January 25 - 31, 2014 PHUKET GAZETTE

WHAT'S ON in Phuket

Jan 25-26, 11am-12pm. Alice in Wonderland

A musical from London. A wonderful way to celebrate Children's day with the family! The performance will be held at the Simon Star Theater in Phuket Town. This is another Gazette Headline Event, presented by Events International for Phuket's international community. For more information or bookings contact Sonu Kapoor on 091 3260 279, email indiafilmworks@gmail.com, or visit the website at: eventsinternational.com

Jan 30-Feb 5, Wat Chalong Fair Famous Southern Thai singers and artists including top-billing performer Bow Wee will headline at the annual Wat Chalong Fair. For full schedule check Gazette online.

Jan 31 – Feb 3, 2014. Chinese **New Year**

Chinese New Year is celebrated worldwide to mark the first day of the New Year in the Chinese calendar.

Jan 31, 7-11pm. Indian Curry Buffet at Navrang Mahal in **Karon Sea Sands Resort**

All you can eat, authentic Indian curry buffet at 499 baht net per person. Come enjoy our cold mango and strawberry lassi with our delicious mutton vindaloo, dal makhani, bombay aloo, mutter paneer, butter chicken and mouth-watering chicken tikka, samosas, freshly baked naans and more. Contact Jaspal Singh on 076 286 464 or visit the website at: navrangmahal.com

Feb 1, 2014, 6-11:30pm. New

Februa

opened Two Chefs restaurant in Kamala. Every Saturday at 6 pm a large American influenced buffet will be served – for only 595 baht (kids just 295 baht). Happy hours on selected drinks in our bar. There will also be live acoustic music from members of the house band. Two Chefs is located in Icon Park in Kamala, with convenient parking available. Come for the food and stay for the fun! For more info call 076 385 052, email kamala@twochefs.com or go to twochefs.com.

Feb 7-8, 7-11pm. The Fab Beatles

A tribute to the Fab Four! Dates: February 7 and 8, air-con tent, Boat Lagoon, from 7pm onwards. Ticket price: 1,100 baht. VIP tickets, with seating 1,500 baht. This is the third in the ongoing series of *Gazette* Headline Events, presented by Events International and supported by the Boat Lagoon, Laguna Phuket and Central Festival. For more information or bookings contact Sonu Kapoor on 091-326 0279, email indiafilmworks@gmail.com, or visit the company's website

at: events-international.com

Feb 14, 2014. Makha Bucha Day Makha Bucha Day, which falls on the full moon of the third lunar month, commemorates Buddha's ordaining of 1,250 monks who had arrived unannounced from afar only nine months after the Gautama Bud-

Feb 20, 11:30am-2pm. Phuket International Women's Club **February Lunch**

dha attained enlightenment.

February's lunch will be held at the beautiful regent Cape Panwa Hotel. All are welcome but prior booking is essential. Members: 500 baht; guests: 650 baht. For booking contact info@phuketiwc.com. The Phuket Gazette and PGTV's 'Phuket Today' show, the island's only nationally broadcast television

program (aired daily on True Visions channels 89 and 58), are proud long term sponsors of The Phuket International Women's Club. Contact Carole Dux on 076-316711 or visit the website at: phuketiwc.com

Feb 23, 2014, 4-9am. Run for Health, Run for Charity

Phuket International Hospital is presenting this "Mini Marathon" to raise funds for charity and to win HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn Royal Trophies. This event is proudly sponsored by the Phuket Gazette and PGTV. For more info call 076 249 400 or email chutinan@siriroj.com

Apr 6, 2014. Chakri Memorial Day

Chakri Day commemorates the origins of the Chakri dynasty, founded by Rama I, who established Bangkok as the nation's capital. HM King Bhumibol Adulyadej is the ninth monarch of the Chakri dynasty.









Evolution of the flavor

By Maciek Klimowicz

"IF YOU don't move forward, sooner or later you begin to move backward," once said former Soviet Union leader Mikhail Gorbachev in a speech at the Harvard University. He might have been addressing the issue of nuclear disarmament but his words remind necessary and good.

& Grill restaurant in Phuket Laguna understand this, and as much as they respect their returning customers preferences, they aren't afraid to experiment with their menu. They actually do change it with great regularity, twice each year, around June and December. And they make sure that each time it's dried tomatoes to rustic Tuscan a change for the better.

"The new menu is double the size of the previous one," says Mirko Cappa, Bodega' s Execu- made, everything is made from tive Chef. "A lot of new dishes have been added, including additional choices for vegetarians, some classic Italian pasta dishes and an extended steak menu. Some of the new dishes on the menu like rigatoni amatriciana, penne arrabbiata or homemade pappardelle were requested by our returning guests."

"The seasons change, so we change the menu," adds Executive Sous Chef Yi fan Chu.

"For example, you will see

more game on the new menu, like wild boar or rabbit. This reflects winter-time flavors," he says.

And some of the new choices are already becoming guests' favorites, such as the filet mignon from grain feed prime beef – a silky, juicy meat portion served in a rustic manner on a hot iron skillet, the Bodega' s carpaccio of us of one of life's great truths - Porterhouse beef and Phuket change is not only unavoidable, it's lobster with artichokes and fennel salad, or the 18-month aged Owners of Angsana' s Bodega burrata cheese wrapped in San Daniele ham and served with caponata of kalamata olives and cherry tomatoes. Chances are, some of the items will stay on the menu for quite a while.

What strikes me when reading the new menu is the opulence and diversity of ingredients used. From zucchini flowers and organic, sun bread and juniper-cinnamon homesmoked rainbow trout.

"All of our ingredients are homescratch. Food that is not locally grown in Thailand is imported from Italy, Australia, the US and Canada," explains Chef Cappa.

"I enjoy experimenting with new ingredients and dishes," says Chef Cappa. "When suppliers introduce me to new produce, I create new dishes and serve them in the restaurant as a special for a few days to see the feedback from our guests. If a dish receives great feedback, it will surely be added to the new menu."



Cappucino? Yes, but made with Maine lobster - an explosion of flavor.

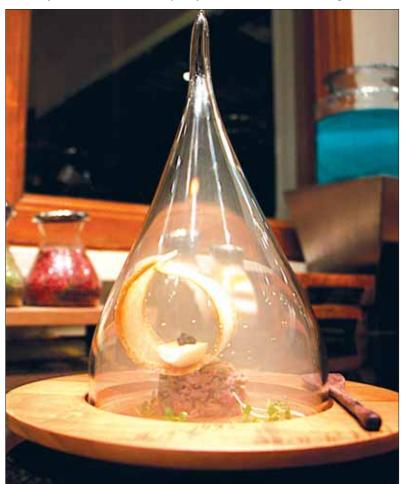


While some things keep changeing, some stay the same - like the quality of steak served at Bodega & Grill.

It's also up to the guests to decide what will stay in the menu, like its core, classic dishes that have become irreplaceable favorites over the years, like the signature Tomahawk steak, 1.2 kilograms of high quality beef.

The meal I' m served at the Bodega & Grill is a formidable, balanced combination of the old and the new. I quickly establish my personal favorites list, which includes such delights as delicate, yellow-fin tuna and Norwegian salmon tartare and the flavorful foie gras with slowroasted Portobello mushrooms (the restaurant' s wine waiter does a great job of finding a wine - medium-bodied Chilean chardonnay – suitable for both, very different, starters). It will be a pleasure to come back to Angsana to enjoy them again, but I' m also looking forward to the thrill of discovering the new flavors and surprises that Bodega' s future holds.

Bodega&Grill, Angsana Laguna Phuket, 10 Moo 4 Srisoonthorn Road, Cherngtalay; For bookings call: 076



Steak tartare in a cinnamon mist - raise the glass dome to release the scent.

Life & style Moorings? Screw 'em

Diving

By Isaac Stone Simonelli

THE news has a blind spot for slow systematic destruction of anything from sub-Saharan African populations to coral reefs. The media feeds off flash-in-the-pan moments like the widely condemned Taiji cove slaughter of dolphins by Japanese fisherman and the 2010 bleaching of the coral reefs surrounding Phuket.

The dramatic and sudden change that saw swaths of elegant branching staghorns and other hard corals turn a ghostly white was the trigger for a media firestorm. However, the systematic disregard and obliteration of coral reefs, the foundation for a significant portion of Phuket's tourism industry, grinds forward with every boat anchor tossed carelessly onto this precious ecosystem.

Go Eco Phuket mooring project manager Joe Blasy recently invited Dive Tribes CEO Gwyn Mills and Coral Reef Ecologist Dr Wayne Phillips of Mahidol University International College down to investigate.

"In the middle of Bungalow Bay is a football-sized area that used to be all staghorn corals that has been completely smashed. The 2010 bleaching could have killed them, but they would still be upright... it is clear that all of it has been smashed to bits by boats and anchors," Gwyn explains to four conservationists huddled over their drinks at Happy Days bar in Chalong back in December.

"Coral bleaching can be a positive thing (natural selection of stronger coral strains) if the corals are allowed to recover, but if you are chucking anchors overboard and supplying additional nutrients to the water, this adds additional stresses," Wayne says.

Gwyn and Wayne are in town to propose the use of the Helix Anchor mooring system that took them about three years to develop and implement. It is a system that involves an underwater drill with nine-tons of torque, a five-person specialist team, signage, local industry training and an ecological monitoring program (EMP).

"We've now have an idea of how the reefs have been damaged; where they have been damaged; and how we can address that damage," Gwyn says.

"Anchors had not only hit the reef but had also been dragged through sites causing widespread damage. The reason is obvious, these dive sites are popular, not only with dive operators, but also Phuket's large boating community, and because of the lack of buoys and no public information on caring for th

reef at many of the tourists sites," Gwyn later wrote in his assessment. He also noted the surprising amount of damage done to the reef in addition to the fact that many mooring ropes were attached to coral heads, which could eventually lead to the death of the colony.

The anchor system used and screws redeveloped by Dive Tribe, corporately sponsored by resorts, hotels, green investment companies and other stakeholders, are in many ways revolutionary.

The mooring anchors are screwed up to six meters into the sand, the threads of the screw becoming broader and broader. One of the anchors developed can sustain well over 9.4 tonnes of strain. The heads of the anchors only protrude a few centimeters above the sand, dodging the liability of sinking incoming boats, as recently happened near Chalong Pier (see page 3). The placement is guaranteed for five years, and the anchor itself is guaranteed for 20 years.

The desperate need for moorings in the area is known to government agencies. In the fall of 2012, the Marine Department splashed out for 300 mooring cubes at a price of 5.8 million baht.

"It is an important project that helps prevent coral reefs in the area being damaged by boats dropping anchors on them," Phuket Marine Office chief Phuripat Theerakulpisut explained at the time.

The Dive Tribe's anchor system avoids many of the pitfalls of the large concrete block systems currently in use, some of which have reportedly been shifted by inclement weather and tumbled through coral reefs causing massive destruction.

The Dive Tribes proposed system for Phuket will start with heavily burdened reef areas that are struggling to recover due to external pressures, such as dive sites around Racha Yai. Two different mooring screws will be used and marked accordingly, one for speedboats and longtails, and one for larger vessels, such as dive boats.

The moorings are the first step toward rehabilitation of the reef systems surrounding Phuket, Gwyn explained.

> "So, once we get the buoys in, we can start to address the reef problem. We can start coral rehabilitation programs and work more with local government agencies to establish and monitor artificial reefs," Gwyn says.

The artificial reef blocks Gwyn and Wayne examined during their various dives in Phuket displayed signs of anchor damage.

The new system will cost about 35,000 baht an nchor. However, the price



Go Eco Phuket in the process of installing the new style mooring screws.

drops to 32,000 baht when 11 or more anchors are installed at once.

The price of the mooring system and EMP are based on the cost of materials, system design and the expertise needed to operate the over 80-kilogram drill underwater.

"It's quiet a bit of engineering. You need a team that can break a drill head down and rebuild it," Gywn explains.

The protection of the reefs surrounding Phuket through mooring systems, artificial reefs and sustainable fishing practices is not the only concern for those in the dive industry who know the bottom will fall out in their investments long before the last piece of hard coral is smashed by an anchor.

"A recent survey Dive Tribe undertook in Phuket showed that divers tend to be more upscale tourists. They are usually middle to upper class and have a higher income bracket. They mostly stay at the more upmarket hotels, but they are only going to come back if the environment they dive in is a nice environment," Gwyn concludes.

Anyone interested in sponsorship of the program can contact Joe Blasy: joeblasy@gmail.com.



Andy Auer. Photo: Supplied

New captain to steer PADI west coast **Thailand**

TONY Andrews, named Phuket's Person of the Year in 2012 for his role in the inaugural Go Eco Phuket clean up, will be leaving the helm of PADI on the west coast of Thailand after being promoted to PADI Europe, Middle East and Africa Regional Manager.

Stepping in to fill Tony's fins is Platinum PADI **Course Director Andy Auer,** who has been working in Phuket with Dive Asia. The switch in leadership comes on the heels of PADI's most successful year along the west coast, which saw six per cent growth, said Tony

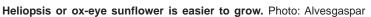
"I'm going to step in where Tony stopped. There aren't going to be any changes in direction," Andy confirmed, making it clear that face time with members and maintaining the growth momentum were his priorities.

- Isaac Stone Simonelli



Sun Gods and worshippers







Straw flower. Photo: Tony Wills



The blossom of the helianthemum lasts only one day. Photo: Jamain

AS READERS familiar with this column will be well aware, I often reiterate the point, perhaps ad nauseam, that botanical names are worth mastering, since they offer valuable clues to a plant's characteristics: maybe its place of origin, its physical features or its cultural

requirements. When such names begin with the letter "H", many include the prefix "heli" or "helio", a label that indicates a link with the sun: after all, the god in Greek mythology who daily drove his fiery chariot across the sky was Helios. In some cases the connection is a double one: for example, the giant sunflower or

helianthus not only resembles a sun with its massive, golden orb of seeds and flame-like petals, but also needs a sunny location in which to reach its potential.

You could add *helianthemum*, helichrysum, heliopsis, heliotropium and heliconia to the tongue-twisting solar list. Most owe their kinship with Helios to their brilliant golden flowers, though not all of them need the full force of a tropic sun. Full sun in temperate climates (where they were mostly given their botanical names) may mean filtered shade in Phuket.



of flowers - usually white appear above the foliage. Predictably, the *heliotrope* does well in coastal gardens, where wind

When such names begin with the letter 'H', many include the prefix "heli" or "helio", a label that indicates a link with the sun: after all, the god in Greek mythology who daily drove his fiery chariot across the sky was *Helios*.

point. One variety, *H.argenteum*, native to somewhat cooler Hawaii where it grows wild as a ground cover plant, bears rosettes of succulent gray-green or silvery leaves that form a mat about six inches high. Clusters

problem. And it tolerates drought - though it will only spread rapidly if given sufficient moisture. It goes without saying that it loves the sun – hence the name. Why not try it in Phuket's island environment?

The straw flower (helichrysum), like the statice or the Australian *helipterum*, is chiefly valued for its use in dried floral arrangements, though these days it has to compete with artificially created displays. A so-called "everlasting" flower, it belongs, like the sunflower, to the aster

> genus – hence its daisylike blooms. Sometimes used in fresh displays of cut flowers, the helichrysum is much more likely to be found in these "everlasting arrangements", where its papery, prickly two inch blooms look like pompoms, and will not only retain their color and form, but will last for ages. H. bracteatum

The *heliotrope* is a case in and saturating salt spray are a is the variety usually grown: a dual purpose plant, it comes in a range of colors from orange and gold to deep crimson and has strap-like leaves. It can be grown here as an annual or perennial. Give it moderate amounts of water and of course full sun. And enjoy its charms twice over...

> The *helianthemum* or sunrose (rock rose or cistus in Europe) is another low growing plant with small leaves that may be gray on both surfaces or glossy green on top. It sports a display of single or semidouble flowers in bright or pastel

shades - flame red, orange, yellow, salmon or white. Each blossom lasts a mere day, but new buds continue to open. Shear plants back after flowering in order to encourage repeat blooming. They are at their best tumbling over stones, rambling over rockeries or even over sandy shorelines. Plants will be hardier if the soil is not too rich and is kept on the dry side. One unusual variety called "Raspberry Ripple" has - you guessed it - deep pink flowers streaked with white.

The ox-eve sunflower or heliopsis completes our solar survey. More widely known as a wild flower than one that inhabits gardens, it is a smaller, less distinguished member of the clan. But that means it is a tough cookie and consequently easy to grow in your patch. Yellow flowers, about three inches in diameter, top substantial plants with rough-textured oval leaves. There are one or two cultivars such as the four-foot-high "Bressingham Doubloon", which has semi-double flowers, and a smaller variety "Summer Sun" (that word again) which has deep yellow flowers and dark green foliage.

If you have a question or a garden that you would like featured you can email me at: drpaccampbell@gmail.com

Tip of the week The right tool for the job

GOOD secateurs are an essential gardening tool, especially in the tropics where everything grows so vigorously and most old wood is hard, You may prefer the anvil type with a single blade, but bypass pruners which have curved blades and work like scissors are the norm here. Some people prefer stainless steel secateurs (stainless steel is also available for spades, forks, hoes and hand trowels). These have the advantage of being rust-free, but they are more expensive and are difficult to sharpen. Forged steel is also less brittle.

Don't buy small secateurs: they are not strong enough. For larger or thorny branches, use long handled loppers. The additional leverage they generate means they will cut branches up to two inches thick. The removal of thicker and tougher wood will require a bow saw. Angle your cut and use a bow saw with replaceable blades.



Bypass pruners are the norm here in Thailand. Photo: KoS



H. argenteum is a native Hawaiian ground cover. Photo: Alvesgaspar

Life & style Arts Music to your ears



The Fab Beatles even play some of the Beatles' original intruments.

By Jeremie Schatz

PHUKET isn't exactly famous in the music world. The island doesn't really boast any world-renowned acts and the occasional musical tour that does find its way here is usually electronic or just a "wellknown" DJ. But music lovers in Phuket are in for a special treat.

Following their enormously popular, sold-out ABBA Forever concert, promoter Events International has lined up another show that is bound to be music to your ears. Straight from London among much fanfare comes a tribute band to the Beatles that, by all accounts, is unparalleled. On February 7 and 8 the Fab Beatles will be filling the brand new air conditioned tent at the Boat Lagoon with the sounds of one of the most iconic musical groups of all time.

These guys aren't just some garage band who happened to score a gig in Thailand. Since the original formation of the group in 1991, they have toured all over the globe playing in places from Sri Lanka to Russia, the Caribbean to Oman, and dozens of others in between.

You can find a number of positive reviews on line but the Fab Beatles have endorsements from the likes of Stan Parkes,

who happens to be John Lennon's cousin, and others like Michael Parkinson who have actually seen the original Beatles in concert. They were crowned the best Beatles tribute band by the BBC and commissioned by record label EMI to promote the 'Beatles 1' album, which highlighted the Beatles number one hits.

When asked if they were able to play every Beatles song, they honestly answered, 'no'. They unanimously replied that they cannot play 'Revolution No9' from the White Album. Considering that the Beatles had well over 200 original studio-recorded songs, we won' t hold that one against them.

While conjuring up an image of the days of the Beatles, it's hard not to remember the reactions the girls had at concerts. We have all seen the video clips of girls flinging their underwear and nearly ripping their hair out with hysteria. The times have changed, but the Fab Beatles say they still get great responses but now it's from the young Chalmers (aka "Ringo") prefers girls' mothers who are of the Beatles generation.

Of course the Fab Beatles love playing the Beatles music since they have developed careers in doing just that, and naturally they have favorites. Kev Day



Arguably the greatest Beatles tribute band to date, the Fab Beatles play at the Boat Lagoon on February 7 and 8.

(aka "John") says it changes every day, but today for Miky Dunn (aka "George") it's "Back in the USSR". Drummer Kieran "Ticket to Ride", which has his favorite drum beat on the original recording.

The Fab Beatles also use some of the original instruments that the Beatles played, and have a somewhat uncanny physical resemblance to the original band members as well, truly exuding the entire Beatles experience.

It looks like it might not be all work and no play for the modern-day fab four, says drummer Kieran Chalmers (Ringo). "I think we have a couple of days off to relax and enjoy a bit of sunshine [in Phuket]. We don't get much in England, and from what we have seen and heard

about Phuket, we couldn't be [heading] anywhere better! '

To find out more about this Phuket Gazette Headline Event see eventsinternational.com or call 091-326 0276. Tickets are available at the Phuket Gazette offices in Koh Kaew, off Thepkrasattri Rd; Villa Market, Chalong; Les Diables, Boat Lagoon; and at Canal Village at Laguna Phuket.



Adventure on



FUN WITH FRIENDS: The final stretch of the course includes a 30 meter tandem zip-line. Photos: Jeremie Schatz

By Mark Knowles

LOCATED on the peaceful peninsula of Cape Panwa, south of Phuket town, Tarzan Adventure Phuket is the island's newest attraction and provides a fantastic and fun day out in nature for the whole family. Tarzan Adventure is a little off the beaten track, and the bumpy dirt road leading you there

gives you no hint of the spectacular views that await your arrival. Standing in the large wooden hut that serves as the base for the sprawling tree-top adventure course, the view out over Chalong bay is stunning, the aquamarine waters of the bay are dotted with pleasurecraft heading out for their daily cruises and the Big Buddha sits serenely atop the distant hill.

After a peaceful moment drinking in the view, it's time to get down to the real business of the day – adventure! The friendly staff non-stop, tree-top trapeze. assist your group to strap into their harnesses and a safety briefing commences at a ground level zip-line to ensure everyone knows how to use their harness and redundant safety lines. The procedures couldn't be simpler and



ZIPPING ALONG: There are about 20 different zip-lines to enjoy.

once everyone has had a test run, it's off to the first of the course's 42 stations to begin two hours of

The course has a dazzling array of obstacles, bridges, platforms, rope ladders, climbing walls and even a tree-to-tree skateboard! With three members of the staff assisting each group, even the young members of the

family (as long as they are over 130cm tall) can take part and have a fantastic time.

By far the most fun though, are the 20 or so zip-line sections of the course, where you can glide through the air like Tarzan on a vine, sometimes as high as 20 meters above the jungle floor.

The course takes about two hours in all to complete and there



the high trees





SPECTACULAR VIEWS: The view of Chalong Bay at the start of the course is unparalleled. Photo: Mark Knowles

SHOW ME THE WAY: A guide leads the way on a zip-line. Photo: M Knowles

are several stops on the way where staff members hand out cold water to quench your thirst before hitting the next leg of the course. While anyone can do it, a moderate level of fitness is required and the course is a great light workout.

Before you know it, you're at the final 30-meter-long zip-line that completes the course, where staff strap you to a friend or family member for a tandem zip-line back to the finish line. Then it's back to the hut for a cool drink and a plate of freshly cut fruit to replenish your energy. But don't let the fun end there, make a day of it and head out to explore Cape Panwa. This sleepy cul de sac is often overlooked by tourists and residents alike, yet it boasts some of the most spectacular lookouts

on the island. You can also head to the Phuket aquarium or go for a swim at one of the pristine beaches on the cape. So if you are looking for a fun-filled day of family adventure, head to Tarzan Adventure Phuket, you'll be glad you did.

Tarzan Adventure Phuket is located on the west side of Cape Panwa along the Ao Yun-Khao Khad Road, look for the signs to help find your way. It costs 2,900 baht per person all inclusive, with drinks, fruit platter and a souvenir. Minimum height for participants is 130cm and maximum weight is 120kg. Friends and family not wishing to participate can walk along side and take photos at the many stations at eye level. For more information call 091-648-7244 or visit: tarzan-adventure.com



TEAMWORK: Groups of up to ten people welcome and it's a great team building exercise. Photo: Mark Knowles

Mom Tri's Baan Kata **Arts Festival Cocert**

Mom Tri Devakul has invited H.E. Adm. M.L. Usni Pramoj

to perform at Villa Royale continuing the tradition of the Baan Kata Arts Festival, a celebration of art and cultural

At Mom Tri's Villa Royale Phuket on 18 February 2014, Ticket THB 500.-Cocktail Reception 18.00 hrs. / Concert 19.00 hrs.

For reservations or information please phone 076 333 568 or email: info@villaroyalephuket.com Mom Tri's Villa Royale, 12 Kata Noi Road, Karon, Phuket 83100 www.villaroyalephuket.com / www.facebook.com/hotel.phuket











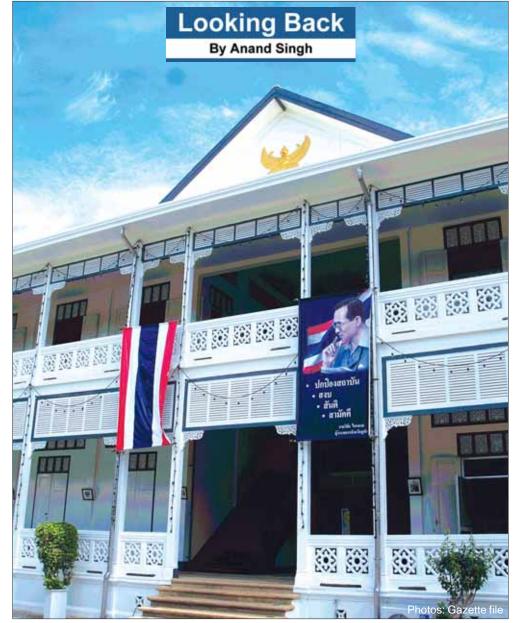
The hall of Phuket's past

PHUKET Provincial Hall, located on Narisorn Road in Phuket Town is the provincial center of government for Phuket. The building itself was registered with the Fine Arts Department in 1977 and also received the National Conservation award. It was also featured in the 1984 Academy Award-winning film, The Killing Fields, when it was meant to be the US Embassy in Phnom Penh.

The building that would serve as Phuket's provincial hall started construction in the year 1907, during a time when Phuket Town was seeing unprecedented modernization under the governorship of Phraya Rassada Nupradit, or Kor Sim Bee Na Ranong. Kor Sim Bee, the son of Chinese tin tycoon Kor Soo Cheang who was also the Governor of Ranong. Kor Sim Bee is renowned for being the first High Commissioner of Monthon Phuket, an administrative area set up during the reign of King Rama V that encompassed six provinces on the Andaman coast. During that period, Phuket Town was the administrative center of Monthon Phuket.

During his time in office, Kor Sim Bee developed Phuket Town into a flourishing center for tin trade. He constructed the island's first paved roads, encouraged local education and reduced the town's crime rate to record lows. As Governor of Monthon Phuket, Kor Sim Bee did not oppose foreign investment or activities; however, European companies that wanted to operate in Phuket during that time were often urged to make donations towards infrastructure development or social work within the Monthon.

In the early 1900s, Tongkah Compoundan, an Australian tin mining company, proposed to set up mining operations around the area where the old provincial hall used to be located, opposite the Post and Telegraph office, which today is Phuket Philatelic Museum. Kor Sim Bee, seeing that the old building was becoming too small and run down for the administration, proposed that he would award the land to Tongkah Compound for mining operations, if they would build him a new provincial hall. The company would also be allowed to conduct mining operations along Luang Por, Wat Chalong and Phang-Nga Roads. The



Use of steel-reinforced, concrete pillars meant a lighter, more spacious design.

company agreed and a deal was reached.

Tongkah Compound therefore funded the construction of a new provincial hall, which is still being used as the center of government for Phuket and the office of the governor today.

The Australian company employed an Italian architect to design and oversee the construction of the new government building. The new provincial hall was therefore heavily influenced by European architecture. It was also the first steel-reinforced concrete building in Thailand.

The new provincial hall was built at the foot of To-Sae Hill. The front of the building faces Narisorn Road. Surin Road is located to the right of the building and Damrong Road runs behind the complex. The two-story build-

ing was built in the shape of a rectangle, with an open-air courtyard in the middle. Both floors of the building are surrounded by an open balcony, which makes it possible to completely walk around the building's first and second floors. The first or ground floor of the building is five steps higher than the actual ground. The courtyard contains a lavish tropical garden.

When it was first built, the Phuket provincial hall building had ninety-nine doors but peculiarly no windows. Years later, two windows were added into the building. During that time, most building pillars were very thick, often measuring 60x60 centimeters. But because the new provincial hall employed the innovative use of steel reinforced concrete pillars, its pillars were significantly smaller, measuring only 15x20 centimeters. The result was a more spacious building.

Carved teak ventilating panels were also installed above the doors in order to let cool air flow into the rooms within the building. The panels were carved into shapes that resemble vases and tulip flowers.

Sadly, Kor Sim Bee did not live long enough to occupy an office in the new Phuket provincial hall. In February of 1913, an assassin shot Kor Sim Bee at a pier in Trang. He was immediately taken to a hospital in George Town, Penang. Almost two months later, the beloved high commissioner succumbed to his wounds and died on April 10, 1913.

On April 22, 1917, King Rama VI visited Phuket for the second time. During that visit, he formally opened the new Phuket provincial hall. Today the building is around one hundred years old and is still serving its original purpose as the center of government for Phuket province. Visitors are welcome to walk around the complex. There is also an open gallery around the building, showcasing around fifty historical photographs of Phuket.

Anand Singh is an avid Phuket historian. If you have any history to share about Phuket or the surrounding region, Anand can be contacted at as.pkt@hotmail.com

Life & style And A bold new blast of style

Books

By James Eckardt

IN 2000, at the tender age of 24, freshly graduated from Cambridge, Zadie Smith scored a huge hit with her first novel White Teeth. The beautiful daughter of a British father and a Jamaican mother, Smith delivered a warm and hilarious account of

her racially mixed neighborhood in London. She moved into an academic career in the US. Her third novel, On Beauty, was a shrewd and graceful take on two rival faculty families at Harvard, revolving around political, racial and religious polarities.

In her new novel NW (Penguin Books, London, 2013, 403pp), she returns to her old neighborhood in northwest London. Again, her characters are a rich racial salad but what is utterly new is her bold mix of literary styles. Most

novelists - Conrad, James, Hemingway, Faulkner – settle on a style and stick with it. In NW, Smith breaks from her past to introduce stream of consciousness narration and unorthodox typography.

Tall, red-haired, freckled, Irish, Leah Hanwell is the only white woman in a council estate charity organization. Stuck in an interminably boring meeting, she muses:

"This too will pass. Four forty-five. Zig zag. Tick tock. Sometimes bitterness makes a grab for Leah. Pulls her down, holds her. What was the point of it all? Three years of useless study. Out of pocket, out of her depth... Years too disconnected from everything to feel real. Edinburgh's dour hill-climb and unexpected-alley, castleshadow and fifty pence whisky chaser,

WalterScottStone and student loan shopping. Out of her mouth: a twosyllable packing company Socrates, a three-syllable cleaning fluid Antigone."

Such passages demand a close reading and can feel daunting to those unfamiliar with James Joyce and Virginia Woolf.

After 108 pages, the tale turns simple, following the last day in the life of Felix Cooper, an antique car mechanic and ex-junkie who has found the love of a good woman. He visits his Rastafarian father, an old

left wing neighbor, a pretentious young seller of an antique MG and a former lover, a dissolute aristocrat. He tells her that he has given up drink and drugs. She replies: "But, darling, I am clean. Two years clean."

"'Cept the coke, weed, drink, pills. . ." "I said I'm clean, not a bloody Mormon!"

On Cooper's return home, he is mugged and murdered.

In the next 150-page section, the style changes again, distant and abrupt, in truncated mini-chapters, for the story of Keisha Blake, as tall and black as her best friend from childhood, Leah Hanwell, is tall and white. Keisha changes her name to Nathalie in her rise from a low income tower block to a fashionable townhouse. She is a London barrister with two children and a rich and handsome banker husband, Francisco De Angelis, half-Italian, half-Trinidadian. Her family, still stuck in the tower block, and old friends like Leah Hanwell resent her seemingly perfect life. But she and her husband "only truly came together at weekends, in front of friends, for whom they appeared fresh and vibrant (they were only thirty years old), and full of the old, grand humor, like a double act that only speaks to each other when they are on stage."

Natalie takes an internet walk on the wild side and tumbles into a disastrous fall that leaves her wandering in her old neighborhood and taking a drugged nocturnal walk with Nathan Bogle, a former golden boy schoolmate whom Leah Hanwell had adored from afar and who is now living on the street.

The death of Felix Cooper, seemingly separate from the main characters in the novel - Leah and Nathalie and Nathan will link them all together in the end. This plot twist is creaky and awkward but the novel's real strengths are the depth of the



Zadie Smith's. Photo: David Shankbone

characters, the impressionistic descriptions of northwest London and the crackling local dialect.

Natalie is caught between two languages, the one of university and court and dinner parties and the other of the tower block in Caldwell where she visits her sister Cheryl, who tells her: "If you hate Caldie so much, why d'you even come back here? Seriously, man. . . You piss me off sometimes Keisha. No, but you do."

So who is she? Natalie or Keisha?



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Dreamlining to Phuket



By Somchai Huasaikul

THIS high season has seen the first arrivals of flights to Phuket International Airport by the long-awaited next generation of commercial passenger jets: the Boeing 787 "Dreamliner".

UK-based Thomson Airways, the world's largest charter carrier, was the first to use the revolutionary aircraft to service the island, offering weekly "jet-lag busting" – as a columnist for one UK newspaper put – it direct flights to the island from Gatwick Airport in the UK, .

The service, announced last April, began quietly on November 5 last year and runs until April 22, about the end of the high season. Initial return fares were highly competitive at just 585 (about 31,600 baht) return.

The market-savvy carrier also held a Twitter contest last year to name its first 787, with the winning entrant "Living The Dream" submitted by a woman named Nicola Thomson from Glasgow who had just had a full recovery from neurosurgery.

Also getting into the Dreamliner game early is Australia-based JetStar, which took possession of its first 787 late last year and plans to replace its entire fleet of Airbus A330s with 14 Dreamliners by the end of 2015.

The low-cost carrier also hopes to deploy a Dreamliner on its new direct flights between Sydney and Phuket next month, pending regulatory approval. JetStar was also the first carrier to introduce direct service to Phuket from Melbourne last month.

It is not uncommon for newlyintroduced aircraft models to encounter technical problems soon after deployment. That has indeed been the case with the first Dreamliner model approved by regulatory agencies in both the US and Europe: the 787-8.

The most notable event was a fire that broke out in one of the planes' lightweight lithium-ion batteries as an unoccupied All Nippon Airways (ANA) 787 sat on the tarmac at Logan Airport in the US city of Boston in January last year. Fortunately, there were no reports of serious injuries or deaths associated with that incident, which forced the US Federal Aviation Authority (FAA) to ground all Dreamliners for over three months.

The Gazette asked a senior industry expert on technical issues about the Dreamliner's safety performance overall during the first year, in particular how such a battery could burst into flames.

He told the Gazette that, despite intensive investigation, the cause of the fire had yet to be fully understood. Boeing chose to introduce a lithium-ion battery pack for the Dreamliner instead of the industry standard Nickel-Cadmium type in order to reduce weight while maintaining the same charge capacity.

The lithium-ion battery technology has long been safely in use in the automotive industry, most notably by the American electric car manufacturer Tesla, he said.

"It had nothing to do with the aircraft system itself; it was purely because of the battery, which was manufactured in Japan by Yuasa. The FFA and Boeing still have not really determined the root cause of that fire, but Boeing came up with a new measure in order to isolate and fireproof the battery case should one happen again, and this has been accepted and approved by the FAA and other regulatory agencies. After this modification, I don't think there will be any other major problems with the aircraft."

The source said he had already flown on a normal commercial transpacific flight aboard an ANA Dreamliner 787-8 and was very impressed with the experience.

In addition to being able to fully recline to a sleeping position in business class, increased humidity and improved overall air

quality at the cruising altitude of 6,000 feet, other discomforts such as "ear popping" due to pressure

buildup in the sinuses was far less, he added.

"I do not think that Boeing has done enough to market this aspect. You can really feel the difference throughout the flight, even when you put your shoes back on at the end," he noted.

"The larger cabin windows are also a big improvement, and passengers can adjust the intensity

a lease agreement with US-based International Lease Finance Corporation (ILFC). The aircraft are scheduled to be added THAI's fleet from this year through to 2017.

of the incoming light electronically.

It is not just 'open and close'

as was the case with previous

based carrier known to have

ordered any of the aircraft is the

national carrier Thai, which has

ordered eight of the aircraft under

The larger cabin windows are also a big improvement

and passengers can adjust the intensity of the

Thus far, the only Thailand-

aircraft," he said.

The source said ever-rising fuel costs made it inevitable that lightweight composite materials, instead of traditional aluminum, would be increasingly important in future air frame designs, especially

same suppliers.

In addition to being much lighter, the composite material is also much stronger, which is another key reason the aircraft can cruise at 6,000 feet instead of in the 8,000 foot to 9,000

Dreamliner

variant model,

incoming light electronically. It is not just 'open and the 787-9, will close' as was the case with previous aircraft. be a "stretched" 787-8. It will have the same wingspan (60 meters) but with a longer, 63-meter fuselage capable of seating more passen-

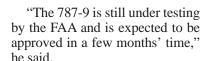
> configuration used by the carrier, he said. The 787-8 model is designed to

since competitors like Boeing and AirBus source engines from the

> foot range, he explained. The second

version of the gers, from 250 to 290 passengers in three classes, depending on the

carry 210 passengers in three classes.



Boeing expect the 787-9 model to replace its 767-400ER model and to prove as stiff competition with the two variants of the Airbus A330.

Further down over the horizon will be the 787-10, which was announced at the 2013 Paris Air Show last June.

"The 787-10 Dreamliner will be the most-efficient jetliner [so far] in history. The airplane' s operating economics are unmatched and it has all the incredible passenger-pleasing features that set the 787 family apart as truly special," said Boeing in a press release at the time.

The launch customer is reported to be Singapore Airlines, which has expressed the desire to order 30 of the aircraft as they become available.

The 787-10 is 25 per cent more efficient than airplanes of its size today and more than 10 per cent better than anything being offered by the competition for the future, Boeing claims.

At over 68 meters in length, it will become the aircraft of choice on many long-haul routes as it will be able to seat up to 330 passengers in a double aisle configuration.

The Gazette's source confirmed that, despite rumors to the contrary, all of the 787 variants will be capable of landing and taking off from Phuket International Airport. So next time you are up at HKT, do some planespotting and see if you can't spy a 787 Dreamliner.



All 787 Dreamliner variants will be capable of landing and taking off from Phuket International Airport. Photo: Jetstar



The updated and luxurious cabin of the 787 Dreamliner. Photo: Boeing

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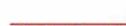
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SUDOKU: Each row, column and 3x3 sub-grid must contain the number 1-9 once only. Kevin Stone (brainbashers.com)

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"What soap is to the body, laughter is to the soul." – Yiddish Proverb

"Always laugh when you can; it is cheap medicine." – Lord Byron

Quotes taken from 'Quotes for Prosperity' by Ian Hewitt

Across

- 9. Phoney to mess up something which greatly attracts people (8) 10. A thousand one time for equipment (3)
- 11. Or about right unknown model of the solar system (6)
- 12. Left in arranged pairs to go up rapidly (6)
- 13. Struck and rebounded, upset cad more (7)
- 14. Pater not right in the old head (4)
- 15. Failing in ones duty, maybe need quilt around the North (10) 17. Or lichen produces noxious
- 18. Spread that is South African corn (7)
- 19. Love river! Caught a whale! (4)
- 21. Less feeling character? (6) 24. The Father then does convert in the remotest regions (3,4,2,3,5)

27. Possibly taste out East from a

- beverage service (3,3) 29. Having interest, not I perhaps (4)
- 30. Unlucky occurrences resulting from his spam (7)
- 33. Mutual, an arrangement towards the end of the year (8)
- 35. In a request about a rider (10) 36. Good man a right big
- shot (4)37. A nut set out to get lockjaw(7) 38. So I' d go back to find a Thai 10. Knock out deserter in gatecur(3,3)
- 40. To Tom, a new fruiting herb(6) 41. An eastern sash? Lob it in the middle. (3)
- 42. Crave too to make an outer garment (8)

Down

- 1. Go with what sounds like a flattering remark! (10)
- 2. Expensive, love! (4)
- 3. Pique pal destroying attached
- ornamental work (8) 4. Stickler left off decal (7)
- 5. Chose a match unfortunately
- for abdominal pain (11)
- 6. Once cloned gave rise to sympathy (10)
- 7. Doctor a rep returning as material dealer (6)
- 8. Make-believe peer sent out (8)
- way to Thai Northeast (5) 16. Complaint from bad head (7) 20. Concerning well-suited restoration (5)
- 22. The rough French spirit her one on parade (7)

- 23. Cat ill, soon I upset swinging around (11)
- 25. Not maybe at noon. I don't have the slightest idea (3,1,6)26. Having seven angles to heal
- Patong perhaps (10) 28. Balancing in equitation, lost it! (8)
- 31. Demanded the fashionable possibly desist (8)
- 32. Sup soft around a complainer (4,3)
- 34. False uniform, learn differently (6) 35. Maybe nine about turn for
- lack of interest (5)
- 39. At heart, be in care of an early South American royal! (4)

Cryptic Crossword compilede by Patong Bill. Solution on page 31.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19):

Aquarians should be in the mood for entertaining this week and the stars suggest it will be good to catch up with people you haven't seen for a while. In the realm of romance, a relationship with another air sign that was on the rocks can get a new wave of life. Those celebrating a birthday during the coming days are forecast to find more job satisfaction in the year ahead.

PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20):

The stars suggest you will end January in an upbeat mood. Your luck in love increases, with smoother communication forecast to help put troubled relationships back on track. Single Pisceans who have been waiting for the right moment to approach a fire sign get their chance this weekend. A friend's recent monetary woes can encourage you to start working on ways of creating a stronger financial safety net.

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20):

Those born under the sign of Aries should have more time to themselves this week. A shopping trip encourages you to splash out cash on a luxury item that will make life easier. Personal relationships fall under the spotlight – the stars indicate that emotional ties to the past can be cut during the last week of January. If this relates to romance, it will leave the way clear for making a new commitment.

TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21):

Options expand as the end of January approaches. Taureans who have been trying to find more suitable employment can be spoiled for choice, but the stars suggest that February is a more fortuitous month to make serious decisions. Those who are content in their current situation are likely to be offered ways of diversifying. In the realm of romance, disagreements over money need to be addressed this weekend.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21):

A fresh start in the world of work is highlighted for those born under the sign of Gemini. More lucrative prospects will mean that relocation becomes possible for those who have itchy feet. Money matters are also well starred as January draws to a close; an issue that has been on hold should be resolved by the end of the month. Your attention to detail makes the right romantic impression this weekend.

YOUR

horoscope

By Isla Star

CANCER (June 22-July 23):

It can be a challenge for Cancerians to live up to promises made in the heat of the moment earlier this month. The stars suggest that a fire sign can put pressure on you to do something that brings more responsibility than anticipated. Monday is the most auspicious day to set limits. Where personal relationships are concerned, being the center of attention this weekend can give your confidence levels a boost.

LEO (July 24-Aug 22):

Your energy is mixed this week and the stars recommend that Leos take time out before Monday to prioritize. On a personal level, it can be challenging to keep good news to yourself, but this should not be shared until you are more certain of the facts. Where romance is concerned, an earth sign's reluctance to commit becomes a bone of contention, but love with a water sign grows stronger.

VIRGO (Aug 23-Sept 23):

The stars advise that secrets can be hard to keep this week. Those Virgoans who have been entrusted with sensitive information will need to be on their guard as there are hints that someone is determined to find out what you know. Where affairs of the heart are concerned, money can't buy love, no matter how hard you try to impress a water sign with your generosity.

LIBRA (Sept 24-Oct 23):

A money related issue won't disappear of its own accord. Those born under the sign of Libra who have been avoiding putting their personal finances in order are forecast to receive a wake-up call by the end of the month. Romance becomes better starred as January ends; another air sign who was playing hard to get should tire of the game. Dreams can give guidance to those confused by a water sign's behavior.

SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22):

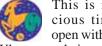
Friends recently returned from extended travel can inspire Scorpios to contemplate doing the same. The stars indicate that this goal is what you need to start seriously saving, instead of spending money on

things you don't need. The chance to earn more can come from an unexpected source, but you may need to swallow some pride before accepting. Romance is low-key this week, which is probably what you want.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21):

Quiet time should be on the agenda for those born under the sign of Sagittarius this weekend. There are hints that some busy working days lie ahead until the end of the month. In the realm of romance, if finding common ground with an earth sign is tricky, the stars suggest that it could be a good idea to take up a new interest together. Finances are most fortunate midweek.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20): This is not an auspi-



cious time to be too open with your feelings. Where work is concerned, hot

tempers midweek can lead to a rift that will be hard to repair. On a personal level, friendship with an air sign is compromised by this person's choice of new romantic partner. Capricorns who are tiring of a particular financial commitment to a family member are advised to wait a while before tackling this issue.

International Sport Broncos, Seahawks in the Super Bowl

By Somchai Huasaikul

IF there is one thing I love about sports in general, and the National Football League (NFL) specifically, is what a meritocracy it is. There is a clear set of rules that both teams must accept and play by, the outcome is decided on the field - and you never see the owner's son as starting quarterback. Sure there are sometimes dubious calls, but in many cases these go up for instant replay review and can be overturned. Most importantly, when the game is over, everyone accepts the result and, in most cases, winners and losers shake hands before walking off the field. If only we could import some of these elements into the never-ending mess that Thai politics has become...

Next weekend, NFC champs the Seattle Seahawks will take on the AFC champs Denver Broncos in Super Bowl XLVIII; both teams fully deserve to be there.

Denver's passage to the "big show" followed from a 26-16 win over the New England Patriots in a game that was never as close as

the final score line might indicate. In what was showcased as a showdown between two future Hall of Fame quarterbacks, Denver's Peyton Manning and New England's Tom Brady, Denver was completely dominant in building up an unassailable 20-3 lead early on.

New England, playing in a regular season game in Foxborough, staged a thrilling come from behind victory late in the regular season, but that was in rainy, gusty conditions that Manning has never played very well under.

By contrast, the AFC Champi-

onship at Mile High Stadium had ideal conditions and Manning, in the light mountain air, used his trademark precision passing attack and best receiving corps in the league to throw for 400 yards and two touchdowns. The Pats secondary, which has been devastated by injuries all year, took another blow when their top cornerback Aqib Talib went out with an injury after a controversial collision with former Patriot slot receiver Wes Welker in the

Welker was adored in New England, but the Pats failed to pay him what he was worth last year; that is just one of the many story lines behind the game.

Deserving equal credit was the Bronco's defense. The Patriots had run at will in their divisional win the week before over the Indianapolis Colts, with 250-pound running back LeGarrette Blount racking up 166 yards and four TDs in that game. His output against Denver was under 20 yards; he was a complete non-factor.

As a die-hard Patriots fan, my hat goes off to the Broncos, who were clearly the better side.

The NFC final played in Seattle was far more closely contested and much more physical game that really just came down to a handful of plays, most notably three second-half turnovers by the 49ers.

Many pundits were down on the Seahawks' young QB Russell Wilson going into the match, but he recovered from an early turnover and threw a clutch TD on fourth down later in the game to



Teams from two states that have legalized Cannabis will meet in the finale.

lift the Seahawks over the 49ers, 23-17. This was a game that really could have gone either way, but the key was Seattle's stout defense, which forced the key turnovers late in the game.

So this year's Super Bowl will be played next weekend in the MetLife Stadium in the New Jersey Meadowlands (6:30am, February 3 Phuket time, FOX net-

It will be the first Super Bowl appearance for the Seahawks (15-3) since they lost to Pittsburgh after the 2005 season.

Denver is an elite NFL franchise, with only six losing years in 35 years in the league. They

have won seven AFC Championships and two Super Bowls.

We do not condone gambling, but just to offer some insight into the matchup, initial Vegas odds favor the Broncos by two points. All eyes will be on the weather, which is seldom very nice in New Jersey in early February.

The game is usually shown on Thai terrestrial television as the only NFL game of the season, in part due to the odd hour, although the commentary is in Thai. No guarantees on that, however. Hopefully there will be a few Super Bowl parties around the island.

Whatever the case: may the best team win.

Phuket International Hospital

Mini Marathon to raise fund for the charity

"H.R.H Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn's Special Task Unit (SSTU)"







Awards / Medals :

- The finisher 1st Mini marathon 12 km (male /female) will be awarded with HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhom cups.
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- Females Finishers of 1-5 of each category 12 km. run will be The Phuket International Hospital award trophies
- The medal of Mini Marathon for 1-300 runners who complete the finish line and The medals of Fun Run for 1-300 runners who complete the finish line
- The trophies for VIP runners
- . T shirts for runners

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- Water stations along the route
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Schedule:

06.15 a.m.

04.00-05.30 Runners arrive and registration

for the race a.m. 06.00 a.m. Mini Marathon (12 km.) start at

Phuket International Hospital arch

Fun Run (3.5 km.) start at Phuket

International Hospital arch

07.30 a.m. Awards presentation ceremony 09.00 a.m. Closing the race



Entry Fees:

- 1. Mini Marathon Male / Female (12 km.) THB 250
- 2. Fun Run Male / Female (3.5 km.) THB 200
- 3. VIP THB 2,000

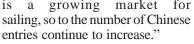
2014 Bay Regatta to see a wave of sailors

, held from February 12 to 16 in Phuket, Phang Nga and Krabi provinces, is less than one month away and with entries flooding in from all corners of the world, the fleet looks set to be a global mix of nationalities and cultures.

Leading the way are the Asianbased entries with the number of boats and crew from the Asian region expected to beat all previous records. The increase in sailors from this region reflects the international appeal of the longstanding regatta which is now in its 17th year.

Race Director Simon James said he believes that having such a diversity of participants is part of

the event's unique appeal: "We have large numbers of entrants from around Asia and in particular Hong Kong, Singapore, Japan, China, the Philippines and of course Thailand, and they make up a significant part of the fleet. Last year was the biggest ever Japanese fleet and as China



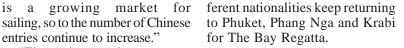
"The Asian entries are very competitive, even in the cruising classes. A number of Japanese entries have won their class and the possibility of winning is the reason all participants come back

THE 17th annual The Bay Regatta year-after-year. Asian participants are no different to other participants in that they are here to sail well, achieve a good result and enjoy themselves both on and off the water.'

> There is traditionally a large contingent of Australian and New Zealand participants as well as a strong local presence at The Bay Regatta. The rapid growth in the number of entrants from countries such as England and Russia has been a more recent phenomenon.

> The Bay Regatta has developed a reputation as Asia's most prestigious and competitive regatta, and sailors from all over the world now descend on

Phuket, Phang Nga and Krabi for four days of racing and four lavish parties. A good time may be had by all on shore, but out on the water there is no quarter asked or given. Simon James said he believes that the stiff competition is the reason that participants of so many dif-



The Phuket Gazette and PGTV are proud sponsors of The Bay Regatta. For more information see: bayregatta.com or facebook.com/ bayregatta



DaVinci representing Thailand



The increase in sailors from the Asian region reflects the international appeal of the regatta. Photo: Gazette File

Fans should respect decision of the TVA

THE decision by the Thai Volleyball Association (TVA) to send two national teams to two very prestigious tournaments, to be held almost simultaneously this year, has ruffled the feathers of some fans.

Call it a scheduling difficulty, lack of coordination, or both, FIVB, the world volleyball body, is conducting the World Championship from September 23 to October 12 in Italy while the Asian Games will be held in Incheon, South Korea, from September 19 to October 4. The victims of this strange overlap are Asian teams and the team most likely to be affected by this "goof up" is Thailand.

The national team had a remarkable season last year. Besides capturing the Asian crown at home, the Thai team defied odds and finished fifth at the FIVB World Grand Champions' Cup with a rare victory over two-time world champions Russia.

Thailand has participated in the world meet three times and prior to last year, their best result was in 2010 when they finished in the 13th position. In the Asian Games, they have never been able to win a medal. Their best efforts were in 1986, 1998 and 2006 when they secured fourth. In Guangzhou, China, four years ago, they finished

Thailand beat Russia last year. Photo: FI VB

a disappointing fifth.

The Thailand Volleyball Association, for its part, made a PMI – plus, minus, interesting – assessment and decided to send the first team to the Asian Games and the second string team to the world meet. The decision sparked a hot debate among die-hard fans, with sports writers offering different viewpoints on websites, blogs and on Facebook.

Those who want the team to obtain the best possible results had positive views.

Some fans feel that the world meet is more important than the Asian Games and the strongest team should go to Italy. Some fans are highly optimistic that the team

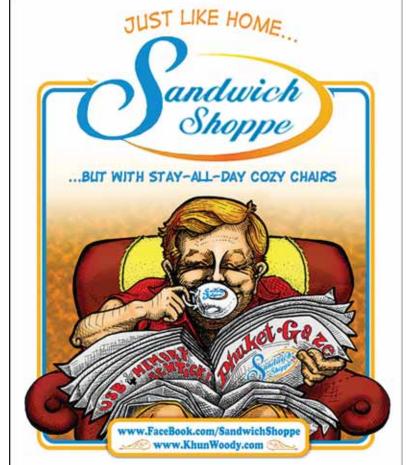
> has the ability to win all the competitions they enter. Some fans said they would be fully satisfied if the TVA sends a team with stars Onuma Sittirak, Wilavan Apinyapong and Pleumjit Thinkaow in it.

It became obvious that the TVA cannot satisfy the wishes of all the fans. Some, therefore, countered that the

TVA should make the final decision and fans should respect it. Still, the controversial issue has not gone away. It has remained in the public domain and on social media for the last few months.

Fans should know that fielding a team in big competitions is not as easy as ABC. It takes preparation and time.

– Preechachan Wiruyanupappong/The Nation



Tennis tip: Let's let up on the lob

IN OUR adult morning tennis clinics at Thanyapura we often pursue getting better in doubles and present students with choices they have when playing doubles. Everyone wants to improve and at the same time everyone wants to win too.

One way to become a better doubles player is to put the lob in the closet for a while and learn to explore other options. The lob is a wonderful and very strategic shot in doubles but it can be a crutch for recreational players.

Choosing the lob too much means you may lack confidence in other shots. Against many teams you can't win by lobbing as their smashes and positioning are too good. Plus, every time you lob, your partner could be a target of that smash. We always want to protect our partner.

When your opponents are coming to the net, here are your options:

1)Hit or chip the ball low 2)Lob

3)Drive it hard right at them

4)Try to pass

Your first option should always be to try and keep the ball low. You should only go up in the air if you are out of position or in a very defensive situation (good shot by opponent) or your opponents are out of position (they are too close to the net). In those two scenarios you are justified in lobbing. If you lob just because your opponents are at the net you are making a mistake.

Other good options (if you have time) are to attempt to pass them or hit it right at them. Passing your opponents is trickier than hitting it at them. In tennis there is no greater feeling than to hit the ball down the line past your opponents. We love that feeling! However, the net team is forcing you to hit a small target area. Passing isn't easy.

If you are hitting at your opponents we are not talking about hurting them, but instead just taking their time away and forcing an error from them. Many players are great at the net if you give them a 'gimmie', but aren't as effective when the ball comes at them fast.



Don't become too reliant on lobs.

Test your opponents to see if they can volley. This is not a bad thing and you aren't being rude by hitting towards them, it's all part of playing doubles. If/ when you hit them, be sure to apologize.

Remember you have lots of options when your opponents are at the net. The primary option includes the letter "W" (Low). When you are in trouble you can use the letter "B" (Lob).

By Thanyapura's Tennis Head Coach, Roger Cochrane Email: tennis@thanyapura.com

Sport I

lunders Patons

Thalang were pitted against a fired-up Patong who were searching for their first victory of the season at the Alan Cooke Ground. Photos: Supplied

IN MATCH 6 of the Jones Lang LaSalle (JLL) cricket league, Thalang (TCT) were pitted against a fired-up Patong who were searching for their first victory of the season at the Alan Cooke Ground (ACG) on Sunday, January 17. This was more than just another league game, with both sides competing for the inaugural Tristen Sheridan cup in memory of exceptionally talented PCG cricketer and mutual friend who tragically passed away last year.

In a highly competitive and closely fought match, TCT posted a total of 191-8 from their 35 overs with Patong just falling short of the target with 187-9 from their innings.

Also making its debut was the Chris Hart memorial digital scoreboard which now enables spectators to keep up-to-date with the scores while sitting in the comfort of the clubhouse.

TCT won the toss and chose to bat first. Roshan Jayasuriya (11) chanced his arm early on in the innings hitting two boundaries until he was caught by the Thai youngster Pao on the fence in just the 3rd over. In the next over, Simon Wetherell (0) was bowled by Dave Watson as Patong took the ascendency early on with good, tight bowling. Bill Stahmer (34)

and Craig Murphy (20) then joined forces to steady the innings during the next 10 overs until Murphy fell in the 15th over with the score on 53-3. With TCT's run rate under 4 an over, it took a great inning from Neill Culpan (68 from 61 balls) to bring the game back in balance. In his first game of the season, Neill scored freely, hitting 2 towering sixes as he partnered with Ian Henry (24 not out) to guide TCT to a competitive total of 191-8 from 35 overs.

After the lunch break, Patong set about the run chase in a very positive manner. Mike Khan (19) and Imtiyaz Mustaq (35) had the TCT bowler's measure, until Khan's lofted off drive from Culpan failed to clear the fast moving Gary Lane at mid-off. Thereafter, a batting collapse ensued, with Patong, who were 46-1 in the 8th over, were struggling at 74-5 in the 12th over as Neill Culpan (4 for 28) showed his all-around abilities. Neill bowled Mushtaq, had Paddy Morton adjudged LBW two balls later and in his next over had Thai batsman Pao, caught by Ian Henry at slip. However, a determined Dave Watson (51) was left to steady the Patong ship and with a little luck and some great support from Owen Pringle (14), the battle for the Tristen Sheridan cup was far from over.



Thalang walked away the Tristen Sheridan Cup.

finished their spells for the day and Patong were 143-7 and required just 49 runs to win. Watson hit back-to-back boundaries to bring up his 50, but attempted one big shot too many when he was stumped by Simon Wetherell. Neil Quail (26 not out off 19 balls) never gave in for Patong despite

At the start of the 30th over, carrying a hand injury and Patong TCT's opening bowlers had reached the last over needing 12 runs for victory. However, Craig Murphy bowled a disciplined last over for TCT and Patong fell 4 runs short to finish at 9-187.

This Sunday, January 26 sees a clash between the only two undefeated teams so far, when title-holders Laguna take on ICC. Play starts at 10am.

Brits outbowl in teacher friendly





As a follow up to recent cricket internationals, the Australian teachers at British International School Phuket (BISP) invited their English teaching colleagues (and Welsh Headmaster Neil Richards pictured bowling) to take their revenge. The objective of raising the spirits of the Aussie teachers' English friends was accomplished with an orchestrated and comprehensive victory by the Brits.

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Local athletes win 49 medals at Nationals



Phuket got silver and bronze medals in Karate-do (left) and gold medals in Soft Tennis. Photos: Phuket Sports Association



Body-building bronze boy.

By Steven Layne

A TOTAL of 49 medals were awarded to Phuket athletes competing at the 42nd National Games, contested in Suphanburi from January 5 to 15, with the Kingdom's only island province excelling in 21 categories for five 1st place, five 2nd place and 11 3rd place podium finishes.

Based on the medal tally, which gives official ranking precedence based on the number of gold medals, Phuket, with its five golds and 21 podium finishes in all, placed 25th out of 76 provinces and Bangkok.

However, the *Gazette* ran its own calculations using medals percapita as a national ranking criteria, which pushed Phuket up towards the top of the Kingdom, in 6th place.

Suthasini Lertphattaromnat

Phataramon Phetkaew

Nattakom Pinno

With a registered population of 345,067, Phuket athletes earned 6.09 medals per each of the province's 100,000 residents, or precisely 16,431.7 citizens for each of its podium finishes.

The 42nd Thailand National Games' hosts, Suphanburi cleaned up the event with 358 medals including 198 gold, 80 silver and 80 bronze medals. In per-capita terms, Suphanburi also topped the nation with 42.3 medals per 100,000, or one podium finish for every 2,362 residents there.

Suphanburi maintains a longstanding reputation in Thailand as the "sports province" with its numerous sports-specific secondary schools. Moreover, being hosts ensured it had an additional advantage in being able to field the most competitors at minimal costs.

Based on the golden criteria, the nation's capital, Bangkok came in second (275 medals), followed by Chonburi (138) and Nakhon Ratchasima (80).

Nine provinces, namely Sa Kaeo, Phetchaburi, Uthaithani, Kamphaeng Phet, Utturadit, Narathiwat, Mukdahan, Nong Bua Lamphu and Nong Kai – were unable to get a single gold medal.

Phuket did particularly well in the ancient Chinese strategy board game, Go, landing six podium finishes for 15 medals. Although most of these were silver and bronze medals, boygirl duo Krit Jaemkajornkiet and Krongkamol Mekmok triumphed in the Mixed-Pair category for gold.

Phuket's other gold medals were in Athletics – Hammer Throw (Tantipong Phetchaiya); Soft Tennis Men's Team (Naruchat Sutthanasin, Phi Misuk, Ithi Thansirirot, Sakan Thansirirot and Pakorn Niyomadul); Pencak Silat – Women's Solo 50-55kg (Ankana Pankhwan) as well as in Petanque – Men's Pair (Thanakorn Sungkaew, Parinya Patthong and Thamrong Khumphet).

See table to left for full Phuket winner's list.

Meanwhile, Chiang Mai duo Patrawadee "Ploy" Kittiya, 19, and Tanakrit "Nok" Kittiya, 17 – who had been training at Thanyapura Phuket for the December 2013 Southeast Asian Games in Myanmar and the Thailand National Games – also saw many of their

	Th	nailand ran	ıking	S (mo	edals per o	capita)
Ì		PROVINCE*	Ó	0	-	100K
1	1	Suphanburi	198	358	845,950	42.32
	2	Chonburi	47	138	1,316,293	10.48
	3	Samut Sakhon	17	47	491,887	9.56
	5	Chanthaburi Nonthaburi	7 21	37 78	514,616 1,101,743	7.19 7.08
i	6	Phuket	5		345,067	6.09
ł	7	Satun	7	18	297,163	6.06
	8	Trat	1	13	220,921	5.88
	9	Amnat Charoen	9	19	372,137	5.11
	10	Bangkok	74	275	5,701,394	4.82
	11	Ang Thong Chiang Mai	1 19	13 74	284,970 1,640,479	4.56 4.51
	13	Rayong	3	28	626,402	4.47
	14	Krabi	4	18	432,704	4.16
	15	Chumphon	6	20	489,964	4.08
	16	Singburi Trang	4	22	214,661 622,659	3.73 3.53
	18	Lamphun	1	14	404,560	3.46
	19	Phitsanulok	6	29	849,692	3.41
	20	Saraburi	7	21	617,384	3.40
	21	Si Saket Mae Hong Son	12	49	1,452,471 242,742	3.37
	23	Nakhon Sri	17	50	1,522,561	3.30 3.28
	24	Phang Nga	1	8	253,112	3.16
	25	Nakhon Pathom	5	27	860,246	3.14
	26	Surat Thani	2	31	1,000,383	3.10
	27	Korat Phattalung	23	80 15	2,582,089 509,534	3.10 2.94
	29	Samut Prakarn	9	34	1,185,180	2.87
	30	Khon Kaen	7	47	1,767,601	2.66
	31	Sukhothai	5	16	601,778	2.66
	32	Pathum Thani Phetchabun	7	26	985,643	2.64
ı	34	Ratchaburi	6	24	996,031 839,075	2.41
ı	35	Prachuap	4	12	509,134	2.36
	36	Nan	2	11	476,363	2.31
ı	37	Ranong	4 2 2 2 2 2 5	4	183,079	2.18
ı	38	Lampang Samut Songkhram	2	16	761,949 194,057	2.10 2.06
ı	40	Surin	5	28	1,381,761	2.03
	41	Phrae	1	9	460,756	1.95
	42	Chiang Rai	7	23	1,198,218	1.92
ı	43	Maha Sarakham	3	18	940,911	1.91
ı	45	Kanchanaburi Yala	1	16 9	839,776 487,380	1.91 1.85
ı	46	Bueng Karn	2	7	385,053	1.82
	47	Chainat	1	6	334,934	1.79
ı	48	Phetchaburi	0	8	464,033	1.72
ı	49 50	Lopburi Prachinburi	2	13	755,854 466,572	1.72
ı	51	Ubon Ratchathani	5	31	1,813,088	1.71
	52	Phayao	1 0 2 2 5 4 1 3 2 7 2	8	486,304	1.65
ı	53	Phichit	1	9	552,690	1.63
ı	54	Sakhon Nakorn	3	18	1,122,905	1.60
ı	55 56	Loei Buriram	7	10 24	624,066 1,553,765	1.60 1.54
	57	Ayuthaya	2	12	782,096	1.53
	58	Nakhon Sawan	1	15	1,073,495	1.40
	59	Sakaeo	0	6	485,632	1.24
ı	60	Chaiyaphum Nakhon Phanom	2	13	1,127,423 703,392	1.15
ı	62	Udon Thani	3 0 2	17	1,544,786	1.10
	63	Uturadit	Õ	5	462,618	1.08
	64	Roi Et	2	14	1,309,708	1.07
	65	Patani	4	7	655,259	1.07
	66	Songkhla Yasothon	1	13 5	1,357,023 539,257	0.96
	68	Chachoengsao	1	6	673,933	0.89
	69	Kalasin	4	7	982,578	0.71
	70	Kampaengphet	0	5	727,093	0.69
	71 72	Uthai Thani Tak	0	5 2 3	327,959	0.61
	73	Nakhon Nayok	ò	1	525,684 252,734	0.57
	74	Nong Kai	0	3	912,937	0.33
	75	Mukdahan	0	1	339,575	0.29
	76 77	Narathiwat Nong Bua Lamphu	0	2	737,162 502,868	0.27
	- 11	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				

goals come to fruition last week.

77 Nong Bua Lamphu

Ploy earned two golds (Butterfly 100M and 200M) and one bronze (200M backstroke), while her younger brother, Nok also earned two golds (Butterfly 200M and Freestyle 400M) as well as two silvers (Freestyle Relay 4x100 and Freestyle 1,500 M) in addition to two bronze medals (4X100M Mixed Relay and 4X200 Freestyle Relay).

The *Gazette* would like to congratulate Nok, Ploy and all of the Phuket athletes who underlined the island's firm position on Thailand's sporting map.



Phuket's petanque gold medalist.

Phuket medal winners HammerThrow-Men's Tantipong Phetchaiya Naruchat Sutthanasin Soft Tennis Men's Team Phi Misuk **Ithi Thansirirot** Sakan Thansirirot Pakorn Niyomadul Pencak Silat Women's Single 50-55kg Ankana Pankhwan Thanakom Sungkaew Petanque Men's Pair Parinya Patthong Thamrong Khumphet Krit Jaemkajomkiet Krongkamol Mekmok 13 Karate-do Women's Dance Single Jenjira Mukphan 14 Soft Tennis Mixed Pair Sakan Thansirirot Phitchakorn Kankanok Thira Rungrueangthawipong 16 Olarn Rotnaburanon 18 Go Thira Rungrueangthawipong 19 Olarn Rotnaburanon 20 Krit Jaemkajornkiet Anong Chertchuchaipaibul 21 Warunwipha Chuenarom Krongkamol Mekmok **Wutipong Srisorn** Pricha Jaima Parinya Tonubol 28 Karate-do Men's Battle Single <75kg Pricha Jaima Soft Tennis Women's Team Kanokporn Phromrak Woralak Kritchakan 31 32 33 Suthapat Kongkaeo Phitchakorn Kankanok Nattapan Sriphet Woralak Kritchakan Soft Tennis Women's Doubles Phitchakorn Kankanok 36 Taekwondo Women's Single 57-62kg Duangsamorn Chuaikaeng Women's Team Prapasorn Sagiem 38 Phatcharin Phetkaeo 39 Jarin Wisetiinda 40 Kannwora Feuangfoo

Body Building Men's Athletic

All quiet on Russian front

Phuket FC prevail in friendly match against FC Forward Vladivostok

By Steven Layne

PHUKET: Maintaining fantastic preseason form, Phuket FC dominated their all-Russian opponents, FC Forward Vladivostok, winning by a final score of 4-0 in a friendly match on Saturday night at Surakul Stadium.

The result came to the dismay of hundreds of Russian spectators who' d turned out in patriotic opponents, but as the match profashion - many waving red, white and blue flags, some even wearing face paint.

Cheered on by only slightly more home fans – scattered in pockets throughout the 15,000-seat stadium – the recently re-branded "Ronins" scored two goals in each of the two halves.

In the first half, newly appointed captain Wasan Natasan netted the goals, while the second half's goals Stadium. Phuket will take on were scored by local youths, Wuttichai Sooksen and Sittipong Yaifai – both making their professional debut to the delight of the local crowd.

In all fairness, the Russian side – clearly less fit than Phuket – were playing with only four reserves, compared to Phuket who were able to field almost two different squads in each half.

Indeed, the score could have easily been 10-nil, but Valdivostok' s 25 afternoon when DPMM Brunei keeper Vitaly Dubovik, arguably the best on his team, had denied a dozen on-target strikes by eager Phuket players.

Despite the score, Russian fans flooded the pitch after the match to get pictures with their beloved team.

Speaking to the Gazette after the match, Phuket FC Coach Stefano "Teco" Cugurra said he was pleased with the result.

"I can see that the fitness of our players was much better, and I also observe that they have better understanding among themselves... They pay attention and passed well, and the result was four goals."

Asked about the other team, Coach Teco said, "At first we played a defensive formation to be cautious because we knew little about our gressed, adjusted and played more attacking... They are quite strong players and were able to stop many of our attacks, but it made us work harder and the hard work paid off."

Phuket FC will look to continue their good form, starting in a three club mini-tourney this weekend, the "Saksee Cup".

On Sunday at 4pm at Surakul Singapore League club DPMM Brunei FC. Then, on Monday, January 27, the Ronins will host fellow Southerners, Thai Division 2 club, Nakhon Sri Heritage FC. The match will also kickoff at 4pm at Surakul Stadium – both matches will have a 100 baht admission.

Fans who want to see the quality of Phuket' s opponents should head up to British International School on Saturday, January plays Nakhon Sri Heritage at 4pm.

A week after the "Saksee Cup", Phuket players, coaches and fans alike look forward to perhaps the club's toughest pre-season test to date, set to host TPL powerhouse, Chonburi FC on February 1.

Phuket's first official match of the 2014 season will be on February 22 or 23 against Pattaya United.



Vladivostok goalkeeper Vitaly Dubovik struggles to defend another Phuket goal attack. Photos: Jeremie Schatz



Phuket's Wuttichai Sooksen gets a head above Vladivostok's Ilya Filin.







For registration and information, please contact Club Services T: +66 (0)76 336 000 Ext. 5055 E: tslc@thanyapura.com www.thanyapura.com #facebook.com/Thanyapura

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