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ANDAMAN Edition

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Phuket Gazette

Gang arrested for tourist attack

Hong Kong mafia trial witness stabbed in bag snatch

INSIDE TODAY



July 12 - 18, 2014

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Cash for clearance

■ Navy sweeps airport for signs of corruption

By **Saran Mitratrat**

NAVY officers have fallen silent over their investigation into immigration officials at Phuket International Airport who allegedly solicit cash payments from tourists to clear immigration queues.

Armed military personnel and a battery of local officials arrived in force at the airport on Monday morning to launch a campaign to arrest all taxi drivers who illegally pick up passengers at the facility (see page 6).

The officers also swept through the immigration arrivals hall.

"We have heard that many immigration counters are not open when tourists arrive on international flights, and officers are soliciting money from them..."

Continued on Page 8



Capt Somphong says that if a counter is closed immigration will have to explain it to the Army.

SPECIAL REPORT

New overstay penalties may bring life ban

NEW penalties for overstaying permits-to-stay could result in those who flagrantly abuse the law being black-listed from re-entering Thailand for life.

Though the law has yet to come into effect, officials say it could start being enforced by the end of the month.

Full story on Pages 4-5

Beach vendors go toe-to-toe with military

BEACH vendors faced off with officials and military troops as they removed their structures from the sands of Patong on Wednesday.

The vendors surrounded the mayor of Patong and the Kathu District Chief and demanded help finding a way to continue their jobs.

Full story on Page 3

Island buckles down to tackle slave labor

THE Phuket Provincial Employment Office has demanded that all migrant laborers, legal and illegal, be registered at their office in accordance with the National Council for Peace and Order's push to abolish human trafficking and slave labor in Thailand.

Full story on Page 8



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This Week



Business

Grand Mercure Patong aims to capture high-end market. **Page 15**



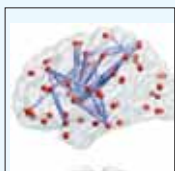
Property

Land and Houses seeks to prosper in Koh Kaew. **Page 33**



Food

Outrigger Sunday BBQ offers more than just beach setting. **Page 35**



Tech

Weaning kids of the internet is no easy feat in China. **Page 37**



Aviation

A new air service is helping save Thailand's Gibbons. **Page 39**



Sport

ITF Tennis champs return to battle it out in Phuket. **Page 42**

Saturday



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Sunday



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Italian stabbing victim gets 24-hour police protection

By Kritsada Mueanhawong

AN ITALIAN tourist stabbed in a robbery last week was a witness in a mafia corruption trial in Hong Kong and has been put under 24-hour police protection.

Antonio Papaleo, 44, was stabbed twice in the abdomen during a bungled bag snatch in Karon.

Mr Papaleo is at "a safe location" with two officers guarding him around-the-clock, said Phuket Provincial Police Commander Krajang Suwannarat.

Seven suspects have been arrested and charged with theft and attempted murder for the stabbing of Mr Papaleo and another tourist in Kata shortly afterwards.

Ekkawat Ninpoo, 20, was arrested at his house on Koh Sireh on July 4. He confessed to the stabbings and accepted charges of theft and attempted murder. The names of the other six under arrest have been withheld as they are minors.

"We are now searching for the last two suspects, one of whom is Witsanu Jindawong, 19," said Gen Rachatha Yensuang, a deputy national police chief.

"At about 3am on July 3, nine suspects on motorbikes arrived at Kata-Karon from Koh Sireh with the intention of robbing tourists," said Gen Rachatha.



Mr Ekkawat (below) apologized to some of the victims (above).

Inna Sifonova, 28, was driving a motorbike along the Karon beachfront road with Mr Papaleo riding on the back when the group attacked. Mr Papaleo fought back, and Mr Ekkawat pulled out a knife and stabbed him twice in the abdomen, he said.

The gang separated, and Mr Ekkawat and one other suspect

headed to Kata, where they attempted to rob three Russian women, slashing one of them as she fought them off.

Sofya Tolstova, 22, was taken to Vachira Phuket Hospital and released after receiving minor treatment.

Additional reporting by Saran Mittrarat

Raid finds prison clean

AN EARLY morning raid of Bang Jo Prison on July 3 turned up no drugs or contraband.

More than 90 officers, led by Phuket Prison Chief Rapin Nichanon, began the search at 5:30am.

Each of the 68 inmates was searched, as were their lockers, sleeping quarters, the infirmary and other areas where officers believed contraband could be hidden.

"The facility was drug-free, and we found no mobile phones or other banned items," said Chief Rapin.

"All the inmates were tested for drugs. None tested positive. We are definitely happy with the results."

Prisoners at Bang Jo are searched and undergo drug tests



Inmates sign up for the drug test.

every two to three months, Mr Rapin said.

A similar inspection of Phuket Prison's 2,870 male and female inmates on June 9 also failed to uncover any drugs or contraband.

— Kritsada Mueanhawong

Coup leaders invite corruption reports

THE island's representatives of the National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO) are inviting residents and tourists to file anonymous complaints of suspected corruption, as well as suggestions for coup leaders on how to improve the country.

Any complaints filed as highly confidential will be treated as such, the island's leading authorities have assured.

"You can report any trouble you have, especially when it involves corrupt officials abusing their positions of power," said Apidet Kongkhayan of the National Anti-Corruption Commission (NACC) Phuket office.

"To file a complaint, come to our office in person. You can

choose whether or not to tell us your name," he said. "Alternatively, you can send a complaint by anonymous letter or call us at 076-680054-5."

Other ways of filing a complaint include by fax to 076-210405, by email to area55_nacc@nacc.go.th, or via the Phuket NACC's Facebook page.

The NACC Phuket office is located on the second floor of the Provincial Hall complex's new building.

Mr Apidet suggested that foreigners have a native Thai speaker on hand to translate the complaint into a clear, concise report.

People who feel uncomfortable filing complaints about corruption or other troublesome issues with



Provincial Hall. Photo: Gazette file

local authorities are urged to call a national hotline by dialing 1111.

The NCPO ordered the hotline to be established as a way of stopping local power brokers from preventing complaints being filed, explained Sompas Nilpan, public service director for the permanent secretary at the Prime Minister's Office.

— Chutharat Plerin



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Dangerous Karon Beach surf sweeps away two more lives

TWO more swimmers have died in the dangerous Phuket surf this year, bringing the latest tally to seven.

Yalcin Dagdelen, 45, a Turkish guest at Le Meridien Phuket Beach Resort, had been warned by hotel beach guards not to go swimming, but entered the water anyway. Kata-Karon lifeguard chief Uten Singsom told the *Gazette*.

"The waves were very strong. Mr Dagdelen was dragged out by a big wave and disappeared in the surf," he said.

"The beach guards pulled him out of the

water but he was already unconscious."

Mr Dagdelen was rushed to Patong Hospital, but was pronounced dead on arrival.

Just four days earlier, a 14-year-old boy drowned at Karon Beach.

Kunakorn Saetiauw was seen swimming with friends at about 6am. His body washed ashore about 30 minutes later.

"The waves were very strong. Kunakorn was dragged out by a big wave. His friends tried to help but they struggled to make it back to the beach themselves," said Mr Uten.

— *Saran Mitrarat / Chutharat Plerin*



Be cautious with red and yellow flags, but do not enter the water when only the red flags are flying, says Mr Uten. Photo: Gazette file



Ms Amporn was taken to hospital for treatment. Photo: Thawit Bilabdullar

Man wanted for slashing his girlfriend turns self in

THE man wanted for beating his female partner and hacking the back of her neck with a machete in central Phuket three weeks ago has surrendered to police.

The suspect, Thikamporn Teerathiopartsawad, 24, now faces a charge of attempted murder.

Mr Thikamporn's girlfriend, Amporn Paraweche, 23, dragged herself into a neighborhood store near her rented house in Thalang late on June 15 begging for help.

Two days later, Mr Thikamporn's parents marched their son into Thalang Police Station to confess to the attack.

Mr Thikamporn told police that he had become enraged when Ms Amporn flirted with another man via the online messaging application Line.

"He said that when he came home that day, he saw her smiling while using her phone. He asked her who she was talking with, but she ignored him. This made him angry and they started to argue," Lt Col Sanit Nookong of the Thalang Police told the *Gazette*.

About half an hour later, a jealous Mr Thikamporn picked up a machete and began striking Ms Amporn on the back, he confessed in his statement to police.

"Mr Thikamporn was charged with attempted murder," Col Sanit confirmed. "He did not request bail, and is now at Phuket Provincial Prison awaiting trial."

— *Woranut Pechdee*

Evicted Patong vendors look to officials for help

By *Saran Mitrarat*

MORE than 1,000 Patong beach vendors dislodged from the sands on Wednesday have been promised a meeting with Patong Municipality and Army officials to discuss how they may continue earning a living without encroaching on public land.

The vendors were served eviction notices on Tuesday and given a Friday deadline for removing all illegal structures from the beach. More permanent structures, such as the restaurants near Loma Park, have an August 1 deadline.

The encroaching structures are to be removed as per a beach management order handed down by the National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO).

The announcement of the meeting, which will take place some time after Friday, came after more than 100 vendors surrounded Patong Mayor Chalermluck Kebsab and Kathu District Chief Sayan Chanachaiwong when they arrived to inspect the beach on Wednesday.

"A group of vendors confronted them about solutions to their sudden unemployment. I do not believe this was a planned pro-



Ms Chalermluck (center, left) and Mr Sayan were confronted by vendors when they arrived at Patong Beach.

test," said Col Somchai Ponatong of the Royal Thai Army's 41st Military Circle.

"A lot of the vendors also approached me to voice their concerns. We have acknowledged their problems and will try to find a way to help them."

About 60 beach chair operators, 300 masseuses, 500 jet-ski

operators and 95 beverage vendors lost their jobs as a result of the eviction order. The names of all unemployed vendors have been sent to Patong Municipality.

While officials bolt together a plan for the future, displaced vendors have been told they can continue operating their businesses as long as they do not build any

new structures on the beach.

"Our goal was to move buildings encroaching on public land, not to take away jobs," said Mr Sayan.

"The vendors have the right to continue working as long as the work does not involve construction, and as long as the structures they use are mobile."

Tiger Disco inferno trial to begin April next year

THE long-awaited manslaughter trial over the deaths of four people in Patong's Tiger Disco inferno, in August 2012, will begin with its first witness testimony in April 2015, confirmed the case public prosecutor.

Tiger Group CEO Piya Isaramalai and Sara Entertainment Co Ltd each face one charge of causing death through negligence under Section 291 of the Thai Criminal Code, which carries a maximum penalty of 10 years in jail, a fine of 20,000 baht, or both. They have denied the charges.

"Both parties appeared in court last month to present the evidence they have," Public Prosecutor Vivath Kitjurak told the *Gazette*.

"The first witness testimony will begin in late April next year. I expect about six witnesses to testify."

Mr Vivath told the *Gazette* that he cannot predict exactly how long the trial will last.

"It all comes down to the judge's decision," he said.

Other anticipated charges for the accused include causing physical and mental injury and trading after hours.

Both parties were formally charged on July 10 last year after a lengthy investigation and an appeal by Tiger Group legal counsel Thamrongsak Boonrak for a "fair investigation".

— *Chutharat Plerin*



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Tour guide protest ends in promise of Chinese ouster

THE return of a mob of about 100 Thai-national Chinese tour guides outside the office of a major tour company in Phuket Town on July 4 won them a promise that the company will stop hiring Chinese nationals as guides.

Led by fellow tour guide Choochart Rungrattanapaiboon, the protesters massed outside Tranlee Travel Co Ltd, brandishing signs and voicing allegations of Chinese tour guides disrespecting the environment and the history of the island.

"Chinese-national tour guides come here just to make money. They don't care about the island," said Mr Choochart.

"We have heard that they sometimes allow tourists to drop garbage anywhere. We have even heard that they are making up rumors about our two heroines.

"Everyone knows that Khun Jan [Thao Thepkasattri] and Khun Mook [Thao Srisoonthorn] were sisters who protected Phuket from Burmese invaders, but Chinese guides tell their customers that



Choochart Rungrattanapaiboon led the protest in Phuket Town.

they were actually a gay couple."

Mr Choochart argued that the guides were tarnishing Phuket's good image and environment, and that they were doing a job that is by law reserved for Thai people.

"We will be back at the end of the month if they don't stop hiring Chinese nationals."

The protesters set a July 30 deadline for the company.

Apichart Chavalpipatpong, man-

ager of Tranlee Travel Co Ltd, came outside to face the mob and confirmed that the company would meet their demands.

"We would like to clarify that there will no longer be Chinese guides working at our company. We fully support all Thai nationals by providing them with jobs during the low season," said Mr Apichart.

— Kritsada Mueanhawong

Lifetime

IMMIGRATION checkpoints throughout Thailand have received a new form which details instructions that might see some foreigners blacklisted from re-entering the country if caught overstaying their visas.

Penalties for these foreigners may start being enforced as soon as the end of this month.

The Gazette's Chutharat Plerin reports.

NEW penalties that will lead to some foreigners caught overstaying their permits-to-stay being blacklisted from re-entering Thailand for life may be introduced before the end of the month.

The news follows reports of a new form, titled "The Acknowledgment of Penalties for Visa Overstay", being distributed to all immigration checkpoints throughout the country.

The new proposed penalties are listed on the form as follows:

IN THE CASE THAT THE ALIEN SURRENDERS THEMSELVES:

- Overstay more than 90 days – forbidden from re-entering the Kingdom for 1 year
- Overstay more than 1 year – forbidden from re-entering the Kingdom for 3 years
- Overstay more than 3 years – forbidden from re-entering the Kingdom for 5 years
- Overstay more than 5 years – forbidden from re-entering the Kingdom for 10 years
- Overstay more than 10 years – forbidden from re-entering the Kingdom for life

IN THE CASE THAT THE ALIEN IS APPREHENDED:

- Overstay for less than 1 year – forbidden from re-entering the Kingdom for 5 years
- Overstay for more than 1 year – forbidden from re-entering the Kingdom for 10 years

However, the penalties are not yet in effect.

The Immigration Bureau's Acting Commissioner, Lt Gen Sakda Chuenpakdee, has submitted this proposal to the Ministry of Interior for approval.

"The commencement date has yet to be set, but that will be done as soon as the proposal has been approved. However, it will not take long. It may come into effect this month," Lt Gen Thatchai Pitaneelaboot, com-

mander of Immigration Bureau's Region 6 division, confirmed to the Gazette on Tuesday.

RESPECT

If introduced, the form is to be signed by all foreigners entering the country. One copy will be kept by immigration officers, and another by the expat or tourist arriving in the Kingdom.

"Some foreigners have been ignoring our laws for a long time," Gen Thatchai said. "Some even overstay more than 10 years. The maximum penalty for this is only a 20,000-baht fine [and forced deportation].

"It is time to stop. If you live in a country, you respect its rules."

Gen Thatchai warned that he expected no right of appeal to be granted to foreigners caught committing overstays.

STIPULATIONS

Lt Col Banphot Kittivira, Deputy Superintendent of the Immigration checkpoint at Sadao, on the Malaysian border, confirmed that his office received a copy of the new form.

"Although the form currently states that any foreigners caught overstaying by less than a year will be banned from re-entering the Kingdom for five years, please note

that this will only apply to foreigners who overstay by more than 90 days," he said.

"Any foreigners who overstay less than 90 days will be subjected to the normal 500-baht a day fine."

Col Banphot, who just two weeks ago had to rein in overzealous officers enforcing cash requirements for foreigners entering the country, confirmed that his office will wait for official approval before enforcing the new rules.

Phuket Immigration has also received a copy of the rules.

"All ports of entry and immigration offices in Thailand have received the new form," Phuket Immigration chief Sunchai Chokkajaykij confirmed to the Gazette.

"These new rules will be very good. We fully support them. Good people are welcome to travel or work in Thailand, but people who break



Malaysian checkpoint. Photo: Supplied



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ban to deter overstays

the law are not. These law-breakers must be punished."

Col Sunchai explained that at this stage the form is to remain in Thai and English only.

"The Immigration Bureau is not considering adding other languages at the moment."

READY TO ENFORCE

Ranong Immigration Superintendent Aekkorn Butsababodin assured that although his office was ready to start enforcing the new rules, the current rules still applied.

The move to enforce sterner penalties for overstays comes ahead of a crackdown on foreigners entering Thailand on visa-exemption status set to launch on August 13.

After completing three consecutive stays on visa exemption status, foreigners must obtain a visa from a Royal Thai Embassy or consulate to be able to re-enter Thailand, Col Aekkorn clarified to the *Gazette* on May 12.

"However, from August 13, our officers will refuse any foreigners attempting to re-enter Thailand if they have just completed a visa-exemption stay," Col Aekkorn said.



Immigration welcomes Chinese and Russian tourists. Photo: Saran Mitratrat

ON YOUR OWN

The United States Embassy in Bangkok issued a notice on Monday warning American citizens in Thailand of the visa-exemption crackdown.

The notice explained that US tourists travelling to Thailand are

eligible to enter the Kingdom without a visa and stay for 30 days under the Thai visa-exemption policy, but only if they are able to show an onward/return ticket and possess a passport that is valid for at least six months beyond their date of entry into Thailand.

However, the notice also



Overstaying tourists could be banned from Thailand. Photo: Gazette file

warned, "If immigration officials perceive that individuals are entering Thailand to reside for an extended time or indefinitely, rather than seeking entry for tourism, such individuals may be denied re-entry.

"If so, they will be referred to a Royal Thai Embassy outside of

Thailand to apply for a regular Thai visa before seeking to enter Thailand again.

"The US Embassy and Consulate are not able to intervene with Thai Immigration or the airlines regarding their regulations and policies on behalf of a US citizen who is denied re-entry."



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Sea gypsy residency confirmed

By Chutharat Plerin

DNA tests on skeletal remains unearthed at the sea gypsy village in Rawai have confirmed that seafaring nomads have used Phuket's southern beach to call home for more than 100 years.

"The bones were buried deep in the ground at least 60 years ago," said Department of Special Investigation (DSI) Director Chatchawal Suksomjit.

The DNA from the bones matched that of Nim Luckkor, the 65-year-old man who lives in the house built over the site where the bones were found, he explained.

"This evidence supports the villagers' claims that they have lived here for more than 100 years," Gen Chatchawal said during a visit to the sea gypsy village on July 4.

DSI officers excavated the bones – parts of a skull, arm, leg and chest – in August last year.

However, Mr Luckkor said that he didn't know whose bones they were.

"I have been living here for so long. I had no idea someone was buried under my house until officials discovered the bones last



Yah Deeden, 72, expressed her thanks to the DSI for their work on behalf of the Rawai sea gypsies.

year," he said.

The positive DNA match of the bones to a living resident in the village may help bolster the gypsies' claim to the land.

Establishing long duration of residency is a key element in the gypsies' fight against private in-

vestors who have already won court orders to evict some villagers from the site.

"More than 100 villagers have been sued for encroaching on private land," said Gen Chatchawal.

"Nine families have been ordered by the court to move from

their homes, but the case is under appeal and none have left."

Gen Chatchawal explained to villagers that the DSI will do its utmost to provide evidence to support the villagers' right to continue living at the village.

"We hope the court will con-

sider the evidence and dismiss the private land claims," he said. "But it is now up to the court, and we cannot interfere in its decision."

Gen Chatchawal did not suggest an explanation for how private businessmen came to be issued titles for plots inside the village now that it has been proven that the villagers have lived at the site for more than a century.

The sea gypsies in Rawai expressed deep gratitude to Gen Chatchawal for the DSI's efforts.

"I am so happy the DSI is helping us. I do not know what to say," said community leader Ngeem Damrongkaset.

Nang Deeden, 75, said that his sister was one of the people being sued for encroachment.

"I hope the evidence helps her in court," he said. "But we are not going anywhere. We have been living here for 100 years."

Yah Deeden, 72, expressed her thanks.

"I am very happy that the DSI is helping us. Without them we do not know what to do," she said.

"We have lived here for many generations. We have nowhere else to go."

World Cup party-crashing python caught by rescuers



The snake did not make it inside to watch the World Cup.

A THREE-METER long python's attempt to crash a World Cup viewing party in Phuket on July 5 was foiled when the startled owner of the house called rescue workers to relocate the reptile.

"I was watching the Brazil-Columbia match at about 4:30am when I heard a sound in front of my house," said Boonrit Jitkeaw, owner of the house in KT Chaofa Garden Home in Chalong.

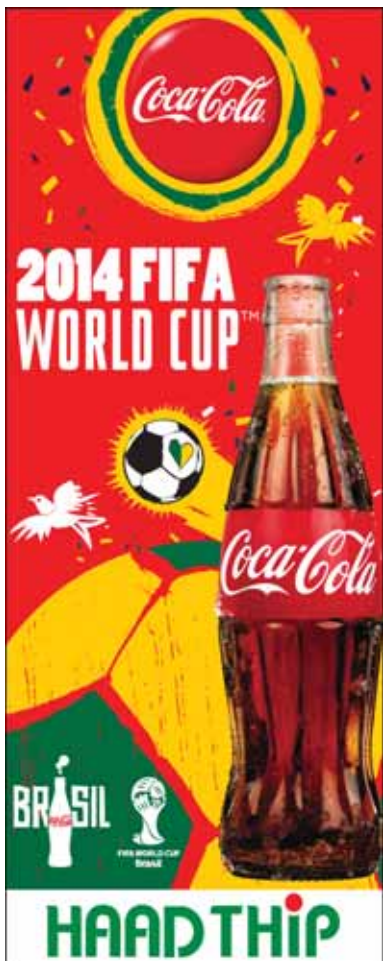
"I thought there might be someone out there so I went to the front door. When I opened it, I saw a big python lying there.

"I called the Phuket Ruam Jai Rescue Foundation to come catch the snake and release it somewhere away from people's homes."

Rescue workers arrived shortly after and were able to catch and bag the reptile so it could be relocated to a jungle away from any communities.

"The rescue workers said they were taking the python to release it somewhere in the Nakkered Hills, safely away from any homes," Mr Boonrit said.

– Kritsada Mueanhawong



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Mr Prasit told police he was asleep when the robbery occurred.

Man sleeps as house robbed, vehicle stolen

POLICE are trying to track down a thief who robbed a house in Pa Khlok while the home owner was asleep, then stole his car and dumped it on a quiet street in Phuket Old Town on July 5.

A resident on Bangkok Road notified Phuket City Police of an abandoned Toyota Fortuner parked in front of his house at 8:30am. The rear-right window was open, but there was no trace of a driver.

"The vehicle looked as if it had been ransacked," said Lt Col Rattaket Munmuang of the Phuket City Police.

Officers checked the car registration and discovered that it belonged to Prasit Suwannarat, 47, a resident in Pa Khlok.

Mr Prasit told the officers that he had reported his car stolen to Thalang Police early that morning, when he also reported that his house had been robbed.

"I came home from work at about 6pm yesterday. I parked the car in front of my house, and dropped the car key on the sofa," Mr Prasit said.

"I went to sleep at about 9pm, but when my wife got home at about midnight, she woke me to point out that our house had been robbed and our car was missing."

When called to recover his car, Mr Prasit discovered that a gold necklace worth more than 60,000 baht, two rings valued at about 20,000 baht each and several hundred baht in coins were all missing from the vehicle.

"Forensic officers have dusted the car for fingerprints," Col Rattaket said. "Officers are also checking CCTV in the respective areas in the hope of identifying and locating the suspect."

— **Kritsada Mueanhawong**

Encroachment war rages on

By Saran Mitratat

A LAND legality verification center was set to be established on Thursday to help investors be assured that the property they purchase is not encroaching on national park land or Phuket's famed beaches.

"We will set up a center where prospective investors can establish that the land documents, as well as the land they are looking to acquire, are legal, and will not be taken back by the government due to it having been stolen from the people," said Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation (DNP) Director Samak Donnapee on Tuesday.

"There will be no fees for this service."

The announcement of the center comes as about 100 officers from the Department of Special Investigation (DSI), National Anti-Corruption Commission – Phuket office, Anti-Money Laundering Office and the DNP began a three-day raid on alleged land encroachment in Sirinath National Park on Tuesday.

The first stop for officials – including about 30 armed Army personnel – was an inspection of an abandoned resort overlooking Nai Yang Beach.

The property, Phuket Peninsular Spa & Resort, is on the original list of 10 resorts – which has now grown to 14 – that have long been under investigation for encroachment.

"Part of the resort's Chanote



Mr Samak announced on Tuesday that a land legality verification center would be set up on the island this week.

was originally a *SorKor 1* for two rai that increased in size to six rai when it was upgraded to a Chanote," said Mr Samak. "In addition, there is a plot of land close to the beach that may not have a legitimate Chanote title."

On July 4, the Director-General of the DSI announced that the Land Office would be ordered to hand over records and copies of land titles for plots along the border of – or allegedly in – Sirinath National Park.

The presence of the Army at the Tuesday inspection follows Mr Samak's appeal to the National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO) on June 16 to take over encroachment investigations.

"Our work is more comfortable at this stage because the NCPO sent soldiers to participate in the inspection," Mr Samak said on Tuesday.

He noted, however, that until the land titles had been fully investigated and proven false,

nothing could be done about the Peninsular resort, which is clearly visible from Nai Yang Beach and is in a state of deterioration.

"Nearby residents have been coming in to remove objects they can sell. It's dangerous to walk around here in the dark, but there's nothing we can do about it," Mr Samak said.

"The right of possession rests with the owner until the investigation and any legal action is concluded."

Navy targets illegal taxi drivers during raid of airport

NAVY personnel and a battery of local officials arrived in force at Phuket International Airport Monday morning to launch a campaign to arrest all taxi drivers illegally picking up passengers at the facility.

Security personnel barred any taxis from exiting the airport car park without first obtaining permission to leave.

"We have a list of all the drivers who are allowed to pick up passengers at the airport," said Capt Somphong Narkthong of the Royal Thai Navy Third Area Command, based in Phuket.

"Any drivers who are not on the list and are carrying passengers will be placed under immediate arrest."

The military has set a July 31 deadline for the authorities to clear Phuket's critical

tourism portal of all illegal operators.

Army soldiers will be patrolling the airport 24 hours per day, seven days a week from now until the end of the month to stamp out illegal operators, Capt Somphong said during the Monday raid.

"One place they will patrol is outside the airport terminal building to look for any illegal taxis. If they find one, an Army officer stationed at the exit will be notified and will stop and question the driver before the taxi will be allowed to leave the premises," he said.

"We also have information about a taxi mafia operating here. We are collecting more evidence in the hope of making an arrest soon."

Capt Somphong declined to name any suspects or reveal the number of taxis allegedly involved in the mafia.

— **Saran Mitratat**



Airport officials have until July 31 to banish illegal taxis from the island's international transportation hub.

Patong one-way traffic to reverse, but not yet

THE plan to change the direction of one-way traffic in Patong is still on the books, but is on hold until other transportation issues are sorted out.

"I intend to follow through with the direction-change initiated by the former mayor, but first I want to organize public parking and taxi stands," said Patong Mayor Chalermkluck Kebsab.

The current traffic pattern, northbound on the beach road and southbound on Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Road, was put into effect in 2007.

When Patong Police Superintendent Arayapan



An officer directs traffic. Photo: Saran Mitratat

Pukbuakao took up his post in March 2010, he pledged to change the system, which he said violates traffic law because on some roads joining the two major roads, drivers are required to keep right to make the system work.

Reversing the flow to make Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Road northbound and the

beachfront road southbound would do away with the problem, which is the main reason behind the change.

"Once transportation issues are taken care of, we'll have a meeting to discuss the one-way traffic," Ms Chalermkluck said.

— **Woranut Pechdee**

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Military falls silent on cash for clearance airport probe

From Page 1

...to use a 'VIP' lane to avoid the long queues," Capt Somphong Narkthong of the Royal Thai Navy explained.

"A total of 19 counters are supposed to be open during international arrivals to support incoming tourists. From now on, every time a counter is closed during this time, immigration will have to explain the reason why to Army officers."

Airport Immigration Deputy Superintendent Watcharapol Kanjanakuntorn confirmed that immigration will comply with all orders from the Army, but denied that any officers solicited payments from tourists.

"I have never heard of officers collecting money from tourists. However, if anyone is asked to pay money to use a faster lane, please report it to me directly," Lt Col Watcharapol said.

Col Watcharapol told the national media, "In the past, we have had problems with our computer systems and a lack of staff on hand. But right now we are fully prepared to serve all incoming tourists."

On Wednesday, one of the top-ranking officers leading the raid declined to reveal to the *Gazette* whether or not his officers were continuing their investigation into the alleged corruption.

He also declined to say whether or not his officers would be reviewing CCTV footage taken within the immigration arrivals hall at Phuket Airport for evidence of whether or not the alleged cash for clearance payments had been routinely collected.

The military officer also declined to be named.

Additional reporting by Chutharat Plerin

20 Miss Universe Myanmar finalists tour Phuket

FINALISTS of Miss Universe Myanmar 2014 landed in Phuket on July 4 for four days of exploring the island and engaging in pre-training activities for the beauty pageant, to be held at the National Theater in Yangon on July 26.

On July 5, the 20 finalists did batik painting in Rawai, visited the Chalong Temple and Wat Pra Thong, explored the Pearl Factory and planned to see the Phuket FantaSea show in Kamala.

Their time in Phuket was nothing short of busy, and the

schedule of some of their activities was as follows:

July 6: Attend a BSC makeup workshop, swimsuit fashion photo shoot at Karon Beach, and visit Promthep Cape.

July 7: Cape Panwa for a turtle release, visit a nursing home in Thalang, meet the Wuttisak Clinic sponsor and take a Thai-cooking class at the renowned Blue Elephant restaurant and cooking school in Phuket Town.

July 8: Attend a cocktail party with a special award contest.

— Saran Mitrarat



The women were in Phuket for touring and training. Photo: Supplied

Anti-slavery battle begins

Employers must provide PPEO with names of boat crew by July 21

By Chutharat Plerin

THE nationwide push to eradicate slavery in Thailand's fishing industry started in Phuket on July 7 as the Phuket Provincial Employment Office (PPEO) began to receive lists of migrant workers employed in the field.

Following the order by the National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO), fishing boat operators have until July 21 to report the names of their migrant workers – both legal and illegal – to the PPEO.

Non-fishing industry employers must also provide the PPEO with names of migrant workers, but only have until July 15 to do so.

"I believe there are about 10,000 illegal workers in Phuket," said PPEO Chief Yaowapa Pibulpol, discounting previous estimates that put the number as high as 200,000.

The NCPO also ordered the opening of one-stop centers to streamline the process of registering illegal migrants; the first center opened in Samut Sakhon on June 30 and seven others opened in coastal provinces on Monday.

Phuket's one-stop center was originally slated to open on July 7. However, the date was pushed back indefinitely due to a lack of



After migrant crewmen are registered, employers may apply to make them legal. Photo: Phuket Marine Police

resources needed for taking fingerprints electronically and printing identification cards.

"Once the center opens, employers will have 30 days to register their illegal workers with us. After the 30-day deadline, both illegal

workers and their employers will be prosecuted," Ms Yaowapa said.

Registration of workers and tougher enforcement is hoped to eradicate slavery.

"Registered workers will be eligible for all the benefits that any

other worker gets, such as social security," she explained.

"In our new system led by the military, law enforcement looks stronger than before. I do not think employers will risk disobeying the NCPO order."

Sidewalks near Heroines' Monument cleared of vendors

SHOPS obstructing the sidewalk along Srisoonthorn Road east of the Heroines' Monument in Phuket have been cleared out in an effort to improve safety for pedestrians.

Phuket Governor Maitri Inthasut and Srisoonthorn Mayor Worawut Songyos inspected the area on July 2 after having ordered vendors on both sides of the road to remove their structures the day before.

"We are enforcing an order from the National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO) to organize public space," said Governor Maitri.

"Pedestrians had to walk in the street to avoid all the shops on the sidewalk. They were running the risk of being hit by motorists."

Srisoonthorn Municipality will

allow the vendors to return – to the north side of the street only – after registering at the municipality office.

"We will allow registered vendors to operate on the north side of Srisoonthorn Road between the hours of 7am and 10am, and 5pm to 9pm," said Mr Worawut.

"However, their businesses must be mobile. Their shops may not be on the street outside of the designated hours."

Officers will check periodically to make sure that the rules are being observed, he added.

"We will also set up a system for car parking and places for people to sit and eat during those times," Mr Worawut explained.

"It will be much easier for people to find what they need, and they will not have to cross the

dangerous road to reach shops on the other side."

Mr Worawut also intends to improve the quality of food being sold by inspecting the food carts and administering "Clean Food, Good Taste" stickers to those that pass.

Gov Maitri also mentioned the safety of motorists during the inspection.

"We will spend part of the 2015 fiscal budget to build a median on this section of Srisoonthorn Road to help prevent accidents. A lot of accidents have happened here lately," he said.

Most recently, one teenager died and two were seriously injured after the motorbike they were driving slammed into a pickup truck in February.

— Saran Mitrarat



Gov Maitri on Srisoonthorn Road, with a cleared sidewalk beyond him.

Kamala vendors out, may return if mobile

By Saran Mittrarat

KAMALA was added to the list of Phuket beaches cleaned up and cleared of all illegal establishments on July 3 as local officials and residents disposed of the last pieces of rubbish left behind by businesses.

"All beach vendors removed their buildings last week. Today, we went to clean the area because the shop owners left a lot of garbage behind," said Phuket Governor Maitri Inthasut.

Governor Maitri led a team comprised of Kamala Police officers, Kathu District officers, staffers from private companies, students and Army soldiers to pick up the trash.

The next step in re-organizing Kamala Beach is to invite all banished, but legal shop owners to register with the Kamala Tambon Administration Organization (*OrBorTor*) for a spot in the new beach vendor zone.

"The shop owners will have to register under a specific business category, such as massage, restaurant, beach chair or beverage," said Gov Maitri.

"The operating times for each business will be set according to what category it falls under. However, all of the shops must be mobile so that they can be moved if necessary."

The Kamala beach clearing project made page 1 of the *Gazette* on June 7 when Phuket Vice Governor Chamroen Tipayapongtada announced that all illegal shops would be torn down and the beach re-zoned.

Kamala Police Superintendent ML Pattanachak Jakkapan expressed his approval of a clean Kamala Beach and his high hopes for the future.



A huge crowd participated in the beach cleaning operation, removing all traces of the departed vendors.

"After the beach was cleared out last week, I noticed that a lot of Thai and foreign families came to picnic on the sand. This is great, now families have more things to do together," ML Pattanachak said.

"The number of people visiting Kamala Beach will increase in the

future because the beach is now back to its natural beauty."

ML Pattanachak explained that he is recruiting volunteers to look after the rising number of beachgoers.

"My goal is to increase safety for visitors. So far, all of the lifeguards have stepped up," he said.

"We will set up training courses so our volunteers can learn how to handle different situations. We will also give them walky-talkies so that they can communicate directly with the police.

"Moreover, I plan to assign more police patrols so that safety on Kamala Beach is not an issue."



This path, or one like it, will become the shortcut to Kathu.

New road in Thalang to skirt bypass

A NEW shortcut from the Heroines' Monument to Kathu has been proposed to alleviate congestion at Koh Kaew, Bang Khu and Tesco Lotus intersections.

The road would start about 300 meters west of the Heroines' Monument on Srisoonthorn Road and run south 1.3 kilometers to join Route 3004, which connects to Soi Han Farang and passes the British International School before connecting to Kathu-Nakok Road.

"We already have a budget of 13 million baht to build the road," Governor Maitri Inthasut said at an inspection of the area on July 2.

"We plan to widen and pave a small dirt path that already exists. We've contacted four of the five people who own land next to the road, and they've agreed to donate land for the project. We're in the process of contacting the fifth landowner, who lives in Bangkok. If she does not agree, we will choose another path and try again."

Once the Srisoonthorn connection is complete, the governor will turn his attention to another shortcut that would create a more direct route from Kathu-Nakok Road to Phra Phuket Kaew Road. This route would start at the Phuket Mining Museum and emerge at the Shell service station near the Kathu campus of Kajonkietsuksa International School.

"These smaller roads should make it easier to travel between the Heroines' Monument and Patong," the governor said.

— Saran Mittrarat

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AROUND THE nation



Wanchai Sangkhao. Photo: The Nation.

Alleged teen killer arrested

POLICE have arrested a sleeping car attendant for allegedly assaulting and raping a 13-year-old girl before throwing her from the train on Sunday, July 6.

The body of the girl who went missing during a train journey between Surat Thani and Bangkok was found near the railway track in Prachuab Khiri Khan's Pranburi district early on Tuesday, July 8 morning, reported *the Nation*.

After several hours of interrogation, Wanchai Sangkhao, 22, a bed attendant employed by a company with a concession from the State Railway of Thailand, confessed to police to being drunk when he sneaked into Kaem's lower bunk and raped her. He then threw her from the window.

The girl's family reported her missing to Noppawong police in Bangkok on Sunday after she disappeared from the second class compartment of a train during Saturday night.

The girl, who has been identified only as Kaem, was travelling with her elder sister, younger brother and her sister's boyfriend. This was her first train ride.

Kaem's sister told police that she last saw her sister before going to bed. She first noticed Kaem was missing when she woke at 4.30am. When she could not find Kaem in the morning, she alerted the train staff and searched the train but to no avail.

After arriving at Bang Sue Train Station she reached Noppawong Police Station at around 6.30am.

No one appeared to have noticed or heard the assault because the bunk was curtained and the sound of the train running on the track was loud.

NCPO says peace in the south a national priority

By Amy Sawitta Lefevre

THAILAND'S military government said on Monday peace in the south was an "urgent national priority" for the country following a decade of unrest blamed on separatists.

The message comes a week after the start of the Muslim holy fasting month of Ramadan and days after the new government, led by General Prayuth Chan-ocha, said it would revive talks aimed at bringing peace to the provinces of Pattani, Yala and Narathiwat.

"The south is an urgent national priority. Prayuth wants firmer measures and more success in the south," Udomdet Sitabutr, secretary-general of the ruling National Council for Peace and Order, told reporters ahead of a visit to the region.

Prayuth said in his weekly speech to the nation on Friday the military government wanted to use political strategies over military tactics in the south.

A low-level insurgency has claimed more than 6,000 lives since 2004 following the resurgence of a dormant separatist movement, according to Deep South Watch, which monitors the violence.

Resistance to rule of Bangkok-based government has existed for decades in the provinces of Yala, Pattani and Narathiwat, which were part of a Malay Muslim sultanate until annexed by Thailand in 1902.

The government of Prime Minister Yingluck Shinwatra, which



A Thai-Muslim student outside her classroom next to soldiers guarding the school in Yala province. Photo: AFP

was ousted by the military in May, started peace talks last year with the BRN, or National Revolutionary Front. The talks quickly collapsed and efforts to revive them were put on hold while Yingluck focused on containing months of street protests.

Violent attacks spiked during Ramadan last year partly, authorities said, in retaliation to the peace talks, which some rebel groups refused to acknowledge.

According to Deep South Watch, violence in the south skyrocketed when the peace talks began in 2013 to a level not seen since 2005-2007. Critics of the

talks say the Thai state has been unable to identify those behind the attacks and no organization has ever claimed responsibility.

Some had even feared the military government would revive more aggressive counter-insurgency tactics but the junta appears to be putting the focus on conciliation.

"The approach has to be more complete and there must be more action at a grassroots level so that the peace talks are long-lasting," said Udomdet.

More than 150,000 military, police and armed civilian "volunteers" are stationed in the three provinces and manned check-

points dot the region's main roads, creating a high level of mistrust among the local community towards those in uniform.

The military has allowed 48 community radio stations in the three southernmost provinces to go back on air for Ramadan. The junta silenced thousands of independent radio stations that it deemed "politically questionable" in the wake of the coup.

In the latest violence in the south, two police officers were shot dead last week in an attack carried out by 10 suspected militants in Narathiwat, according to police.

— Reuters

Violence-prone students get a chance to change

A ROYALLY initiated project has been set up to tackle the problem of bloody brawls among Thai vocational students.

"If wayward vocational students are sent to police, they will likely face jail. But if they are put under the care of schools and private firms [via a training program], they have a good chance of securing a brighter future," Human Capacity Building Institute chairman Thavorn Chalassathien said.

According to him, the Privy Council Chambers asked the insti-

tute to recommend an interesting idea to transform students prone to violence. The result materialized last year, when the royally-initiated dual vocational, education program was launched, reported *the Nation*.

The program targets 11 vocational schools that have a record of students prone to violence. From October 2013 to May 2014, 41



Ready to change. Photo: The Nation

companies joined the program and took in 345 misbehaving students.

Patamawalai Ratanapol, chief people officer and chief operations officer at Minor Food Group, believes a different environment can

trigger transformation.

"We have seen changes in many students who are with us," she said. "The students have developed dis-

cipline and self-esteem."

According to her, the program does not focus on equipping the young participants with work skills – it is more about the students' personality and relationships with others.

Many of the students used to be quick to confront others and ready to fight physically, which is not the case anymore.

"When they know someone is there to guide them, they are ready to change for the better," she said.

All the participants are second-year students.

Thai Health Ministry looks into Cambodia kidney scandal

THE Thai Public Health Ministry is looking into a report published in *The Cambodia Daily* about a Cambodian woman allegedly running an organ-transplant racket in which she reportedly persuaded people to sell their kidney to patients in Thailand.

Dr Thares Karasnairaviwong, deputy director general of the Department of Health Service Support, said his office was cross-checking information about kidney transplants with 26 hospitals that are allowed to conduct organ transplants.

Thares said his office would seek assistance of the Anti-Human Trafficking Police Division and the Thai Foreign Ministry to cross-check the name list with Cambodia. If the allegations are found to be true, the authorities would have to see if the donations followed the Medical Council requirements.

Department of Health Service Support director general Dr Boonreun Trireungwarawat said kidney-transplant surgery can only be performed at an authorized medical facility

and the kidney donor can only be a blood relative or a spouse of over three years.

The *Cambodia Daily* reported on July 3 that Yem Azisah, 29, had been arrested as had her stepfather, Nhem Phalla, 40, who is believed to have helped her acquire fake identities for the kidney donors.

The two have been charged with human trafficking and fraud. Srinuon allegedly preyed on the desperate, brokering the price of the organ between the patient and seller for a commission.



Investigation continues into fraudulent transplant procedures. Photo: Tareq Salahuddin

Down for the count

Both candidates declare victory in historic Indonesian poll

By Kanupriya Kapoor
and Fransiska Nangoy

AS THE polls in Indonesia's historic presidential election closed on Wednesday afternoon, both candidates went on national television and declared victory.

First, Joko "Jokowi" Widodo claimed victory in the closely fought presidential race in what would be a triumph for a new breed of politician that has emerged in the world's third-largest democracy.

But ex-general Prabowo Subianto, the rival candidate who is seen as a representative of the old guard that flourished under decades of autocratic rule, refused to concede. His party said he still had a chance of winning.

After a quick count of about 90 per cent of the votes, Jakarta Governor Jokowi was ahead by about 5 per cent of the votes in what would be the narrowest victory in the three times that Indonesians have voted for a president.

"We are thankful that according to the quick count announcements, until now, they show that Jokowi-JK at this moment in the count have won," Mr Jokowi told reporters and supporters in south Jakarta. JK refers to his running mate Jufuf Kalla, who was a vice president in the first term of outgoing President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono.

About an hour after Mr Jokowi claimed victory, former special forces general Prabowo went on



Indonesia's presidential candidate Joko 'Jokowi' Widodo (left) shakes hands with rival candidate Prabowo Subianto after a debate in Jakarta on June 15. Photo: Reuters

national television to declare that he had won the election.

"[The quick counts] show that we, Prabowo-Hatta, have received the support and mandate from the people of Indonesia," Mr Prabowo said at a political rally, referring to his running mate Hatta Rajasa.

The duelling victory claims means the result will be declared by the KPU (Election Commission) on – or before – July 22. The

private quick counts have been reliable in past elections but an official result must await the Election Commission. Both sides have to wait until that announce-

ment before they can register any protests with the Constitutional Court, the final arbiter over contested polls.

"There have always been challenges... So we could end up with delayed certainty for a few weeks," said Jakarta-based political analyst Douglas Ramage.

The election is being held during the Islamic holy month of Ramadan, in the country with the world's biggest population of Muslims.

There has been growing frustration over the way Indonesia, Southeast Asia's biggest economy, has been governed with corruption rampant and growth slowing.

It is a sentiment both candidates have addressed in their campaigns.

Ahead of the vote, the two candidates had been neck and neck in opinion polls. There have been concerns of violence once the result is known, a worry alluded to by outgoing President Yudhoyono when he urged both sides to accept the result.

It has been the dirtiest and most confrontational campaign in memory in a country which traditionally holds up the value of consensus politics.

But there were no reports of any violence during the voting and in the early hours of counting.

The government declared Wednesday a public holiday and markets were closed although off-shore rupiah rose against the dollar on Mr Jokowi's victory claim. – Reuters

In brief...

Monks sought to help restore peace in Mandalay City

THE Mandalay Peacekeeping Committee, in Myanmar's second-largest city, this week held a ceremony to seek suggestions from revered Buddhist monks to restore peace to the city.

Five people were arrested after riots last week in which a Buddhist and a Muslim died.

An overnight curfew and a heavy security presence restored calm on July 4.

The clampdown followed two nights of violence starting on Tuesday when about 300 Buddhists converged on a tea shop owned by a Muslim man accused of raping a Buddhist woman.

– Eleven Media

Shark fin struck off the menu at Cebu

WHETHER on meal trays or in freight, shark fin will no longer be allowed on board any Cebu Pacific flights, the Philippines' biggest budget carrier announced on Wednesday.

The move follows Philippine Airlines' decision last April to also stop accepting the carriage of shark fin.

– Philippine Inquirer

Dengue hits record high in Singapore

SINGAPORE last week recorded its worst ever rate of dengue infections, with 898 cases reported.

This was 56 higher than the number of cases recorded in the previous worst week – in June last year – and about a third more than the previous week's total of 674.

– The Straits Times

AROUND THE region

Death of Estonian model in Malaysia sparks probe

MALAYSIAN police are investigating the death of Estonian freelance model Regina Soosalu in Johor Baru as murder.

Snr Asst Comm Datuk Hasnan Hassan of the Johor Police said her death on Rawa Island on July 1 was initially investigated as a drowning, but changed to murder after suspicious wounds were found on her body.

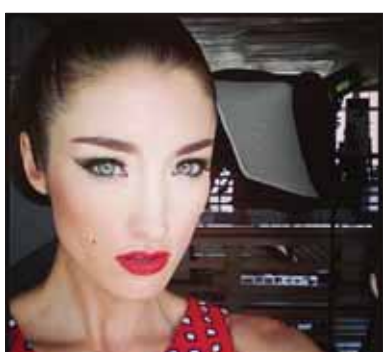
"We can confirm that the woman arrived at Pulau Rawa on July 1 and died on the same day.

"We have also detained six persons to assist with investigations," he said on Wednesday.

Police had yet to detain Ms Soosalu's partner.

The woman's family was informed of her death via Interpol.

"I believe that the message was relayed to the family via the Estonian Embassy in Beijing," Asst Comm Datuk Hasnan said, but declined to comment further.



Estonian freelance model Regina Soosalu. Photo: Facebook

Ms Soosalu, who lived in Kuala Lumpur, was believed to have been on a holiday on the island when she died.

Sources in the modelling industry suspected something amiss as her death was only made known to them on July 6.

They were also not informed of the exact cause of her death, which varied from drowning to a disease.

– The Star

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Ban monkey business

THE recent introduction of two gibbons rescued in Phuket into the wilds of Northern Thailand is a landmark achievement for the Wild Animal Rescue Foundation of Thailand (WARF) and the many affiliated groups and volunteers who played roles in making it happen (see page 39).

We join the rest of the island in thanking them all and wishing them the best of luck in their continuing efforts to help rescued gibbons regain a firm foothold – and handhold – in a region where they had once thrived.

The initial release area carefully chosen by researchers, a valley in the Pang Chum Pee Community Forest in Chiang Mai, appears to be just the right kind of habitat in terms of food, forest canopy, water availability and a suitable climate.

However, it also must have one more vital component if these remarkable lesser apes stand any real chance of re-colonizing what is left of the northern jungles: a local community that is committed to the gibbons' survival and willing to protect them in the wild.

While the new habitat remains home to some of the gibbon's natural predators – such as eagles, pythons and wild cats – there is still no greater threat to their safety in the wild than mankind.

It is easy and appropriate to place blame on poachers who callously shoot gibbon mothers before making off with their babies to sell on the black market, regularly in Phuket. The even sadder reality, however, is that these criminals are just the tip of a colossal spear of human ignorance.

Demand for baby gibbons, as well as many other “exotic” animals, starts when ignorant tourists are willing to pay photo touts to have their picture taken with them. It is our collective shame that few places on Earth are more commonly associated with this practice than Phuket.

Fortunately, greater public awareness of the issue – in large part due to the efforts of groups such as WARF – has played a pivotal role in reducing demand. As a result, there have been far fewer reports of such “photo-touting”, especially those involving primates, in recent years.

Police enforcement of the numerous laws and regulations that are broken by photo touts has been poor to non-existent. So indifferent were police to the trade in the past that one officer, when asked why the practice was allowed to continue, actually quipped, “I am a person policeman, not a monkey policeman.”

Fortunately, that attitude has changed considerably in recent years and even more dramatically since the National Council for Peace and Order took power. Now is the time to put an end to this practice once and for all.



High time Tiger Disco case was settled

Re: Gazette online, Tiger Disco inferno trial to begin April 2015, July 6

It's about time this was finally dealt with, and in the current political climate there is more chance of a fair result.

A 20,000-baht fine if found guilty, though, is a pittance – the punishment should reflect the crime. The accused have done everything they could so far to delay this; it's about time they were held to account for their actions.

Mister Ree
Gazette forum

Years of oversight to keep change alive

Re: Gazette online, Changes in Phuket: Make them last, July 6

Well put... and I wish I could muster up more optimism that this “new order” will be embraced over the long term.

However, corruption, cronyism and dirty dealing seem so intricately woven into current Thai society that it will take years of constant oversight to ensure that the bad elements don't creep back in to re-establish themselves.

Frankly, I would feel good knowing that the NCPO would be here for a long time.

Don MacLean
Gazette forum

Sidewalk good news

Re: Gazette online, Sidewalks near Heroines' Monument cleared of vendors for pedestrian safety, July 3

Great news; now all that's needed is for the footpaths to be cleaned, especially outside the SuperCheap. The grease from all the fried chicken stalls is disgusting.

Perhaps we should also ask some of the shops not to block off parking areas in front of their premises.

A Local Resident
Gazette forum

Letters to the Editor

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

No street is one-way

Re: Gazette online, Patong one-way streets not changing direction just yet, July 6

You might ask which streets are actually one way. Drive anywhere in Phuket, any day, and you will see countless numbers of motorcycles going the wrong way – all with impunity, as the police do nothing to curb this dangerous practice.

Frustrated
Gazette online

Burning wasteful

Re: Gazette online, Counterfeit goods worth B495mn destroyed in Phuket Town, July 5

I applaud their efforts, but wish the goods could have been given to the needy or sold with the proceeds sent to support the poor.

Traveler Jim
Facebook

Beach cleaner ready

Re: Gazette online, Optimism rules Phuket beach after clear out, cleanup, July 3

I walked along the beach this evening. Having just rented a villa here, I'm glad to see how much litter had been removed. I even found myself picking up plastic bottles washed on the beach to help out. It was starting to look horrible, not good for tourists.

I think it could do with a monthly cleanup to keep momentum and I would be happy to help with that if I was made aware of it.

Paul Webb-Jones
Facebook

Two taxi solutions

Re: Gazette online, Phuket taxi call service to launch mid-July, July 2

How about following the law? There have been red and white stripes along the beach road for many years, but no one cares. I hope for better results this time, but after 12 years in Patong I have my doubts.

Solution number two: metered taxis with real prices, same as in Bangkok – not the usual Phuket tourist rip-off prices.

Farangswed
Gazette forum

Track all land dealers

Re: Gazette online, DSI digs deep into land records to recover Sirinath National Park, July 4

Also need to investigate and penalize any real estate brokers and land agents who are involved in selling land illegally.

Vegasd8
Gazette forum

Immigration next

Re: Gazette online, Breaking News: Army launches offensive against Phuket Airport taxi drivers, July 7

It is the right time to clean up Phuket Immigration and move all Immigration officers to other provinces and replace them with honest civil servants who are ready to play by the rules.

Asterix
Gazette forum

Give sea gypsies land

Re: Gazette online, DNA tests confirm Phuket sea gypsy village 'of 100 years', July 5

The proof is there. These people are entitled to the land their ancestors are buried in.

Bethany
Gazette forum

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What university techies can give

FIRST PERSON

THE role of a university is to produce educated manpower, conduct research to increase knowledge and solve problems, provide information to the community, and preserve and develop local culture.

What contribution can a faculty of technology and environment make to a place like Phuket, which revolves so much around tourism?

To start with, we can help preserve our breathtaking landscape by cutting down on illegal construction. There are all kinds of violations of building codes here – some structures are built too high, some are built on slopes too steep and some are built on public land.

We're in the process of developing a program that will allow people to click an area on a map and see all relevant Thai laws that apply to that area: environmental, marine, civil and more. Anyone considering buying land or building on land can use the program to find out whether it is legal to buy and what structures may be built on it.

Two of the biggest environmental problems that Phuket faces – garbage and wastewater management – rely on technology too: from the design of plants, to construction of machinery, to technological processes.

We shouldn't rely too much on technology, though. While we have the tools to solve, for example, tough pollution problems, we should keep in mind that the problems are of our own making, and we are better off preventing them in the first place.



Here, he talks about the role of the university and the contribution that technology can make to Phuket.

Pun Thongchumnum has been the Dean of the Faculty of Technology and Environment of Prince of Songkla University (PSU) Phuket campus since 2012. He has a PhD from PSU Pattani campus and was Associate Dean for Research and Development of IT at PSU from 2006-2012.

If we appreciate what a lovely place we live in, we are more likely to protect the island's environment, and thereby the primary source of livelihood on Phuket: tourism.

Technology has an important role to play in the tourism industry as well.

We can create databases, for example, that help hotels upgrade service, by recording what guests like and don't like in the way of food, activities, amenities and so forth. This allows hotels to provide more personalized service when guests return, making them feel more welcome and well taken care of.

We can also use technology to sell Phuket and attract more tourists. We can create dynamic, interactive videos to take abroad that allow tour agents or potential visitors to have a very clear sense of what it's like to come here.

The university can use technology to fulfill its responsibilities as a public entity too.

We've already signed a Memo-

randum of Understanding (MoU) with Phuket City Municipality to set up an IT learning center at Saphan Hin where anyone can go to learn how to use computers.

We've donated secondhand computers to people in rural areas of Phuket, Phang Nga and Krabi, and showed them how they can use them in their jobs. For example, we taught farmers how to sell their products online.

Our graduate students and professors are continually researching issues that affect Phuket. The deep knowledge that we gain from these studies is a contribution to the community in itself, because it can be used to determine solutions to local problems.

Finally, we contribute to social development by offering scholarships, with one condition: once the students graduate, they must come and teach with us. Doing this encourages bright students to stay on the island, which prevents "brain drain" and helps develop the university. This, in the long run, can help Phuket develop wisely.



A place for quality control managers in this job too. Photo: Gazette file

Service matters

Island View

By Alex Stone

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

THE tuk-tuk gently and purposefully bumped into my motorbike while I was parked in a taxi-only parking zone outside of Patong's Jungceylon.

It had been there for only a few minutes while I ran into the shopping center to grab a bag from a friend, but apparently long enough to have truly offended the driver.

With a thuggish arrogance, he walked away, past another driver who seemed to be running the stand.

And it was this driver, who appeared to be "middle management", who truly failed the island – not the ill-tempered one.

Let's take a step back and review the basics: tuk-tuk and taxi drivers are part of the service industry. No matter how much the Army helps clean them up to legal standards, there is still a need for a shift toward a service-oriented mentality.

The Tourism Authority of Thailand desperately wants to market Phuket as a five-star luxury destination, but to do so, the services throughout the island have to be at five-star level.

Luxury hotel guests, and most definitely our mid-range guests, will at some point slip outside of the calmness of their resorts' superb service and interact with a barista at a Starbucks, a *som tam* vendor on the street or a local taxi driver. It is these interactions that can change a person's perception of the island as whole.

The most important job of middle management in the service industry is damage mitigation. Mistakes happen, but a skilled manager can quickly correct them, defuse the situation, and offer compensation if necessary.

Those handling the operation of legal taxi stands, such as those in the area behind Jungceylon, lack this mentality.

Taxi operators must demand professionalism from their middle management. The big boss can't go around battling every smoldering driver tired of dealing with tourists, but he can demand that his management team does. It's a business; a lucrative business that has a serious impact on the island's reputation throughout the world.

If the driver attempts to cause a scene, whether deserved or not, the taxi stand manager needs to instantly take control of the situation.

Had it been a different motorbike owner last Sunday, the newspapers could be splashing headlines around the world of tuk-tuk drivers getting into fist fights with tourists in broad daylight – not really what the island needs as it pushes forward so many positive reforms.

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

Am I entitled to the new public holiday?

I heard that the NCPO has announced an extra public holiday this year, on Monday, August 11. Since August 12 is also a holiday – HM Queen Sirikit's birthday – this creates a four-day weekend, which was created to boost domestic tourism, and thereby the economy.

Is my company required to let me take that day off?

Lotus Koh Kaew

Narin Boonprom, Chief of the Department of Labour Protection and Welfare - Phuket Office, replies:

Yes and no. If you are a government employee, yes. If you work for a private company, no.

Since the announcement was made during the year – after the official announcement of public holidays had already been issued – employers are not required to give their staff this day off. It's up to the employer.

Most years there are 13 public holidays; sometimes more, depending on the day of the week they fall on.

The holidays are: New Year's Day, Makha Bucha day, Chakri Memorial Day, Songkran Festival, National Labor Day, Coronation Day, Visakha Bucha Day, Asalha Bucha day, Her Majesty The Queen's Birthday, Chulalongkorn Memorial Day, His Majesty The King's Birthday, Constitution Day and New Year's Eve.

Employers have the right to ask their staff to work on public holidays, but must allow staff to use the day off at a later date.

Gassy problems causing confusion



Choosing fuel for your car is not a simple matter. Photo: Gazette file

I've noticed that many gas stations have stopped selling Gasohol 95 and now have E20 instead. What is E20? Do I have to change anything in my car to use it? Is it better than Gasohol 95?

Simone Koh Kaew

Chayakorn Ummarawong-sakorn, an officer at the PTT Contact Center, replies:

E20 is a mixture of ethanol and benzene which contains 20 per cent ethanol. You do not need to change your car to use it. Right now at PTT stations, it costs 35.78 baht per liter.

Gasohol 95 is also a mixture of ethanol and benzene, but it contains a smaller amount of ethanol – 10 per cent. It costs

40.75 baht per liter.

In the past, we used only benzene in Thailand, but it was very expensive for Thai people, so PTT researchers created a lower-priced fuel. They found that mixing the cheaper ethanol, which is produced from sugar cane, with benzene produced an acceptable fuel that costs less.

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

Submit your issue at

www.PuketGazette.net/IssuesAnswers

Thai tourism courts Japan

By Saran Mittrarat

TOURISM experts from Thailand recently took part in a tour of Japan in a bid to strengthen industry ties and increase Thailand's tourism inflows from regional Japanese cities.

Held from June 23-27, the Phuket Provincial Administrative Organization (PPAO), Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT), Phuket Tourist Association (PTA) and Thailand Hotel Association (THA) jointly hosted the Amazing Thailand Road Show Japan.

Visiting the Japanese cities of Sendai, Kobe and Kumamoto, the Road Show aimed to promote and strengthen Thai-Japanese tourism relations and counteract the downturn in Japanese tourist arrivals in the wake of the military coup on May 22.

The TAT Tokyo office's director Nittaya Aumbhitaya said, "The objective of this event is to open more opportunities for Thailand tourism businesses to develop closer relations with buyers in Japan."

"In 2013, the number of Japanese tourists coming to Thailand increased by 19 per cent, but this year, from January to June, the numbers have decreased as a result of the political situation. Because Japanese tourists are very sensitive to this type of thing, they are worried about the coup. However, TAT-Tokyo are doing many things to increase the number of Japanese tourists," she noted.

The Road Show is part of an ongoing event which, on July 25, will invite tour agencies

and media from 30 countries to join Mega FAM (familiarization) trips to Thailand.

The PTA said their purpose for joining the event was to enact a marketing strategy plan to bolster Phuket brand awareness and expand their international customer base.

"Normally, Japanese tourists who visited Phuket were from Tokyo. The reason for this road show is to look for new markets in the same country which have potential and to introduce Phuket to [travel] agencies," said PTA President Ponganun Suwannakarn.

"We also want them to understand that Thailand is now safe and that happiness has returned to the people and the tourists can have trust and confidence in Thailand," he added.

Feedback from tour agencies on the day of the road show was very good.

Vice President of PTA's marketing division Bhuritt Maswongssa said that agencies were very interested with Thailand tourism and the Road Show provided a chance for industry professionals to connect and discuss opportunities.

"Over 40 leading tourist agencies in each city attended the event to meet representatives from Phuket, Pattaya and Sukhothai provinces. Phuket had nine businesses join this event. Thai agents walked around and gave three to four-minute presentations of their products," Mr Bhuritt explained.

Mr Bhuritt claimed that in the past five years, tourist numbers in Phuket have increased five-fold from 2 million to 10mn



Thai tourism representatives met with Japanese travel agents during their recent trip to promote Thailand in regional Japanese cities including Sendai, Kobe and Kumamoto.

people per year. Phuket is a hub for other destinations such as Koh Tachai in Phang Nga and Koh Phi Phi in Krabi which are popular among Japanese tourists.

"The PTA is now promoting Phuket as a high-end destination by supporting golf, shopping, spas, wellness centers, medical tourism, yachting, diving and fishing for the Andaman province group consisting of Phuket, Phang Nga, Krabi, Trang and

Ranong," Mr Bhuritt said.

The weakening of Japan's economy as a result of recent natural disasters has also influenced the reduction in tourist numbers.

Mr Bhuritt also pointed out that while there were once three different direct flights from Japan to Phuket, there are now none. He says he has opened a dialogue with airlines to encourage them to consider re-launching direct flights.

Creating a suitable bond ladder

Finance

By David Mayes

I HAVE written before about the dangers in the bond market, and yet finding safe yield in today's low-rate environment continues to remain elusive. Keeping in mind that the main reason bond funds are so risky is because of the actions of the other investors, there is actually a way to invest in bonds without exposing yourself too greatly to interest rate risk.

The main reason bond funds are risky is because the market price of a bond is inversely related to interest rates, so as the rates go up, the market price of a bond drops. If you are in a fund and the other investors redeem in a period of ris-

ing rates, the fund manager has absolutely no choice but to go dump bonds at a loss to raise the cash to meet redemptions.

If you buy a diversified spread of individual top-rated corporate bonds however, you can simply hold them to maturity if interest rates rise. As long as you pay attention to the "yield to maturity" instead of the "coupon rate", you will achieve the promised yield by holding the bond until maturity as long as the company does not default. There is an opportunity cost of course, in that you cannot reinvest at the higher new rates until your bond holdings mature. This is where the ladder strategy comes in.

By buying a spread of bonds that mature in different years, you generate a small portion of cash

each year as some of them mature. This can allow you to reinvest at the new higher rates, or if you need to generate an income this can free up some liquidity each year. Generally speaking, the longer the time until maturity the higher the yield will be, all else being equal. Thus, you need to find the right mix for your situation that gives a high enough average yield to make up for the added credit risk of the individual companies as well as the effective lock-in that happens if rates rise and you get stuck holding the bonds until maturity.

There is no such thing as eliminating risk in the investing world, so it is important to understand what is actually going on here with this strategy. At the moment, interest rate risk is about as high

as it has ever been, so the aim of this strategy is to take on the extra default risk of the individual companies underlying the bond holdings in exchange for reducing it. There is also probably a slight difference in liquidity as well, but if you stick with top-rated and actively traded issues this should not pose any problems, especially since the strategy by design has the intention of holding each bond until maturity. Thus you need to make sure your cash flow needs are well planned out and, as always, a significant cash reserve is held for unforeseen emergencies.

I personally believe that in the long run a portfolio will most likely be better off sitting in fixed deposits earning nothing but remaining available to be reinvested at much

higher rates if when they do begin to rise because they can go up quickly. The central banks obviously do not want them to rise too quickly, but one wonders how much control they will have when the entire bond markets see the writing on the wall. In any event, for those of you who need more yield than a fixed deposit gives now, this strategy is the lowest risk way I know of that can accomplish that goal.

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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Mövenpick appoints new director of revenue

MOVENPICK Resort & Spa Karon Beach Phuket has appointed Gary Reed as its new director of revenue. In his new role, Mr Reed will facilitate, guide and direct all department heads in selecting the optimum revenue opportunities for the property, measuring total revenue performance against strategy and targets and adapting the strategy as needed.

Born and educated in the United Kingdom, Gary attended Sixth Form College and studied for an Advanced GNVQ in Leisure and Tourism. In 1998, he joined Thistle Hotels as a reservations agent and went on to

work for a number of Thistle hotels within their London Portfolio ultimately working his way up to cluster revenue manager. In 2010 he moved to Malaysia with Thistle Hotels as cluster revenue manager for two properties, the Thistle Johor Bahru and Thistle Port Dickson.

"I am very pleased to join Moevenpick Resort & Spa Karon Beach Phuket and look forward to working alongside a great team, delivering great results and ensuring the property continues to be one of Phuket's leading resorts," said Mr Reed.



Gary Reed. Photo: Supplied

Accor steps into high-end ring with Grand Mercure



The Grand Mercure Patong Phuket is aiming for a 65 per cent occupancy rate for 2014 as it prepares for the long fight to the top. Photo: Supplied

By Isaac Stone Simonelli

THE ACCOR Group's latest high-end hotel in the province is aiming to quickly ween itself off the source of its current success, TripAdvisor, and use agent sourced revenue streams to hit its 2014 goal of gross revenue exceeding 160 million baht.

"Phuket is an agent based destination. It's the bread and butter of the business. It would be too risky to rely on online business only," Sebastien Tronchet, general manager of the Grand Mercure Phuket Patong, told the *Phuket Gazette*, noting that TripAdvisor, while having a very positive impact on production and results to-date, was a double-edged sword.

The hefty investment comes as the hotel focuses on a battle of attrition against the 10-12 other hotels in Patong that are vying for their multi-sourced, high-end market.

"The owner invested probably a third more than he could have. He wanted to go for real five-star: from mechanical and electrical hardware to beddings, sofa and sound systems in the rooms, sun lounges by the pool, landscape itself, or meeting room facilities.



The Grand Mercure has 38 pool-access rooms. Photos: Supplied

"When you invest like that, you invest in quality, you invest for the long run. I know some of our colleagues are having issues after having been open for just a few years," said Mr Tronchet.

The price of necessary renovations so early in a hotel's establishment can cost it dearly, Mr Tronchet noted.

The hotel, boasting the party town's only stand-alone and private pool villas, as well as 38 pool-access rooms, was redesigned to better suit the Asian

markets, which are well known for avoiding excessive exposure to the sun, by removing the balconies, thus offering them additional space and comfort instead.

"Better to give them more room inside," said Mr Tronchet.

The Grand Mercure is uniquely positioned to hit the ground running, with Accor Group having nine properties on the island: the Pullman Phuket Arcadia Naithon Beach settled in the luxury bracket and three Novotels, with one in Karon in the works, holding the

mid-price range.

In June, with 120 of its 314 units operational before the grand opening, the hotel was running at an average occupancy rate of about 75 per cent, with the hotel being at full capacity the first weekend of July.

"As a four-and-a-half-star [hotel], we need to be positioning ourselves correctly. The direction to go is the direction the Holiday Inn has been going for years. We need to be able to push the rates up by providing superb service, superb facilities and a great location," Mr Tronchet said.

"We don't believe in dropping prices because we're just opening or because there is a coup. I've been in Thailand for 13 years now and there is always something happening.

"I think we'll do well because of the service we provide, the facilities we share and location we enjoy... but the key remains the service aspect of it. We are thriving to become one of the best, if not the best hotel in Patong in term of service offered. From the comments we are seeing on TripAdvisor and receiving from guests on daily basis, we can tell we are going the right direction."



Sebastien Tronchet. Photo: Supplied

Starting out in F&B, then rising to the top like cream

AFTER 13 years in the Thailand, 36-year-old Sebastien Tronchet has risen through the ranks to general manager, overseeing opening of the Grand Mercure Phuket Patong.

Like many general managers, Sebastien began in the food and beverage (F&B) operations and quickly ascended the ranks.

"I'm lucky to come from a little province in the south of France. We are born, it is very French to say this, but, we were born with good food and wine. It is very easy for us to just come to F&B because we have the tastes already," Sebastien says.

Sebastien had his first taste of "The Land of Smiles" at the age of 23 when he was offered a job paying 5,000 baht a month plus accommodations at the Sofitel in Hua Hin.

"Within Accor it wasn't about the money, it was about the opportunity. At 25, I was number two of the department with 260 people. I was leading the department at 27.

"This kind of experience you can't get in Europe."

Sebastien soon became part of the re-branding team of the Sofitel in Bangkok. Then took over as director of F&B at Novotel Siam. When the opportunity arose to leave the Accor group and take the post of general manager at Aka Resort at Hua Hin, Sebastien jumped. It wasn't until he was offered the general manager position for the Grand Mercure that he once again found himself part of the Accor family.

— Isaac Stone Simonelli

US-Thai trade safe

THE Commerce Ministry affirmed that the United States will not boycott Thai products after its downgrade of Thailand to the lowest level or Tier 3 in the "Trafficking in Persons" (TIP) report.

The ministry addressed worrisome reports that the US will soon implement a measure to ban the import of Thai products, saying that it is baseless. He pointed out that the tier 3 status means a halt to non-trade related and non-humanitarian aid from the US. Trade-related assistance, however, will remain unaffected from the downgrade. — NNT

Business made easy

THE World Bank has revealed that Thailand has been listed in the Top 20 countries based on its 'Ease of Doing Business' report.

According to the Doing-business.org website, Thailand has retained its 18th spot for 2014 again, based on the World Bank's evaluation of 189 countries in regard to convenience of doing business.

The World Bank bases the rankings on several indicators such as operating procedures, business convenience, overheads, laws and regulations, and the overall obstacles of running a business. — NNT

Border development

AKHOM Termittayapaisit, Secretary General of the office of the National Economic and Social Development Board (NESDB) announced that the NCPO has agreed to the NESDB request to develop business along the border especially the border crossings with Malaysia of Sadao and Padang Besar District Border Crossings, which generate high trading value for the country. A railways development project is also to be developed to support the transportation of goods from Singapore passing through Malaysia, Thailand to China. — NNT

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Burlesque Night and birthday party

Cecilia Pitre celebrated her birthday with freinds and family at Le Versace Patong. The burlesque themed night featured dancers, a singer, DJs and a costume contest for the best outfit of the evening.



Cecilia Pitre and Le Versace Owner Georges Dufresne celebrated in style.

Benjarong Thai Cookery School grand opening



CEO of Benjarong Thai Cookery School Ms Saowaluk Wongpong (second from left), and Teacher of Thai Cuisine Jirraroj Didhakulphisit (second from right), pose with students at the recently opened school.



Just one of the many lavishly costumed partygoers.

Chanintr Living brings style to Phuket

Founder and CEO of the Chanintr Living designer furniture retailer, Chanintr Sirisant, recently visited the company's premier showroom on the Bypass Road. Chanintr Living sells dozens of the world's leading designer furniture brands. Read more about their iconic furniture peices on page 38.



From left: Nuanjan Sumran, accountant; Pavichaya Phavichitr, marketing consultant; Chanintr Sirisant, CEO; Warawan Foedisch, sales manager; and Tanasit Viriyakulkiat, sales executive.

Sangria's Tapas Bar & Restaurant grand opening

Sangria's the hottest new tapas bar in Chalong recently celebrated its grand opening with a party featuring delicious Spanish tapas, and of course, plenty of sangria to wash them down.



Aimee Grainge, owner of Sangria's Bar and Restaurant in Chalong.



Some entertainment was provided by fire jugglers during the party.

The Phuket Gazette's weekly

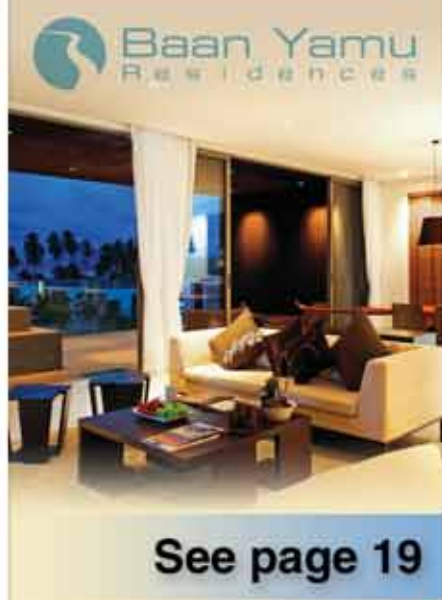
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PROPERTY of the week



See page 19

JOB of the week



East Marine

See page 22

EDUCATION of the week



Oak Meadow International School

See page 25

BOAT of the week



See page 27

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Properties For Sale

LAND - PATONG BEACH

Opposite White Box restaurant. Sea View & beach front. 48 million baht/rai. Plots of 22 rai, 10 rai, and 4 rai Tel: 084-847 9977 (English & Thai), 084-058 8892 (English & Thai). Email: info@pacificlighthousehotel.com

HOUSE FOR SALE NAI HARN

3-bedrooms, fully furnished, 5 minutes to the beach. Reduced to 3.9 million baht for quick sale. Tel: 088-168 5032.

MAI KHAO LAND

5.1 rai, very quiet, 1km to sea, for now building or investment, full Chanote. Price: 2.75 million baht per rai. Tel: 083-635 2414 (English), 082-812 3486 (Thai).

BANG TAO HOUSE

For sale. 2 bedrooms, fully furnished, 350sqm land, Chanote. Tel: 093-713 2278.

BEAUTIFULLY FURNISHED CONDO

Attractively furnished, fully equipped, 4th floor, 37sqm, 1-bed condo in the Royal Place. Tel: 081-828 0615 (English & Thai). Email: dom23781@msn.com

ZCAPE 1-BEDROOM CONDO LAGUNA

Brand-new, semi-furnished, two 1-bedroom condos (27.7sqm & 29.41sqm), adjacent units on 6th floor in Zcape development, ready now. Near Laguna, Boat Avenue and beaches. Thai or foreign ownership ok. Both priced at under 2 million baht. Tel: 085-235 1532 (English & Thai). Email: thanasak.nk@gmail.com

CHEAP LAND & HOUSE FOR SALE

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.

FREEHOLD POOL VILLA

From 1.1 million baht. 800m from Nai Harn Beach. For more information, please call 080-124 1245. Email: kay@phuketandamanreal estate.com

NEW SEAVIEW FREEHOLD CONDO

Brand-new freehold condos from 2.3 million baht, includes furniture, plus seaview condos, 3.5 million baht. Tel: 080-124 1245. Email: kay@phuketandamanrealestate.com

OCEANFRONT FOR SALE

6.5 rai, waterfront. Chanote title. Email: Pkthai1@gmail.com

PALM BREEZE CONDO

Nai Harn, 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, fully furnished. Urgent sale US\$199,000. No agents! For more information, please call 081-956 1077.

APARTMENT FOR SALE IN BOAT LAGOON

2-bedroom, marina apartment for sale in Boat Lagoon, north of Phuket Town, in a residential maritime township surrounded by commercial plaza and sporting facilities. Fully furnished, private carport, large swimming pool available for residents. Living area: 198sqm. Freehold. Price: 11 million baht. Tel: 080-789 4500 (English & French). Email: Chris tophe.soula@hotmail.fr

ENTERTAINMENT PALACE

Magnificent penthouse in Karon with panoramic sea view apartment. Reduced by 10 million baht for quick sale, includes an additional two-bedroom apartment. Now 46 million baht. Freehold. Please call 080-124 1245. Email: kay@phuketandamanrealestate.com

LAND AND HOUSE PARK

3-bedrooms, 2-bathrooms, 2-storey house for sale. 200sqm land, for photos. Tel: 084-845 4743. Email: attivitaphuket@yahoo.co.uk

PHUKET NEW CONDO FOR SALE

2-bed, 2-bath. Sugar Palm Condo. Right at Suan Luang Park with direct access to superb park, lake and ocean views. 10th floor, corner unit, 90 sqm. 10 min to Central shopping center, 20-30 minutes to beaches. 65,000 baht per sqm. Call Noi 087-269 8492.

BUILDING BANGLA - PATONG

25 million baht, XL commercial / residential building in Soi Bangla Square, Patong. 4 floors + 6m frontage. Over 360sqm in total. For more information, please call 087-881 7600 (English & Thai). Email: cocodiorster@gmail.com

LARGE SEAVIEW HOUSE AT LAYAN

3 rai, Chanote. Price: 54 million baht. Tel: 081-787 4383. Email: ruggdan@gmail.com

LUXURY POOL VILLA

Within unique development - 8,700,000 baht. Please call 081-077 1765. Email: phuketformations@gmail.com

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.

DOUBLE FLOOR HOUSE

Permsap Villa. 3 bedrooms. 3 bathrooms. Close to heroines monument. Email: Pkthai1@gmail.com

URGENT SALE

Anuphas Kathu, refurbished, 2-storey, 3-bedroom villa 4 sale. 081-968 4314 (English). Email: johnhideaway@hotmail.com

PRIME BEACHFRONT LAND

Beachfront land on Rawai / Chalong beach. Also connects directly to Vised Road. Adjacent to Serenity Terraces, so really prime! Over 4 rai at 180 million baht. Tel: 080-124 1245. Email: kay@phuketandamanrealestate.com

3-BEDROOMS 2-BATHROOMS IN COMPOUND

Villa in good compound with sport club. Furnished, opposite Laem Hin Seafood & Maeju, near PIADS. For more information, please call 081-719 0014. Email: nacky2u@hotmail.com

VILLA WITH POOL

4-bedrooms, pool villa for sale, fully furnished, 12.5 million baht or rent long term: 75,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-729 2989. Email: tabppg@gmail.com

LAND & HOUSES 88 NEW

Chalong, only pool villa, 75sq wah, 3 bedrooms, exclusive modern interior design, corner house. Urgent sale: 9.75 million baht. Contact Thilo. Tel: 089-874 3376.

HOUSE FOR SALE

79sq wah, 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 1 maid room, kitchen, aircon, auto gate. Tel: 088-7687 054.

Baan Yamu Residences

Condominium available for sale

PHUKET'S EXCLUSIVE RESIDENTIAL HIDEAWAY

- Award-winning design
- Luxurious lifestyle facilities
- Secure residential and investment opportunity

Please contact: 091-034 9909 or 089-729 8126
E-mail: info@baanyamu.com
Tel: 076-310507

PATONG FREEHOLD

2-bedrooms, 2-bathrooms, 100sqm. Tel: 081-612 4187. Email: nicolaas5@yahoo.com

500,000 BAHT KAMALA LEASEHOLD

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

PRIVATE POOL VILLA BANG TAO

Private 1-bedroom pool villa for sale in top condition with a large roof top sala. Only 800m to the Beach. Price: 9.5 million baht. Please call 081-606 5604 (English & Thai). Email: info@phuketserenityvillas.com, www.phuketserenityvillas.com/saledetails.php?nom=RB001

HABITOWN KOH KAEW FOR SALE

115sqm, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 aircons, includes built-in furniture, 2 floors. Resale down 150,000 baht. Tel: 089-772 7012.

LAND FOR SALE

1.5 rai land: 30 minutes from Bang Tao Beach, for hotel & condominium. 2 rai land: Soi Pasak 4. 100m from Pasak Road, for housing condominium. Tel: 076-340559, 081-937 8152.

RAWAI SEA VIEWS, 50K PER M2

The best sea views at the best prices in Phuket. Unit sizes: 65 Sqm, 75Sqm, and 150Sqm penthouse with sky pool. Tel: 084-844 6476 (English). Email: richardphuket@gmail.com Web http://propertyforsalephuket.co.th/paradise-4-sea-view-apartments-updates/

30 RAI IN TOWN

Flat land near Dowroong School in Phuket Town. Please call 081-691 25 26.

POOL VILLAS FOR SALE

1-4 bed pool villas available Bang Tao area for cheap short-term rental. Tel: 096-809 9510.

LAND WITH SEA VIEW FOR SALE

200sqm with a beautiful view. Located on 50 Pee Road, Patong. 4.9 million baht. Tel: 098-386 6408 (English), 087-268 2396 (Thai). Email: jasonsfriday6@gmail.com

NICE STUDIO APT, B 1.5 MILLION

Studio of 36 sqm. Phuket Town at Green Places. Quiet. Details on request. Tel: 095-437 9062 (English). Email: lilly@mail.ru

TOWNHOUSE PHUKET TOWN FOR SALE / RENT

In Supalai City Hill estate. Very quiet, safe, convenient. 3 years old, 2 storeys, furnished, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, WiFi, decorated, shady garden, well-maintained by original owner. For sale: 2.8 million baht ono. For more information, please call 089-874 00 61. Email: stephenfein@gmail.com

Properties For Rent

**4-BED, 3-BATH
NEAR LAGUNA**

4-bed, 3-bath with private pool, landscaped garden, and only a few minutes drive to Villa Market and Laguna. Short and long term. Available now. Call: 089-655 7480. Email: suppamas@live.com

**APARTMENT
AT KATHU FOR RENT**

The Green Golf Residence offers 48-168sqm studios and 1 to 3-bedroom apartments located in the Phuket Country Club. Evergreen fairway views and natural lake views. Fully furnished, WiFi. Tel: 076-319338, 085-068 9794 (English&Thai). Email: m_m onpriya@hotmail.com, www.thegreengolfresidence.com

**HOUSE NEAR
BANG TAO BEACH**

2 storeys, fully furnished, near big Thalung Tesco-Lotus. 10 minutes to many beaches. Price: 12,000-15,000 baht per month. Please call 090-924 5838. Email: vicky_grc@hotmail.com

**KARON OCEANFRONT
LUXURY APT**

Five-star, one-bedroom apartment with pool in a quiet area. For sale 24,000 baht per month. Available now. Call Daniele Fenocchio. Tel: 087-531 1124 (English & Thai). Email: dfenocchio@hotmail.com, www.karonhill.altervista.org

**BRAND NEW
MODERN
POOL VILLA**

Brand New Modern Pool Villas (2 & 3 beds). Fully furnished. Free WiFi, Satellite TV, Pool & Garden Maintenance. Between Cape Yamu & Ao Po Marina. Tel: 081-893 5270, 093-014 5072. Email: srdupouy@gmail.com, www.tropical-house.net

**HOLIDAY HOUSE AND
VILLA RENTAL**

Private pool villa Rawai, 2 beds, 2 baths, short term only. Tel: 085-787 3046(English). Email: patrickmeo@gmail.com

**LOFT - STYLE
FLATS KATHU**

Furnished, quiet, secure, central location, gym in complex, 8,000-13,000 baht per month long-term. Tel: 086-664 5575 (English). Email: hkmsn@yahoo.com

CONDO IN LAGUNA

ZCape condo, one bed. Next to Boat Avenue, 6th floor. Nice view, changed from original design. Great kitchen, 30 sqm, gym, pool. 18,000 baht per month, long term. Call Tao. For more information please call 083-185 9487 (English & Thai), 081-273 4212 (English). Email: phuketcondo1@gmail.com

**CHALONG HOUSE
FOR RENT**

Fully furnished, 2 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms and 3 aircons. For more information please call 087-266 7191.

**2-SHOPHOUSES
FOR RENT**

One minute walk to beach. Ideal for restaurant, bar, massage. 2nd fl furnished as 2-bedroom apartment w/2 baths and kitchen. Tel: 084-189 7696 (English & Thai). Email: janum0012@hotmail.com

**7,000 BAHT
PER MONTH**

1-bedroom house, furnished, WiFi + cable TV, quiet area. For more information, please call 081-892 4311, http://panwagreen.weebly.com

HOUSE FOR RENT

Near BIS single house. 3 bedrooms, fully furnished, airconditioners, furniture, kitchen. 28,000baht per month. For more information please call 081-892 1732. Email: ann@siammileage.com

**BANG TAO
LUXURY POOL VILLA**

For rent 100,000 baht per month. 500m to Bang Tao beach. 3 bed / 3 bath plus maid's room. Available 1 July 2014. For more information please call 076-325986, 089-867 7154.

**2-BED HOUSE
FOR RENT KATHU**

2-beds / baths in gated community. Small garden, covered carport. Kitchen, cable TV, Internet, washing machine. Furnished. Next to golf course, 5 mins to Lotus, Central. 17,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-893 9127 (English). Email: duncan@eclipsemarine.net

**KATHU GOLF AND
VALLEY VIEW VILLA**

1, 2 and 3 bed Kathu golf and valley view villa. For rent, big pool, 4 km to BIS. Quiet, on top of a private hill. Fully furnished. Maid, WiFi, security. Long-term 35,000, 40,000 and 75,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-269 8492.

**LUXURY 1 BED
PATONG**

100 sqm, pool, fully furnished, WiFi. Price: 18,000 baht per month. For more information please call 081-271 7092. Email: briccothailand@hotmail.com

**200SQM
WAREHOUSE**

Near Chalong circle, modern lockup. Price: 25,000 baht per month. Please call 081-082 5707.

**NAI HARN HOUSE
2KM BEACH**

2-bedroom house for rent with aircon. Quiet Soi, walk to the beach. American owned. For more information, please call 048-0286 3866(English), 062-3217 8117 (English & Thai). Email: kkareth@gmail.com

**HOUSE
FOR RENT / SALE
THALANG**

Fully furnished, 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Tel: 094-595 2451, 094-595 1444. Email: rightherephuket@gmail.com

**ORCHID KATHU
HEIGHTS**

Serviced apartment, studio. 1 / 2 bedroom(s), 1 / 2 bathroom(s), rooftop, pool, free WiFi. Tel: 076-203208, 081-892 0038. www.orchidkathuheights-phuket.com

**CONDO FOR RENT
IN TOWN**

Furnished condo with aircon, TV, fridge. Gym and pool. 7,500 baht per month until September. For more information please call 081-978 1558. Email: keng.na.ranong@hotmail.com

**FULLY FURNISHED
HOUSE**

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

**3-BEDROOM VILLA
LONG TERM**

Nice villa, Central Phuket, 3 beds, 2 baths, GT, 200sq.m, fair rent. Gated, quiet, unfurnished. Available from August 2014. Take over aircon. Price for sale 60,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-281 1264. Email: info@contexphuket.com

**1, 2, 3 BEDROOM
VILLAS WITH POOL**

Furnished, aircon, WiFi, cable TV, swimming pool. 1-bedroom house, long term: 14,000 baht per month. Special offer! 2-bedroom house, 2 months for short term only 17,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-475 1200 (English& Thai). Email: info@welcome-inn.com

**CONDO AT
ROYAL PLACE**

Phuket city, bypass road, opposite Tesco Lotus. 45sqm, 3 Fl at the corner with swimming pool view. 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, kitchen, fully furnished (2 aircons, hot water, washing machine, refrigerator, TV, microwave, 24 security and internet provided). Pls contact 088-4769612. Email: annano1@hotmail.com

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Mail: AdPower@PhuketGazette.Net

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The Network property office



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

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

The **Gazette Online** is always on top in **Google!**

**SALES ASSISTANT
WANTED**

Native English speaker to work as telephone sales assistant. Basic salary + apartment + commissions! Contact us now for more details. Tel: 081-270 9772. Email: liam@phuketfit.com

**PHP
PROGRAMMER**

Seeking a PHP programmer with experience in Code Igniter for a long-term project. Tel: 094-316 6005 (English & Thai). Email: john@jpdigitaltech.com

MARKETING STAFF

Fast-growing real estate company is looking for marketing executives to join our property booth in Patong. Female/Thai national - Friendly personality and outgoing communication skills, fluent in English, multilingual is a plus. Good salary and attractive commission. Send your CV with recent photo to helena@phuketabc.com. Tel: 076-613680, 087-267 3747 (English). Fax: 076-613680. Email: helena@phuketabc.com

**REAL ESTATE STAFF
WANTED**

We are looking for staff to work with us in the progressing and increasing branches at Rawai-Phuket. Secretary/Receptionist: Thai female. Required: Good personality and outgoing communication skills, enthusiastic, fluent written and spoken English, good basic computer skills. Good Salary and Commission! Tel: 076-388801. Please send resume and recent photo to contact@harvest-property.com

SWEDISH STAFF

Swedish speaking 20-30-year-old staff wanted. Send your CV & Photo to naturejob13@gmail.com

**RESORT STAFF
WANTED**

Urgently: night reception, housekeeping, restaurant and kitchen staff. Tel: 076-613903, 089-723 1128 (Thai), 085-227 8864. Email: yussies@gmail.com

**ENGLISH TEACHERS
NEEDED**

ELT Phuket is looking for teachers. Competitive salary and bonuses. Apply within. Tel: 084-847 3033. Email: maxb eardsley@gmail.com

**RENTALS CONSULTANT
100K+**

LivePhuket.com is the Number 1 holiday rentals platform in Phuket. We require a talented and smart Rentals Consultant. You have the opportunity to easily earn over 100,000 baht every month! Must be a Thai national and have excellent English, written and spoken. Tel: 092-474 6157. (English) Email: paul@livephuket.com

**LOOKING FOR
MANAGER
AT WAKE PARK**

Aged 25 years or older, permanent resident of Phuket, Russian speaking with excellent knowledge of English and preferably Thai. Official papers (no benefits, work permit), salary starts from 30,000 baht. Tel: 089-870 2796. Please send CV to opaopa543@mail.ru

**East Marine Co., Ltd.**

Well-established yacht equipment distributor located in Boat Lagoon Marina seeks to fill the following positions.

SALES AND MARKETING POSITION

- Fluent in English, spoken and written
- Excellent communication skills dealing with customers via email, telephone etc.
- Co-ordinate with teams and department involved, and ensure job is completed
- Set up marketing plans, promotions, on-line marketing, marketing kits, newsletters and emailing to increase sales volume
- Regularly report on sales, products that sell well and those that don't and come up with ideas and recommendations
- Track competitors and market to improve and develop performance of the company
- Minimum 5 years work experience

ACCOUNTANT POSITION

- Good spoken/written English
- Inventory and stock reports
- Staff time sheet calculation
- Good knowledge of accounting software
- Able to manage and assist with financial reports
- Thai national, aged 25 years up
- Minimum 5 years work experience

Qualified candidates please send CV and expected salary to

scott@eastmarineasia.com

SALESPERSON

Sales person wanted for smart home systems integration company. Please email CV. Tel: 084-443 9863 (English). Email: daragh@techworx.asia

**COOKS & WAITRESSES
NEEDED**

A new restaurant opening in Phuket Town seeks full and part time cooks and waitresses. Must speak good English. Great salary package given. Tel: 076-223677, 086-509 7510 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-223677. Email: simon@col onial-connection.com

SALES**REPRESENTATIVES**

English speaking TO and Sales Reps needed. Experience in timeshare only. Start immediately. Tel: 076-342794, 088-450 1833. Email: hr@davidvacation club.com

EUROPEAN CHEFS

We are hiring Sous Chef and Executive Chef. We want both full-time. Good salary and work permit for the right candidate. Tel: 081-905 8353. Email: hrbang tao@oceanresort group.net



Phuket Square Co., Ltd. is looking for professionals for the following position:

**Administration-Purchasing Manager
2 positions**

- Female over 25 years old.
- Bachelor's degree in Administration, Marketing, Management or related field.
- Minimum 3-5 years of work experience in office management, document control, and letter writing
- Basic negotiation skills and well organized
- **Good interpersonal skills, mature with Excellent written and spoken English**

Benefit Package

- Provident fund
- Health insurance
- Medical fee
- Staff uniform
- Social security
- Workmen's compensation fund
- New Year Party
- Year-end bonus

Please contact: Human Resource Department, Phuket Square Co., Ltd. 175/177, 181, 193, 195, 197, 201 Raj-U-Thit 200 Pee Road, Patong, Kathu, Phuket 83150 K'Aom. Tel: 076-600111, ext. 600, 083-2956661. Email: natkayaj@jungceylon.com

HANDYMEN

Needed for house and boat work. Location is Boat Lagoon, Phuket. Please contact me with a brief description of your skills and your phone number. Email: boatcrewwanted@gmail.com

**HOUSEKEEPER
NEEDED**

To manage and ensure the cleanliness of our operation. Must be a dynamic team worker with a pleasant personality. Contact us. Tel: 076-281227, 081-893 5492 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-281227. Email: jtissier@aqua master.net

AD SALES**REPRESENTATIVE**

We are currently seeking trusted, fluent in English, professional candidates for the position of advertising sales representative in Phuket. Level/salary range: up to 40,000 baht (first-full year earnings potentials). The position is open for Thai and foreigners (work permit required). Kindly send your resume by email. Email: info@phuketitaly.com

**Employment
Wanted****JUNIOR ACCOUNTANT
NEEDED**

To assist with the accounting tasks, including accounts receivable. Good spoken / written English and pleasant personality are a must. Tel: 076-227281, 081-893 5492 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-227073. For further information on the job, please see our website at www.aquamas ter.net/job.html

Authorized Agents for Classified Advertising:**CHALONG**

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

Tel: 076-282254
Tel: 076-280400
Tel: 076-282403

PATONG

- NEW Andy's Real Estate Agency** (Opp. Savoeys Seafood)
- ▶ **Taurus Travel** (Aroonsom Plaza)
- ▶ **Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppe** (Aroonsom Plaza)

Tel: 076-341644
Tel: 076-344521-2
Tel: 076-290468

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: 076-388144

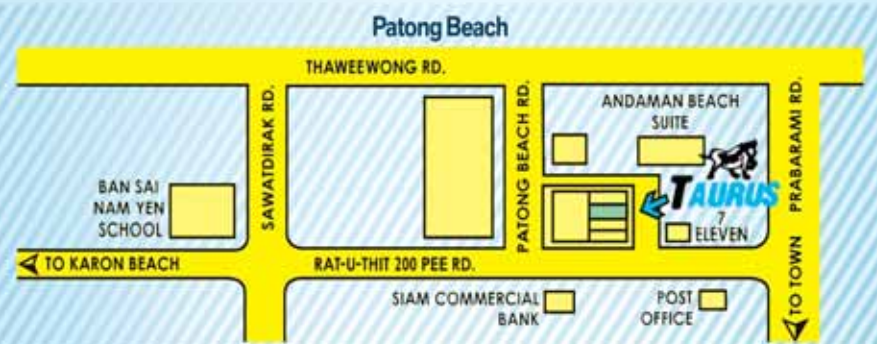
KARON

- ▶ **EuroStyle Tailors** (Luang Por Chuan Rd)

Tel: 076-396911

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The Gazette Online is always on top in Google!

RAW FOOD CHEF WANTED

Thai national: raw food chef, good salary + benefits! Tel: 081-270 9772. Email: liam@phuketfit.com

SALES & HOST PERSON

Lotus Medical International seeks to hire people both to host our clients coming to Thailand for surgery and for sales. Fluent English speaking and IT skills are essential, as well as a friendly personality and a high level of empathy, customer service and motivation. Good salary available, please send your CV to info@lotusmedicalinternational.com http://lotusmedicalinternational.com

SALES REPRESENTATIVE

Career opportunity for a dedicated Sales Rep in a Holiday Ownership Company, based in Phuket. Tremendous potential for huge earnings. Legal working status will be arranged. Please send your resume to: rbv@royalperspective.com

RUSSIAN SALES REP. WANTED

Russian lady sales needed for real estate. Highest commission in Phuket. Located on Patong Beach, Phuket. Tel: 081-968 5963 (English). Email: c@bayshoreprojects.com

FOREMAN / ENGINEER KRABI

We are looking for a Foreman / Engineer for a development company in Krabi. If you speak some English, it's okay. Need to do your own calculations (boq) and check the work team so they do good and quick work. Tel: 083-647 1095 (English & Thai), 081-968 3140 (English). Email: krister@krabisunset.com

GM TOP ECO-RESORT KHAO SOK

Ideal candidate should speak Thai, be keen on environment, strong in web marketing, hospitality management experience. Farang with Thai partner welcome. Compensation 1.2 to 3 million baht per year depending on experience. Work permit, housing and meals provided. Tel: 02-863 3180, 081-850 3632 (English). Email: dicksandl@gmail.com http://khaosokaccommodation.com

FINANCE MANAGER

ISS Facility Services require a qualified accountant to manage finances of four Southern Thai branches. Preferred applicants are Thai, have a minimum of 3 years experience in accounting / financial reporting, and have a very good understanding of Excel and accounting software principles. Occasional domestic travel will be required for training and auditing. Tel: 081-958 6879. Email: scott.d@th.issworld.com

LOOKING FOR LIVE-IN NANNY

Full-time, to take care of 8-year-old daughter. Play & do activities with children after school. Require English speaking. Tel: 090-070 9633 (English).

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

OFFICE ASSISTANT

Siam Real Estate requires a Thai office assistant with English and computer skills, based in Rawai. Must be organised and have good communication skills. Tel: 076-288908. Send CV to dew@siamrealestate.com

PROPERTY MARKETING MANAGER

Phuket's leading real estate agency is now recruiting a Marketing Manager (foreign national) to oversee our marketing venues and operations. You will be coordinating the marketing staff in terms of schedules, motivation and making sure the production is at its peak. You need to have major experience in Marketing and know your way around Phuket. Tel: 076-341045, 081-459 0152 (English). Please send your CV with recent picture to info@phuket-condos-homes.com

Phuket Gazette

The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following position:

SUB-EDITOR

- ▶ Fluent in English
- ▶ Able to work to strict deadlines
- ▶ A team player
- ▶ Naturally curious about the world, especially Phuket and what affects its residents
- ▶ Newspaper experience and/or layout skills, especially in PageMaker or InDesign, required.

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV and writing sample by email to editor@phuketgazette.net

The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

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

Phuket Gazette

The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following position:

REPORTER

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

Good salary for the right candidate.

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

The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

79/94 Moo 4, Thepkasattri Rd, Koh Kaew
A. Muang, Phuket 83000
Tel: 076-273555 Ext.402 Fax: 076-615240

HOUSEKEEPER NEEDED

To manage and ensure the cleanliness of our operation. Must be a dynamic team worker with a pleasant personality. Contact us. Tel: 076-281227, 081-893 5492 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-281 227. Email: jtissier@aqua master.net

SALES / OFFICE REPRESENTATIVE

Starting in August for 6 months at the Yacht Haven Phuket. Good computer / English skills. Yacht charter company, open to foreigners. Tel: 081-270 2449 (English), 081-978 6086. Fax: 076-273476. Email: mel@phuket-yachts.com

ASSISTANT SALES MANAGER

Looking: TO min 2 yrs exp. Com+spiff+monthly bonus. WP+SS. Tel: 076-342794, 088-450 1833. Contact: hr@davidvacationclub.com

BANDS NEEDED

Slippery Club needs bands that can play danceable songs. Details negotiable. Tel: 089-873 1867 (English & Thai). Email: minami007.jn@gmail.com

Live in Town?

Place your **GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS** at **iTree Complete Printing Service**



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 print every week, all published simultaneously and **FREE** - in the **Gazette Online!**

The **Gazette Online** is always on top in **Google!**

Live in Patong?

Place your **GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS** at **Andy's Real Estate Agency (AREA)**



Simply write out your ad, pay and leave it with **Khun Andy: (076-341644)**

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

The **Gazette Online** is always on top in **Google!**

Looking for a JOB?

Looking for a better candidate?

Find more Recruitment Classifieds at **WWW.PhuketGazette.Net**!

Business Opportunities

BAR FOR RENT

On Bangla Road. Great location, fully equipped, near road. Contract until January 2015. Price: 590,000 baht only. Contact Khun Robert Tel: 082-829 4106 (English).

4-STOREY APARTMENT FOR SALE

Comes with 16 rooms and full renter. Near Robinson Department Store. Sale by owner. For more information please call 087-270 9093 (English & Thai). Email: sec@phuketawnings.com

GM TOP ECO-RESORT KHAO SOK

Ideal candidate should speak Thai, be keen on environment, strong in web marketing, hospitality business experience. Farang with Thai partner welcome. Compensation 1.2 - 3 million baht per year depending on experience. Work permit, housing and meals provided. Please call 02-863 3180, 081-850 3632(English). Email: dick sandl@gmail.com

KARON GUESTHOUSE



2 mins walk to beach, located on the tourist road, 5 storeys, 7 furnished bedrooms. 13 million baht. Tel: 01-171 9705.

UNIQUE STRETCH LIMO BUSINESS

Only stretch limousine in Thailand. Turnkey business with website and many customers. Just start and make money! 2.8 million baht. Please call 089-932 5175(English&Thai). Email: wojidkwbengt@hotmail.com

Bar & Restaurant Equipment

OUTDOOR RATTAN AT 38,000 BAHT

Outdoor rattan dining and high bar furniture set. Please call 076-343019(English & Thai). Email: info@casajip.com

5 LUXURY APTS PATONG



Twice the size, yet half the price. 100sqm each plus terrace. Fully furnished, pool, great location. Would consider villa swap to Nai Harn area. 11.9 million baht. Tel: 081-271 7092. Email: bricothailand@hotmail.com

BAR & RESTAURANT BANG TAO BEACH

At Bang Tao Beach. Please call 076-621539 or email bp_oc@ymail.com. For tender requirement, please see our website at www.barrestaurant.simplesite.com

BUSINESS FOR SALE

Looking for a business? Since 2005, Business Brokers in Phuket have been finding the best opportunities and prices. Tel: 081-278 7117(English). Email: uniccoli@gmail.com, www.phuket-island-proper ty.com

COMMERCIAL BUILDING

Land, building business for sale. 4 storeys with 6-room guest house + restaurant with a large, steady client. Patong, just 60m from the Beach. 16 million baht. Contact Alex. For more information please call 089-651 3250.

2 SHOPHOUSES FOR RENT

One minute walk to beach. Ideal for restaurant, bar, massage. 2nd fl furnished as 2-bedroom apartment w/2 baths and kitchen. Please call 084-189 7696(English & Thai). Email: janum0012@hotmail.com

BAR & RESTAURANT

Bar, commercial kitchen and restaurant. 2 storeys, 3 bathrooms, 2 bedrooms, 2 decks, includes furniture. In good location. For sale: 580,000 baht. Rent only 20,000 baht per month. For more information please call 085-348 51 37 (Thai), 081-086 3812 (English). Email: matthew.wilson@xtra.co.nz

RESTAURANT FOR SALE, KAMALA

Restaurant and bar for sale, clean and big place with 140sqm house. Sale: 1.4 million baht. Cheap rent: only 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 080-537 6125.

GUESTHOUSE FOR SALE / RENT

Rawai. Too much to list. For more information please contact 081-808 1804. Email: ttpitstop@hotmail.com

SUPER LOW COST FRANCHISE

Best business for your Thai partner. Rapidly expanding franchise operating in 40 countries. Proven system. Fast return. Email: david.m@faramond.com

PATONG MASSAGE SHOP NANAI

8 beds, 5 chairs, staff accommodation. Wide shop front, rear access. Quick sale needed. Price: 350,000 baht or best offer. Email: roy_baldman@yahoo.com

B10MN MORTGAGE WANTED

Will pay 6% interest annually, interest only quarterly in advance, 50% of property value. Email: gordon_asia@hotmail.com

Alcoholics Anonymous

If you want to drink that is your business

If you want to stop that is ours

Daily Meetings

Patong, Phuket Town, Chalong, Surin, Karon

081-895 4763
084-307 7408

Email: phuketaa@yahoo.com

Google AA Phuket

Phuket Gazette

CLASSIFIED AD ORDER FORM

STANDARD AD (Text only): 140 baht/line

OPTIONS (NEWSPAPER ONLY - NOT WEB):

Special font / layout	250 baht	<input type="checkbox"/>
Box	250 baht	<input type="checkbox"/>
Box with red headline	350 baht	<input type="checkbox"/>
Box with black background	350 baht	<input type="checkbox"/>
Box with color background	500 baht	<input type="checkbox"/>
Photo	650 baht	<input type="checkbox"/>

Tick here:

NUMBER OF INSERTIONS: issue(s)

ONLINE OPTIONS:

Web link	350 baht	<input type="checkbox"/>
Photo	500 baht	<input type="checkbox"/>

All ads in the newspaper run online automatically and free charge.

TELEVISION OPTION:

Your ad with photo displayed by PGTV on 3 cable networks, 70 times a week

350 baht



Total cost of your classified baht

Each line is 140 baht, with a minimum of 4 lines (headline included). All ads must be paid in advance. The editors reserve the right not to publish any unsuitable material. In the event of non-publication of an advertisement for any reason, the publisher's liability shall be limited to the amount paid for the advertisement.

Please note: We are unable to offer refunds for any unused ads.

For more information, Please call 076-273555.

Email: Kookai@phuketgazette.net, or Gift@phuketgazette.net

PROMOTION PRICE
Your Ad on PGTV

SAMPLE ADS

TOYOTA HILUX HERO

Pick-up. 4-door. 2.4L diesel. Good condition. Stereo. Only 95,000 km. Carefully maintained, service record available. Quick sale at 120,000 baht. Tel Khun Noi on 076 668126/7.

Standard: 840 baht (incl VAT)

Standard + Special font/layout + Box:
1,340 baht (incl VAT) →

NATIVE TEACHER OF ENGLISH TO YOUNG CHILDREN SEEKS CHALLENGING POSITION IN PHUKET

I will move to Phuket soon. Three yrs teaching in Bangkok

Phone Mr Reece
(02) 668-1268

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

..... (Headline)	
.....	
.....	
.....	560 Baht
.....	700 Baht
.....	840 Baht
.....	980 Baht
.....	1,120 Baht
.....	1,260 Baht
.....	1,400 Baht

Online: www.phuketgazette.net / tv | www.youtube.com / PGTVPhuket

Business Products & Services

40FT SEA CONTAINER

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

VISA SERVICES

UAE and Singapore for 3 days. Please call 080-697 1860. Email: sky75@list.ru



Accepting children 3 months old - 5 years old. 7am-7pm.

- Experienced nannies.
- Nutritious meals.
- Reasonable rates.
- Skill development activities

CALL NOW:

081-868 7676 (English).
080-525 3135 (Thai)

DINODAYCARECENTER

SEO-SOCIAL MEDIA INTERNET

A customized campaign by our SEO specialists will improve your Google ranking and focus your internet marketing efforts. Free quote. Please contact by email: julianburgess@myway.com

MASSAGE THERAPY AT YOUR PLACE

Thai traditional massage: 500 baht per hour. Aromatherapy massage: 1,000 baht per hour. Open daily 9am-10pm. For more information please call 092-464 8471.

INSURANCE SERVICE

Car, Motorbike, Health, Travel, Property Service at home, call to make appointment. Please call 087-267 4342 (English). Email: agent.smithr@gmail.com

WORLDWIDE AIR TICKETS

Our service is for domestic and international flight tickets. Open daily from 8:30am to 9pm. Delivery service. Tel: 081-537 2655, 085-571 4489.

Personal Services

MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING

Licensed US Counselor. Individual, children, couples. Please call 086-271 8153 (English). Email: parwgk@aol.com

LEGAL SERVICES

Contract drafting, counseling, civil & criminal action, court interpreter. Tel: 089-873 6533. Email: info@suwatchana-law-office.com

INDIVIDUAL COUNSELING

US licensed counselor. Children-Adults-Families. Phuket mental health counseling. For more information, please call 086-271 8153 (English). Email: parwgk@aol.com

Golf Stuff

CALLAWAY GOLF CLUBS

Big Bertha, 3 woods, 9 irons, putter and bag, 5 years old. Please call 084-818 6045.

Club Memberships Available

PHUKET COUNTRY CLUB MEMBERSHIPS

Family life membership for sale 570,000 baht. Includes transfer fee and 2014 maintenance. Tel: 087-887 9506.

PHUKET COUNTRY CLUB MEMBERSHIP

For sale: 500,000 baht. Please call 098-039 9127 (English). Email: normanlynch@mac.com

Computers

IMAC

21.5" / 13,000 baht. 4GB RAM / 500GB HD. Wireless keyboard & mouse. For more information please call 076-510143.

SAMSUNG COMPUTER

2 years old, complete with printer. 18-inch screen. Price: 12,000 baht ONO. Tel: 084-818 6045.

Education



Oak Meadow International School

From 1 - 16 Years Old
Providing quality, affordable primary education

076 521 550

www.oakmeadowphuket.com



Miscellaneous For Sale

SOLD SECOND HAND



- Musical instrument. Jazz guitar. Price: 35,000 baht.
- Orange amplifier. Price: 40,000 baht.
- Vintage French-style bookcase. Price: 170,000 baht.
- Showcase. Price: 180,000 baht.

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

Personals

BACKGAMMON

Players wanted. Tel: 081-577 8443. Email: phuketconnection@yahoo.com

JOIN RAWAI BACKGAMMON CLUB

For free. Tel: 081-370 9661.



Phuket today
Phuket Gazette

Hot deal!
Classified Ads on TV

Your Classified Ad will appear on the Phuket Today show, broadcast on 3 cable networks and running 24 hours a day via in-house TV in over 4,000 hotel rooms around the island.

Cable TV coverage – broadcast 68 times a week throughout Phuket.

Catch the show at these times

Phuket Cable Co (PC) - Covers all Phuket Channel 1, with 19 shows a week

Mon to Fri: 10.30am, 6.00pm, 9.00pm
Sat & Sun: 10.30am, 9.00pm.

Rawai Cable - Rawai and Chalong, Kata, Karon.

Channel 1, with 28 shows a week

Mon to Sun: 10.00am, 1.00pm, 7.00pm, and 10.00pm

KDTV (Kamala Cable TV) - Covers Patong, Kamala, Surin, Bangtao.

Channel 4, with 21 shows a week

Mon to Sun: 7.00am, 11.30am, 11.00pm

Now available in 4,222 premium hotel rooms around the island, all day every day.

- Dusit Thani Laguna Phuket: 254 rooms
- Le Meridien Phuket Beach Resort: 470 rooms
- Kata Beach Resort & Spa: 275 rooms
- Outrigger Laguna Phuket Resort & Villas: 77 rooms
- Centara Grand Beach Resort Phuket: 262 rooms
- Millennium Resort: 418 rooms
- Holiday Inn Resort & Spa: 405 rooms
- Movenpick Resort & Spa Karon Beach: 364 rooms
- Karon Beach Resort & Spa: 80 rooms
- Andara Beach Resort & Spa: 62 rooms
- Amari Coral Beach: 197 rooms
- Hilton Phuket Arcadia Resort & Spa: 664 rooms
- Destination Patong: 390 rooms
- Serenity Terraces Resort: 68 rooms
- Dewa Naiyang Phuket: 96 rooms
- Regent Phuket Cape Panwa: 210 rooms

More Info? Please call 076-273555. Email: Kookai@phuketgazette.net or Gift@phuketgazette.net

On line: www.phuketgazette.net / tv | www.youtube.com / PGTVPhuket

Saloon Cars

NEW JAZZ FOR RENT

Full option, 1st class insured, special rate for long-term rental. Please call 080-521 9888 (English & Thai), 084-051 1955 (English & Thai). Email: sornin_s@yahoo.com

TOYOTA SOLUNA VIOS 1.5L

Silver, new clutch, aircon, 149,000 km, foreign owner. Price: 290,000 baht or best offer. Please call 089-970 5795 (English). Email: free mancapi@gmail.com

FORD RANGER, 4-DOOR, DIESEL

4 doors, diesel, with canopy. 135,000 km. Very good condition, year: 2005. 275,000 baht only. Please call 076-273555, 081-979 4547 (English). Email: jeanwa ss@yahoo.com.au

HONDA CITY FOR SALE



Automatic 2006. Aircon. CD player. Price: 255,000 baht. For more information please call 081-607 8567. Email: suksavat@hotmail.com

CHEVROLET AVEO 1.6 LSX

3.5 years old. One owner from new. Black leather seats. 12,600 km only. Price: 360,000 baht. Call Michael. Please call 081-272 2392 (English). Email: michael@phuket town.com

CAMRY 2.0G

82,000km. Black. New paint. First-class insurance. 675,000 baht. Tel: 081-895 4480.

2011 HONDA CIVIC

ABS and airbag, automatic, very good condition. 33,000 km. 528,000 baht. Tel: 087-284 9501 (English), 084-864 3303 (English&Thai). Email: soidog@live.com

2007 TOYOTA VIOS (E)



Lady owner. 136,000km. Price 260,000 baht. Automatic. First-class insurance. Car in Chalong. Tel: 081-998 5583 (OH).

Motorbikes

HONDA PCX

2010, gold / brown. Excellent condition, fully serviced, only 13,000 km. Price: 50,000 baht. Please call 082-412 1634, 089-908 7133. Email: alan.matt@hotmail.com

YAMAHA 400 XJ

Year 1981, needs refit, exhaust defect, rust. 40,000 baht o.b.o. Green book. For more information please call 086-281 1264. Email: wolfram phuket@gmail.com

2007 BMW F800S

798cc with Green book, tax and insurance paid until March 2015. 61,000 km. Price: 250,000 baht. For more information please call 081-187 1417 (English). Email: jasmedia@gmail.com

HONDA FORZA



As new, 11,000km. For sale: 125,000 baht. Personal use, never rented. Please call 084-054 81 22.

2011 CBR 250R FOR SALE

Green book and well maintained. 25,000 km. For sale price: 69,000 baht. For more information please call 081-978 1558 (English & Thai). Email: keng.na.ranong@hotmail.com

Pick-ups

ISUZU D-MAX CAB 4



4WD, 2008, automatic, 105,000km, 4 new tyres. Price: 460,000 baht. For more information, please call 081-894 6968.

CHEVROLET TRUCK

Black, diesel, vec. Price: 250,000 baht. Kamala. For more information please call 083-982 9105 (English&Thai).

FORD RANGER 2010



4 door, diesel, 3LT Turbo 5 speed automatic, excellent condition. Price: 440,000 baht. Tel: 086-691 8626.

ISUZU D-MAX PRESTIGE Z



Year 2012, 60,000km. Price: 850,000 baht. Tel: 088-753 7491 (English). Email: rus.zapestate@mail.ru

Rentals

A1 CAR RENT



Accommodation service included, fully insured. Tel: 089-831 4703. Email: a1carrent@gmail.com

15 MOTORBIKES FROM 11,000 BAHT

3-7 years old. Prices from 11,000 to 15,000 baht. Serviced and with Green books. Near Phuket FantaSea. Tel: 088-885 0525. Email: pierre@husiphuket.se

HONDA CLICK 2,000 BAHT PER MONTH

Honda Air Blade: 2,000 baht monthly. For more information please call 087-279 5110.

FORD SUV FOR RENT



SUV, cars, minivan for rent. Good price, delivery service. Tel: 081-607 8567 (English&Thai). Email: suksavat@hotmail.com, www.phuket-carrent.net

CAR RENTAL ALL MODELS

AUT or MT, first-class insurance, delivery service. Please call 087-281 1211. Email: ronny 2507@hotmail.com

LUXURY CAR
PORSCHE 911(996) Cabriolet

Year 2000 with hardtop, metallic silver, AAS serviced, 36,000km, very nice.
Price: 4.59 million baht.

Contact **Khun Lerd**
Tel: 087-263 6706
(Proton Showroom)

Wheels & Motors

Please use this form to write your classified advertisement.

_____ (heading)

Classified ads are charged per line. Each line is 140 baht, with a minimum of 4 lines (heading included) per ad.

All advertising must be paid for in advance.

Live in Karon?
Place your GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS at
Euro style tailors



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

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

The Gazette Online is always on top in Google!

THAILAND'S LEADING BROKERAGE & NEW YACHT DEALERSHIP

LEE MARINE
International Marine Brokerage
SINCE 1997

Please visit our website for more used power & sail listings:
www.leemarine.com

Feature Boat

► Pershing 92 4,500,000 Euro	► AIDhaen 360SF \$78,000 USD REDUCED AND MUST SELL
► Azimut 43S 349,000 Euro EXCELLENT CONDITION	► Sea Ray Sundancer 330 5,900,000 THB NEW LISTING
► Wally Power 47 650,000 Euro NEW LISTING	► Morgan 60 \$399,000 USD NEW LISTING
► Jeanneau 52.2 \$279,000 USD	► Fusion 40 340,000 Euro
► Island Packet 40 120,000 Euro RECOMMENDED	

Martin Holmes Mobile: 081 891 7057 Email: martin@leemarine.com
 Marcus Overman Mobile: 081 968 1437 Email: marcus@leemarine.com
 Jim Poulsen Mobile: 081 891 3237 Email: jim@leemarine.com
 Mark Heath Mobile: 081 787 9408 Email: mark@leemarine.com

leemarine.com

BRUCE ROBERTS 53 (1998)

Professionally built in steel, and fitted out to a very high standard. Beautifully presented and just reduced to 249,950 US\$. For details contact Alan Giles. Tel: 084-842 6146. Email: alangiles@boatshedphuket.com www.Boatshedphuket.com

GRAND BANKS 49 CLASSIC (1982)

2 x Diesel 300hp Caterpillar Diesels, Would make a great live aboard at a very reasonable 199,900 US\$. Tel: 084-842 6146. Email: alangiles@boatshedphuket.com www.Boatshedphuket.com

SEARAY 280 SUNDANCER

2 new engines 300hp fitted 2013, includes trailer and covers. Price: 4,250,000 baht. Tel: 081-968 3118. Email: info@procarpentering.com

HOBIE CAT 17

Catamaran for sale: Hobie 17 with wings, road trailer, beach trailer. Tel: 086-773 4538 (English). Email: skgf@skgf.asia

CAPELLI RIB FOR SALE

Capelli RIB, 8m. 250hp Yamaha 4-stroke outboard motor with 361 hours. Garmin GPS with Blue chart for Southeast Asia. 860,000 baht. Tel: 076-348134, 084-6264969 (English) Fax: 076-348134. Email: neef@wana.doo.fr

JEANNEAU SO 37 (2001)

Owners 2 cabin version, In Mast Furling. Yanmar 3 Cyl Diesel. Only 39,950 GBP Contact Alan Giles on 084-842 6146. Email: alangiles@boatshedphuket.com

NEW YACHTSMAN TENDERS

Aluminium hull RIB's and "Air Floor" inflatables, welded PVC and Hypalon options. Good quality at very competitive prices. Now in stock at our Boat Lagoon Showroom. For details contact Alan Giles. Andaman Boat Sales. Tel: 084-842 6146. Email: alangiles@boatshedphuket.com

BAYLINER 190

115hp Mercury 4-stroke. 15hp auxiliary 4-stroke, new 300W stereo, GPS, trailer, Thai registered, 2009, price: 590,000 baht. Tel: 084-584 6795 (English). Email: hanspaessler@me.com

HOBIE CAT 16'

New main, beach wheels, mast float, cover, life jackets. 155,000 baht. Chalong. Tel: 087-976 0066(English). Email: peterfb999@yahoo.co.uk

DECK HAND

For 31m motor yacht. Yacht Haven Marina. To handle lines and anchor, clean inside and out. Live aboard. Thai National. 30,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-417 8715 (English).

42FT BERTRAM SPORT FISHER

Strong seaworthy boat, priced to sell, thai registered, needs little work to the perfect fishing/ cruising boat. 3 million baht. Contact Andy Tel: +014 471 539 4550. Email: as.ac@hotmail.co.uk

FAST FOLDING TRIMARAN

American designed 29ft fast, folding Trimaran for sale with trailer. Suitable for racing or cruising. Thai registered, ex-pat owned. Tel: 085-781 9756 (English). Email: awildgoose@awildgoose.co.uk For full details and price, please go to www.awildgoose.co.uk

13-METER CRUISER

Wooden hull cruiser registered for 17 people. Cost 1.6 million baht, but will sell for 700,000 baht. Just refurbished. Tel: 082-414 6931 (English). Email: phil@krabikonnnect.com For further details, please see our website at www.krabikonnnect.com/#!boat-for-sale/c10mg

FOR SALE: HOBIE BRAVO 12'

Fantastic little Hobie Catamaran. Great for kids and adults wanting a fun dinghy boat responsive in light wind. Length 12'. Sail area: 86sqf/8sqm. Email: jezntat@gmail.com or call our Thai mobile: 086-685 9359, or to Singapore: 65-977 38457.

BOAT INSURANCE LBI

Lambert Brothers Insurance Brokers

- Boat insurance quotations from different insurers
- Competitive rates
- Comprehensive coverage
- All other types of insurance provided

Contact Khun Paew, Ton, Tux or Jane at our office
Phuket Boat Lagoon
paew@lambertbrothers.co.th
Tel: + 66 76 273 385

www.lambertbrothers.co.th

SEARAY - URGENT SALE

Searay 280 Sundancer for sale! Two new engines 300 hp fitted 2013. Comes with trailer and covers. Will sell to the best acceptable offer. Tel: 081-968 3118, 081-271 3228. Email: info@procarpentering.com

HARD TO FIND TEAK BOAT



This 80-year-old solid teak boat is ideal for a Phang Nga Bay live aboard, or a land-based guest house. 1.5 million baht. Call John on 090-798 5605. Email: johne.mango@yahoo.com For current pictures and finish out options, www.facebook.com/TeakBoat

SUZUKI MARINE

SHOWROOM IS NOW OPEN!

Suzuki authorized dealer

- New Suzuki Outboard Engines from 2.5 to 300 hp
- Suzuki spare parts
- Hypalon built Forward Inflatable boats
- Trailers
- Yacht and Boat Equipment
- Accessories and wide range of other goods

We provide warranty service, maintenance and diagnostics in our specialized Service Department for every Suzuki engine bought in our shop.

In our shop we also sell comfortable cruising boats from Japan, 24-28ft in length, ideally suitable for family recreation or fishing.

5/44-45 Moo 5, Wiset Rd., Rawai, Phuket.
(Fisherman Way Business Center, 1 km from Chalong roundabout on the way to Rawai beach)

SUZUKI MARINE TEL. 092-265 7221. 076-390585.

SELLING YOUR BOAT?

Just around the corner, now is the right time to get her listed, Boatshedphuket.com are always looking for new listings, big or small, power or sail, to meet the demand for quality boats. Contact Alan Giles. Tel: 084-842 6146. Email: alangiles@boatshedphuket.com

SALE NEW 2013 KAW ULTRA300X

Only 519,000 baht (from 580,000 baht). Last unit! Better hurry! Tel: 081-754 7599 (English & Thai), 081-110 9223 (English & Thai) Fax: 034-426403. Email: csutivas@gmail.com

SOLUTION TO THIS WEEK'S

Cryptic crossword

COFFEE break

Abbreviations: UPPER CASE (if used as part of anagram, in brackets).
 Normal spelling: lower case.
 Anagrams: *italic* (indicated in clue by words 'out', 'possibly', 'strangely', 'wild', or similar).
 Letters left out: underlined.
 Across: 9. AMICABLE: ami-C-able 10. AGO: a-go 11. ISLAND: is-L-and 12. DOKMAI: D-OK-ma-I 13. FATTEST: fat-test 14. ALUM: *maul* 15. FIRSTTIMER: first-remit[rev]
 17. TRICYCLE: T-*cleric*(Y) 18. PILOTEd: pil-O-T-ed 19. CALL: C-all 21. ELANDS: E-lands 24. NOTIFIABLEDISEASE: notifi-*bale*-iseads 27. DINNER: (N)*diner* 29. TOWN: to-W-N 30. INGRATE: *tearing* 33. SPLITOFF: *offlips* 35. INTERNMENT: *innmetrent* 36. BLOC: B-L-O-C 37. DARLING: (LI)*grand* 38. ANDEAN: and-E-a-N 40. BONSAI: *soiban* 41. AID: a-I'd 42. ENLARGED: E-N-*glared*
 Down: 1. IMPOSITION: I'm-position 2. SCAM: *macs* 3. ABSINTHE: A.B.'s-inthe 4. PERFUME: for each-smoke 5. FORESTGLADE: for-*stageled* 6. FILTHINESS: *hisfinest*(L) 7. BLEARY: *barely* 8. ANNULLED: *dullanne* 10. ASTER: *stare* 16. SHORTEN: *nothers* 20. ALLOW: allocate 22. ANAGRAM: transposition 23. RASTAFARIAN: *starafarina* 25. FOREORDAIN: *forireadno* 26. EXTENUATED: E-*dueatnext* 28. IMPELLOR: *millrope* 31. NORMALLY: no-R.M.-ally 32. STAGGER: *getsrag* 34. INCASE: *sincea* 35. ILIAD: *ilaid* 39. DARE: *read*

Looking for a boat?

See more classified ads at www.phuketgazette.net

A member of Phuket Deluxe Group

HeadStart School

HeadStart proudly hosted its Year 11 graduation party attended by Year 10 and Year 11 students and parents at the spectacular Blue Elephant restaurant. Graduating students received special HeadStart Year 11 certificates of completion. All teachers, staff and students wish the graduating Year 11 class of 2014 the best of luck for their futures.



Some dapper young graduates pose for a group shot on the night.



Students enjoyed a night of fun, food and hijinks at The Blue Elephant Restaurant.

4th of July at Two Chefs

Americans and Americans at heart celebrated their nation's birthday at Two Chefs Karon. Guests enjoyed a luxurious buffet of classic American comfort foods as well as music and entertainment.



Guests partied into the night to celebrate America's Independence Day.



Families with kids of all ages joined in the 4th of July fun.

Dusit Thani Ruffino wine dinner

Dusit Thani Laguna Phuket recently hosted an extraordinary Ruffino wine dinner at its award-winning Italian restaurant, La Trattoria. The five-course menu created by Executive Chef Silvano Amolini, alongside his Chef de Cuisine Lorenzo Stelzer, featured food paired with impeccable Ruffino wines from Italy. Guest speaker Mr Gabriele Tacconi, Ruffino's winemaker, shared the vineyard's history and other fascinating facts during the night.



Dusit Thani Laguna Phuket Executive Chef Silvano Amolini (left) alongside Benjamin Perera, executive assistant manager of food and beverage.

11th 2014

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Words from the wise

"The longer I live, the more beautiful life becomes."
— Frank Lloyd Wright

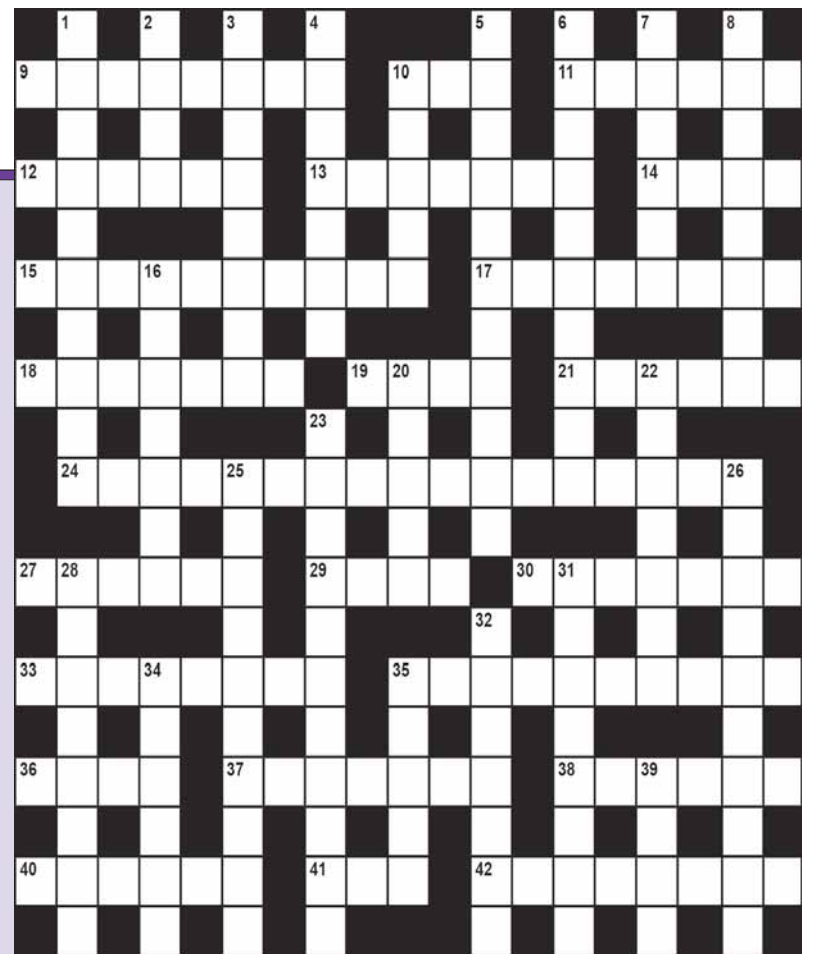
"Advice most needed is least heeded."
— Ryooyaku Kuchi ni Nigashi

COFFEE
break

Cryptic Crossword

Across

9. Friend in France almost up to being cordial! (8)
10. A turn to the past (3)
11. Is large and what Phuket is (6)
12. Daughter all right, Mum, I produced flowers in Thailand (6)
13. Stout trial for the most obese (7)
14. Maul around styptic compound (4)
15. To begin with, remit back to novice (5,5)
17. Time cleric moved around unknown on a three-wheeler (8)
18. Piled out round time, navigated (7)
19. Telephone almost everyone (4)
21. Antelopes from Eastern countries (6)
24. Ailment a Doctor must report. Not if I bale out! Possibly I see ads. (17)
27. New diner out for a meal (6)
29. Conurbation to West new (4)
30. Tearing about for unappreciative person (7)
33. Oft flips around to separate (5,3)
35. Confinement in a country inn, met rent as arranged (10)
36. Bravo! Left Officer Commanding a group of countries (4)
37. Fifty one grand maybe around for love (7)
38. And note a new denizen of South American range (6)
40. So I ban twisted little trees (6)
41. Help article I had shortened (3)
42. Expanded Euro, Nationalist glared perhaps (8)



Down

1. Unfair burden I'm setting (10)
2. Mac's complex dishonest plan (4)
3. Sailor's in the drink! (8)
4. Fragrance for each smoke (7)
5. For stage led out into woodland clearing (6,5)
6. Maybe his finest move around left a disgusting state (10)
7. Barely confused, blurred (6)
8. Dull Anne may be declared invalid (8)
10. Stare around a flower (5)
16. Abbreviate – not her's maybe (7)
20. Allocate permit (5)
22. Transposition of letters in a crossword (7)
23. Star afar, in a new West Indian cult (11)
25. Determine beforehand for I read no change (10)
26. Judged less seriously as note due at next assembly (10)
28. Mill rope mixed up in pump rotor (8)
31. Usually no Royal Marines, friend (8)
32. Take aback, gets rag out (7)
34. Since a change, if it happens (2,4)
35. I laid out an epic poem (5)
39. Read out a challenge (4)

Hard

9			8		3			5
	3		6		1		4	
		1				6		
5	1						2	6
6	8						5	9
		9				3		
	2		9		4		6	
3			7		6			4

Medium

	5		9		3		7	
2				1				6
		7				9		
8			2	3	6			1
	4		5		9		3	
7			1	4	8			5
		4				2		
9				5				7
	7		4		2		1	

SUDOKU: Each row, column and 3x3 sub-grid must contain the number 1-9 once only. ©Kevin Stone (brainbashers.com)

CANCER (June 22-July 23):

Are you motivated to get your house in order? This week's planetary influences encourage de-cluttering, catching up on DIY, or perhaps starting a project you've been mulling over. However, there's a lot going on socially which might entice you to move in more formal circles. In this regard, a new connection could prove positively inspiring.

LEO (July 24-Aug 23):

Going out on a limb may be the way to get someone's attention, especially if you want to make a good impression. With a Mars Neptune link, this suggests you might not have the effect you hope for and could even create the opposite. However, try not to worry, as you should have more success in a day or so as confusion gives way to understanding.

VIRGO (Aug 24-Sept 23):

The ability to sum up a situation quickly may speed the pace of progress. Also, an unexpected offer or a chance to pool your resources could give

you additional reassurance. Later in the week, the Full Moon in Capricorn can enhance romantic options, but the weekend brings a chance to share feelings and perhaps enjoy a wickedly passionate night out.

LIBRA (Sept 24-Oct 23):

Keen mental abilities are yours to tap into, so apply them to your plans and affairs for the best outcome. However, feelings may figure strongly in key decisions, should you need to make a choice that is less about facts and more about your values. Be prepared for some drama on the home front, though this may also bring a chance to clear the air.

SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22):

Someone may be short on patience, with a likelihood of making a rash judgment or acting against their own best interests. Will this be you? However, as the Sun links with Saturn you might have to be the voice of reason that soothes troubled waters. Later, the Full Moon's dizzying magic suggests it can be best not to overreact to someone's sensational news.

YOUR
horoscope
By Patrick Arundell**SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21):**

Doing something different can pay off as Venus and Uranus connect, which may result in an unexpected attraction. However, financial matters could distract attention should an issue come to a head. A calm approach can help, along with resisting the urge to splurge. Concerning a developing relationship, a social event could spark a greater connection.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20):

Hoping to fulfill a goal or dream? You may be motivated to take that first step. Try not to be discouraged if you don't see immediate developments, as the following week to this one can reveal signs of progress. However, be careful about committing to a relationship or major project. For now, be open to information that could impact your choices.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19):

Your inventiveness and originality are qualities to exploit to the full, so be mindful of bright ideas that might help solve a current dilemma or take you in a new and exciting direction. Plus, a practical influence encourages exploration of ideas that could boost your success rate. The weekend brings a welcome chance to kick back and relax.

PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20):

Creative and romantic options look promising, especially as Mercury returns to Cancer. A special focus spotlights the chance for happy times with your friends or sweetheart. However, if you're looking for something more, joining a book club, movie society or other social network, could introduce you to people with both depth and greater insight.

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20):

Perhaps you and someone are on a collision course, in which case it will help to be mindful of their right to have a different viewpoint, if you want to negotiate

a compromise. Later, the Capricorn Full Moon could stir up issues regarding an ambitious plan. Keep your wits about you and avoid impulsive moves, should a desire for a change spur you to action, Aries.

TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21):

Good communication may be necessary to smooth away any wrinkles in a relationship, particularly if a revelation emerges. Yet a Sun Saturn Trine, can offer a constructive solution to any important issues. Later in the week, a desire to explore faraway places and horizons can be motivated by practical concerns and a hankering for innovative solutions.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21):

A taste for anything fresh and sparkling may fuel a tinge of rebellion. However, when it comes to money matters, sticking with what works, no matter how mundane, can be best for financial security. Later, Mercury's hike into Cancer encourages careful accounting and planning, along with a sound budget, as an antidote to any concerns.

WHAT'S ON in Phuket

July 12. Buddhist Lent

This day of a full moon marks the start of the Buddhist Lent, or rains retreat – the three-month annual retreat observed by Theravada practitioners. It is the traditional time for Thai males to ordain as monks, informally observed as the start of the rainy season, when the southwesterly monsoon is in full force.

July 16-20, 10am-11:30pm, Cape Panwa Hotel Phuket Raceweek

Four days of world-class yacht racing in Phuket, combined with four nights of beachside parties at the five-star Cape Panwa Hotel. If it's time you got out on the water, then come sailing and join one of the crews, or sign up as crew on one of the classics. Experience sailing on the east coast of Phuket.

The Phuket Gazette and PGTV's 'Phuket Today' show, the island's only nationally broadcast television program (aired daily on True Visions channels 79 [HD] and 107 [SD]), are proud to sponsor this event.

July 17, 11:30am-2pm. Phuket International Women's Club July Lunch

The July lunch will be at Mezzo Bistro Cherng Talay. Early booking is recommended as seats are limited. All are welcome. Members 600 baht, guests 750 baht. Contact Carole at: mummydux@gmail.com

August 12. Her Majesty The Queen's Birthday

HM Queen Sirikit Kitiyakara's Birthday. The Queen's birthday is also celebrated as Mother's Day in the Kingdom.



August 21, 11:30am-2pm. Phuket International Women's Club August Lunch

The August lunch will be at the Hyatt Regency Kamala. Early booking is recommended as seats are limited. All are welcome. Members 600 baht, guests 750 baht. Contact Carole at: info@piwc-phuket.com

October 23. Chulalongkorn Memorial Day

Chulalongkorn Day commemorates the reign of Rama V, who is best remembered for abolishing slavery in Thailand.

November 4, 9am-4pm. PIWC presents The Melbourne Cup

The PIWC presents The Melbourne Cup, "The Race That Stops a

Nation". For more information contact Carole Dux on 066-763 1671, email info@piwc-phuket.com or visit piwc-phuket.com

The Phuket Gazette and PGTV's 'Phuket Today' show, the island's only nationally broadcast television program (aired daily on True Visions channels 79 and 107), are proud to sponsor this annual charity event.

November 6. Loy Krathong Festival

One of the most beautiful festivals in Thailand. It is traditionally performed on the full moon night of the 12th lunar month, which usually falls in November. A *krathong* is a banana-leaf cup containing flowers, a candle and incense sticks which

will be floated away in a canal or river. The idea is to worship the River Goddess and at the same time to float away any bad luck. Loy Krathong is not a public holiday

November 7-8. 2014 BISP International Football Tournament

British International School Phuket (BISP) in Thailand is proud to host for the 13th consecutive year, the seven-a-side Football Tournament. Well over 1,000 young players from all over Asia are expected at this exciting competition.

For more information email BISP Athletics Director Jeff LaMantia at jlamantia@bisphuket.ac.th

The Phuket Gazette and PGTV's 'Phuket Today' show, the island's only nationally broadcast television program (aired daily on True Visions

channels 79 [HD] and 107 [SD]), are proud to sponsor this event.

December 5. HM The King's Birthday.

His Majesty the King's birthday is also marked as Father's Day in Thailand.

Dec 10. Constitution Day

This day commemorates the signing of Thailand's permanent constitution by King Prajadhibok (Rama VII) in 1932, which marked the beginning of Thailand's transition from an absolute monarchy into a constitutional democracy.

Dec 25. Christmas Day

This is not a public holiday in Thailand.

Produced by PGTV, the show is designed to promote Phuket to tourists and the international community in Thailand.

LOCAL COVERAGE	NATIONAL COVERAGE	INTERNATIONAL COVERAGE																								
<p>Phuket Cable Coverage: All of Phuket Channel: 1 Monday-Friday: 10.30am, 6pm, 9pm Saturday-Sunday: 10.30am, 9pm</p> <p>Rawai Cable Coverage: Rawai, Kata, Karon Channel: 1 Monday-Friday: 10am, 1pm, 7pm, 10pm</p> <p>KDTV Coverage: Phuket's West Coast from Patong to Cherng Talay Channel: 10 Daily: 8.30am, 2.30pm</p>	<p>MCOT World</p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr><td>Tuesday:</td><td>12.05pm & 7pm</td></tr> <tr><td>Wednesday:</td><td>6pm</td></tr> <tr><td>Thursday:</td><td>1pm & 8pm</td></tr> <tr><td>Friday:</td><td>9am</td></tr> <tr><td>Saturday:</td><td>1pm</td></tr> <tr><td>Sunday:</td><td>6am</td></tr> </table> <p>Truevisions HD Channel: 79 Truevisions SD Channel: 107 PSI TRUE TV Channel: 37 GMMZ Channel: 103</p>	Tuesday:	12.05pm & 7pm	Wednesday:	6pm	Thursday:	1pm & 8pm	Friday:	9am	Saturday:	1pm	Sunday:	6am	<p>Broadcast to China, the Philippines, Southeast Asia, India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Turkey, UAE, and many other countries around Asia and beyond.</p> <p>Thaicom 5 Sat 3520H</p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr><td>Tuesday:</td><td>12.05pm & 7pm</td></tr> <tr><td>Wednesday:</td><td>6pm</td></tr> <tr><td>Thursday:</td><td>1pm & 8pm</td></tr> <tr><td>Friday:</td><td>9am</td></tr> <tr><td>Saturday:</td><td>1pm</td></tr> <tr><td>Sunday:</td><td>6am</td></tr> </table>	Tuesday:	12.05pm & 7pm	Wednesday:	6pm	Thursday:	1pm & 8pm	Friday:	9am	Saturday:	1pm	Sunday:	6am
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Life in the days of future past



Property Watch

By Bill Barnett

IN MY lifetime, small men in white suits have walked on the moon. Well, at least they seemed tiny on the television screen. Now, strangers' voices come out of an iPhone acting as a personal concierge. I still can't figure out how they fit a tiny person into the iconic Apple device.

Yes, technology is a fast moving landscape that has all of humankind just trying to catch up. We scramble to record our lives in social media, while at the same time, forget to live the moment. Regret is a missed selfie or a blurred image of that awesome *Kung Pao* chicken at dinner last night, despite the fact that as soon as the button is pushed, it's already been delegated to the past.

How we travel and live has certainly changed. One vast improvement that must be mentioned is giant televisions. "How big is yours," has taken on an entirely new meaning as the mantra is, "size does matter." Again, for readers I make no apologies about loving TV, the bigger the better. Link this with a trip to the mall or a latte at Starbucks and nirvana is close at hand.

Despite all of these great leads of mankind, the dull repetitious knock-on effect of tech has its downsides. How many plugs do you need in that brand new condo or villa? It's an easy answer – one

more. As I work on new hotel projects, the amazing concept never seems to sink deep into the minds of designers that if you have two people in a hotel room, perhaps five or six sockets might be necessary. Two phones, an iPad, computer and whatever else lurks deep in the bag.

Travel in the modern world is an absolute nightmare. Forget those annoying airport security checks or delayed flights, the real challenge when you finally manage to figure out which way to fit the key card in the door lock of your hotel room is the prelude to the plug game.

I can't count the number of times I've created sparks in the bathroom shaver socket or found a used sock when I moved the nightstand from the wall just so I could get some juice. There are memories of tormented sleep, as I have to keep waking up to recharge my entire portfolio of electronic devices through the magic portal of a single plug. Rest is impossible as I curse the hotel owner, operator, designer or any available member of staff in my head.

The absolute worst case is having an early morning flight and a zapped dead computer battery. Deciding to hit the hotel bar for a nightcap and plugging in the laptop, only to forget the concept that the energy saving key card device actually deactivates all the in room plugs. I recently spent a five-hour trip to Korea with no in-flight entertainment, a dead computer and only the



The computers used to land man on the moon had less power than the average modern smartphone. Photo: NASA

duty free magazine to keep me busy during the flight. Sleep was impossible as I seethed with hatred for the hotel chain from the night before.

There is no need for religion in my life, as my spiritual daily routine is the higher calling of plugging in and out all of these bloody tech devices which are

meant to make my life easier. Have you ever read that self-help book about the guy who worked two hours a week. Rubbish, it's a lie, as clearly the person has never heard of a man named Jobs.

My only hope for my children is not one of world peace but more so the peace of mind that one single object will not domi-

nate their lives, loves, disasters and ambition, this is, of course, the battery. Will we still have batteries in the distant future, let me go ask one of those tiny moon-walking guys?

Bill Barnett is Managing Director of C9Hotelworks. He can be contacted through: c9hotelworks.com

Sansiri plays catch-up

SANSIRI plans to launch 13 projects worth 23.6 billion baht in the second half of the year, saying they hope to boost presales to 30 billion baht for the whole year, after logging only 4 billion baht in the first half.

"We delayed three projects in the first half of this year out of the planned nine projects worth 11 billion baht. Only six projects worth 9.8 billion baht went ahead because we were waiting to see if the market would recover after facing the long political turmoil from the last quarter of last year up to the first five months of this year," Chief Executive Officer Apichart Chutrakul said last week.

The company has also set aside 4 billion baht to buy land for developing residences next year, of which 1 billion baht has already been used up in the first half of 2014.

More than half of its capital needs this year will come from its internal cash flow and the rest from commercial-bank loans.

"Although our shareholders approved debentures worth 5 billion baht, we may not need to issue them this year," he said.

The company will manage its debt-to-equity ratio at below two-times by year-end.



Apichart Chutrakul. The Nation

The delay in the first half directly caused its presales to fall short of target, so the company has to speed up the commencement of residential projects in the second half.

Eight of the 13 new projects will be condominiums and the other five will be low-rises, detached homes and townhouses. One condo project will be in Chon Buri's Sri Racha district and one townhouse project in Phitsanulok.

"We might consider revising our presales target up or down depending whether the third quarter reaches our estimate," he said.

Although the company might revise its presales target in the last quarter of this year, Apichart is confident that its revenue will achieve the 2014 target of 34 bil-

lion baht, thanks to its 53.9-billion baht backlog of units awaiting transfer to customers.

"Units worth 19 billion baht of the total 53.9 billion baht will be transferred to customers and booked as revenue this year, followed by 23 billion baht next year, 10 billion baht in 2016 and the remaining 1.9 billion baht in 2017," he said.

Sansiri earned 829.98 million baht on revenue of 5.15 billion baht in the first quarter.

The company also succeeded in transferring residential units worth more than 5.15 billion baht to its customers last quarter.

Sansiri is now assisting its customers to get mortgages, with the aim of boosting sales of its existing and under construction properties.

The mortgage rejection rate of the company's potential customers has soared to 10 per cent, a rise from 7 per cent last year.

"We also raised down payments for condominiums from 10 per cent to 12 per cent this year.

"This will keep speculators at bay and also help us reduce the mortgage rejection rate, which is one of the business risks that affects our revenue and makes us miss sales targets," he said. – *The Nation*

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A symbol of prosperity

PROPERTY Gazette

By Mark Knowles

THE number 88 has long been symbolic of good fortune, joy and prosperity in Asian cultures and the premium housing development “88 Land & Houses Koh Kaew Phuket” by Land & Houses, one of the country's leading development groups, is seeking to provide just that for its customers.

The 52 rai development is located near the geographical center of Phuket, providing easy access to everything the island has to offer and just 15 minutes from Phuket Town and Central Festival, Tesco Lotus, Big C and Index Living Mall, as well as several universities and hospitals. It is also within 30 minutes of, and on a direct route to, Phuket International Airport – which makes for easy international commuting.

The first of the 140 detached houses of the project was completed this month and the entire project is scheduled to be ready within three and a half years from its commencement date. Houses within the project come in five distinct styles – Grandeo, Amplio, Acacia, Idealist and Iconic.

The entry level Iconic design, beginning at 6.3 million baht, offers three bedrooms, three bathrooms and spacious living areas across its 136 square meter floor plan. The master and second bedrooms each have en suite bathrooms with separate wet and dry areas.

The top of the range Grandeo, at about 15 million baht depend-

ing on plot-size, has a spacious 239sqm of living space across its four bedrooms and living, dining, kitchen and multipurpose areas. The dining area also features a large terrace for outdoor entertainment and the large multipurpose room has an en suite bathroom.

All houses in the project come with two private parking spaces and beautifully landscaped gardens, providing green views from all aspects. Every house is constructed, with the theme of *Baan Sabai* (comfy house), using Q-con light-weight concrete panels and solar reflective tinted glass windows to lower the house temperature and decrease energy use. The bathrooms have wet and dry areas which are clearly separated and feature a remote control integrated shower toilet. There are separate cold and room temperature pantry rooms in the kitchen, air-con in every bedroom, and to top it off, on-site water treatment, including water pump and underground tank and a finished garden.

The development also provides various facilities for use by all residents, namely a park, featuring a children's playground, an exclusive two-storey clubhouse with a swimming pool and fitness center. Privacy and security is ensured by 24 hour CCTV coverage and key card access.

The guiding design theme of 88 Land and Houses Koh Kaew Phuket is “tropical serenity” which seeks to provide residents with a sense of relaxation as if they were staying in a resort every day. The relaxing resort-type feel is created by extensive landscaping throughout the whole development, and extends to each house where lush green gardens provide the ambience of a tropical forest. This whole design philosophy is aimed



The Amplio is just one of five distinct house designs available at 88 Land & Houses Koh Kaew. Photos: Supplied

at making the development feel like a much needed escape from the pressures and hustle and bustle of the outside world and a welcome respite from the workplace.

With its long-standing reputation

for providing high quality homes in beautifully maintained surroundings which are ideal for families and couples, Land & Houses is able to provide peace of mind and strong customer service for all those in-

vesting in its developments.

For more information, visit the sales office at 88/11 Thepkasattri Road, Koh Kaew, Muang, Phuket 83000, phone: 076-615188 or visit lhphuket.com



The entrance way to 88 Koh Kaew hints at the relaxing feel of the development.



The clubhouse pool and fitness center are available for residents' use.



ROYAL PHUKET MARINA

PROPERTY RESALES

THIS WEEKS FEATURED PROPERTIES

UNIT 1 2 BEDROOM	UNIT 2 2 BEDROOM
14.20MB	18MB
 <div style="position: absolute; bottom: 5px; left: 5px; background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">HOT DEAL</div> <p style="font-size: small; color: white;">FREEHOLD AND FULLY FURNISHED</p>	 <p style="font-size: small; color: white;">FREEHOLD AND FULLY FURNISHED</p>
UNIT 3 3 BEDROOM	UNIT 4 3 BEDROOM
25MB	22.5MB
 <p style="font-size: small; color: white;">FREEHOLD AND FULLY FURNISHED</p>	 <p style="font-size: small; color: white;">FREEHOLD AND FULLY FURNISHED</p>
UNIT 5 2 BEDROOM	UNIT 6 2 BEDROOM
19.9MB	22MB
 <p style="font-size: small; color: white;">FREEHOLD AND FULLY FURNISHED</p>	 <p style="font-size: small; color: white;">FREEHOLD AND FULLY FURNISHED</p>

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Green building boom looms

By Mark Knowles

URBANIZATION, market convergence with information and communications technology, as well as the need for sustainable buildings will drive growth in the Asia-Pacific building construction market, despite soaring property prices, according to a report by Frost & Sullivan research.

Green buildings that include smart features to ensure energy-efficiency are likely to attract the highest interest. Market participants, however, must find ways to capitalize on this potential in an extremely competitive market, where buyers are more inclined to purchase buildings that are constructed by established property developers.

A new analysis document from Frost & Sullivan, *Building Construction Market in Asia-Pacific*, finds that the market earned revenues of US\$494.49 billion in 2013 and estimates this will reach \$750 billion in 2018.

The Southeast Asia region will offer the highest scope for market expansion due to its burgeoning population, increasing urbanization, and economic growth in countries such as Thailand, Indonesia, Vietnam, the Philippines and Malaysia.

The report said that development of sustainable building methods is gaining

momentum with support from governments across Asia-Pacific.

"The market is fragmented and major market participants strive to offer green propositions as their competitive edge," states the report.

"The building construction market in the Asia-Pacific region will continue to evolve as governments underline the importance of energy efficiency through policies and regulations that encourage the construction of green and smart buildings," said Frost & Sullivan Energy and Environmental Research Analyst Harpreet Kaur.

"The market will also be better organized with the implementation of suitable guidelines for sustainable building construction across the region."

However, property developers are expected to delay project launches as they evaluate the impact of these government measures. The increase in property prices and intense competition in the market will hold back construction to an extent.

To ensure the construction of cost and energy-efficient buildings, the creation of a safe environment, and to differentiate themselves from their competitors, major market participants are looking to offer smart propositions. For instance, as tourism will remain an important economic driver in the



Photo: EG Focus

Green building projects are expected to boom in the Asia-Pacific region in the coming years.

Asia-Pacific region, hoteliers and resort owners are increasingly implementing smart initiatives to stand out.

"While existing cities will continue to strive for environmental sustainability, emerging and new cities will incorporate actionable themes that promote energy efficiency and integration with other markets such as ICT," observed Kaur.

"Hence, market participants that provide both green and smart building solutions will have better chances at acquiring business

opportunities in Asia-Pacific."

Another indication of this growing green trend in the Thailand property market is the 4th annual Green Building & Retrofits Expo Asia 2014 to be held in Bangkok in September. The expo is the leading platform for the green building and retrofits industry to showcase leading quality new products, services and solutions to an expected presence of 10,000 local and international professionals from the building, construction and facilities industry.

Developers plan more launches as demand rises

RESIDENTIAL developers have revised their business plans and will launch additional projects over the remainder of the year after witnessing a recovery in demand last month. They are now targeting second-half growth of between 10 and 15 per cent compared with the same period last year.

Such a boost over the remainder of the year means that the property market for the full year is now likely to decline by 10-15 per cent from the 2013 level, which would be a marked improvement on earlier estimates

of a drop of between 25 and 30 per cent, according to leading developers.

"We have revised up our revenue target from 41 billion baht this year to 45 billion baht, thanks to the return of consumer confidence to the market after the coup on May 22," said Pruksa Real Estate president and CEO Thongma Vijitpongpan.

Up to 70 per cent of potential home-buyers visiting the developer's residential projects last month decided to purchase a home, a huge improvement on the

situation earlier in the year, when just 30 per cent of visitors were prepared to commit, he said.

Following the return of demand to the market, the company has revised its business plan from launching 50 residential projects worth 50 billion baht this year to 60 projects worth up to 60 billion baht, he added.

Golden Land Residence, a subsidiary of Golden Land Property Development, has upped its presales and revenue targets from 2.19 billion baht and 1.9 billion baht, respectively, to 3 billion baht and 2.2 billion baht for the full year.

This is thanks to a return of confidence among home-buyers, said managing director Sanpin Suki.

To achieve the new targets, the company plans to launch

eight residential projects worth 4.3 billion baht in the second half of the year, with four of them worth 2.3 billion baht coming in the current quarter.

LPN Development, meanwhile, plans to launch three condominium projects worth 7.4 billion baht after witnessing a recovery in demand during June, said managing director Opas Sripayak.

"We believe the property market will recover in the second half of the year. However, the overall market for the whole year will still drop by between 10 per cent and 15 per cent because it fell more than 30 per cent in the first five months of the year," he said.

AP (Thailand) chief marketing officer Vittakarn Chantavimol said that due to the property market hav-



Thongma Vijitpongpan. By: The Nation

ing started to recover last month, the overall number of residential project launches in the second quarter had dropped by only 17 per cent, year on year. - *The Nation*

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Putting the sun in Sunday

By Maciek Klimowicz

I'M writing this on Monday morning, the universally detested time of the week. But the memory of Sunday evening, the whole of Sunday in fact, allows me to keep my head up and face the challenges of the upcoming days. This is what Sundays are all about – recharging your batteries ahead of a new work week – and what better way to do it than with a day of pure bliss at one of Phuket's most stylish resorts, rounded off with a BBQ feast on the beach. Opt for Outrigger Laguna Phuket Beach Resort and the morning after will be much better than bearable.

However, it's not just the where, but also the when that counts. They call it low, or rainy, but it's hard not to love the current season on the island. Not only for the cooler temperatures, cleaner air and empty beaches, but also for the way Phuket's holiday resorts go out of their way to lure us to their pre-

misers. Outrigger is yet another luxurious hotel which offers special low season discounts. Their "Pool Day Pass", priced at 650 baht net per person and 350 baht net per child aged 4 to 12, almost half of the regular price, is truly a bargain. The pass gives you an entire day at the resort – which is blessed with a view of one of Phuket's most beautiful stretches of sand – and full access to its swimming pools, water slide, fitness center, kids club and more. Add inclusive rentals of canoes, windsurfing sets and paddle boards, free WiFi and comfy lounge chairs, and have a day which will be the highlight of your week.

A day of the chilling in the sun and water sports is bound to get you hungry. But if it's Sunday, don't leave the beach just yet, because thanks to Outrigger's Beach BBQ you don't have to. Enjoying the succulent meats, seafood and sides with the scenery of one of Phuket's most

stunning sunset spots is an experience in itself. At least, I suppose it is. Sadly, I didn't have a chance enjoy it myself in the beach scenery – the sudden arrival of a monsoon evening shower forced Outrigger's staff to move the BBQ event indoors. However, even despite the lack of seaside vistas and soft sand under my feet, I keep recalling

/ Outrigger's Beach BBQ offers much more than just the amazing settings of the Edgewater restaurant. /

the flavors and pleasantly warm atmosphere of my dining experience. This proves that Outrigger's Beach BBQ offers much more than just the amazing settings of the Edgewater restaurant, where it takes place every Sunday from 6:30 to 9:30 pm.

Firstly, there is the food – an array of meats, prepared on-site and then thrown on a charcoal grill that go down smoothly with a vast

choice of sauces and dips (make sure to try the mint jelly with your lamb!). You can pair your meats with steaming hot sides served buffet-style that will leave even the hungriest in the crowd feeling full. And if you manage to save some space, there is a whole table of desserts to choose from. Then there is wine – a conveniently short, well-thought-out wine list, with a number of them served by the glass. All of the wines perfectly match the menu, like the Italian Pinot Grigio for your grilled snapper, classic Rioja to wash

down the savory meats or a glass of dry prosecco ideal for dessert or as an aperitif. Last but not least, there is the ambiance created by the very attentive and friendly staff. Even after having to move the event indoors and away from the beach, they managed to keep the atmosphere casual and family friendly. And it was mostly families with young children that I saw at the tables that evening, in a room filled

with mouthwatering aromas, conversation and smiles.

It might be Monday morning, but my mind is lost somewhere between the memories of last Sunday and plans for the next one. I hope they aren't much different, except with maybe just a tiny bit more sun.




Outrigger Laguna Phuket Beach Resort is located in 323 Moo 2, Srisoonthorn Road, Cherngtalay, Thalung, Bangtao Beach, Phuket 83110. Edgewater Beach BBQ costs 1150++ baht per person, 575++ baht for kids of under 12 years old. Holders of an Outrigger Lifestyle membership card receive 20 per cent discount. To receive the card mention "Phuket Gazette – Pool Day Pass Special" to the staff and enjoy the benefits of the program free of charge. The Outrigger Day Pool Pass is available at the discounted price until 31 October. For more information, call the sport and recreation team at 076 360 600 or go to outriggert-hailand.com/laguna-phuket-beach-resort.




This is where the BBQ takes place on a sunny day. On a rainy one, the food tastes great too. Photos: Maciek Klimowicz




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Game changer

Books

By James Eckardt

AMERICAN presidential campaigns are ridiculously overlong, obscenely expensive and patently phony. But they make a splashy subject for a literary subgenre known as campaign books. The granddaddy of them all was Theodore White's *The Making of the President 1960* which chronicled in minute detail how John Kennedy and his team of young Boston advisers ("The Irish Mafia") snatched the election from the jaws of Richard Nixon. *The Selling of the President 1968* by Joe McGuinness detailed how Nixon and a savvy media staff led by Roger Ailes, later founder of Fox News, grabbed the presidency back.

Of the 2008 campaign, the book to read was *Game Change: Obama and the Clintons, McCain and Palin, and the Race of a Lifetime*. Written by two veteran political reporters, Mark Halperin of *Time* and John Heilemann of *New York, Game*

Change exposes the inner workings of both campaigns and how Obama's crew simply outsmarted and outfought their rivals. That cast of characters is back in their sequel: *Double Down: Game Change 2012* (The Penguin Press, New York, 2013, 489pp).

This book is not as gripping as their first, largely because the Republican candidate, wealthy businessman Mitt Romney, was so tin-eared and lead-footed, stiff, clueless and gaffe-prone. In terms of entertainment value, he is no match for the colorful John McCain and Sarah Palin of the previous election. On the other hand, the authors enjoyed the complete confidence of Obama's loyal band of brothers – David Axelrod, David Plouffe, Jim Messina, Robert Gibbs—whose clever campaign once again swamped their rivals.

In a bold tactical move, the Obama team took money destined for the fall campaign and spent it all on TV ads slamming Romney throughout the summer. It worked. As the authors note, "His public

image from his first national run, in 2008, had been that of a flip-flopping Mormon; in 2012, he was rendered a hybrid of Gordon Gekko and Mr Magoo."

The campaign staff turned every slip of the tongue by Romney into a colossal gaffe. His convention in Tampa was a disaster, while the Democrats in Charlotte exploded in rapture at a brilliant stem-winder speech by Bill Clinton. Who could the Republicans put up against the "Big Dog"? George W Bush? Dick Cheney? They were muzzled in disgrace.

The one moment of drama came on October 3 during the candidates' first debate in Denver. Superbly prepared, Romney won a resounding victory over a strangely listless Obama. The problem was the president so despised Romney that he had to hold himself in check. During mock debates with John Kerry, "the president was unable to disguise his disgust. Questions about Romney's business background reflexively brought out his sarcastic, aloof, condescending side, notorious in his debate history and deeply feared by his team."

The president took their point about avoiding "Nasty Obama" but asked plaintively about Romney, "What am I supposed to do when



Romney And Obama grin and grip at the Whitehouse. Photo: Whitehouse

he starts spewing his bullshit?"

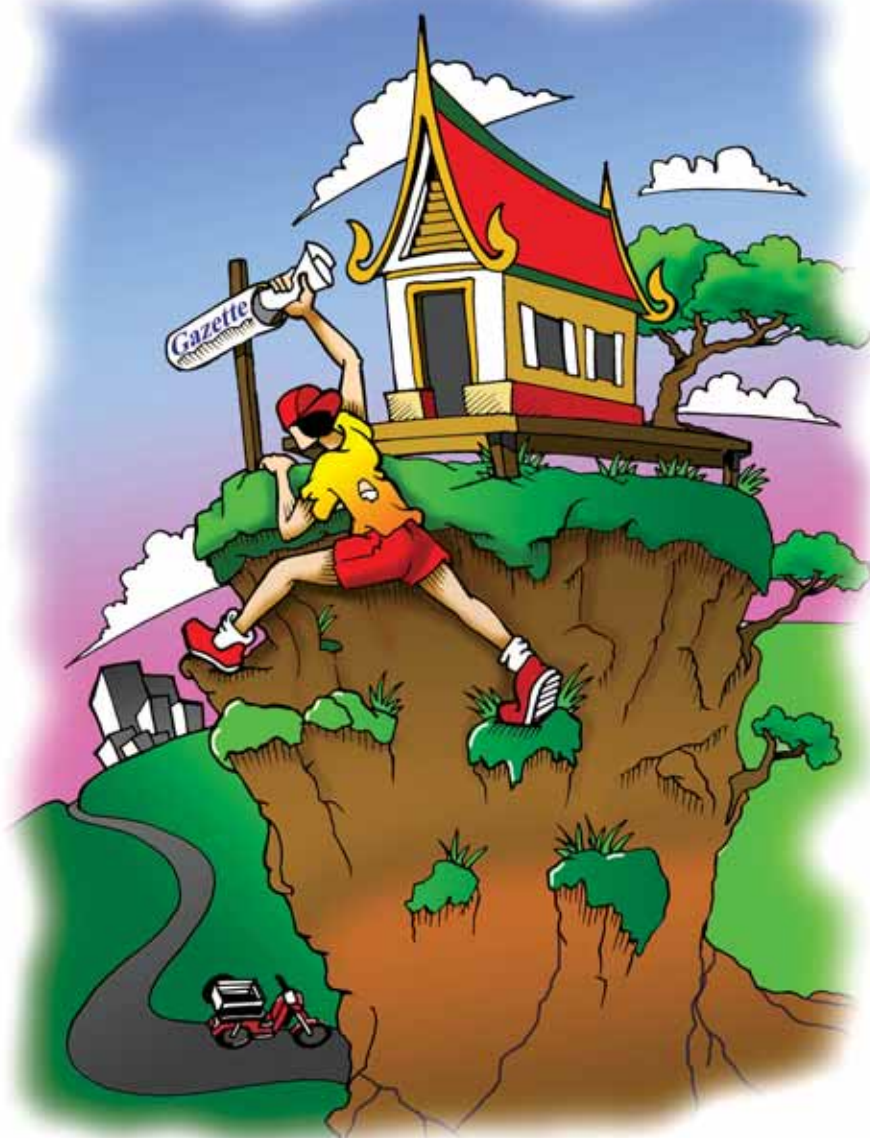
Post-debate, as Romney's numbers started to rise in the crucial battleground states, Bill Clinton once again stepped into the breach with advice to the president. Before, his favorite line about Obama was, "He's luckier than a dog with two dicks." Now, at a Hollywood fundraiser, he advised Obama, "Don't try to make up the ground you lost. Just be yourself."

Obama beat Romney in the second debate and wiped the floor with him in the third. Two weeks later, he coasted to an easy win in all battleground states but one. Of the 270 electoral votes needed, he pocketed 332 and beat Romney by

five million popular votes out of 129 million cast.

In their epilogue, the authors look forward to the 2016 contest, most likely to be fought between Vice President Joe Biden and former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. Both have become friends of Barack Obama.

"They would seek to replicate his team's skills at raising money and moving votes . . . They would strive to defend his record, which they had helped to forge. Neither Hillary nor Joe was really the gambling type. But for good or ill, if they sought the Oval Office, they would have no choice but to double down on Barack Obama."



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Internet addicts

By Patrick Mattimore

IN DAXING, a suburb outside of Beijing, young patients live in guarded cells behind walls topped with barbed wire. They are given medication, participate in therapy and adhere to a physical and dietary regimen to treat their supposed disorder: internet addiction. The problem and its alleged cures had become so great that in 2009, the Chinese government banned physical punishment to wean adolescents from the internet and had previously outlawed the use of shock treatment to treat the disorder.

China was among the first countries to label "internet addiction" as a clinical disorder.

The Bangkok Post, citing a government-sponsored survey, reported last October that an estimated 2.7 million young Thais are addicted to video games and online activities.

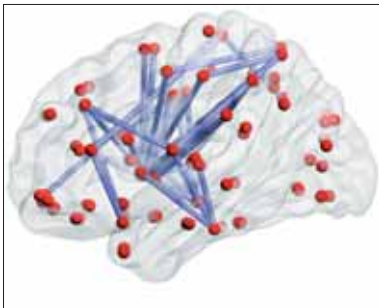
Associate Professor Chanvit Pornnoppadol, of the department of psychiatry, faculty of medicine, at Siriraj Hospital, said the survey was conducted by the Ministry of Culture, the Department of Mental Health and the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Rajanakarindra Institute between March and June 2013. It involved 20,000 children nationwide.

An e-book search for the term "internet addiction" produces 117 titles such as, *Internet Addiction: The Ultimate Guide for How to Overcome an Internet Addiction for Life* and, *The Internet Addiction Cure – The Ultimate Guide To Help You Walk Away From The Computer*. In addition to ultimate guides there are books such as, *I was an Internet Addict*, a digital diet four-step plan to break your addiction books to help you recognize signs of internet addiction, books promising to lead you away

from addiction in 21 days, and books guaranteed to get you "web sober".

Researchers have gotten involved too. In a study supported by the National Natural Sciences Foundation of China, scientists found that in young people, internet addiction disorder (IAD) is associated with structural abnormalities in the brain. The researchers' results suggested that, "long-term internet addiction would result in structural brain alterations, which probably contributed to chronic dysfunction in subjects with IAD".

Let's take a step back for a minute. First, the research in China is extremely preliminary. There were no safeguards to check whether there were pre-existing differences in the subjects identified as internet addicted and those who were not. So, it's impossible to know if time spent on the internet was causing brain changes or the pre-existing differ-



Graphic: Hyung Yi

ences in the individuals led them to spend more time on the internet. Second, because this was not a controlled experiment, other variables such as differences in diet could have led to the observed brain differences. Third, the diagnosis of internet addiction was made based upon reports from the subjects themselves as to the hours they spent on the internet,



An estimated 2.7 million young Thais are addicted to video games and online activities. Photo: Sam Wolff

which is unsubstantiated data for a diagnosis.

Finally, because the researchers were looking only at the negative effects brought about by "internet addiction", they were not alert to whether brain differences they

The researchers' results suggested that, 'long-term internet addiction would result in brain structural alterations, which probably contributed to chronic dysfunction in subjects with IAD'.

saw in the individuals they studied might actually be beneficial – such as the formation of new synapses related to creative ways of thinking about problems. We know, for example, that experience can influence the synaptic organization of the brain and perhaps some of the differences the researchers saw were not abnormalities but efficiencies.

In the 1980s, the book *When Society Becomes an Addict*, attracted a lot of attention. The author, Anne Wilson Schaef, identified as an addiction expert, suggested that, "the system in which we live is an addictive system," referring to the West. Schaef wrote that we, "must admit that the society we care about has a disease and can recover from that disease." According to Schaef, we had all become addicts.

While Schaef's writing was radical, it was a rather unfortunate outcome of a trend that had begun in the 1970s to pathologize behavior. People that ate too much chocolate were chocoholics and people that shopped until they dropped were shopoholics. Fortunately, that tendency to label excessive behaviors as addictions, disorders and diseases reversed itself in the West.

The most recent edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* (DSM-V, published in 2013) is the American Psychiatric Association's (APA) classification and diagnostic tool. In the United States, the DSM serves

as an authority for psychiatric diagnosis. Internet addiction disorder (IAD) is not a recognized mental disorder in the DSM-V; gambling disorder is the only non-substance related addictive disorder.

One might hope that behaviors would be depathologized in Asia as well. People would be better served, not by treating problematic internet use by young people as a clinical disorder, but by examining ways in which young people might more constructively spend their time.

Encouraging research in that regard is the work of Timothy Wilson, a psychology professor at the University of Virginia. He has recently written the book *Redirect – The Surprising New Science of Psychological Change*. Wilson argues, and studies support the proposition, that the best way to get young people to change maladaptive behavior is by getting them involved in volunteering to help others. Channeling youth into constructive behavior is a better course of action than labeling them addicts and treating them as sick individuals.



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The perfect chair

Chanintr Living brings original, designer furniture to Phuket

By Maciek Klimowicz

THINK about a chair. Not much to it, is there? It's an object often taken for granted – just few pieces of wood stuck together to keep you comfortable.

Take a second, closer look. Notice the curves, the joints, the fragile pieces all there to keep you from landing on the floor. Look long enough and you'll discover that a chair is in fact a little wonder.

Even more so if you realize, that behind some of the most common, familiar chairs and other pieces of furniture, stand the giants of modern design. The likes of Eames, Arne Jacobsen or Emeco, to name just a few, are constantly present in our lives.

The trouble is, most of the time they are not real. Some, if not most, of furniture we deal with everyday are in fact copies of pieces designed long time ago, far, far away. But if you don't like drinking cheap sparkling wine instead of Champagne, or wearing Adidas in place of Adidas, why should you settle for fakes in the furniture department?

The good news is, you don't have to. There is a company in Thailand that deals in the real thing. Chanintr Living have been here for 20 years, and they have almost 30 of world's most famous furniture design brands in their portfolio.

Visiting one of Chanintr Living showrooms is like visiting a design gallery – and in fact some of the pieces you'll find in Chanintr Living shops are on display in places such as New York's Museum of Modern Art. The moment you step into the store, you realize

you are surround by familiar objects – you know these shapes and forms, you've seen some of them many times before. The difference is, these are authentic. And each has a story to tell.

"Every iconic piece has a story and in our showroom you can learn more about this story," explains Chanintr Sirisant, the company's founder and CEO. "It's not a made up, marketing talk, but real history behind a piece, the philosophy of the designer," he explains.

Mr Chanintr started the company out of love for design and it's the love for great design that is clearly visible in all Chanintr Living showrooms, including the one in Phuket's Bypass Road. Take a look around, sit in one of the armchairs, spend some time on a sofa and you'll understand this passion better.

"There is lot to be said about what it takes to make a piece of furniture very well. The quality, the manufacturing, where the wood comes from and how it's taken care of – it all matters," explains Mr Chanintr.

You think that cheaper copies look and carry their daily duties just as well? In fact, they might look elusively attractive while still

in the shop. But give it six months, a year, five years, expose it to time, weather and life in general, and you'll see the difference. The originals are made to last, the fakes are made to sell quickly.

But that's not just it. The devil is in the details. Every curve and angle, every piece of wood, sheet of leather used in making an iconic piece of furniture is closely studied to give you the ultimate comfort.

"People try to copy Picasso all the time, but somehow you know that there is something a bit wrong with the copy. It's this kind of thing. If someone puts a lot of time and effort into understanding something well, at the end of the day you will get a result that somehow speaks to you," Mr Chanintr explains.

"Most of the pieces in our showrooms will be in great shape in a decade, they are made to last long. The useful life of the low priced furniture you see in other places, will be much

shorter. The upfront cost of the original might be higher but over the course of time it turns out to be of better value," he adds.

In Chanintr Living showrooms, it's not only the furniture that's meant to last long. It's also the relationships with the customers. To

achieve that, Mr Chanintr works with people who share his passion for great design and care about the customer.

Nothing proves this point better than assigning Warawan Foedisch, the first employee to join the company 20 years ago, to lead Chanintr's expansion to Phuket. Under her leadership, the small outlet in Surin, where Chanintr made it's first steps on the island, soon became to small and the showroom was relocated to the large, two-storey Hafele Design Center on the Bypass Road.

"There is no point in having a customer who just buys one bedside table, this is not how you make this business," explains Mr Chanintr when asked about his customer care philosophy.

"It's all about caring, about building long term relationships. We find people who care about the customer, who really do see them through the whole experience. Obviously we sell good stuff of high quality, but customers come back because they trust us and they trust the level of service we provide."

Next time your thinking of getting a new chair, or any piece of furniture for that matter, it is well worth paying attention to the details. Once you visit the Chanintr Living showroom, where you can touch it, sit on it, feel it and learn it's story, you'll never look at a chair the same way again.

Chanintr Living Phuket is located in Hafele Design Center, G Floor, 81 Moo 5, Chalermprakit Ror 9 Road, Vichit. For more information call 076 61 2887 or send an email to info-phuket@chanintr.com.



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Chanintr Living has some of the most iconic furniture pieces in the world on display.



Apart from furniture, Chanintr Living offers lightning, kitchens and more. Maciek Klimowicz



The flight team (from left) WARF member Tom Potisit, pilot Eduardo Loigolli and co-pilot Mike Wilson of The Flying Scouts. Photos: Tom Potisit/Wild Animal Rescue Foundation Thailand



By Somchai Huasaikul

A NETWORK of light aircraft owners known as The Flying Scouts are pitching in to save the environment through a number of innovative projects, one of which was a recent "gibbon airlift" from Phuket to the animals' new home in Chiang Mai.

Most island residents are familiar with the good work done by the Gibbon Rehabilitation Project (GRP) in Thalang. Established back in 1990, the GRP sanctuary and education center in the Khao Pra Taew forest reserve in Pa Khlok is run by the Wild Animal Rescue Foundation, or WARF.

To those unfamiliar with the seamier side of Phuket's tourism trade, cute baby gibbons are among the many animals that are poached from their natural habitats and used by touts as props to get ignorant tourists to pay to have their pictures taken with them.

At the GRP facility, rescued gibbons are

gradually moved further and further from humans until they are deemed fit to survive on their own, after which time they are released into the wild. The entire process can take five years because the baby gibbons' mothers are typically shot dead in the process. Thus, their offspring become totally dependent on humans from an age when they should be learning how to forage, fend for themselves and survive in the wild. When they reach maturity and grow canines at about six years of age they can turn aggressive. Sadly, when they are not so cute anymore, their callous handlers often cage them, dump them or even kill them – and then go in search of a new baby.

Unfortunately, space is running out at Khao Phra Taew, the last place on the island with a suitable habitat for gibbons. The good news is that the WARF founders, including the late Tony Smallwood, spent years of research before finding a suitable forest up north, one with a local community committed to reintroducing gibbons that were poached into extinction in that region in the 1980s.

Tony, a keen aviator who sadly passed away in 2013, helped discover the village of Baan Chum Pee in the Mae On National Forest Reserve in the foothills of the Doi Saket hill range, where local villagers are solidly committed to protecting the reintroduced primates. Only village elders there are old enough to remember the morning call of the gibbons, and are now keen to rectify the mistakes of the past.

The final step in getting the gibbons



The gibbons were understandably unhappy to be back in cages for the flight.

back into the wild up north is problematic, as Chiang Mai is over 1,200 kilometers from Phuket and an arduous journey even by VIP bus. The move necessarily involves having to re-cage the gibbon pairs after they have finally gotten used to freedom – a traumatic experience to say the least.

Fortunately, members of The Flying Scouts made what could have been a miserable journey much easier by organizing a pilot (pardon the pun) "gibbon airlift". One of The Flying Scouts trustees, who asked that his name not be published, spoke to *Up In The Air*:

"For the initial gibbon airlift flights that were conducted from April 1 to 3, we used HS-TOM, a Piper PA46-350P Jetprop. This is a single engine, six seat turboprop. We also plan to use a six-seat, twin engine, six seat Piper PA39 Comanche for future airlifts.

"Both Phuket Airpark and Nok Airfield in Chiang Mai kindly donated use of their facilities. We are also planning to soon use Best Ocean Airpark in Bangkok to airlift a sick female gibbon named Bambam that needs a cataract operation," he added.

The WARF team had initially planned to release Bambam, her mate Santi and their male baby PeePoo. But due to the medical complications another pair, Bobby and Songkran, were the first couple reintroduced.

"All of the gibbons were remarkably well behaved passengers, or "VIGs" [Very Important Gibbons] as I called them. Prior to loading them, they objected to the cage covers being placed over the cages the most. That was because it shut them in, preventing them from touching one another."

"We have since modified the cages so that during the flight the side panels can be opened and they can see and touch each other. This is a learning process for us as well. They were a little subdued, but we had veterinarian Dr Suwit Punnadee on board to monitor them throughout the flight, feeding and reassuring them. To be honest they were no trouble at all, and did not make a mess," said the trustee, who also piloted the aircraft.

Nok Flying Club member Mike Wilson from the US was also a key member of the team, serving as co-pilot. Together with his wife Harriet, they supplied custom built cages designed specifically for the airlift.

"Mike, a very experienced retired commercial training captain, was just one of a whole host of behind-the-scenes people who got involved to make this happen," said the trustee.

For more information, links, updates and ways to get involved, visit: theflyingscouts.com; warthai.org; or gibbonproject.org



Bobby and Songkran were the first gibbons reintroduced in Chiang Mai on June 14.

Plunge into Penang



Travellers will discover a rich blend of cultures immortalized in timeless tradition within the UNESCO World Heritage Site of George Town. Photos: Jeremie Schatz

By Jeremie Schatz

FIRST of all, no, panang curry is not from Penang. And yes, of course, it is debated. It's ok though, because the northern Malaysian island is overflowing with taste-bud dazzling dishes. When or if you find yourself in this hotpot of ethnic diversity and boundless character, you will find a wondrous assortment of flavors far beyond the food.

Although it is an island, Penang is accessible by two bridges and has its own international airport. Having the closest Thai embassy to Phuket that issues one-year

of brightly colored, fearsome characters.

A UNESCO World Heritage site, Penang is certainly steeped in its own inherent charm, but the city has also capitalized on the creativity of the Penangites. Placed all around the city are wrought iron caricatures sporting short, wry narratives about the street they are located. Like the outline of a fat man tip-toeing across a ledge which says, "The local Chinese say the rich men who lived on Muntri Street kept their mistresses here, hence the name *Ai Cheng Hang* or Love

ironworks and Chinese features of excruciating detail and its own temple with bas relief carvings depicting heaven and hell. The enigmatic museum director Lillian Tong explained that treasures of huge cultural significance were unearthed throughout the vacated mansion after they acquired it.

On display throughout the mansion are over 1,000 artifacts depicting the rich history of the culture. Items such as painstakingly crafted beaded slippers for the women to flaunt, finely woven textiles to wear and opulent mother-of-pearl inlaid day beds for the men to laze the day away on smoking opium. It's easy to get lost for hours gazing in disbelief at the exorbitant collection.

As a traveller or photographer, it is immediately apparent just how photogenic Penang is. Be sure to have ample memory cards, batteries and personal stamina. When you're ready for a break, the Penang Camera Museum beckons.

The two-storey, 325-square-meter ode to photography contains over 250 cameras dating back more than a century from all over the world. If available, get a tour, as the guide is very knowledgeable and entertaining as he quizzes groups on photographic history and camera technology. Don't forget to get a selfie with the picture they have of the first selfie being taken.

What many may consider the main attraction of Penang is the variety of incredible eats. There is just so much good food everywhere that it's a wonder everyone isn't overweight. Some of the local, must-try dishes are the *char kuey teow* wok fried noodles,

the spectrum of curries in *nasi kandar* and the sweet coconut and pandan rice of *nasi lemak* served surrounded by little piles of everything from fried chicken to spicy anchovies. The Penang-style roast pork is incomprehensibly amazing and one would be doing themselves a great disservice by not indulging.

Naturally, since they comprise one of the three main ethnic groups in Penang, the Indian influence permeates throughout the city. An aimless wander around Little India is compulsory and heading there with an empty stomach even

Lane."

A popular activity is to find one of the maps which show the location and description of all 50-some of the sculptures and rent a bike to roll around and see them all. Along the ride, it is hard to miss all of the funky street art adorning walls and buildings. It all stemmed from a small street art project in 2012 which has snowballed and now the quirky paintings, many featuring cats, are everywhere.

The best way to glimpse back to the lifestyle of the early Chinese immigrants is a visit to the fasci-

With its narrow winding streets, worn but clean and unique colonial edifices and spectrum of activities to satisfy most tastes, it's a haven for those seeking a smaller Asian city that exudes an air of exotic mystery.

visas, those bridges see a steady flow of visa run vans in and out of Penang. However, sketchy van rides, stricter enforcement of immigration laws and affordable direct flights on Firefly airlines may change the visa run scene.

For travellers who find themselves in Southeast Asia, Penang should definitely be on their radar. With its narrow winding streets, worn but clean and unique colonial edifices, and spectrum of activities to satisfy most tastes, it's a haven for those seeking a smaller Asian city that exudes an air of exotic mystery.

As an island along the strategic maritime trading route of the Strait of Malacca, Penang has been a trading hub for centuries. The majority of the inhabitants are a mix of Malay, Chinese and Indians. The 16th and 17th

centuries saw waves of Portuguese and Dutch reign and in the late 1700s, the British set up shop in Penang making it the first British settlement in Southeast Asia.

The British influence is glaringly obvious in the colonial style architecture and street names like *Lebuh* (avenue) Kimberly and *Lebuh* Buckingham, not to mention the cultural center, George Town. But behind the thin Western facade lies quaint boutique shophouses and guesthouses with charming courtyards surrounded by intricate Chinese carvings and murals



The quick way to the top of Penang Hill aboard the cable car.



Penang's Peranakan Mansion director Lillian Tong.



Hidden beauty within the courtyard of the Yeng Keng Hotel.

more so. In fact, hitch a ride on one of the iconic trishaws which perpetually crawl through the streets blasting tinny music and decked out in flowers.

Bollywood posters plaster the front of CD and DVD shops which also blare the soundtracks through loudspeakers. The area is rife with tailors and vendors hawking Indian spices, trinkets and delicious snacks like *samosas* and *pakora*.

Perhaps the best note to leave off on before leaving Penang is a jaunt to the top of Penang Hill (*Bukit Bendera*) on the snazzy new cable car. Go early to avoid the hordes and revel in the cool temps and grand views. There is a colorful little Hindu temple, restaurants and botanical garden to explore atop the 833-meter-tall hill.

The thing about Penang is there is always something around the corner to tickle the senses. From the rich culture and smiling faces to the heavenly cuisine and eccentric street art, Penang merits a spot on any traveller's agenda.

If considering a trip to Penang, keep in mind that the George Town Street Fest will be held for the entire month of August. Festival Director Joe Sidek sums it up best, "We aim to make this an enriching experience for everyone with our offering of a diverse palette of world-class events that immediately transforms George Town into a borderless stage celebrating art, culture and heritage in exciting and creative ways."

Find out more about Penang's month-long George Town Festival at georgetownfestival.com



Reminders of Penang's British colonial history.



Indian traditions abound in Malaysia's multi-cultural hub.



Eccentric street art installations are found around nearly every corner.

Sleep tight and lose weight



Excuse Buster

By Craig Burton

VERY often people come to me asking for a “revolutionary” exercise and diet program. Success however, doesn’t result from a trendy new work-out routine, but from getting the basics right – and sleep is one of those basics.

To all you late night owls out there, I’m talking to you!

Sleep plays one of the most profound roles in health and fat-loss endeavors, through the regulation of hormones. If you fail to acknowledge the role of sleep, and instead continue to push on with those late nights, your results could be very disappointing.

Here are some important hormones, and the negative effect that sleep deprivation can have on their performance, and subsequently, on your weight-loss success.

Thyroid Stimulating Hormone (TSH): it regulates the function of the thyroid hormones T3 and T4 to help control your body’s metabolism, or rate of burning fuel. Lack of decent sleep reduces TSH, which leads to a slower metabolism and less energy.

Leptin: it plays a key role in regulating energy intake and energy expenditure by inhibiting appetite and increasing the feeling of fullness. Not getting enough shut eye reduces leptin levels, which can result in overeating.

Ghrelin: it is leptin’s counterpart. It stimulates hunger, increasing before meals and decreasing after meals. Pulling multiple all-nighters can increase ghrelin levels, which can also lead to overeating.

“If your goal is to lose fat, skipping sleep is like poking sticks in

your bicycle wheels,” once said Dr Plamen Penev, sleep expert and Assistant Professor of Medicine at the University of Chicago.

“We have evidence that the amount of sleep makes a big difference on the results of dietary interventions. One should not ignore the way they sleep when going on a diet. Obtaining adequate sleep may enhance the beneficial effects of a diet. Not getting enough sleep could defeat the desired effects,” he wrote in the *Annals of Internal Medicine*.

Besides being imperative for proper hormone performance, sleep is one of the most basic human needs. It is required for a number of the body’s essential functions: proper brain function; regulation of metabolism; maintaining memory and mood; stimulation of the immune system; and regeneration and repair of every cell in the body. It can even aid in anti-aging and keep you looking younger much longer.

In short, get good quality sleep, and plenty of it, and you will set yourself up for success.

Here are 10 strategies for having a better night’s rest so you can get your body back on track:

1. Start slowly. Try getting into bed 10-20 minutes earlier each night.
2. Sleep in a completely dark room, turn your bedroom into a cave.
3. Dim the lights at least one hour before bed. Artificial light suppresses and delays melatonin production.
4. Food can play a big role in being able to fall asleep and the quality of sleep. I have learned through



Before you hit the gym, visit the bedroom. Photo: Jan Ding Yui Shan

experience that eating schedules differ for everyone; some need two hours after eating before they can fall sleep and others need to indulge in a small snack before bed. Listen to your body to find out what is best for you.

5. Exercise during the day.
6. Turn off the computer, TV, and as many electrical devices as early as possible. The brain stimulation caused by devices affects the pineal gland and causes it to secrete less melatonin.
7. “Download the day” before getting into bed by writing in a journal.
8. Take a nice, relaxing bath with Epsom or dead sea salts and bak-

ing soda in the evening.

9. Make use of essential oils like lavender and chamomile, and, if necessary, try supplements like Valerian root.

10. The bedroom is for sleeping – and for fun – so, if you have a TV in there, get rid of it!

Craig Burton is a nutritional expert with more than 15 years of experience at the forefront of the health and well-being field. He offers a high-level of his expertise in functional training and nutrition, focusing on detoxification, food intolerance and nutrient deficiency. For more information about Craig and his services, visit thevitruvianmethod.com



Both quality and quantity of sleep can affect your weight. Photo: Peng Zhang

Warning call for Thai kids

RESEARCH indicates that an increasing number of Thai children will be overweight, shorter and have a lower IQ in the next decade.

Describing the increasing problem of malnutrition in Thai children as alarming, the South East Asia Nutrition Survey (SEANUTS) research – supported by Foremost milk manufacturer Friesland Campina – revealed that the main reason was a lack of exercise and insufficient nutrients.

The research, conducted in four ASEAN countries, has been in progress for three years. In 2011 and 2013, the Thailand survey involved 3,119 children aged 0.5-12.9 years old and was supervised by Mahidol University’s (MU) Institute of Nutrition.

It was found that obese children aged 3 to 6 might also be overweight between the age of 6 to 12. Anemia occurs twice as much in rural children than ur-

ban children, while 30-40 per cent of the sample had a vitamin D deficiency. Malnutrition was a result of insufficient nutrients necessary for growth such as vitamin



Younger getting fatter. Photo: Tobyotter

A, vitamin D, iron and calcium.

The latest research showed that the average IQ for Thai children was 90-92, when it should be over 100 according to normal standards, nutritionist and SEANUTS’s principal investigator Dr Nipa Rojroongwasinkul said.

MU Nutrition Physiology head Dr Kallaya Kijboonchoo said that

besides eating five food groups and getting enough sleep, children ages 6 to 12 should play sports that require running and jumping.

She also urged parents to have their children drink milk daily; and since calcium could be absorbed better with the help of vitamin D, obtained through exposure to sunlight, kids should play outdoors.

As the survey found both urban and rural children had vitamin D, vitamin A, iron and calcium deficiencies.

The Department of Health’s Bureau of Nutrition specialist, Sa-naga Damapong, said the government sector was concerned with childhood obesity. He said the Thai National Health Examination survey showed that 5.8 per cent of 2 to 5-year-olds was obese in 1997 compared to 7.9 per cent in 2001. Meanwhile, obesity in children ages 6 to 12 had risen from 5.8 per cent to 6.7 per cent in 2010.

– The Nation

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World-class tennis returns to Phuket

THIS year will see the return of the Chang SAT International Tennis Federation (ITF) Pro Circuit tournament to Thanyapura Phuket for the third year running. The action-packed event features two back-to-back women's professional tennis tournaments on July 12-19 and July 19-26 offering a total prize purse of US\$50,000. The event will see some professional players at the top of their game battle it out, including 178 seeded Erika Sema from Japan, 214 seeded Su Jeong Jang from Korea and 214 seeded Thai player Noppawan Lertcheewakarn.

Phuket Vice Governor Dr Sommai Prijasilpa will preside over the opening ceremony on July 15 from 9:30am to 10am followed by a game played by No 1 seeded Thai tennis player Noppawan Lertcheewakarn.

Thanyapura Phuket was recently listed as one of the top 50 Best Tennis Resorts in the world and the sports megaplex attracts tennis players from around the world. Many have returned to join in the Pro Cir-



International tennis players are flocking to Phuket, again. Photo: Supplied

cuit competition over the past years.

For this year, several high ranking women tennis players have confirmed their participation (See box on the right for a full list of the main draw players).

A social tennis men's night will be held on Thursday, July 17 from 6 to 8pm and tennis clinic for children on Saturday, July 19 from 3 to 4pm which will involve some of the ITF competitors. Both events are open to the pub-

lic and all are welcome to join.
- *Phuket Gazette*

Admission to the tournaments is free. For more information, please visit thanyapura.com/events or call 076-336 000 ext. 5055.

The Phuket Gazette and PGTV's 'Phuket Today' show, the island's only nationally broadcast television program (aired daily on True Visions channels HD-79 and SD-107), are proud to sponsor this event.

List of the main draw players 12-26 July

Erika SEMA (JPN) #178
Su Jeong JANG (KOR) #214
Noppawan LERTCHEEWAKARN (THA) #215
Chanel SIMMONDS (RSA) #223
Yung-Jan CHAN (TPE) #245
Yurika SEMA (JPN) #252
Doroteja ERIC (SRB) #254
Ling ZHANG (HKG) #259
Kai-Chen CHANG (TPE) #272
Constance SIRILLE (FRA) #273
Yi-Fan XU (CHN) #285
Mari TANAKA (JPN) #303
Zuzana ZLOCHOVA (SVK) #308
Elise MERTENS (BEL) #311
Lena-Marie HOFMANN (GER) #312
Nicha LERTPITAKSINCHAI (THA) #330
Junri NAMIGATA (JPN) #337
Jia-Jing LU (CHN) #341
Polina LEYKINA (RUS) #346aa



The Bondi Beach Bar Bashers claimed their first victory in the 2014 T20 league. Photo: Supplied

ICC wins the league opener

IN THE first outtrigger 20/20 cricket league match of the season, Island Cricket Club (ICC) played Village Cricket Team in the morning match on the 6th July 2014. Village captain Martin Platts won the toss and elected to Bat. Village opening batsman Divan Mydeen (1) was caught behind early on from the bowling of Arun Virdikar, who struck again soon after having Kevin Quilty(10) caught by S Ullahh. Sam Ali(10) was the next to fall being run out by Arun Virdikar who was having a great day in the field. When Mark Ashman (1) was clean bowled by A Saleam, the Village looked in real trouble, until Mark Whetton (42) who had been at the crease for a while and was looking in good form, was joined by from Martin Platts (18) leaving the Village on 45 runs after 10 over's.

After the drinks break, the partnership proved fruitful with Whetton and Platts putting on 44 runs until Platts was caught at close range by P Borkar off the bowling of A Chand, and Mark



ICC's S. Kumar hit five boundaries. Photo: Supplied

Whetton followed 7 runs later bowled by Arun Virdikar. Village finished on a total of 93 runs after their 20 overs. Pick of the bowlers for ICC was Arun Virdikar who finished with an excellent return of 4 wickets for 10 runs.

ICC required just under 5 runs an over to secure the win. S Ullahh(14) and R Naik(10) opened the innings at a brisk pace, but with 28 runs on the board Mark Whetton trapped S Ullah LBW. With the score on 30, Sam Ali playing his first game for the Village bowled R Naik. With both openers back in the clubhouse and the score

still on 30, K Karn from the Thai Youth team playing for the Village trapped A Chand (0). After a flurry of wickets, J Mohammad (6) was the next to go being run out by Platts with the score on 36 runs. By 10 over's the run rate for ICC was the same as the Village and it was anyone's game.

The half time break team talk in the ICC dressing room must have worked, as after drinks, S Kumar (33) who was dropped twice by the Village and A Mushtaq(16) put on an excellent partnership of 51 runs to see ICC home in the 18th over. Pick of the Village bowlers was Sam Ali with figures of 2 wickets for 13 runs.

ICC have their first win of the Outtrigger 20/20 league against a team that were dominant last season. The competitive nature of the game was a great start to the 20/20 league which promises to provide scintillating cricket for both players and supporters alike.
- *Phuket Gazette*

Train insane or remain the same?

PEOPLE all over the world adopt this mentality when deciding upon an exercise routine. It is very common to see the "all or nothing" approach to fitness. Training "insane" is not the only way to get fit. Can it be effective? Of course. Is it something I advise to my clients and friends? Definitely. But is it something you need to do day in, day out? Heck no!

Fitness and health comprise of many different elements. Training "insane" is not only, not the way to train all the time, but I would actively advise against it. The key is to train smart to avoid remaining the same. For every

time you decide to train hard, be it with weights, body weight or cardiovascular exercise, you should plan a session to counteract the hard effects. For example, if you plan a hard run, ensure that you also plan an easy run, a long warm up/cool down or even an extended stretching session.

Training "insane" every time can have as much an ill effect on your body as a positive one, so remember, train hard but also train smart and look after your body on the way to your goals.

Tip by Thanyapura's Fitness Manager, Chris Weeks. Email Chris at tslc@thanyapura.com.

Phuket United Next Fixture			
FTPL TABLE			
PL	TEAM	P	PTS
1	Chonburi Blue Wave	24	69
2	Phuket United	23	50
3	Royal Navy	23	49
4	Thai Port FC	23	46
5	CAT FC	24	46
6	Ayutthaya City	23	40
7	Sri Pathum Si Saket	24	37
8	Nonthaburi	24	37
9	Samut Sakhon	24	36
10	Bangkok FC	23	33
11	Khon Kaen	24	33
12	Pattaya Arena FC	22	26
13	Highways Department	24	16
14	Chiangmai	24	12
15	Uthai Thani	24	10
16	Suphanburi	23	3

PHUKET NEXT FIXTURE			
TTM CUSTOMS JUL 12			
Lad Krabang S4 Stadium Bangkok 4 pm			
YAMAHA LEAGUE ONE TABLE			
PL	TEAM	P	PTS
1	Nakhon Rachasima	19	42
2	Bangkok FC	19	37
3	Royal Navy	19	35
4	Saraburi FC	19	34
5	Angthong FC	19	29
6	TTM Customs	19	29
7	BBCU	19	29
8	Phuket	19	28
9	Chiangmai FC	19	27
10	Roi Et Utd	19	25
11	Pattaya Utd	19	25
12	Ayutthaya FC	19	24
13	NakhonPathom	19	23
14	Krabi FC	19	22
15	Phitsanulok FC	19	22
16	Trat FC	19	18
17	Khon Kaen FC	19	13
18	Sri Racha FC	19	2

*dates subject to change **Last Update: 08/07/2014

*dates subject to change **Last Update: 07/07/2014

FIFA scrutiny continues

By Brian Homewood

RAY Whelan, the chief executive of a hospitality firm who was arrested in connection with an investigation into VIP ticket scalping at the World Cup, was released on Tuesday after spending the night in custody.

But his company, MATCH Services, remains at the center of two investigations that once again raise questions about the business and commercial practices of FIFA, soccer's governing body and an organization long tarnished by allegations of corruption and a lack of transparency.

In addition to the ongoing police probe over a scheme to illegally resell tickets, Brazil's antitrust authorities for the past year have been investigating whether MATCH, appointed by FIFA to provide ticketing, accommodation and event information technology, unfairly sold hotel bookings at inflated prices.

While the ticketing investigation has gained steam over the past week, with the arrest of 11 suspected scalpers in addition to Whelan, Brazil's antitrust authority said it will continue analyzing MATCH hotel packages at least through the end of the tournament, which ends Sunday.

Cade, as the antitrust authority is known, said on Tuesday that the probe seeks to determine whether the prices charged by MATCH for some of its hotel packages, and exclusivity clauses that enabled the company



Ray Whelan (left), of MATCH Services, was arrested in Rio de Janeiro. Photo: Stringer/Reuters

to reserve large batches of rooms, had any adverse effect on overall pricing for World Cup lodging.

Though Cade said MATCH has cooperated with the investigation since it began, the authority in a statement Tuesday said it "considers it relevant to maintain the investigation open."

MATCH, for its part, in a statement said it followed "transparent" pricing practices and made block reservations in line with "standard practice for any major event."

Earlier on Tuesday, MATCH said Whelan, an Englishman, was released in Rio de Janeiro and that he will assist police with further inquiries into the ticketing investigation.

That probe seeks to determine whether Whelan enabled a scalping ring by giving them access to tickets that were originally allocated to soccer federations and other VIPs but later resold in violation of Brazilian law.

"MATCH have complete faith that the facts will establish that he has not violated any laws," it said in a statement.

Whelan was arrested at Rio's beachfront Copacabana Palace hotel Monday as a result of the investigation, known as Operation Jules Rimet.

The probe has further sullied the reputation of FIFA, which has been subject to previous ticketing controversies at prior World Cups and faces allegations of bribery surrounding Qatar's successful bid to host the 2022 tournament.

FIFA on Tuesday also said it is cooperating with Brazilian authorities.

Rio de Janeiro police said in a statement that Whelan will be expected to appear for further questioning at a date to be arranged.

He has been charged under the Brazilian Supporters' Statute with "supplying or facilitating the distribution of tickets for a price that is superior to the one printed on the ticket."

MATCH is the main provider of hospitality packages for the World Cup and paid US\$240 million for the exclusive rights to sell corporate hospitality at the 2010 and 2014 World Cups. — Reuters

Froome escapes crash with minimal injuries



Chris Froome (left) during the Tour de France. Photo: Jacky Naegelen/Reuters

DEFENDING Tour de France champion Chris Froome will have his wrist X-rayed after crashing heavily during Tuesday's fourth stage, Team Sky manager Dave Brailsford said.

"He felt well in the finale but we are taking him for an X-ray just to check his wrist," Brailsford told reporters, adding that updates would be posted on the team website.

Froome also sustained bruises, but Team Sky sports director Nicolas Portal, who talked to the British rider during the stage, said he was okay.

Froome fell off his bike five kilometers into the 163.5-km ride from Le Touquet but quickly got back after bruising his left hip, shoulder, knee and elbow.

"It's alright, it's alright. We got really scared because it was a heavy fall but he seems to be okay. He says it's okay," said Portal.

Froome, fifth overall and two seconds behind Italian Vincenzo Nibali, crashed on the same side during last month's Criterium du

Dauphine.

After Tuesday's incident, he received treatment from raced octor Florence Pommerie and was being helped back into the peloton by his Sky team mates.

"He's got bruises on his left side. He must be hurting a little," said Pommerie.

"His wrist is also hurting," she added.

Portal handed over a splint to Vasil Kiryienka for the Belarussian to bring it to Froome, whose wrist will be put to the test on the cobblestones that mark Wednesday's 155.5km fifth stage from Ypres to Arenberg Porte du Hainaut.

"We're taking as much precautions as we can," said Portal.

Another overall contender, Dutchman Baïke Mollema, was caught up in the crash, but did not seem injured.

Alarm bells have been ringing in the months leading up to the race with Froome suffering from a back injury and then crashing at the recent Criterium du Dauphine.

— Reuters

Nike relinquish Man U deal

US SPORTSWEAR company Nike Inc will not renew its long-running kit supply deal with former English football champions Manchester United after pulling out of a bidding war with a rival.

United are reported to be close to finalizing a 10-year agreement with German sportswear company Adidas AG that could be worth 60 million pounds (3.3 billion baht) a season, a record for a club deal.

Both Adidas and United declined to comment.

Nike, who had sponsored United since 2002, said on Tuesday that the 2014-15 season would be its last as a partner of the 20-time English champions. The statement confirmed what a source with knowledge of the negotiations told Reuters on Monday.

"Any partnership with a club or federation has to be mutually beneficial and the terms that were on offer for a renewed contract did not represent good value for Nike's shareholders," the company said in a statement.

"Nike had the right to match any bid made by a rival but decided that the price had gone too high.

Nike, the world's largest sportswear group, and Adidas are battling for supremacy in a football market that the German company has long dominated.

A deal with United, one of the world's most popular teams, would be seen as an attempt to



Nike has pulled out of a bidding war with a rival. Photo: Lucy Nicholson/Reuters

protect the German company's leading position after Nike made strong inroads over the last two decades.

United earned around 38mn pounds (21bn baht) from the current deal in the 2012-13 season, including its share of profit from the sale of team merchandise around the world.

United recently launched the team's new kit for the 2014-15 season, which bears the name of new sponsor Chevrolet for the first time and will be the last shirt with the Nike swoosh on it.

United, owned by the American Glazer family, are investing heavily on new players after

finishing only seventh in the English Premier League last season, missing out on a place in the lucrative Champions League.

Nike also has deals with Premier League champions Manchester City and top French club Paris Saint-Germain, as well as World Cup semi-finalists Brazil and the Netherlands.

The company has just been replaced as kit supplier to Premier League club Arsenal by Germany's Puma, the third-ranked company in the market.

Puma is reported to be paying around 30mn pounds (16.6bn baht) a year for its Arsenal deal.

— Reuters

ITF champs to clash in Phuket

FROM July 12-26, the Chang SAT ITF Women's Pro Circuit 2014 returns to Thanyapura. The two back-to-back week-long tournaments, each offering US\$25,000 in prize money, are set to keep the island's tennis fans on the edge of their seats. Phuket Vice Governor Dr Sommai Preechasilpa will preside over the opening ceremony on July 15 from 9.30-10am followed by a game played by No 1 ranked Thai tennis player, Noppawan Lertcheewakarn.

Admission is free and everybody is welcome to witness this spectacle at Thanyapura's world-class tennis courts.

See page 42 for our full report



SAT

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Join the opening ceremony and game on 15 July at 9am and enter prize draw.

Check full activities programme at www.thanyapura.com/events

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