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INSIDE TODAY

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20 Baht

■ 'Extortion charges part of political witch hunt'

Mafia men point back

■ Keesins deny charges, accuse police of selectively choosing their targets

By **Chutharat Plerin**

FORMER Patong mayor Pian Keesin has lashed out against his arrest for extortion and operating a criminal organization, branding the action as a politically-motivated witch hunt against his family and their slew of companies under the Pisona Group.

"Police were asking me about when I got the yellow card from the previous Patong mayoral election. I have no idea how it connects me to the charges I'm currently facing," Mr Pian told the press following his release on bail on Tuesday.

"My work has mostly been as a politician. If anyone wants to bring me down, it has to do with Patong politics."

Mr Pian, his eldest son Mr Pattawee and five other members of the Pisona Group surrendered to officers at the Royal Thai Navy base at Cape Panwa on Monday morning. Mr Pian's other son, Preechavude "Prab" Keesin, surrendered to police in Bangkok just hours earlier.

All eight suspects were released on 150,000-baht bail...

Story continued on Page 6



Mr Pian (above) and his scion, Prab, say the evidence is stacked in their favor.

SPECIAL REPORT

Sentencing for Hungarian killer Monday

CONFESSED killer Moshe David is to be sentenced on Monday for the gruesome 2012 murder of fellow Hungarian Peter Reisz.

Although police expect that he will escape the death penalty, Mr David will afterward be facing a second murder trial, this one for billionaire Hungarian Laszlo Csapai.

Full story on Pages 8-9

Promo laws for alcohol remain unchanged

A SLEW of reports that laws concerning the promotion of alcohol had changed, or were at the very least going to be more strictly enforced, was countered by the Phuket Provincial Health Office Non-communicable Diseases division Director Prapa Nakara, who directly heads the enforcement of alcohol-related regulations on the island.

Full story on Page 4

Officials under fire for issuing bad land titles

INVESTIGATORS have declined to name any of the 16 officials from various government agencies currently under investigation for their alleged roles in illegally issuing land documents.

Full story on Page 5

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This Week



Business

Bangkok Hospital to take over Phuket International Hospital. **Page 29**



Property

Zcape condos offer low-cost options for Phuket professionals. **Page 31**



Aviation

Take to the skies with flight-training classes at Phuket Airpark. **Page 34**



Boating

The story behind the success of Boatshed brokerage. **Page 35**



Well-being

Thanyapura helps you get in shape in just eight weeks. **Page 36**



Sport

The Bullet speeds to the finish at last Sunday's ACYC race. **Page 38**

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Police taser hysterical hatchet-wielding man

By Kritsada Mueanhawong

POLICE tasered and fired rubber bullets on a hysterical Phuket man who was threatening to attack his family and neighbors with a hatchet Wednesday morning.

"Police officers on patrol on motorbikes were the first at the scene, in Soi Hutchananiwet [in Rassada], near the Phuket Provincial Administrative Organization [PPAO] Hospital," Phuket City Police Superintendent Sermphan Sirikong told the *Gazette*.

"They tried to talk 47-year-old Pramote Deechosorn down, but then he got out of his car and ran after an officer, waving his hatchet at him.

"While a few officers were trying to control Mr Pramote, another one managed to remove the keys from the car and lock all the doors."

When Mr Pramote ran back to his car and realized that it was locked, he threw the hatchet down and started beating the car with his fists.

Not long after, reinforcements arrived to help subdue Mr Pramote and prevent him from hurting himself or anyone else, Col Sermphan said.

"We knew we weren't going to be able to calm him down, so we stunned him with a taser," said Col Sermphan. "However, the shock wasn't enough, so we had to take him down with rubber bullets."

Mr Pramote was taken to the PPAO Hospital.

Police later questioned Mr Pramote's brother-in-law.

"We were told that Mr Pramote is a boat captain who returns home a few times a month. His brother-in-law told officers that



Police tasered then shot Pramote Deechosorn with rubber bullets in order to subdue him and prevent him from hurting himself or others.

Mr Pramote came home from work last night, and was very nervous," said Col Sermphan on Wednesday.

"He said that Mr Pramote was convinced that someone was following him."

Mr Pramote's brother-in-law said that family members were not concerned, so they didn't immediately react to the situation.

"Then, early this morning, Mr Pramote went for a drive around the neighborhood. His brother-in-law said he finally went outside to ask Mr Pramote what was wrong.

That was when Mr Pramote started threatening him and other concerned neighbors with the hatchet," Col Sermphan explained.

As of Wednesday, police had yet to press any charges against Mr Pramote.

"We have not charged him because no one was hurt and he did not damage any property, other than his own car," explained Col Sermphan.

"We are waiting for doctors to evaluate his mental state and try to determine the reason for his paranoid outburst."

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Police suspect suicide in death of Welshman

A WELSHMAN who was found dead on August 24 in his Phi Phi hotel room is thought to have committed suicide, Krabi City Police told the *Gazette* on August 30.

Jack Davies, 21, from Llanelli, Wales, was found hanging from an electrical chord in his hotel bathroom, police said.

"After investigating the scene, it appeared that he had used the chord of his phone charger to hang himself," said Capt Seksan Boonlerd of the Krabi City Police.

Mr Davies, also known to his friends as "Jay", had allegedly been drinking with three others at a local shop in front of the hotel that night, Capt Seksan explained.

"We questioned Mr Davies' friends, who said that he had received a phone call from his parents. After the call, he became very upset. Apparently, his parents had recently separated and wanted



Jack Davies, 21. Photo: Facebook

Mr Davies to return home," said Capt Seksan.

"When Mr Davies failed to return after 30 minutes, one of his friends went to look for him and found him hanging in the bathroom.

"This looks like suicide, but we cannot confirm this until we have completed our investigation."

— Woranut Pechdee

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Taxi meter rates spike

By Natthaphol Wittayarungrote

A HIKE in fares comes as roving metered taxis were officially endorsed at the grand opening of the new service at Phuket International Airport on Monday.

"We will now see more metered taxis driving around the island. There will eventually be about 1,400 metered taxis on Phuket," said Phuket International Airport Director Prathuang Sornkham.

"These metered taxi drivers will be able to make more income because now they can take customers from the airport to their destinations, and then pick up new passengers wherever they are. Previously, they were forced to waste gas by returning to the airport with no customers."

The hike in rates comes more than a decade after the last rise in metered taxi fares in 2003.

The new rates are 50 baht for the first two kilometers, then 12 baht per kilometer for the next 15km, then 10 baht per kilometer thereafter.

Since 2003, the rates set by the Land Transport Department were 50 baht per kilometer for the first two kilometers, seven baht per



Local officials and military personnel were on hand to cheer on the new fleet of roving metered taxis.

kilometer for the next 22km, then six baht per kilometer thereafter.

Starting on Wednesday, the metered taxis were also able to service Phuket International Airport, said Mr Prathuang.

There will still be an additional 100 baht surcharge in addition to

the 50 baht for those taking a taxi from the airport.

"We now have a metered taxi counter service in the terminal for travellers. At some point, we will also install an electronic system to make it easier for passengers who land at Phuket International Air-

port to call for a metered taxi," said Mr Prathuang.

As the service at the airport begins, "limousine" taxis will still outnumber the available number of metered taxis by about three to one, with 416 limousine taxis to 139 metered taxis.



Mr Nitikorn was killed when his car slammed into a power pole on Thepkrasattri Road.

Man dies in high-speed collision with power pole

A 31-YEAR-OLD man died after his car slid out of control on a wet road and slammed into a power pole at high speed in Koh Kaew late in the night on August 27.

Lt Col Sanit Nookong and fellow officers of the Thalang Police arrived at the scene, near the Tha Ruea Shrine on Thepkrasattri Road, soon after 11:45pm.

"The driver, Nitikorn Jindapol, 31, was found dead inside the vehicle," said Col Sanit.

"He was identified by his company ID card showing he was employed by Inter Far East Engineering Public Co Ltd."

Witnesses told police that the car was heading northbound at high speed when the accident occurred.

"It was raining and the road was wet, and the car slid out of control and hit the power supply pole," said Col Sanit.

"We have informed his relatives of the accident."

— Thawit Bilabduar

Latest Gazette poll reveals demand for cheaper taxi rides

THOUGH the majority of tourists, residents and local Thais taking part in the *Gazette's* most recently closed poll have called for cheaper island taxis, a small number would like to see the price at least double.

The poll posed the question: "How much do you think is a fair fare to pay for a taxi ride from Phuket Airport to Patong?"

A call for the cheapest fares came from "Thai Nationals" with 34% voting for "less than 300 baht".

"Local Foreign Residents" also indicated that they were ready to see a drop in fares

with 46% voting for "300-500 baht". Additionally, 31% of expats voted to see at least a modest drop to between 500-700 baht.

The majority of "Tourists / Visitors to Phuket" voted for substantially lower fares with 36% voting for "300-500 baht".

However, a small number of respondents pushed for a bump in prices with 84 voting for between 1,000 and 2,000 baht and 47 respondents voting for "more than 2,000 baht". Of those 47 respondents, 22 identified themselves as Thai national, 19 as visitors and only six as expats.

— Phuket Gazette



A call for lower taxi fares. Photo: Saran Mitratat



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Firefighters worked for about 30 minutes to douse the blaze.

Spa products lost in B600k Patong blaze

A FIRE erupted in a Phuket soap and spa goods shop, causing about 600,000 baht in damage on August 30.

Two firetrucks from Patong Municipality were called to the scene, behind Jungceylon shopping center on Phang Mueang Sai Kor Road at about 7:10am.

"Firefighters worked for about 30 minutes to control the flames. No one was injured in the blaze," Lt Col Prathuang Pholmana of the Patong Police told the *Gazette*.

"Everything inside was destroyed. We estimate the cost of the damage to be about 600,000 baht." – **Kritsada Mueanhawong**

Party on Phuket! No change in alcohol promotion laws

By Chutharat Plerin

THE Phuket Provincial Health Office (PPHO) has no plans to ramp up enforcement of existing laws regulating the promotion of alcohol, despite reports stating otherwise, the *Gazette* was told on August 29.

"The law stands as it is," said PPHO Non-communicable Diseases division Director Prapa Nakara, who directly heads the enforcement of alcohol-related regulations on the island.

"I have no idea why this is in the spotlight at the moment. The Alcohol Control Act 2008 and the Ministerial Regulation On Criteria and Conditions for Displaying the Symbol for Advertising or Public Relations of Alcoholic Beverage 2010 are still the same – nothing has changed."

Dr Prapa confirmed that the PPHO has not received any direct orders from the National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO).

"We have received no new in-



The way people advertise alcohol and the island's party scene won't change. Photo: Gazette file

structions about this, and we have no plans to launch any campaigns to specifically crack down on the promotion of alcohol," she said.

Instead, Dr Prapa called on conscientious members of the public to report possible breaches of any alcohol-promotion laws, including the use of beer promotion pretties, the publishing of photos of alco-

hol-related promotion events or other illegal activities.

"By law, advertising in publications, on billboards or elsewhere is also not permitted to encourage people to drink alcohol," she said.

"If anyone sees or suspects any advertising has broken the law, please let us know and send

us photos so we can investigate."

If Dr Prapa's unit believes that the law has been broken, her office will hand a report to Phuket Governor Maitri Inthuset for deliberation on whether the police will be instructed to take action.

"Governor Maitri will need to sign the order. Then, the police are responsible for enforcing the law," she said.

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The Chinese tourists reported the snatch theft to police.

Bag-snatchers nabbed after targeting tourists

TWO Phuket teenagers were arrested on August 29 for snatching a bag from two Chinese tourists.

Natthapong "Mad" Intan, 19, and his 17-year-old accomplice were both arrested at their rented accommodation in Rassada.

"A complaint was lodged at Thalang Police Station on August 28 by Chinese nationals 27-year-old Li Xue Juan, and 30-year-old Sun Ce," said Maj Kittiphum Tinthalang of the Thalang Police.

"The two had been walking along Namtok Ton Sai Road, when the two thieves rode past on a motorbike and snatched Ms

Li's bag. Inside was 500 baht in cash, two mobile phones and some documents," said Maj Kittiphum.

"Using the GPS signal from Ms Li's mobile phone, we managed to track down the two teenagers at their rented room on Soi Patchanee."

Both suspects confessed to the crime and were taken to Thalang Police Station, where they were charged with theft, confirmed Maj Kittiphum.

"Because one of the suspects is underage, he will have to appear before the Phuket Family and Juvenile Court to hear the charges against him," Maj Kittiphum explained.

"The other suspect will be processed normally."

– **Thawit Bilabdullar**

Under fire for land documents

NACC to investigate 16 officials working for various government departments

By Kritsada Mueanhawong

MORE than a dozen officials suspected of illegally issuing land titles in Phuket are now under investigation by the National Anti-Corruption Commission (NACC), confirmed an NACC official on August 30.

"Sirinath National Park officers filed complaints with the Thalang Police. We then received a list of 16 officials that work for various government departments," explained Prasart Pongsivapai of the NACC's standing committee investigating Sirinath National Park land encroachment.

"These officials are under investigation for illegally issuing land titles. We will not name them until the investigation is complete."

Mr Prasart added that the investigation was far from over, and that his officers would need help from other government bodies to finish it.

"There are more witnesses that need to be questioned, and more information that needs to be collected from several departments, including the Department of Special Investigations [DSI]," Mr Prasart said.

"Anyone that has been accused may cooperate by providing us with information needed for the investigation. If they help us track down the big fish, their charges could be reduced."

NACC officers are also investigating 16 companies, resorts and landowners that have been accused of using illegally-issued land documents to prove land ownership.



Mr Narong (left) and Mr Prasart (center) confirm the Sirinath National Park investigation. Photo: Kritsada

ments to prove land ownership.

"Officers at the Land Department are determining whether or not land titles have been illegally issued," said Nipon Chotibal, acting director-general of the DNP.

However, the DNP has already challenged the Land Department's ruling on several documents.

"The Land Department reported that eight of the accused have legally issued documents. The eight include Phuket Peninsular Spa and Resort; Central and City Development; Landstate; Pavilions Beach Resort; Layan; La Colline villa de-

velopment; Baan Farang resort; and landowner Suchada Sangsuwan," said Mr Nipon. "However, according to our investigation, the land titles associated with these businesses and individuals were illegally issued"

"We won't let this go. We will work closely with the Land Department and review all the evidence they have in order to establish the truth."

Earlier this year, Sirinath National Park and DNP officials found the signature of a park chief

accused of illegally issuing land titles on documents provided by Baan Farang.

Then, in July, officials and military personnel inspected the site of abandoned Peninsular Phuket Spa and Resort. DNP director at the time, Samak Donnapee, alleged that the resort's *Chanote* was originally a *SorKor 1* for two rai that increased in size to six rai when it was upgraded to a *Chanote*.

The DNP and Land Department can agree, however, that land titles were illegally issued in

five of the 16 cases currently under investigation.

"We have evidence proving that land titles were illegally issued to Three Dolphins, which owns Trisara Resort; Pullman Phuket Acadia, and Nai Thon Beach; Pinnacle Cape; and landowners Surachai Laosaichua and Chomchanok Suthamma," Mr Nipon said.

"For example, Three Dolphins originally submitted a *NorSor 3 Kor* of 37 rai for an upgrade to a *Chanote*. However, when the land was issued a *Chanote*, it was for 99 rai – not 37 rai. This is why we believe it was wrongfully issued."

This is not the first time Trisara Resort has come under fire regarding its *Chanote* title.

In 2012, a team of officers from the Royal Forest Department (RFD), Chiang Mai office, came to inspect the boundaries of the resort, north of Layan Beach, and found that the land title in question had been issued after 1964, the year the DNP stopped issuing *Chanote* titles for land in that area.

The legality of documents in the remaining three cases has not yet been determined, said Mr Nipon.

Narong Rathamarit of the NACC has urged officials to stay focused on the mission to take back protected and public land.

"Officials have been letting people use *SorKor 1* titles to justify commercial endeavors for a long time. Sooner or later, if this continues, our forest will be gone," Mr Narong said.



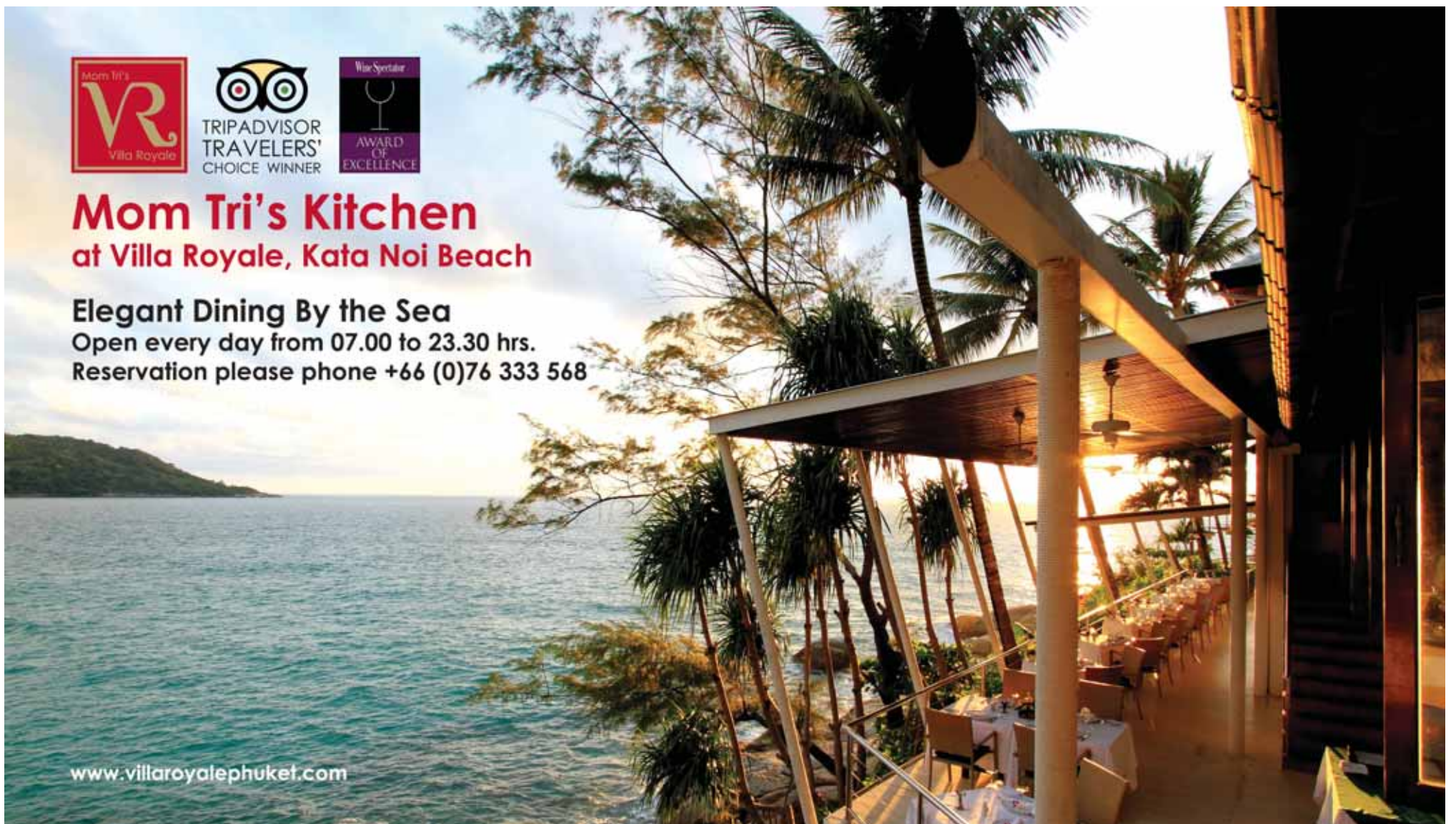
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The man fell six meters.

Migrant painter in hospital after unprotected fall

A MIGRANT worker from Myanmar was in hospital recovering from head injuries on August 28 after he slipped and fell from scaffolding in Thalang.

The laborer, named by police only as Mr Wanchai, 20, fell and struck his head on the pavement six meters below while painting on August 28.

"It's always dangerous to work at heights without any kind of protection," said Lt Col Sanit Nookong of the Thalang Police, urging all laborers to be extra cautious during the current wet weather.

— **Thawit Bilabdullar**

By Chutharat Plerin

WITH nearly 17,000 migrant laborers already added to the system since late July, the deadline for registration has been pushed back from August 21 to October 31, a Phuket Provincial Employment Office (PPEO) officer told the *Gazette* on August 29.

There are an estimated 15,000 more workers to be registered at the one-stop center in the Phuket Provincial Community Hall, explained PPEO officer Sukrita Canyook.

"The three government organizations at the center – the PPEO, the Phuket Provincial Administration Organization and the Phuket Provincial Health Office – can process about 500 to 600 people a



Migrant workers have their blood checked at the one-stop center.

day," said Ms Sukrita.

The extended amnesty for migrant workers and their employers is in accordance with a request

from the National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO).

"We are making appointments for those employers who have sent

us a list with the names of their employees. However, those who have not submitted their list can visit the center as walk-ins," Ms Sukrita said.

The price for registering has risen from 1,305 baht to 3,080 baht, due to the period in which the employee can legally work in the Kingdom being extended to March 31, Ms Sukrita said.

Those registered are given non-Thai identification cards.

The card will be valid until March 31. Officials will need that time to verify the citizenship of each worker in his or her home country, explained Ms Sukrita.

Once the necessary documents are secured and the verification complete, work permits and visas, which will be valid for one year, can be applied for.

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Keesins fight mafia charges



The Keesins family and their lawyer, right, have vowed to fight the charges.

From page 1

...each at 3am on Tuesday, after questioning by police.

Their surrender to officers other than the Phuket Police followed mass raids on August 28 by Region 8 Police, military personnel and officers from the Anti-Money Laundering Office (AMLO), who began serving a total of 82 arrest warrants for suspected Patong taxi mafia members – starting with Mr Pian and Mr Prab.

Neither Mr Prab nor Mr Pian were home when the officers arrived that morning.

Mr Pian said that he could reveal little about his own arrest as the case is now under investigation. However, he did note that officers had not asked him or his two sons to name any government officials or police officers that might be involved in corruption on the island.

"I think that they already know who is involved in the corruption on the island. I'm not going to say who it is, but if they want to take down corrupt people, they know who to go after," Mr Prab said.

Region 8 Police Deputy Commander Paween Pongsirin, who is heading the purge of Phuket's taxi mafia, assured on Wednesday that his team was focusing on taxi mafia suspects only.

"There are no political agendas involved," he said. "I am not picking on anyone and I have no intention of creating enemies, but I cannot help it if people hate me for doing my job."

Regarding the Keesins' assertion that not all people believed to be involved in corrupt activities in Patong were under investigation, Gen Paween confirmed that his team was not pursuing any investigation of officials or police.

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Talks called for by dolphin rep

By Chutharat Plerin

A REPRESENTATIVE of Phuket Aqua Project, the company that is building the Nemo dolphinarium in Chalong, held a closed-door meeting with Phuket Vice Governor Sommai Prijasilpa on Tuesday morning.

"We have heard that many people do not agree with our project," the representative, who declined to be named, told the *Gazette* after the meeting.

"People need to realize that it will not just be a show. Students and other visitors can learn about the life of a dolphin there too."

The representative confirmed that four bottlenose dolphins, not six as originally reported, as well as sea lions and seals, were destined for the facility.

"We have no intention of torturing the animals," the representative said.

However, the representative said that she had no idea about the origins of the dolphins, other than they were to be brought to Thai-

land via a Russian company.

The origins of the dolphins has been a highly contentious point as many people opposing the dolphinarium believe that at least one of them was taken from the Taiji cove in Japan, where the annual slaughter of thousands of dolphins, and the capture of scores of others for just a few facilities around the world, started on Monday.

"It's the largest slaughter of dolphins on Earth. And it's also the place where most of the captures take place. Either there or Cuba, and I doubt that they are coming from Cuba," renowned dolphin activist Ric O'Barry told the *Gazette* in an exclusive interview.

Mr O'Barry is well-known for his role in the Academy-award winning documentary *The Cove*, which blew the lid off the annual slaughter of dolphins in Taiji.

Vice Gov Sommai confirmed that the visit on Tuesday came in response to a petition filed last week by students and faculty staff from the Prince of Songkla University



Vice Governor Sommai Prijasilpa spoke with the representative behind closed doors. Photo: Gazette file

Phuket campus (see story below).

"At this point, nothing has been confirmed," V/Gov Sommai told the *Gazette*. "They [Phuket Aqua] are still waiting for the necessary

CITES [Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora] paperwork, as well as the approval of the Fishery Department.

"If the project is approved, however, then it means the operators are providing facilities that are good enough for the dolphins and other animals."

University students protest dolphin facility in Chalong

STUDENTS from the Prince of Songkla University Phuket campus last week handed Governor Maitri Inthasut a petition with more than 400 signatures to protest the nearly-complete Nemo dolphinarium in Chalong.

"We have heard about the dolphinarium set to open on Soi Palai. We do not think that it is a good idea to keep dolphins in a park," said Latifa Tengting, who submitted the petition on behalf of her fellow students.

"We would like to ask Governor Maitri to stand against the dolphinarium, as it could greatly affect the image of Phuket. Our island could be associated with the act of hunting and importing wild



The complaint was handed over to Governor Maitri Inthasut.

dolphins for commercial use."

Ms Latifa said that there were better places to see dolphins, such as in their natural habitat.

Many visitors to Phuket have had the chance to see a local pod of dolphins that are frequently spotted

between Phuket and Koh Racha Yai.

Governor Maitri accepted the complaint and praised the students' concern.

"I am happy to see that Phuket students have a vested interest in our natural resources and a true concern about the welfare of dolphins," he said.

"The decision to approve the park is beyond my authority, but I have handed the complaint over to the Phuket Fisheries Office."

The Phuket Fisheries Office operates under the Fishery Management Bureau, which is the office in Bangkok that has the power to approve or deny the Nemo dolphinarium.

— *Kritsada Mueanhawong*

Poll: Should we allow a dolphin park in Phuket?

PRESSURE is building for authorities in Bangkok to make an ethical choice on whether or not Phuket should have a dolphinarium as a tourist attraction.

The issue splashed across headlines around the region after global conservation society Sea Shepherd alleged that at least one of the dolphins acquired for the nearly complete Nemo dolphinarium in Chalong was sourced from the notorious annual dolphin catch-and-cull at the Taiji Cove in Japan.

In our latest poll we ask *Gazette* readers: "Should Phuket have a dolphinarium?"

Responses available in the poll are:

1) Yes – Phuket should have a dolphinarium; many other global



The dolphinarium is being built in Chalong. Photo: Jeremie Schatz

tourist destinations have dolphin parks and shows that are very popular with tourists.

2) No – Phuket should not have a dolphinarium; they are cruel and it has long been known that captivity kills dolphins.

To have your say in this poll, vote online at phuketgazette.net.

— *Phuket Gazette*

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Two weeks until PACC charges officers for extortion of divers

AN OFFICIAL from the Public-sector Anti Corruption Commission (PACC) announced on Tuesday that his officers need two more weeks to complete the investigation into three Chalong Police officers for their alleged abuse of power.

"We are nearly ready to press formal charges and hand the case to the public prosecutor, but we need about two more weeks to finish our investigation and compile all the evidence," said Lt Col Wannop Somjintanakul, the PACC officer who is leading the investigation into the alleged extortion of more than 20 dive instructors at Chalong Pier in March.

"Once the investigation is complete, we will be able to confirm the charges and reveal the names of the officers involved."

Col Wannop told the *Gazette* in July that PACC would be pressing formal charges against the officers by the end of August.

"I can confirm that we will have clear and complete information within the next two weeks," he told the *Gazette* on Tuesday.

At a meeting of more than 50



Divers were loaded up into a police vehicle at Chalong Pier. Photo: Supplied

representatives from Phuket dive companies on March 22, Association of Thailand for Underwater Sports (ATUS) Secretary Pong-sawan Sathatham explained, "More than 20 dive instructors were arrested at Chalong Pier on March 10, but no charges were pressed..."

"Instead, we were told that police asked for money from the instructors."

Capt Thada Sodarak of the

Chalong Police confirmed to the *Gazette* that he was on duty at the time but was unaware that more than 20 dive instructors had arrived at the station.

Moreover, Chalong Police Superintendent Krittapas Dazin-tharasorn had denied the allegations that his officers were involved in extortion. A week later, he was temporarily removed from his post.

— *Natthaphol Wittayarungrote*

Moshe David

CONFESSED killer Moshe David is expected to be sentenced on Monday for the gruesome 2012 murder of fellow Hungarian, Peter Reisz. Although police believe he will escape the death penalty, they do have faith he will be handed a "very long sentence".

Following Mr David's first murder trial will be a second, for the murder of another Hungarian Laszlo Csapai. Surat Thani Provincial Police have said they have enough evidence to nail Mr David with a second murder conviction.

The *Gazette's* Chutharat Plerin investigates the ins-and-outs of Mr David's murderous saga.

NEARLY two years since his arrest at a Bangkok shopping mall, confessed killer Moshe David is to be sentenced on Monday for the murder of fellow Hungarian Peter Reisz in Phuket in 2012.

The body of Mr Reisz was found with hands bound, dumped in a rubber plantation on the Kathu side of Patong Hill on November 30 that year.

The gruesome discovery set off a nationwide manhunt, with Mr David taken into custody six days later after police found blood stains and a kitchen knife in his rented home in Wichit.

An Israeli with dual nationality, and named Nemeth Gabor in his Hungarian passport, Mr David confessed to killing Mr Reisz in a fit of rage after Mr Reisz had allegedly swindled him out of land and properties valued at 15 million baht.

Despite the confession, when the trial began in February this year, judges ordered a media blackout on reporting it, amid concerns media reports would affect the testimony of other witnesses.

However, by that time the second suspect wanted for the murder of Mr Reisz had already corroborated Mr David's confession to the killing.

Gyorgy Lajos Kvalka surrendered to Samui Police on December 8, 2012, and testified in his statement that Mr David killed Mr Reisz during a fight in a house near where Mr Reisz's body was dumped in Thung Thong, Phuket.

Mr Kvalka denied any role in the killing, but confessed to assisting Mr David with disposing of Mr Reisz's body and mopping up the blood at the scene of the crime.

With both confessions in hand, Somchai Panomrak of the Phuket Public Prosecutor's Office told the *Gazette* this week that Mr David is very likely to escape the death penalty for the slaying.

"But he is expected to be handed down a very long sen-

tence," he said.

DOUBLE TROUBLE

However, as one murder trial is brought to a close, Mr David will soon face another murder trial – for the murder of 39-year-old Hungarian businessman, Laszlo Csapai in Samui.

"After the trial in Phuket has concluded [on Monday], Mr

David might appeal the decision or the sentence and he will remain in Phuket while any appeal is heard by the court," said Surat Thani Provincial Police Deputy Commander Col S o m k i a t Kaewmuk.

"But after that, he will be transferred to Samui, where

he will be detained while he is tried for the murder of Mr Csapai – and continue to serve whatever sentence is handed down on Monday."

Col Somkiat is confident that his officers will secure a guilty verdict against Mr David, despite going to trial without the testimony of a key witness who tipped off Samui Police about the whereabouts of Mr Csapai's skeletal remains in April last year.

Officers found the remains of Mr Csapai – a millionaire who founded a Hungary-based clothing store franchise found throughout Eastern Europe – buried under a luxury villa on Samui owned by Mr David after a tip-off from the Hungarian police.

MYSTERIOUS WITNESS

The witness, who claimed he had "seen" Mr David bury the body, was being detained by the Hungarian authorities when he informed police where to find the remains, but he is now free and will not be brought to Thailand to testify.

Bo Phut Police Deputy Superintendent Napha Senathip declined to reveal the identity of the alleged witnesses or any details of why he was being detained by the Hungarian authorities, and then set free.

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to face the music for two murders

"We sent a request to Royal Thai Police headquarters [in Bangkok] for permission to travel to Hungary to question the witness, but our request was declined," Col Somkiat told the *Gazette* on Tuesday.

"We only knew that the witness was in Hungarian custody for a month. We do not know what he was jailed for, and we were told that he went to England after he was released."

Col Somkiat explained that Mr Csapai's relatives offered to cover all travel expenses to Hungary and even to London to pursue the investigation.

"But still our request [to Bangkok] was denied," he said. "We were told that extraditing a person only as a witness was a very long, complicated process, even if the person was in custody in a foreign country."

"It's even more difficult to extradite a witness who is a free person in the UK."

Regardless, Col Somkiat expects DNA matching and CCTV footage to provide the evidence his officers need.

"We believe we have enough evidence against Mr David to gain a conviction for the murder of Mr Csapai, even without the witness," he said.

"We have CCTV footage showing Mr David picking up Mr Csapai from Samui Airport before Mr Csapai was reported missing by his wife."

"After Mr Csapai was reported missing, Samui Police called in Mr David for questioning, and he admitted that he picked up Mr Csapai from the airport."

"Although he said he had no idea where Mr Csapai might be, Mr David was still the last person

'If Mr David is found guilty of the Csapai murder, any sentence handed down would have to be served separately from the sentence to be handed down... for the Peter Reisz murder'

— Lt Col Napha Senathip, Deputy Superintendent, Bo Phut Police

seen with the victim. This, along with DNA confirmation from the Institute of Forensic Medicine at the Police General Hospital in Bangkok that the bones are those of the late Mr Csapai, is enough to press a murder charge."



Once Mr David's Phuket trial is complete, he will be transferred to Samui for the Csapai trial. Photo: Gazette file

Lt Col Napha confirmed on Wednesday that the paperwork is

being processed.

"We will apply for an arrest warrant for Mr David so he will be transferred to Bo Phut to face trial as soon as all the legal options for his trial in Phuket have been exhausted," he said.

Col Napha added that any sentences handed down to Mr David

for the two murders would have to be served separately.

"If Mr David is found guilty of the Csapai murder, any sentence handed down would have to be served separately from the sentence to be handed down on Monday for the Peter Reisz murder," he said.



Gyorgy Lajos Kvalka surrendered in December 2012, and told police that Mr David killed Mr Reisz during a fight. Photo: Gazette file



Police investigate Mr Csapai's remains in Samui. Photo: Gazette file

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AROUND THE nation

Brit activist's controversial defamation trial begins

A BRITISH activist went on trial on Tuesday in Bangkok for defamation, facing a possible jail term after his investigation into alleged labor abuses in the food industry.

Andy Hall faces civil and criminal lawsuits submitted by local fruit processor Natural Fruit, a major supplier to the European drink market, for accusations of forced and child labor, and unlawfully low wages and long hours.

Mr Hall, who made the allegations in a report last year for Finnish rights watchdog group Finnwatch, is facing defamation charges following an interview he gave to the *Al Jazeera* television network about the case.

If convicted in this first trial, he could face one year in prison. More serious charges under the Computer Crimes Act – which carries up to seven years in jail for each count – are due to be heard later this month, reported *The Nation*.

Mr Hall denounced the charges as “judicial harassment”, saying that he wanted his case to raise awareness of the “widespread and systematic” exploitation of migrants in Thailand.

“This abuse extends to many export markets well beyond fishing, seafood and pineapples to poultry, fruit and veg, rubber and even more now retail, food and beverage and tourism,” he said in emailed comments.

Natural Fruit is also seeking 327 million baht in damages through a civil suit.

Earlier this month, nearly 100 labor and human rights groups and NGOs sent a joint letter to members of the Thai Pineapple Industry Association calling on them to urge an end to the lawsuits by its member Natural Fruit.

PM Prayuth defends military presence in Cabinet

NEWLY-APPOINTED PM Prayuth Chan-ocha defended the presence of military figures in the Cabinet last Friday, saying it was necessary to deal with certain security issues. He acknowledged the criticism, but said he needed to trust the people around him to work efficiently.

The interim government has 33 ministers, including the PM, for 35 portfolios. Nine of them are military officers, while another three are former military personnel.

Generals in the Cabinet are expected to ensure that the PM's roadmap for the nation's future is carried out, reported *The Nation*.

In addition to military officers, the Cabinet

has many retired civil servants, which signifies PM Prayuth's faith in bureaucrats to take a leading role, rather than businessmen, who have lost influence due to connections with former PM Thaksin Shinawatra, a source said.

PM Prayuth reportedly interviewed all candidates for ministerial posts before making his final decision, especially former officials who performed well after the junta seized the power on May 22, the source added.

PM Prayuth's proposed Cabinet received royal endorsement from HM King Bhumibol Adulyadej on August 30.

The new Cabinet members were proclaimed in the *Royal Gazette* on August 31.



PM Prayuth Chan-ocha. Photo: Reuters

Court dismisses Abhisit, Suthep murder charges

By Kesinee Taengkhaio
and Pravit Rojanaphruk

THE Criminal Court has rejected the murder charges against former prime minister Abhisit Vejjajiva and his former deputy Suthep Thaugsuban for their roles in the violence that occurred during the red-shirt protests in 2010.

The clashes left more than 90 people dead, including protesters, soldiers, policemen, passers-by and foreign reporters.

The Criminal Court stated on August 28 that it did not have jurisdiction in the case. The only court with the authority to consider the case was the Supreme Court's Criminal Division for Holders of Political Positions, said the court, as reported by *The Nation*.

The presiding judges reasoned that the charges, initiated by the Department of Special Investigation (DSI), should have instead been initiated and investigated by the National Anti-Corruption Commission (NACC).

Also, Mr Abhisit and Mr Suthep were holders of public office and acting under an emergency decree at that time, the court noted.

The DSI asked public prosecutors to file murder charges against Mr Abhisit and Mr Suthep, who is now a monk.

The DSI claimed that Mr Abhisit and Mr Suthep, who was



Suthep Thaugsuban (right) arrives at the Civil Court in June to hear the charges against him. Photo: Reuters

then the director of the Center for Resolution of the Emergency Situations, ordered troops to use live ammunition against the protesters.

The order led to the killing of taxi driver Phan Khamkong and 14-year-old Kunakorn Srisuwan, and the wounding of van driver Samorn Maithong, claimed the DSI.

But the Criminal Court said that since Mr Abhisit and Mr Suthep gave orders related to their administration and did not commit the

acts personally, the case must be sent to the NACC.

If the NACC finds grounds to suspect the guilt of the duo, the case must be sent to the Division for Holders of Political Office Positions for trial, the court said.

Relatives of the victims criticized the decision to drop the case as politically motivated, *Agence France-Presse* reported.

“It's 100 per cent about politics – soldiers are among those

accused,” said Phayaw Akkahad, the mother of a nurse who was shot dead.

“My daughter was murdered. A woman like me will not give up.”

Chokchai Angkaew, a lawyer for the plaintiffs, who include relatives of the victims, said they planned to appeal the decision.

“It's not over,” he added.

Mr Abhisit and Mr Suthep were present when the verdict was read, but declined to comment.

PM Prayuth puts spotlight on jet-ski operators in tourist beach towns

PM PRAYUTH has urged relevant authorities to deal with the issue of jet-ski rental businesses at seaside resorts such as those in Pattaya and Phuket, reported *The Nation*.

PM Prayuth brought the issue to the public's attention during his weekly nationally televised address to the nation last Friday.

While Thailand is attracting tourists because of its beautiful beaches and wide variety of water sports, the country's jet-ski rental businesses have become notorious since it emerged some operators were extorting money from tourists.

The extortionists reportedly knowingly allow tourists to use unsafe jet-skis and when accidents occur, demand exaggerated

“compensation” payouts for “damage” caused to the vehicle and, on occasion, have assaulted and robbed tourists.

At a recent meeting involving acting Provincial Police Region 2 Commissioner Sanit Mahathavorn, relevant agencies

and jet-ski operators, the following was determined:

– It needs to be determined if a machine



Jet-ski operators in Patong. Photo: Gazette file

was damaged due to a crash occurring because of its poor condition or because the rider was at fault.

– Tourists tend to lack experience riding jet-skis.

– Operators often charge full price even though tourists return the vehicle before the

compensation.

– Some tourists have lost their belongings after leaving them with the operators.

So far this year, 54 complaints have been lodged against operators – 44 of which ended in settlements, while the rest ended in civil lawsuits, the meeting was told.

Pattaya police have set guidelines relating to the issue, including establishing a settlement room to support fair negotiations, investigating suspect operators and requiring all operators to be insured.

There will also be a campaign in a bid to make operators more service-minded and an investigative team will be set up to handle cases. Officials will also register 500 jet-skis to ensure good standards.

deadline has run out.

– Some operators damage jet-skis and if there is a crash they sometimes demand

Making education Phuket's priority

FIRST PERSON

EDUCATION is the bedrock of a well-developed nation. Strong people build a nation, and a good educational system builds strong people. This is why it is important that education is given a large share of the nation's budget.

We won't be sure exactly how much our office will receive until October 1. However, the money allocated to us by the Education Ministry is not the only money we obtain. We are also granted a budget from the Office of the Basic Education Commission.

We use our budget to fund two types of campaigns: national and local. The Education Ministry will hand down certain campaigns that we are obliged to follow, but we can also pursue our own projects.

There are three main areas where we need to see immediate improvement among students and educators: language and communication; analytical appraisal; and career planning.

We have found that many primary school students are unable to read and write properly in Thai.

We plan to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with each local school, which will allow us to use our resources to develop an end-of-term test that all students must pass before they progress to the next grade. This will help teachers to recognize which students need extra help before they move on.

Systematic thinking skills are another problem. We have found



Chalam Attatham, 55, is the director of the Phuket Primary Educational Service Area Office. He received a master's in education from Srinakharinwirot University and a master's in educational administration from Thaksin University. Before taking up his post in Phuket two years ago, Mr Chalam

held the same position, but in Phattalung.

Here, he discusses the importance of education, its funding as well as some of the biggest issues that Phuket students face in an ever-changing, technology-dependent society.

that many students need to improve their creative thinking, analytical thinking, critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

The development of these skills is hindered by the internet and the access students have to the superfluous information it provides.

Students are relying too much on the internet to find the answers, rather than trusting in their own knowledge or that of their teachers. They are not thinking in depth, and in the long run, this will impede their progress. It's here we need to see some changes.

In this age of advanced technology, the world is at our doorstep – and it's one that is constantly changing and evolving.

If educators are unable to keep up, then it will be our students who

suffer. Everything students seem to need is now online.

However, not everything online can be trusted. Students are not aware of this, so teachers need to guide them in the right direction.

The last, and I think the most important, issue is making sure we provide students with the skills to build successful careers.

A lot of students are unable to finish school. I think this is because there are not enough career specialists on hand to help them decide what they want to do after they leave school, or when they go on to higher education.

We plan to provide specialists in schools that can guide students in the right direction and provide them with the information they need for personal development.

However, to make these projects come to life, we must have the cooperation of all parties: teachers, students and parents. We all need to be on the same page.



Mr Chart exposed the extent of Patong corruption last year. Photo: PR Dept

Police or caprice?

Island View

By Damian Evans

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

THE arrest of former Patong Mayor Pian Keesin, his scion "Prab" and the younger heir to Pian's Pisona Group empire, Mr Pattawee, offers a priceless opportunity for Phuket's future.

Why don't we take the under-the-table money for "extra services" tacitly – and corruptly – permitted by officials, and use it to bolster the salaries of government officers, including police?

It's no secret that officials, including the police, are paid salaries so low that it has become a common presumption that officials have to supplement their pay by receiving payments for offering "extra services". Thais call this "tea money", and in small amounts it is openly accepted.

So, let's take a tip from the experts: namely, corrupt officials and the people who pay them. The market rates for "extra services" in Patong have already been set – at about 50 million baht per month, as revealed by Chart Chindapol last year – and the businesses that pay these illicit fees have already factored them into their formula for ongoing profitable success.

Night venues that want to trade late can pay a legitimate fee, and the money can pay for extra police patrols during those hours and subsidize the improvement of infrastructure in the party town.

To make it fair, let's make this available only to businesses that pay the jacked-up rents inside the so-called Entertainment Zones in Patong and Kata-Karon.

But if the National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO) and the Royal Thai Police publicly claim that they want to arrest every person suspected of taking part in Patong's massive corruption game, they should do so – and take down everyone and clear the whole mess up.

Let the Keesins name everyone involved and how much was paid, and how much each person, including officials, received.

As of Tuesday this week, the police had not made a single mention of any police officers under investigation for collusion in the taxi mafia or expressed any interest in arresting the "Patong bagman" who was delivering the alleged 50mn baht a month.

The NCPO chose Phuket for its high-profile "cleanup" because it knew the world would be watching. The same cleanup is under way in Krabi, and even the Thai media doesn't care.

But if this campaign ends up looking like the NCPO is taking down only the influential figures they want to, they must remember that the world will see the capricious cleanup for exactly what it is – and that's what started the protests that put the coup leaders in power in the first place.

Issues & Answers...

...asking the questions that affect you...

Working out the rules for DJs who play on Phuket

As far as I know, a work permit states where you work and what kind of work you do. In the case of DJs who play one or two-hour sets in different venues, are multiple work permits needed?

Does an international DJ who stays – and plays – for only a few days have to obtain a work permit? Or, is there some special arrangement just for DJs?

VH Jean
Phuket

Yaowapa Pibulpol, chief of Phuket Provincial Employment Office (PPEO), replies:

At least one company address will always appear on every work

permit. If a foreigner is employed by more than one company, and under different employment contracts, he or she must have the address of each place of work added to the permit.

Hence, DJs are allowed to work at different venues as long as the PPEO has been informed of all of the workplaces and the permit has been updated.

Foreigners who come to work but only for a short period of time must present themselves to officers at the PPEO.

We will allow the person to work without a permit, but for no more than 15 days. However, they must get permission from us first.

Why can't we use the beach?

If you are not a guest at Le Meridien hotel in Karon, you are not welcome to use the public beach in front of their hotel. There is no walking access to the beach, and unless you are a guest you cannot use their road access or park your motorbike there. We have even been told to leave the beach before. I believe that the beach is Crown land and the hotel should be providing access to the public beach, if their land prohibits access.

Beach lover,
Phuket

Almario Mungcal, Director of Online and Marketing Communication for Le Meridien Phuket Beach Resort, replies:

The beach is public, not private,

and anyone can use it. We can confirm that non-guests are allowed to use the beach, free of charge.

In order to get to the beach, you must pass through the hotel. We have to screen every person who comes through our resort for safety purposes, and we monitor who comes in and out via our access road.

We will charge, however, if non-guests on a day trip to the beach want to use our facilities, such as the bathroom or the pool.

We have not been informed of any instance in which non-hotel guests were told to leave the beach. We would never do that. We would only ask someone to leave, if they are a non-guest who uses the facilities without paying.



Use the beaches, free of charge.
Photo: Gazette file

Send us your queries and we'll ask the right people to respond to them.
Submit your issue at
www.PuketGazette.net/IssuesAnswers

A sobering approach

RECENT reports of “sobering new alcohol laws” by some English-language news outlets have led to a great deal of bar-stool conversation, as well as speculation among social media.

The truth of the matter is that the Alcohol Sales Act of 2008, and subsequent ministerial regulations, have remained completely unchanged since the National Council of Peace and Order (NCPO) took power.

Despite the distorted views some foreign news-consumers may be receiving about our tourism industry, the reality is that Phuket remains a choice location for imbibers – and in all likelihood will remain so for the foreseeable future (see page 4).

While stricter enforcement has been bruited, Phuket has yet to see any significant increase in the number of arrests for such violations; nor have any local law enforcement agencies reported specific directives to conduct crackdowns.

The same is true of sensationalistic reports and subsequent speculation that enforcement of the 2am closing time in Patong will be the death knell for the nightlife industry in that town.

The real goal of the NCPO is laudable: to end systematic corruption. The fact that they are willing to take on the “untouchables” has been made clear with a series of arrest warrants issued for some of the most well-known political figures on the island (see page 1).

Hopefully the on-going probe will also result in warrants being issued for the many state officials who allegedly colluded with them, using their positions for personal gain – and turning the island’s tourism industry into an environmentally unsustainable laughing stock. Only when this happens can the current anti-corruption drive be seen as a true success, one with a real chance of transforming Thailand into a more civil society under its next civilian administration.

Thailand’s strict regulations on alcohol and tobacco advertising have won praise from international bodies like the World Health Organization in recent years. Sadly, enforcement of these measures, especially in “mom-and-pop shops” in more rural areas, remains virtually non-existent.

Just one example is the law forbidding the sale of “individual” cigarettes. Nevertheless, not only do these shops continue to sell them in this way, but an entire industry producing plastic bags expressly for this purpose continues to thrive.

All of this pales in comparison to the fact that these shops continue to sell cigarettes and alcohol to minors. Many countries have effectively restricted minors’ access to booze and cigarettes; if Thailand is ever to join their ranks, now is the time to do it.



Time for a taste of their own medicine

Re: Gazette online, Phuket taxi mafia fugitive Prab Keesin surrenders in Bangkok, September 1

It would be only fitting that he [Prab] be transported back to Phuket via tuk-tuk and made to pay the fare.

Let's see... if the fare from the Hard Rock Cafe to Graceland is 300 baht, then Bangkok to Phuket should be about 300,000.

This surrender in Bangkok was very calculated on his part. He acts like a rock star.

MJE
Gazette forum

Confused, but hopeful for lasting changes

Re: Gazette online, Metered taxi prices jump as roving service starts in Phuket, September 1

Can anyone clarify why there is a 100 baht surcharge and a 50 baht surcharge?

Having to pay 150 baht just to leave the airport doesn't really encourage business.

Hopefully there will be random meter checks as well and a hotline to call if Khun Surly won't turn the meter on.

Hopefully it really is a new start, though.

Mister Ree
Gazette forum

Bring on the airport bus and cheaper fares

Re: Gazette online, Police arrest 69 for role in Phuket taxi mafia, August 28

Brilliant news. Perhaps the Airport Bus will be able to run without fear of vandalism. Also, prices will be reasonable.

Perhaps in a 25 yard stretch between the taxi jobs there will not be a 100-baht variation in cost for the same journey!

Tony Robinson
Gazette forum

Letters to the Editor

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

Bad double standards

Re: Gazette online, Phuket Poll: Should we allow a dolphin park in Phuket?, August 31

What makes a dolphinarium any more inhumane than a zoo, tiger park, bird park, elephant trek, monkey show, snake show, aquarium, or any of the other myriad of ways in which animals are exploited for tourism?

To say no to one is to say no to all of them.

CaptainJack
Gazette forum

Nobody puts baby elephant in a corner

Re: Gazette online, Livestock officials implore Phuket police to investigate baby elephant owner, August 29

It's up to the police to investigate? Well, forget anything worthwhile happening in this case.

The only thing the police will be able to do is fine the poor beast 300 baht for not wearing a helmet.

This poor animal is living a miserable existence at the hands of these heartless elephant merchants.

They don't deserve the right to own these beautiful animals. Disgraceful people.

Ed Sanders
Gazette forum

Start pressing charges

Re: Gazette online, Police warn Phuket motorists to be cautious in monsoon weather, August 28

No charges were pressed against the driver? Sure, this guy

was speeding, even if he drove only 50 km/h.

The moment you lose control and skid off the road in the rain, you were driving recklessly.

Charge him for it to stop this from happening again, and again.

Anyone in or near a minivan is in danger, as they all drive like maniacs. The only way to slow them down is to charge them.

Joe
Gazette forum

Say no to Taiji

Re: Gazette online, Video Report: Phuket dolphin park's Taiji killing connection, August 29

Unfortunately, this will most likely happen. It's too far along.

They could, however, not allow any imported dolphins that originate from Taiji.

That alone would make a great statement to the world!

Jay Thrailkill
Facebook

Need to pull Phuket out of medieval times

Re: Gazette online, Keesin family trio denied bail over Phuket mafia charges, September 1

Any current support for the Keesin family is probably just political patronage. Some local “mayors”, heads of OrBorTor [Local Tambon Administration Organization] and so on, give favors to locals for their support at election time.

The favors can include approvals for illegal construction, illegal possession of government property and so on.

In this system, Phuket's government resembles medieval feudalism.

The local municipalities should be eradicated and replaced with a more centralized government.

Me
Gazette forum

Phuket Gazette

In association with The Nation Multimedia Group PCL

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WHAT'S ON in Phuket

September 6-7, 8:30am-4:30pm. Phuket Cycling Fest 2014

Phuket Cycling Fest 2014 kicks off in Phuket Town with an advanced race of 70km, an intermediate race of 26km and a beginners race of 10km. The program also includes a bicycle workshop as well as a meet-and-greet event with Thai celebrity "Wan Wan". Entrance fee of 350 baht includes a T-Shirt. For more information call 076-212213

September 12, 4-6pm "New Phuket" AMCHAM forum

Set for Friday September 12 at the Angsana Resort Laguna Phuket Ballroom this event is a must for those in the hotel, tourism, real estate and yachting sectors. The forum will be led by hospitality branding leader David Keen who is founder and CEO of Quo Global along with a panel of industry leaders.

Registration for the event, organized by the Greater Phuket Chapter American Chamber of Commerce (AMCHAM), begins at 4pm with the forum running from 4:30 to 6pm. Everyone is welcome to attend with admission for non-AMCHAM members at 100 baht. Networking drinks will follow.

To sign up for the forum, visit the website amchamthailand.com or contact Cheree Tanpensuk on sheree@amchamthailand.com or on 02-2541041 ext. 212.

September 18, 11:30am-2pm. Phuket International Women's Club September Lunch

The September lunch will be at Bollywood, Phuket Town. Early booking is recommended as seats are limited. All are welcome. Members 600 baht, guests 750 baht. For more information contact Maggy Wigman on 86-594 1758, email info@piwc-phuket.com.

info@piwc-phuket.com.

October 4, 7pm. Dinner and Rock Party at Bliss

Dinner and Rock party at Bliss in celebration of giving to needy kids in Phuket through the Rotary Club of Patong Beach. Opens at 7pm and closes at midnight. Tickets are 3,000 baht at the door or 2,500 baht in advance.

For more information call 081-892 9207, email davidarell@yahoo.com or go to rotarypatong.org. This event is proudly sponsored by the *Phuket Gazette*.

October 16, 11:30am-2pm. Phuket International Women's Club October Lunch

The October lunch will be at Divino, Cherng Talay. Early booking is recommended as seats are limited. All are welcome. Members 600 baht, guests 750 baht. Contact Maggy Wigman on 86-594 1758, email info@piwc-phuket.com

October 23. Chulalongkorn Memorial Day

Chulalongkorn Day commemorates the reign of Rama V.

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 Maggy Wigman on 086-594 1758, email info@piwcphuket.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

A festival traditionally performed on the full moon night of the 12th lunar month, which usually falls in November. 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 thirteenth consecutive year, the seven-a-side Football Tournament. 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@bisp Phuket.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.

November 20-22. The Phuket

International Sportfishing Tournament (PIST)

Registration on November 19 from 6pm onwards at the Tamarind Bar & Grill in Chalong. For more info, visit: phuket-international-sportfishing-tournament.com.

This annual event, now in its 10th year, is proudly sponsored by 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).

Dec 5, 2014, His Majesty the King's Birthday

His Majesty the King Bhumibol

Adulyadej's 87th Birthday. Also marked as Father's Day in Thailand.

Dec 10, 2014, 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

Christmas is not a public holiday in Thailand.

Dec 31 New Years Eve (Day)

New Years Eve is a public holiday in Thailand.



Phuket today
Phuket Gazette



Now on Truevisions HD 79, SD 107

BROADCASTING PHUKET TO THE WORLD

Phuket Today takes the Pearl of the Andaman to an international audience. PGTV's one-hour show features the personalities, lifestyle, sports and leisure activities that make Phuket famous.

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

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Merit making at Centara Grand



Centara Grand Beach Resort Phuket staff, together with hotel guests, meet each Wednesday morning for merit making, or *Tak Bart*, ceremonies, which provides a chance for guests to experience a traditional Buddhist activity, while learning more about Thai culture.

Sleep With Me Hotel

Staff from the SLEEP WITH ME HOTEL in Patong recently participated in the eighth annual Kata-Karon Beach Football League competition, held at Thoe Phra Kiat Nawamin Stadium.



Triathlon Super Camp

Thanyapura organized its first-ever Triathlon Super Camp recently, which aimed to optimize athletes' performances with the help of Thanyapura Executive Chairman and four-times Ironman champion Chris "Macca" McCormack and champion triathlete Jurgen Zack.



Camp participants also got a chance to brush up on their cycling skills.



Participants in the Triathlon Super Camp pose after completing their training at the end of last month.

Haad Thip first aid training



Haad Thip staff recently undertook first aid training to provide them with potentially life-saving skills.

DIY Card Contest at Amari Phuket



Amari Phuket recently held a DIY Card Contest to celebrate Mother's Day. Staff members joined the contest, using recycled materials to produce their Mother's Day cards. The contest was part of Amari's larger CSR initiative to preserve and protect the environment. Tipaporn Koonphol, deputy general manager (middle) was the master of ceremony and presented awards to the six winners.

The Phuket Gazette's weekly


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

PROPERTY of the week



THE ANDABUREE PHUKET



See page 17

PROPERTY SERVICES of the week



See page 19

JOB of the week



Hootersphuket.com

See page 20

PERSONAL SERVICES of the week

PHUKET MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING

See page 23

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Properties For Sale

RESORT

For sale or rent in Patong, 1200sqm land, 20 rooms, pool, restaurant, Fully furnished, equipment. Contact email: guidolando2@hotmail.com

HOUSE FOR SALE



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

LARGE SEAVIEW HOUSE AT LAYAN



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

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.

FOR SALE / RENT SEA VIEW

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

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@pacificlightshotel.com

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

BEAUTIFULLY FURNISHED CONDO

Attractively furnished, Fully equipped, 4th floor, 37sqm, 1-bed condo in the Royal Place. Tel: 081-828 0615 (English & Thai). Email: dom 23781@msn.com

LAND FOR SALE

Close to the beach in Mai Khao. 4,136 sqm. Chanote title 16.9 million baht. Negotiable price. Contact Khun Tik. Tel: 085-784 7218 (English & Thai). Email: khurut.phuketproperty@gmail.com

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

SEAVIEW LAND FOR SALE KAMALA



2.75 rai 4,500sqm. Nor Sor 3 Kor title, ready to be built, building permit, electricity, road access, only 10 mn baht/rai. Tel: 088-768 0942. Email: pascal.elephantboutiquehotel@gmail.com

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Tel: 076-310507

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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 AND HOUSE PARK

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

LAND FOR SALE

Back of Loch Palm, 510sqm, part of a small gated community of 2 villas, next to small lake. Chanote title and, if interested, complete house plans provided for free. 6 million baht, negotiable. For more information, please call 087-266 4583 (English), 082-440 6884 (Thai).

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

FREEHOLD POOL VILLA



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

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: Christophe.soula@hotmail.fr

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Contact: 076-350118, 083-389 7799.

Email: Pee_bang56@hotmail.com

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59 rai: 150,000 baht per rai. Beautiful land, perfect for resort living. Many big trees and a creek, very peaceful mountain views. Next to a national park. Power, water, easy access. 15 minutes from airport. Beautiful part of Thailand. Contact Nisa 086-211 1599. (English & Thai). Email: moon_nisa@hotmail.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.

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

HOUSE FOR SALE

2 bedrooms, fully furnished, land 350sqm, Chanote. Only 3.3 MB. Tel: 093-713 2278, after 5pm.

POOL VILLA FOR SALE

4 bedrooms, 3 bath, large pool, 2 living rooms, nice location, fully furnished, land 500sqm, Chanote, house 300 Sqm, ADSL, SAT TV, autogate, quick sale 9.5 MB. Tel: 093-713 2278, after 5pm.

LUXURY POOL VILLA



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

BEACHFRONT VILLA RAWAI



800sqm, 3-4 bedrooms, 2 living rooms, private beach, from 35 million baht. Sale: 29.9 million baht. Email: gm@thenetworkproperty.com

POOL VILLA FOR SALE / RENT



Rawai, 800sqm land, Fully furnished, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Price: 15 million baht. Contact Nisa. Tel: 089-674 4898.

Properties For Rent

BOUTIQUE ROOM FOR RENT

Fully furnished and colorful, Rang Hill Area. Tel: 089-668 3639. Email: zhunaumann@gmail.com www. BaanPhitakTawee.com

CHEAP KAMALA

2 bath 2 bedrooms, Fully furnished, free cable, WiFi, 14,000BTH / Month, 6mo-1 year. Tel: 087-274 4568.

2-BED APT PATONG

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

200SQM WAREHOUSE

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

FOR RENT, RAWAI / NAI HARN

Vassana Residence and Palm Breeze resort. Starting at 30,000 baht per month for long-term rent. Sea view rooftop deck and bar overlooking the Andaman Sea. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. LCD TV in every room, swimming pool, washing machine in every apartment. 160sqm in size, free WiFi. Tel: 087-882 9604. Email: artlpmj@yahoo.com, www.premierpropertiesphuket.com

2 BED CONDO FOR RENT

Rawai Beach, close to restaurants, shops and beach. Full amenities, pool, WiFi, kitchen. from 35,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-895 7908 (English & Thai), 081-892 6710(English). Email: peterh@asianwind.biz

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FULLY FURNISHED HOUSE

3-bedrooms, 400sqm, free WiFi and cable TV. 25,000 baht per month. For more information, please call 081-892 4311. http://palaigreen.weebly.com

3-BED VILLA RENT KAMALA

Villa in Kamala, 3 bedrooms all air con, 4 baths all ensuite, bath tub in master, Fully furnished, Euro kitchen, wash machine, Internet, cable TV, large garden so dog/cat OK, abundant free water, central hot water. Facebook: house rentkamala. Price: 35,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-773 4538. Email: skgf@skgf.asia

HOUSE FOR RENT

3-bedrooms, 2-bathrooms, 4 aircon. Fully furnished with small garden, quiet area. Rent 15,000 baht / month. Tel: 086-690 0626. Email: bcarrent@hotmail.com

PATONG 1 & 2 BEDROOM UNITS

Modern kitchens, large pool, free WiFi, maid, cable, parking, gym. For more information, please call 080-052 8082 (English & Thai). Email: phvcondo@aol.com

ART@PATONG 1 BEDROOM

Fully furnished, full kitchen, aircon, 24/7 security, overlooks pool, quiet, 5-minute walk to Jungcelon, long term 25,000 baht per month. Email: marklouisw@hotmail.com

HOUSE FOR RENT / SALE THALANG

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

7,000 BAHT PER MONTH

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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. Please call 089-655 7480. Email: suppmas@live.com

APARTMENT FOR RENT PATONG

Condo pool, security, 46 square meters, Fully furnished. For more information, please call 089-728 4005 (English&Thai). Email: thamad17@yahoo.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

KATA BEACH APARTMENT

Nice 1 bedroom, kitchen, WiFi, spa, fully furnished, 500 baht per night. Tel: 086-595 8512 081-970 4638 Email: nalumana2000@yahoo.com

KATA BUNGALOW SOI 4

Fully furnished, 1 bedroom, kitchen, bathroom, terrace, WiFi and cable TV. Price: 9,000 baht per month. For more information, please call 081-606 2827(English & Thai). Email: nij017@hotmail.com

KATHU GOLF AND VALLEY VIEW VILLA

1, 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, and 75,000 baht per month. For more information, please call 087-269 8492.

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: srupouy@gmail.com, www.tropical-house.net

POOL VILLA FOR RENT

1,2 bedrooms, fully furnished, Bang Tao, SAT TV. From 18,000 baht. Tel: 093-713 2278, after 5pm.

1-BED BUNGALOW

Rawai, WiFi, cable, aircon, kitchen, 9,000 baht. Email: bricothailand@hotmail.com

PATONG 1-3 BEDROOM APTS

In south Patong. Pool, gym, maid, free parking, WiFi & cable TV. Rates from 20K/M. Tel: 093-308 1670(English & Thai). Email: solitude001@aol.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 086-4769612. Email: annan01@hotmail.com

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- Good English/สื่อสารภาษาอังกฤษได้ดี
- Outgoing personality/บุคลิกภาพดี
- Hard working/ขยัน
- Fit/รูปร่างดี
- Have pride in appearance/มีใจรักด้านงานบริการ
- Aesthetically pleasing/ชื่นชอบความสุนทรีย์
- Great customer service skills/มีพื้นฐานด้านงานบริการ
- Food & Beverage knowledge/มีความรู้เรื่องอาหารและเครื่องดื่ม
- Experience in F&B field/มีประสบการณ์ด้านอาหารและเครื่องดื่ม

Incentives:

- Salary 30,000++ (basic & service charge)
- Daily Tips
- Staff Food
- Staff van

If you want to be a Hooters Girl then come in to the store & fill out an application form or contact Peer

Phone 076-349850 E-mail : Admin@hootersphuket.com

Welcoming both Thai & non-Thai nationality

Authorized Agents for Classified Advertising:

CHALONG

- ▶ Julapan Stationery (Chaofa East Rd) Tel: 076-282254
- ▶ KL Mart (Patak Rd, Chalongs Circle) Tel: 076-280400
- ▶ Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppe (Fisherman's Way Business Center, Chaofa East Rd) Tel: 076-282403

PATONG

- ▶ **NEW** Andy's Real Estate Agency (Opp. Savoeys Seafood) Tel: 076-341644
- ▶ Taurus Travel (Aroonsom Plaza) Tel: 076-344521-2
- ▶ Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppe (Aroonsom Plaza) Tel: 076-290468

PHUKET CITY

- ▶ Earth Language Training Centre School (Phang Nga Rd) Tel: 076-232398
- ▶ Sin & Lee (Thalang Rd) Tel: 076-258369
- ▶ iTree complete printing service (Tesco Lotus Phuket Town) bank zone 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

Phuket Gazette

The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following position:

CLASSIFIEDS ADMINISTRATION 1 POSITION

Qualified candidates will be:

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

and should have:

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

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

The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

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

COPY WRITER

Siam Real Estate require an English speaking freelance copy writer with experience in real estate copy. Flexible working-times; own hours. Good rate per copy. Tel: 076-288908. Send CV to jobs@siamrealestate.com. NO calls.

SALES REPRESENTATIVES

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

FULL-TIME MAID

Household in Layan with 2 dogs is looking for a full-time maid who is able to manage the house. She should be very experienced (over 30 years) and speak English well. 5-star hotel experience would be preferable. Good salary. Please contact Tel: 084-007 7553.

TELEMARKETERS FOR CHIANG MAI

Call center (outbound) in Chiang Mai looking for French or German-speaking agents for appointment setting (no sales). WP+Visa. Free room provided first month. Apply with CV and contact details. Tel: 083-420 6120 (English). Email: jobs@cmmid-intl.com

RENTALS CONSULTANT 100K+

From the success of Live Phuket, we are launching Live Samui and need a talented, driven and smart person to join the young holiday rentals team. You must speak and write almost perfect English, ideally someone who has either lived or worked in Samui. Must be a Thai National. Basic + Commission = 100,000 baht or more a month. Email: paul@livephuket.com www.livesamui.net

HOUSEKEEPER NANNY WANTED

Filipino housekeeper/nanny needed. Free room, food and visa, and good salary. Tel: 081-893 7720. Email: cc@bayshoreprojects.com.

REAL ESTATE SALES STAFF

We need 3 sales staff: 1 English speaking, 1 Russian, and 1 French / Italian speaking. Send CV with photo. Tel: 081-893 7720 (English). Email: cc@bayshoreprojects.com

MK EXECUTIVES REAL ESTATE

Phuket's leading real estate agency is looking for 2 new marketing executives to work in our property booths and offices in Patong and Rawai. High salaries and commissions are given to the right candidates. Please send your resumes / cv to info@phuket-condos-homes.com Tel: 076-341045, 081-459 0152 (English). Email: andres@phuket-condos-homes.com

SENIOR FRONT OFFICE

Receptionist 20 - 24K, Seeking experienced candidate to join our busy office, to provide a high quality of service to all of our guests. Role will include: Check in / register guests, sell training packages and write receipts, book accommodation / logistics, daily customer inquiries, check names for attendance of classes, prepare daily reports for management, cash handling / receipts. Must have intermediate / advanced English-language reading, writing, speaking. Must have beginner / intermediate MS Excel, MS Word. Contact: julio@tigermuaythai.com

**Marketing Staff Wanted**

Staff needed to join a promotions team to work in Real Estate. Thai female with good English communication skills.

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

SALESPERSON

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

LIVE-IN HOUSEKEEPER

Live-in housekeeper wanted for small family in Kathu. Duties include cleaning, laundry, some childcare and cooking. Excellent salary. Tel: 094-593 0729 (English). Email: ritaloui sedobson@hotmail.com

HOST FOR TOUR GROUP

Looking for part time host / guest attendant in Phuket. English speaking. High pay. Email us. Tel: 098-487 4168 (English). Email: aarenlee@ilike-phuket.com

EVENT / PR MANAGER

Well established event taking place in Phuket every December requires a Thai or Foreign national who has exceptional English language skills, reading, writing and speaking. Must be able to meet deadlines, work on own initiative and be a team player. Tel: 076-346927, 081-979 6320 (English). Email: gordon@asia-pacific-superyachts.com

DIGITAL CONTENT / MEDIA ASST.

Knowledge in Graphic Design/VDO Editing (Adobe Suite preferred) - Fluent in written and spoken English (Native-Level Preferred Thai national) - Ability to take pictures and VDO is an advantage. Please send your CV to aey@princessyachtss.com or call 076-238 060.

OPC'S WANTED. KOH SAMUI.

OPCs wanted for Koh Samui. Good sales people. Must speak English. Good salary. Tel: 077-413598, 093-680 2498. Email: opcbigsy@yahoo.com

Luxury Residential Villa Estate Project at Layan

The company is an affiliate of a multi-national real estate developer, Which owns 600 rai of land in Layan Area, Cherno Talay, Thalang. The first phase of project to develop a luxury residential villa estate is under construction.

Senior Accountant (1 position)

In charge of company's accounting tasks, including taxation, audits, finance and budget control
➤ Must be capable of using accounting software, Express, etc.

C&A Construction Supervisor (1 position)

In charge of supervising construction C&A works on site of residential villa estate development project

MEP Engineer / Supervisor (1 position)

In charge of supervising construction MEP works on site of residential villa estate development project
Supervising operation and maintenance of MEP equipment and common area service systems for residential villa estate

Landscape Engineer / Supervisor (on site) (1 position)

In charge of landscape development and maintenance program for 600 rai resort project
➤ Experience in and knowledge of landscape / horticulture / irrigation

Applicant must:

- ◆ Be Thai national
- ◆ Have 5 years or more experience at same or similar position to apply
- ◆ Speak and write English fairly well

Please send your curriculum vitae by e-mail to: hr@bangtaobeachltd.co.th
(All applicants will be treated in strict confidence)

Bang Tao Beach Ltd

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

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@aquamaster.net

THAI EXECUTIVE CHEF NEEDED

The Chakri Group of Restaurants has 6 successful restaurants throughout KL, Malaysia. We are recruiting Executive Chefs with minimum 7 years of hotel experience. Tel: (60) 03-5569 2211, +60 016-227 7610. Email: caleen@chakri.com.my www.chakri.com.my

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**!

Bar & Restaurant Equipment

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

Business Products & Services



DINO DAYCARE CENTER

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

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.

INSURANCE SERVICE

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

SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT

Professional and efficient. E-commerce, websites, desktop software. Tel: 085-073 9994. Email: jan.faroe@gmail.com

VISA SERVICES

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

40FT SEA CONTAINER

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

Golf Stuff

BLUE CANYON MEMBERSHIP

Family Membership. Maintenance paid through 2014. 760,000 baht, including Transfer Fee. Tel: 091-224 1773 (English). Email: smolar@hotmail.com

Club Memberships Available

PHUKET COUNTRY CLUB MEMBERSHIP

Family lifetime membership for sale 485,000 baht or best offer. Includes transfer fee and maintenance until end of the year 2014. Tel: 085-152 5616.

Personal Services Wanted

HOUSE BAND & DJ WANTED

House Band & DJ wanted for Beer Garden Restaurant in Khao Lak for high season. Contact Joe or Oot on 085-808 7363 (English & Thai). Email: kolaz58@gmail.com

GERMAN TEACHER NEEDED

We are looking for a German teacher for a 10-year-old child from 22-28 Dec 2014 and for 1 Jan 2015 - every morning for two hours in Patong. For more information, please call (41) 079-3696 535.

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)

Computers

IMAC

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

Personals

BACKGAMMON

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

Building Products & Services

WOOD WORK AND MORE

Built in Furniture for homes, kitchens, flooring, deck-ings, wardrobes, etc. Teak deck-ings for boats and interior work, anti-fouling and osmosis repairs, and fiberglass and gel coat works. We're also an authorized applicator of Xypex, crystallization waterproof systems. Yes, All for Wood and More! Tel: 076-243089, 081-968 3118, 081-271 3228. Fax: 076-238947. Email: info@procarpentering.com

Personal Services

Phuket Mental Health Counseling "Welcome Back International School Students"

To help Phuket students have a great start this school year and to prevent more serious problems, we provide help for:

- Teen depression, anxiety, anger and stress
- Adjustment to new school and culture
- Cutting and other forms of self-harm
- Sexual abuse, rape and sexual assault
- ADD and ADHD Testing
- School and family problems
- Drug and alcohol use
- Domestic violence, physical and emotional abuse
- Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)

Licensed US Mental Health Counselor (Florida #1124). 10+ years working with children and teens ages 5-18. Adult and family counseling available. Multi-cultural experience and perspective.

For Free Initial Consultation Contact:

Phuket Mental Health Counseling mobile: 086 2718153. | parwgk@aol.com



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

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

Saloon Cars

TOYOTA VIOS G 2009

116,000 km, 1st class insurance till May 2015, airbags, ABS, EBD, blue book. Tel: 092-079 7875. Email: bytheair@gmail.com

NEW JAZZ FOR RENT

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

NISSAN TEANA FOR SALE

Nissan Teana For Sale THB 1,350,000. Finance available. 11 months old. 2.5L. Full options. Contact owner 087-893 8747.

HONDA JAZZ 2004

130k but still looks and drives like new. 200,000 ono. Tel: 081-958 6512 (English), 081-787 8559 (Thai). Email: mns wilson@gmail.com

BENZ 220 E 2-DOOR

Year 1995 Benzine LPG, leather BBS wheel, excellent condition 660,000 baht. Tel: 087-890 8554 (English & Thai).

CHEVROLET CAPTIVA

Red SUV, 7 seats, 2007 model, 2.4i V6, Tiptronic / Automatic. Excellent Condition. One farang owner since new. 500,000 baht o.n.o. Tel: 081-837 5774. Email: slarti@onthenet.com.au

HONDA CITY FOR SALE



Automatic 2006. Aircon. CD player. Price for sale 235,000 baht. Tel: 081-607 8567. Email: suksa vat@hotmail.com

TOYOTA COROLLA ALTIS



Year 2004 for sale, excellent condition. Price: 230,000 baht. Tel: 081-968 9322.

HYUNDAI EXCEL



1992 sedan, manual in fair condition, cheap car for wet season. Price: 50,000 baht + o.n.o. Tel: 091-653 9049 (English).

ISUZU MU 7 SUV FOR RENT

This car is fully loaded, including GPS. Low season special price. Long time rental @ fair price. Please call 084-847 4377 (English). Email: info@thaidreams.se

2011 NISSAN 370Z



42,000 km, fully loaded, 7 spd auto / man, black leather int. Bose sound. 343 HP, 20" whls, beautiful car. 2.75 million baht ONO. Please call 081-438 7062. Email: timtka chuk@yahoo.com

TOYOTA VIOS 1.5L, 2005

4 door; 5 speed. Auto windows, new air conditioning and clutch, one foreigner lady. 225,000 baht o.b.o. Call the number above. For more information, please call 089-970 5795. Email: free mancapiat@gmail.com

VW CONVERTIBLE



04 model, automatic, 115 HP, 75,000km. For more information, please call 091-040 8869.

Motorbikes

KAWASAKI Z1000 2014

Z1 2014, ABS, 142hp, VERY FAST! Must go or I will die! For full info, contact me. 525,000 baht. Tel: 091-040 3838. Email: mattysiam@gmail.com

HONDA PCX

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

HONDA STEED 400 CC.

Excellent condition 130,000 baht. Tel: 087-890 8554 (English & Thai).

Pick-ups

ISUZU D-MAX PRESTIGE Z



Year 2012, 60,000km. Price: 850,000 baht. For more information, please call 088-753 7491 (English). Email: rus.zapes tate@mail.ru

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.

Rentals

A1 CAR RENT



Fully insured. Tel: 089-831 4703. Email: a1car rent@gmail.com

NEW CAR 13,000B / MONTH



Free delivery service. Call 081-6078567, or suksavat @hot mail.com or Line: 246phu ketline. www.phuket-carrent.net

CARS FOR RENT: JAZZ, VIOS

Delivery with Insurance. Long term rent from 14,000-16,000 baht per month. Please call 081-537 7137 (English & Thai). Email: app_wilawan@yahoo.com

CAR RENT @ FAIR PRICES

We offer low prices in high season. Book now and get our discounted prices from 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 084-847 4377 (English), 085-655 2613 (English & Thai). Email: info@thaidreams.se

RENT MOTORBIKE 1800 THB/MTH

Honda Dream 1800THB/MTH, Wave i 2400THB, Honda Click auto 2800THB/MTH. Tel: 086-683 7162. Email: yosompetch@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
PERFECT PRESENTATION & MAINTENANCE

Fairline Targa 62 GT
682,000 Euro

Imago 48
295,000 Euro

Sunseeker 53 Manhattan
695,000 GBP

Sunseeker Manhattan 63
880,000 GBP
BEST BUY

Cambria 50
\$125,000 USD
MASSIVE PRICE REDUCTION

Fusion 40
320,000 Euro
PRICE REDUCTION

Morgan 60
\$349,000 USD

Luc Bouvet Custom 52
250,000 Euro

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

HOBIE CAT 16

New mainsail, beach wheels, mast float, boat cover, racing harness, lifejackets. 150,000. Tel: 087-976 0066 (English). Email: peterfb999@yahoo.co.uk

NORTHSHORE 46 (1987)

Well-maintained lifting keel sloop, 56hp Yanmar 4JH Diesel (2005), just reduced to 95,000 AU\$. For details contact Alan Giles. Tel 084-842 6146. www.Boatshedphuket.com

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).

SALE BY OWNER

Due to low usage - 2007 Gulf Craft 33/F W/A, 2x225 Suzuki (300 hours), aircon, generator, jack plates, RIB dinghy, many extras. 6.1 million baht. Tel: 089-873 3713 (English). Email: erwin.a.hardy@gmail.com

FIBERGLASS ONE ENGINE BOAT

Speedboat for sale. Made in 2012, engine 115hp overhauled in 2013, excellent condition. Price: 350,000 baht. Tel: 087-897 0076 (English). Email: kp@ppc.cz

BERTRAM 35 FLYBRIDGE (1982)

2 x 215hp Cummins Diesels, an inexpensive example of these quality sport fishers. Reduced to only 77,000 US\$ For details contact Alan Giles. Tel 084-842 6146. www.Boatshedphuket.com

CHEAP DIVE COMPRESSORS

Bauer Mariner 250, year 2006, price baht 140,000. L&W 245 year 2002 + another L&W 245 as spare parts. Total baht 70,000. Both in working condition. Tel: 081-370 3376 (English), 081-970 7480 (Thai). Fax: 076-280074.

A STEAL FOR A QUICK SALE



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

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, 084-626 4969 (English) Fax: 076-348134. Email: neef@wana.doo.fr

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/TeakBoatPhuket

HYPALON DINGY 3.3M



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

CHEAP DIVE COMPRESSORS

Bauer Mariner 250, year 2006, price baht 140,000. L&W 245 year 2002 + another L&W 245 as spare parts. Total baht 70,000. Both in working condition. Tel: 081-370 3376 (English), 081-970 7480 (Thai). Fax: 076-280074.

VOLVO PENTA 380HP



Marine engines for sale: Volvo Penta TAM71B, 6 cylinder, 380hp, 2500 rpm, turbo charged. 1) Engine number 207112 4065, with reverse gear box Twin Disc MG-507, 198:1, 5M74752. 2) Engine number 2071 1240 64 with reverse gear box Twin Disc MG-507, 198:1, number 5M7 474. Net Weight: 850kg per engine. Two silencers: MGS IN/OUT 5', 45°. Price: 1 million baht per engine. Tel: 081-306 1150 (English & Thai). Email: rm2@food.comthailand.com

NEW KARNIC 2052

Deep V Hull, hydraulic steering, Bimini, stereo & marine heads. Special low season price, includes launching trolley 699,950 THB inc VAT Now in stock at our Boat Lagoon Showroom. For details contact Alan Giles. Andaman Boat Sales. Tel: 084 842 6146. Email: boats@andamanboatsales.com

SELLING YOUR BOAT?

With high season just around the corner, now is the right time to get her listed. Boat shed phuket.com is always looking for new listings, big or small, power or sail, to meet the demand for competitively priced, quality boats. 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: boats@andamanboatsales.com

REGAL 2665 (2005)

Volvo 5.7 OSXi 320 HP engine with only 185 hrs. A/C, generator, full cockpit enclosure, all in great condition. 2,490,000 THB Contact Alan Giles on 084:8426146. 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

BOAT INSURANCE
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

CLASSIC S & S SWAN 57 KETCH

The last of the Sparkman & Stevens Swans, a beautifully presented, elegant yacht with many recent upgrades. Only US\$349,000, will buy this top quality head turner. For details contact Alan Giles. Boatshed phuket.com. Tel 084-842 6146. Email: alangiles@boatshedphuket.com

PAGE 40FT SPORTFISHER



Twin CAT 3208 TA, needs repair, new fiber glass and paint to hull October 2013. Urgent sale. Price: 800,000 baht ono. Tel: 082-839 7701. Email: ger.ryhodes@live.com.au

SOLUTION TO THIS WEEK'S

Cryptic crossword



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. MESSENGER: mess-green 10. UPPERCASE: upper-case 12. CLIP: C-lip 13. SPRINT: S-print 14. CHOKDEE: choked-E 15. BRILLIANT: tillbrain 17. MEATEATER: atreatme(E) 18. EPAULET: E-putale 19. STRAIN: S-train 20. SECT: sec-T 23. PRIMETIME: firstate-occasion 25. GREENLAND: green-land 26. RANK: stinking 27. PLACED: place-D 29. RELAPSE: salerep 32. YOUNGSTER: immature-rest 34. KOMAPHRAO: omahapork 35. RECITER: Re.-cite-R 36. ISLAND: island(N) 37. OTIC: 0-tic 38. SPECTATOR: statecrop 39. ELECTIONS: noiselect
Down: 1. AMICABLE: claimabe 2. ASSIMILATION: tailamission 3. EGGPLANT: egg-plant 4. ARTIST: art-1st. 5. CUSTOMER: curemost 6. SPECIALIZE: sizeplace 7. TROOPER: report(0) 8. PENETRATED: teenparted 11. AUDIT: applauditem 16. LOLLED: doll(le) 19. SUE: use 21. EXASPERATION: inaseaexport 22. UNCLIP: un-clip 23. PARTYDRESS: dressypart 24. ILLITERATE: poorly-iterate 25. GOD: go-D 28. CARRIERS: caresir(R) 29. REMINDER: re-minder 30. EXORCIST: corexist 31. AGITATE: igetata 33. UNCLE: unclear 34. KILLER: like(L)(R)

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DJ Dave Dixon Rocks XANA Beach Club

Dutch DJ Dave Dixon, aka DJ Allure, hit the decks at the XANA Beach Club with Attica during the final stop on his Thailand tour last Friday.



From left: Sherry Jan; DJ Allure; Albert Ocasio; Monica Ocasio; and Vincent Gerards.



DJ Dave Dixon and Daniel Boccalini stand by the decks at XANA Beach Club.




From left: Nutch Tanpradit; a XANA Dancer; and Mazar Rugnailuang.



From left: Sally Chantasuan; Danny Vercauteren; Sai Kretnatee; and Mali Masopas.

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Words from the wise

"And I believe we need heroes, I believe we need certain people who we can measure our own shortcomings by."

— Richard Attenborough

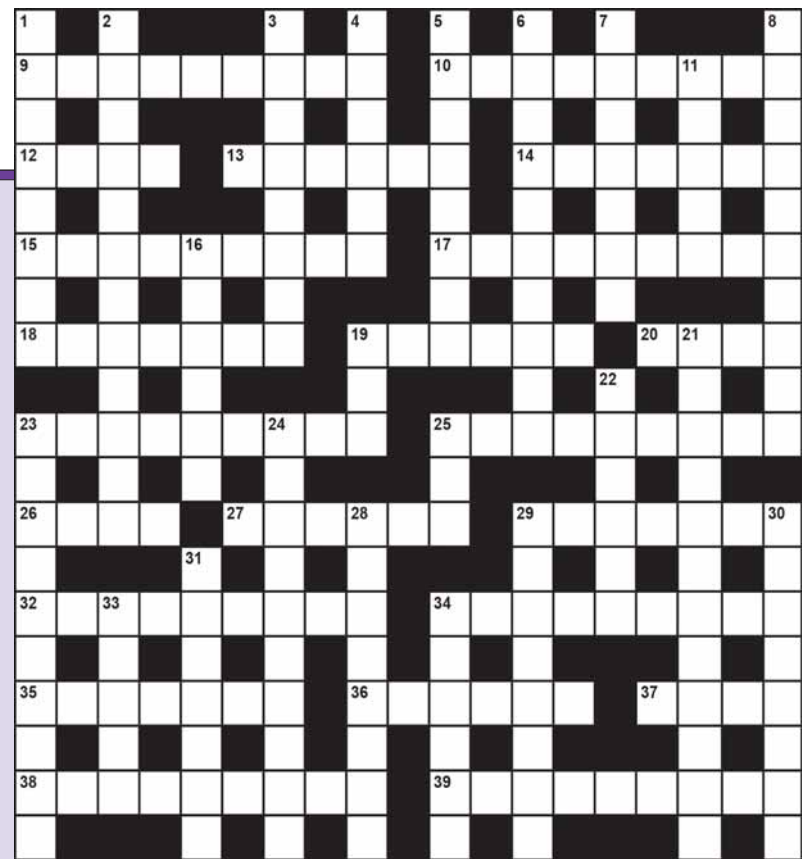
"Hard times don't create heroes. It is during the hard times when the 'hero' within us is revealed." — Bob Riley

COFFEE
break

Cryptic Crossword

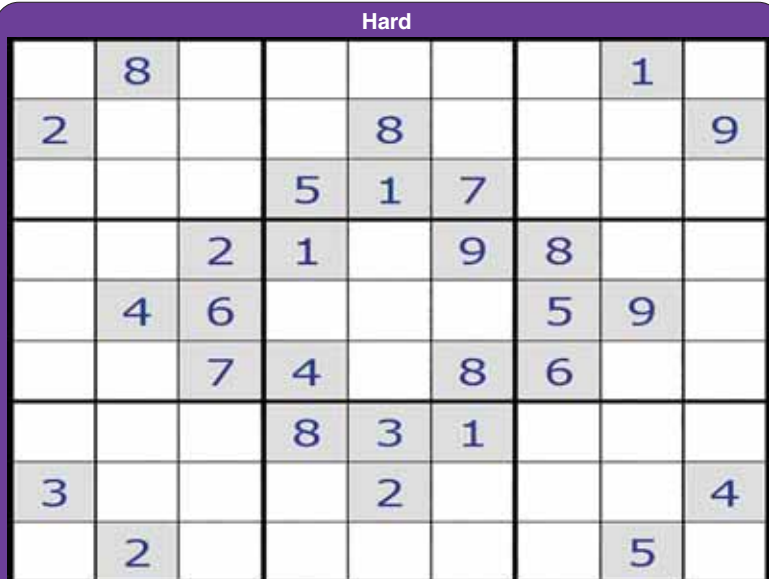
Across

9. Courier in a mess, could be green (9)
10. Superior cover in capitals (5,4)
12. Cut caught edge (4)
13. Race short distance of second type (6)
14. Maybe choked, note, by good luck in Thailand (4,3)
15. Very bright till brain confused (9)
17. Possibly a treat, me out East as a carnivore (4,5)
18. Egyptian put ale out on getting uniform emblem (7)
19. Overtax small retinue (6)
20. Dry time for religious cult (4)
23. First-rate occasion in busiest TV hours (5,4)
25. Improve the environment, go ashore in North Atlantic country (9)
26. Stinking row (4)
27. Spot date put down (6)
29. Sale rep arranged to become worse (7)
32. Immature, messed up. Rest, kid (9)
34. Omaha pork cooked on an island off Phuket! (9)
35. About cite Romeo, one who tells stories (7)
36. Island not South, North in the interior (6)
37. Involuntary spasm following, nothing to do with the ear (4)
38. Observer to state crop spoiled (9)
39. No, I select different ballots (9)



Down

1. Claim Abe could be friendly (8)
2. Absorbing to tail a mission around (12)
3. Encourage factory to produce shiny vegetable (8)
4. Painter shows craft first (6)
5. Cure most unsettled consumer (8)
6. To be expert in size I place out of order (10)
7. Maybe report nothing in it for a cavalryman (7)
8. Sank in, teen parted incorrectly (10)
11. Examine accounts, applaud item found inside (5)
16. The French doll moving outside, lazed about (6)
19. Possibly use to prosecute (3)
21. Irritation at moving in a sea export (12)
22. Take out of paper holder a French cutting (6)
23. Arrange dressy part in attire for a celebration (5,5)
24. Poorly iterate as unlettered (10)
25. Turn daughter to the Almighty (3)
28. Maybe care, Sir, about river shippers (8)
29. Prompt about protector (8)
30. Cor! exist precariously as an evil spirit remover (8)
31. I get at a movement and perturb (7)
33. Unclear, not a right relation (5)
34. Asassin, like maybe left inside, runs (6)



Medium



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

VIRGO (Aug 24-Sept 23):



A sun-Pluto alignment could be the catalyst that pushes you to make a key decision. If you've

been mulling over a relationship issue, having a plan could help ease anxiety, leaving you free to act. Later though, as Venus sashays into your sign, you might realize this is no substitute for an in-depth and heartfelt discussion.

LIBRA (Sept 24-Oct 23):



All kinds of plans seem to be moving forward, particularly those related to your social life,

where some very special opportunities are currently open to you. Yet, your desire to connect might mean you're keen to involve yourself in activities out of your usual remit. In fact, moving in new circles could be very rewarding at this time.

SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22):



An edgy link early on suggests you'll be tempted to make short work of a problem that

needs time and patience to resolve. If you hurry things you

could spoil your chances of getting the best outcome possible. Later, social delights await as Venus moves into Virgo, enticing you out and about to meet with your circle and relax a little.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21):



Perhaps it's time to team up with someone who loves action and adventure as much

as you. The quarter moon suggests that while you have certain skills you can use to bring a goal to fruition, you might lack one or two that are crucial. This week, key influences suggest you may be about to meet someone who has them off to a T.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20):



A conversation could give a relationship a new lease on life and encourage streams

of positive feeling to flow once again. In this regard, a Pluto link suggests getting to the heart of the matter and giving your honest views can put things on a much better footing between you. Later, a friend's positive advice might get you out of a pickle.

YOUR
horoscope

By Patrick Arundell

AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19):



A little string-pulling might help you advance your interests, enabling you to rally others

to your cause. This week's alignment suggests you may not be adverse to a little manipulation if it helps get a well-meaning project off the ground. Meanwhile, you could want to invest in a study course that gives you many more options for the future.

PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20):



If you're keen to explore fresh ideas or take on a challenge with a difference, the

week ahead might well deliver. Yet, there could be conflict over whether to expand your options on the work front, or plan ahead for a travel adventure – both of which can seem equally appealing. Finally, romantic options look truly scintillating from Friday.

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20):



A playful and upbeat energy complements your focused and determined attitude to

getting things done. If you have a plan and back it up with a disciplined approach, your creative skills can be part of the reason things come to a successful completion. Once you have your eye on a key goal you'll likely stick with it until the end.

TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21):



Mercury's move into Libra this week might entice you to explore options associated with health

and wellness. A new book or website could catch your attention and be the catalyst for positive change. In addition, if you've been busy getting your place shipshape, leisure activities may now appeal, particularly if music, art or craft-based.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21):



You can be a magnet for success as Jupiter continues its journey through your communication sector. At the

very least, connecting with oth-

ers sympathetic to your goals could net you a supportive friend. Later, a spark of attraction may cause a stir, particularly if you get talking to someone you've so far admired from a distance.

CANCER (June 22-July 23):



There's so much potential awaiting you, if you're willing to explore creative possibilities

and overcome any fears linked with your self-expression. You might find that Mercury's move into Libra encourages you to use your skills and abilities in small ways at first, which might inspire you to tackle bigger challenges at a later date.

LEO (July 24-Aug 23):



The quarter moon on Tuesday hints that a romantic development may seem to unravel

just when you had your hopes set on a positive outcome. Yet, Mercury's arrival in Libra suggests a sensitive conversation could help resolve things. Later, as Venus glides into Virgo, you might decide to invest in a makeover to update your image.

Stitching up the market

Bangkok Hospital Group acquires Phuket International Hospital, closes in on 50-hospital goal

By Mark Knowles

BANGKOK Dusit Medical Services PLC (BDMS), commonly referred to as the Bangkok Hospital Group, announced last week its intent to purchase Phuket International Hospital (PIH) for 3.61 billion baht.

According to a document submitted by BDMS to the President of the Stock Exchange of Thailand, the sale is expected to be finalized by the end of the year, once due diligence is completed by PIH.

Following the sale, PIH will be renamed Bangkok Phuket International and operated as a subsidiary of the Bangkok Hospital Group, "in order to support its business expansion and hospital operation in Phuket Province".

The acquisition will allow BDMS to take ownership of 99.9% of PIH shares, as well as accepting the transfer of all its liabilities to an amount not exceeding 416 million baht.

In the document, BDMS states three key benefits expected to arise from its acquisition; "(1) Enhancing the capacity of the group companies in servicing middle class patients (both domestic and foreign) in the southern part of Thailand. (2) Providing



Bangkok Hospital Group has recently opened a new branch on Phuket as well as acquiring PIH.

additional channels for patient's referrals to the network hospitals. (3) Establishing a platform to accommodate the growth of medical tourism in Phuket Province."

Established in 1990, PIH was originally called Siroj Hospital

and had 151 beds which was later expanded to 281. Ekapol Tharasiriroj, one of the largest shareholders of PIH could not be reached for comment.

The Bangkok Hospital group also recently opened its newest branch, Dibuk Hospital, located on

Chao Fa West Road, with the aim of servicing the southern part of the island. According to Dibuk Hospital Director Piriya Atisook, the new branch is part of the Bangkok Hospital Group's planned expansion of services in Southern Thailand.

Bangkok Hospital Group is the Kingdom's largest hospital operator with 34 locations in operation and another nine under construction or planning to open along with the PIH acquisition gives them a total of 44 branches. According to a report in *The Nation*, the company maintains its goal of owning 50 hospitals in 2015, implying that there are seven hospitals yet to be announced.

Marketing and PR staff from Bangkok Hospital Phuket declined to comment on the sale and said the company would prepare and release a statement to the media.

The *Gazette's* property expert Bill Barnett, who broke the story on his website phuketinsider.com, raised the possibility of price increases at the hospital under the new owners.

"It's unclear if the transaction will see Bangkok Hospital Group try to push similar [prices to its existing pricing policy] but there is scope for it and for business that makes sense cost-wise," he said.

"Consolidation makes sense in many sectors as the market matures because they can effectively buy a further share," explained Mr Barnett.

Southern rubber farmers feel left behind

THAI rubber farmers who supported anti-government protests that led to a military coup in May say they feel betrayed because the ruling military is failing to help soften the blow of plunging rubber prices.

Thailand is the world's largest rubber producer and exporter, but falling prices and a decision by the military not to extend subsidies risks alienating rubber farmers, most of whom are in the south.

Rubber farmer Somkid Unping joined demonstrations that began late last year, aimed at bringing down the government of then Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra.

The government was ousted in a May 22 coup but Mr Somkid, who is from the southern province of Surat Thani, said his hopes for a better deal for rubber farmers had been dashed.

"We stayed for months because we

believed that a new government would not neglect us," Mr Somkid said.

"We feel betrayed."

The junta has tried to step back from a culture of subsidies across the agricultural sector although junta leader Gen Prayuth Chan-ocha, who became prime minister on Monday, has said the government would offer some help, including soft loans for producers to buy fertilizer.

But disgruntled farmers say that is not enough.

Six rubber farmers' associations plan to meet Gen Chatchai Sarikalaya, a member of the ruling National Council for Peace and Order, to voice their concern.

"We heard General Prayuth say on television last week that he cares about rubber farmers but the intention to help has come too late," Boonsong Nabtong, chairman of

the Federation of Rubber Planters Association of Thailand and a supporter of the Democrat Party, told Reuters.

There were no plans to protest, he said.

FALLING GLOBAL DEMAND

A bastion of the Democrat Party, southern Thailand is the main rubber-growing region.

The six months of protests in Bangkok that helped bring about the ouster of Ms Yingluck's government were led by Suthep Thaugsuban, a former deputy premier in a government run by the Democrat Party. Mr Suthep, a southerner also from Surat Thani province, called on rubber farmers to help bolster the protests.

Thailand produced 4.2 million tons of rubber in 2013, of which 3.7 tons were for export, generating about 200 billion baht (US\$6.27bn).

— Reuters



Thailand is the world's largest rubber producer and exporter. Photo: Jeremie Schatz

AMCHAM forum to discuss 'New Phuket'

THE impact of recent changes throughout Phuket following the coup in May will be the focus of the American Chamber of Commerce (AMCHAM) Thailand forum on September 12.

The forum, to be hosted by brand-development company Quo Global's founder and CEO David Keen, will examine how Thais, expats and foreign tourists are expected to perceive the recent transformation of the island — especially regarding the sweeping changes made on Phuket's beaches.

AMCHAM invites those from the hospitality, tourism, real estate and yachting industries, as well as the general public, to attend and share their views and opinions with the panel of industry experts.

The event will be held at the Angsana Resort Laguna Phuket with registration beginning at 4pm and the forum to run from 4:30 to 6pm. The general public is encouraged to attend.

The event is free for AMCHAM members and 100 baht for non-members.

— *Phuket Gazette*



The forum will address recent changes on Phuket. Photo: Gazette file

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The magic of compounding

Finance

By David Mayes

THIS column has previously discussed compounding and the magic it can work, and it is the main reason why it is so important to start saving early in life rather than later.

Assuming a fixed amount is desired by a certain retirement age – which is not actually recommended financial planning, but serves for demonstration purposes – this figure is achievable with a low rate of return. This means assets can be used with less risk or variability in returns, and therefore increases the probability the goal will actually be met.

The following numbers are often used with clients to show the principle, but remember, it is better to start with what can be saved and work forward than to start at the final goal and committing to a plan that cannot be afforded. Otherwise, it will be abandoned midstream and a potential mistake may be made that could have a big impact. Let's say, by the age of 60, a retirement pot of a million bucks, pesos, or whatever currency is the savings goal.

If saving commences at 25 years old, even with the low compound rate of return of 2% per annum, only about 20,000 per annum needs to be saved. That seems doable,



More can be done with less savings if the magic of compounding is given time to do its thing. Photo: Poppy Thomas-Hill

however, if saving starts at 45 years old, that number grows to almost 58,000. But what if a good return could be earned at, say, 8% per annum over the period? This would actually make the difference even bigger. Beginning at 25 years old, only about 5,000 would need to be stashed away; but starting at 45

years old, annual contributions of about 38,000 would be needed.

Another way to look at this is to assume that about 1,000 per month could be saved, then determine at what age saving would need to begin to reach the 1-million-mark at age 60. With a 2% long-term compounding rate, saving would need

to start at 10 years old. Don't confuse today's low rates with the average over a long time frame such as 20+ years. Even when looking back and including the recent low-rate environment which has persisted longer than any other in the last century, an averaged compounding rate much higher than 2%

would have been earned with strictly fixed interest investments.

With a 6% annual compounded return, 1 million could be put away by the age of 60 by saving a mere thousand every month starting at age 29. At 8% per annum, saving could wait until 33 years old, but if saving was put off until 39, a return of 12% per annum would be needed to hit the million mark at 60. It is extremely difficult to average 12% over such a long time frame and not realistic for most people, regardless of their risk tolerance.

One million is not necessarily the magic number, nor is 60 years old the right age for everyone to retire. Hopefully what is gained from this article is an understanding of how much more can be done with less monthly savings, if the magic of compounding is given plenty of time to do its thing. Most people think successful investing is about finding high returns, but it is more about planning for the long term and using lower-risk investments in combination with compounding effects.

David Mayes MBA lives in Phuket and provides wealth management services to expatriates throughout South East Asia, focusing on UK pension transfers. He can be reached at 085-335-8573 or david.m@faramond.com. Faramond UK is regulated by the FCA and provides advice on taxation and pensions.

Bioplastics break into local market

DAIRY Home, a leading dairy producer, has agreed to use bioplastics for all of its yoghurt packaging, in a deal struck with NatureWorks Asia Pacific, an affiliate of PTT Global Chemical, marking significant progress in PTTGC's aspiration to turn Thailand into a hub of the bioplastics industry in Asia.

Dairy Home managing director Pruitti Kerdchoochuen said he expected other leading dairy companies to follow his firm's lead in using bioplastic packaging soon. This is because the price gap between bioplastics and conventional polymers has been reduced to about 30 per cent, from some 300 per cent a few years ago.

Athavudhi Hirunburana, chief operating officer of PTTGC, said the launch of bioplastic packaging for Dairy Home's organic products was part of his firm's strategy to become a chemical-business leader that pays attention to economic, social and environmental impacts.

Thanks to its acquisition in 2001 of a 50-per-cent share in NatureWorks, the world's leading bioplastics manufacturer that owns proprietary production technologies, PTTGC has become ready to introduce bioplastics to Asian markets, as well as preparing to expand the manufacturing base to the region, especially to Thailand.

"Utilizing agricultural produce for



Bioplastics are getting more affordable. Photo: Hispalois

bioplastics manufacturing will help add value to the country's farm products, boosting farmers' incomes, while we serve the needs of modern consumers who care and

want to take part in environmental protection," he said.

Dairy Home is one of only two dairy-product companies to receive official organic certificates in Thailand. The company will introduce bioplastic-packaged yoghurt late, this month. It currently sells about 2.5 million yoghurt cups per year.

Pruitti said Dairy Home, which until recently sold its organic products only at higher-end supermarkets, had made more headway into the mass market, reflecting higher acceptance by mass consumers of pricier organic foods. Dairy Home's bioplastic-packaged organic yoghurt products are available at leading stores such as Jiffy,

MaxValue, Villa Market, Foodland, Isetan, Big C, and Tesco Lotus.

Viboon Pungprasert, general manager of NatureWorks Asia Pacific, said the firm's bioplastic products marketed under the Ingeo brand were made 100 per cent from plants grown in nature. While maintaining the same good quality as oil-based plastics, Ingeo's "green chemicals" help reduce greenhouse gases and energy consumption by more than 50 per cent. Ingeo polylactic acid bio-polymers have been used by leading dairy firms such as Danone and Stonefield in Germany and the United States.

– *The Nation*



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Move to train staff for hotels, tourism

THE Tourism Council of Thailand has teamed up with vocational colleges to offer intensive training courses, in an attempt to improve manpower in the sector, after worrying personnel shortages.

The cooperation aims to ease the shortage of skilled labor in the industry, which is reportedly being challenged by liberalization.

TCT president Piyaman Tejapabul said the sector was concerned about house keeping, the front office, multi-lingual staff, and food and beverage. The hotel sector alone needed about 100,000

workers per year due to the expanding hotel and resort industry.

The industry so far has not suffered a management shortage.

Staff who can work as guides and speak Russian, Korean or Arabic were also needed. The TCT, in tandem with the colleges, is offer training courses for 32 employment facets of the industry in a bid to improve manpower.

Members of the Thai Hotels Association are hosting and providing venues for the training.

"Thailand is going to join the formulation of the Asean Economic

Community, or AEC, next year, but we still have many unskilled workers," Piyaman said. She added that while the country was moving slowly on human-resource development, the TCT believed that by joining forces with educational institutes, it would set a benchmark for the entire industry in the long term.

According to Piyaman, two million people work at hotels and resorts in Thailand and about three million are involved in related business such as restaurants, shops, and transportation. – *The Nation*

Zcape condos offer options

By Mark Knowles

TRI Property's Zcape Condominium in Cherng Talay, one of the first smart-function condo concepts to launch in Phuket, is now complete

and the company says its sales are going well as the first residents begin to move in.

Zcape Condominium's space-saving "flip & slide" design concept, with sliding partition walls for the inexpensive single-bedroom and studio units, was an instant hit when sales were launched in late 2012 with all 198 units sold within three months.

Early investors in Zcape Condo's units are now benefitting from strong resale value and healthy rental returns as a mix of local and international residents populate the growing cosmopolitan community surrounding the new Boat Avenue complex on Baan Don Road near Laguna Phuket.

Zcape Condo overlooks the new collection of boutique stores, offices and the international supermarket Villa Market at Boat Avenue, and has a view of the nearby hills from the upper floors.

About a hundred meters back from the main road, Zcape X2 – Tri Property's second residential project in Cherng Talay – is taking shape and is scheduled for completion by mid 2015. Zcape X2 comprises 188



north and south facing one and two-bedroom residences over seven floors.

Tri Property's signature urban design concept is accompanied by resort-style facilities, including a

full-length lap pool, pool lounge, gymnasium and 24-hour lobby reception aimed at offering convenience for people living and working in and around the west coast resort area.

Zcape X2 has also proven popular among professionals seeking conveniently located accommodation. Only 40 units remain available, priced from just over 1.8 million baht. The units come fully furnished with Index furniture packages and kitchens by Modernform.

Tri Property CFO and Phuket native, Chaiwat Tuntiwiwat, said Tri Property's Z-style living concept was conceived to offer a convenient base for career-oriented types in the Cherng Talay area.

"The location of Zcape condos was the primary factor in our vision to build residences that would be an integral part of the blossoming cosmopolitan community," said Chaiwat.

Construction of Zcape X2 is scheduled to be complete by May next year. For more information visit: z-phuket.com, call 084-444 0707-9 or email: mk.triproperty@gmail.com



Zcape X2 still has 40 units available, priced from just over 1.8 million baht. Photos: Supplied



The units come fully furnished with Index furniture packages and kitchens by Modernform.

Thailand set to become key AEC logistics hub

THE eight-year plan to develop the country's transportation infrastructure at a cost of 2.4 trillion baht will turn Thailand into a key logistics hub in the Asean Economic Community (AEC) by the time the projects are completed in 2022, said Roengsak Tongsom, director of the Rail Project Development Office.

The goal of the strategy to develop the logistics system and integrate all transportation platforms – rail, air, road and water – stretches beyond the Kingdom's borders, as some of the projects form part of a plan to link the country's transportation system with those of neighboring countries, he said.

The first priority is to develop 10 rail routes in greater Bangkok worth 700 billion baht in total, by 2019.

"These lines will form part of plans to support the inner-city transportation system and city expansion from the heart of Bangkok into the suburbs. They will reduce crowding in the central business districts," said Roengsak.

The next stage of the infrastructure investment plan is to develop the country's wider transportation system and link Thailand and neighboring countries by rail – via a double-track system, in particular.

The priorities in this respect are construction of a 392.57-billion-baht Nong Khai-Nakhon Ratchasima-Saraburi-Laem Chabang-Map Ta Phut railway, and a 348.89-billion-baht Chiang Khong-Den Chai-Baan Pahchi line – both using a double-track system.

Investment in these crucial lines will commence in fiscal year 2015, with completion targeted for 2021.

The double-track routes will drive the goal of Thailand becoming a key strategic and logistics gateway to the AEC, which is set to come into effect next year, said the official.

The Nong Khai-Nakhon Ratchasima-Saraburi-Laem Chabang-Map Ta Phut route will support the logistics system from Map Ta Phut to the Lao capital, Vientiane, while the Chiang Khong-Den Chai-Baan Pahchi route will support the logistics system to Myanmar and Southern China.

The infrastructure investment planned for greater Bangkok will ease the overcrowding problem by expanding residential areas beyond the central business districts and into the suburbs, said Property Perfect CEO Chainid Adhyanasakul.

Once the infrastructure projects get under way next year, the listed residential developer will expand its investment in Bangkok's peripheral provinces, in line with the mass-transit route expansion, he said.

Another listed developer, Sansiri, is also planning provincial expansion due to the state's revived infrastructure spending plans.

"We suspended our investment in the provinces when the infrastructure investment program worth 2 trillion baht was suspended. If the new government expands the investment to develop the country's infrastructure in the provinces, we will be ready to expand our investment into new provinces [for Sansiri] that are located close to new infrastructure routes," said the company's president, Srettha Thavasin.

– The Nation



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UNIT 4 3 BEDROOM 22.5MB



UNIT 5 2 BEDROOM 19MB



UNIT 6 2 BEDROOM 22MB



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A journey back to our old town



Property Watch

By Bill Barnett

ONE of my earliest memories of theater is the three-act play *Our Town* by Thornton Wilder. It's simple, direct and economic in its depiction of life, love and death in a small town. One of the most notable facts about the play is how the author used meta-theater. Metatheater is a technique often used in narrative forms, which can have the audiences laughing and crying at the same time. It could all be described as a play within a play. As we all know, real life is pretty similar.

Here in Phuket, "Our Town" is the heartbeat of a changing landscape. Over the decades it has witnessed the transformation of the island from plantations and mines, to trading and on into tourism. Immigrants from various parts of Asia and beyond, have blended into the culture and created texture. Today, those who live here remain conflicted, as the center of the island has been deemed a city, yet for so many, the habit, or perhaps something deeper, still voices itself in the use

of the term Phuket Town.

There are a number of champions of the cause of preservation of the heritage of the area. Lori Ashton comes to mind, with her *Art & Culture* magazine and *Phuket Treasure Map* which is a walking guide to the Sino-Portuguese area and its unique architecture. There is Pranee Sakulpipatana, whose love of his-

Throughout Asia, we have seen the past disappear before our very eyes, from Singapore to Shanghai and here in Phuket. Those who remain committed to retain the fabric of Our Town are creating an admirable footprint for the future. /

tory and the Peranakan culture continues to manifest itself in events and restoration projects.

On the ground, in the town's historic shophouse district, is a new outlet, the Old Town Gallery. Still a work in progress, this is the brainchild of Rose Maitland-Smith. Yes, Rose, or Rossarin, is Thai and over the past few years with her husband Graham have taken a keen interest in the area.

Rose is a patron of the arts and during the past few years has taken up oil painting under the guidance

of a local artist. Keen to tap into Asian talents, she has teamed up with five up-and-coming Filipino artists in Cebu, namely Wilson Canete, Antonio Vega, Joseph Porras, Alan Lascal and Rolando Ngujo, to help bring them to the international stage.

Their works are on showcase at the gallery, as are other offerings, such as antique furniture, sculptures, and modern and contemporary decor. All in all, it is an eclectic mix of art, furnishings and a showcase for talented artists. Some of the furniture includes the Althorp line by Theodore Alexander and home items by Marge Carson.

Rose remains keen on expanding the Phuket Town focus to the restoration of other properties in the area. Currently the Old Town Gallery, which is at 32-34 Talang Road, is attracting clients through word of mouth and has created a buzz amongst the island's villa crowd.

Art patronage remains an admirable quality, as does architectural preservation. On one recent long haul flight, I watched *Monuments Men*, which is about the effort during World War II



Many think this historic landscape worth preserving. Photo: Gazette file

to recover important pieces of art and culturally important artifacts. Despite the film's shortcomings, it is indeed based on a true story.

Throughout Asia, we have seen the past disappear before our very eyes, from Singapore to Shanghai and here in Phuket. Those who remain committed to retain the fabric of "Our Town" are creating an admirable footprint for the future. Next time you can spare a

few hours, go and pick up a copy of the *Phuket Treasure Map* or stop in and see Rose at Old Town Gallery to take a step back into a quieter time and place.

Bill Barnett is Managing Director of C9Hotelworks. He can be contacted through: c9hotelworks.com and on bill@c9hotelworks.com

See more of Bill's writing on his hotel industry focused blog thephuketinsider.com

Purchasing a condo unit

Property Legal By International Law Office

THE latest revisions to the laws on Condominiums in Thailand had already raised the interest of all who may have considered purchasing property in Thailand. The new amendments to the Condominium Act apply to condominium projects, which now have to prove that they provide consumer protections.

Investors have become more careful, particularly in these days of global economic downturn which have also negatively affected Thailand's property industry.

Property developers have lower sales rates, which is in some cases causing a delay in project completion or resulting in the cancellation of entire projects – usually due to a lack of cash flow to complete the construction. Therefore property buyers have focused primarily on completed properties, such as condominium units.

Typically, the purchase of a completed condominium unit is made by the assignment of (contractual) rights by the property buyer (assignor) to its assignee (purchaser) before the title transfer takes place. In turn, the purchaser can step into

the shoes of the assignor and resell the unit to another buyer after the title transfer has taken place.

The first option usually applies in the case of a sale that is facilitated after the completion of a unit, but just before registration of title transfer from a developer to the assignor and might be known to the more experienced property buyers in connection with "multiple investor property flipping" in rapidly rising and often highly speculative property markets.

Re-sale of a unit before registration of title transfer usually helps the assignor to forward contractual tax responsibilities occurring from registration of title transfer to the new owner of the unit. The second option, a (re)-sale of a condominium unit after registration of title transfer from the developer to his buyer, can be completed by (further) title transfer from the original buyer to his (new) buyer.

Purchasing a completed condominium unit from a recorded owner allows a buyer to minimize the risks of non-completion or prevented title transfer. However, this might be reflected in a higher purchase price.

Nevertheless, whenever purchasing a (completed) unit from its owner, a comprehensive due dili-

gence should be performed in order to further minimize risks and ensure that a fair sale and purchase agreement will be executed.

In connection with such due diligence, it is of highest importance to verify that all documentation required in order to take on ownership of a condominium unit will be obtained. Including, but not limited to, letters issued by Condominium Juristic Person (CJP) certifying that foreign ownership in condominium units has not exceeded 49 per cent of the total space in the condominium and that condominium unit vendor has no outstanding debts owing to the CJP.

Furthermore, it needs to be demonstrated to the land department when applying for registration of title transfer to the unit that the person into whose name the unit shall be transferred has imported the purchase price in equivalent amount foreign currency into Thailand.

– Sam Fauma

This article is written by International Law Office Patong Beach Co Ltd, a Phuket based law firm. For enquiries, please contact Friedrich "Sam" Fauma, Consultant/Director, by email at sam@ilo-phuket.com or phone 076-222191.

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Alone in Indonesia

ELIZABETH Pisani's *Indonesia Etc.* (W.W. Norton & Company, New York, 2014, 404pp) is a delightful book about a nation of 13,344 islands stretching 5,200 kilometers east to west, home to 240 million people speaking 719 languages.

One language, Bahasa Indonesia, unites them all, and Elizabeth Pisani speaks it well with an upper class Jakarta accent. This, and the fact that she is a middle-aged white woman travelling alone, gets her invited into countless homes.

She was a backpacker in Indonesia at the age of 19 in 1983. She worked as a Reuters correspondent and an AIDS researcher for seven years, returned regularly on vacation, and conceived the idea of bouncing haphazardly from island to island – by boat, bus and motorbike – for 13 months to create this book.

She is humbled before her task: "I knew that I could never hope to give a full account of this kaleidoscope nation, a nation whose multicoloured fragments seem to settle into a different pattern with every shake of history and circumstance."

But she is obviously in love with Indonesia.

"I began to feel that Indonesia was one giant Bad Boyfriend," she writes. "It tickles the senses and elasticates the thinking. It prompts laughter, produces that warm fuzzy feeling that goes with familiarity and slightly embarrassing shared intimacies. Then it forgets important anniversaries, insults friends, and tells endless low-grade lies. Just when you think you are really getting to know it, it reveals some hidden secret, or reinvents itself completely. With Bad Boyfriends you know full well that it will end in tears, and yet you keep coming back for more."

After a three-chapter primer on Indonesian history, she starts

Books

By James Eckardt

her journey in Sumba, east of Timor, where she is adopted by Mama Bobo and her animist family. She attends a wedding involving the slaughter of many pigs and buffalo, divines the future through examination of chicken entrails and a dog's heart, and grieves the death of Mama Bobo's sister-in-law by taking tea with the corpse.

She takes a ferry to Flores where she explores hot springs and volcanic lakes. At Lembata, she goes out in a small boat with 10 dolphin hunters drunk on palm wine: "To get caught on a day like today, a dolphin would have to leap into a high arc directly in front of the Chief Harpoonist and push a slow-motion button on itself as it breached the water to give the drunken harpoonist more time to focus. Any dolphin that we took home that day had no place in the gene pool."

She arrives in time for Christmas in the spice islands of Maluku where she stays with the huge family of Mama Oma, whom she had last visited seven years before. She moves on to a nutmeg plantation in Banda, a nickel mine in Halmahera and a tuna fishery in Tahuna. Through it all, she branches off onto cogent tangents about tradition versus modernity, ethnic and religious violence, rampant corruption, creaky infrastructure and a lazy, incompetent bureaucracy.

On Sangihe, for example, she goes in search of a map of the island at the official Tourism Office. She finds eight neatly uniformed clerks sitting behind empty desks. "I bid everyone a cheery good day, and asked if they might have a map I could look at," she reports. "They turned their heads, panic-stricken. A map! A



Indonesia Etc. is about a nation of 13,344 islands and home to 240 million people. Graphic: Public Domain

MAP! There's a guest and she wants a MAP! Eight worker bees scattered in eight directions. Cupboards were opened, drawers were rummaged in."

No map.

Onward she travels through the giant, jungled islands of Kalimantan and Sumatra before coming to rest on the sophisticated island of Java, home to nearly two thirds of all Indonesians.

At the end of her journey, Elizabeth Pisani concludes: "Citizens of a bounteous land, Indonesians are united by an extraordinary generosity of spirit, a tolerance of difference. They welcome strangers like me into their homes and their lives, they go out of their way to help people in trouble... No other nation has welded so much difference together into so generally peaceable a whole in a space of less than seventy years."



Indonesia Etc. author Elizabeth Pisani. Photo: DaveThePhotographer

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Flight school is in session



By Somchai Huasaikul

WITH traffic congestion in Phuket getting worse by the year and gridlock at some key intersections now going three-dimensional, as in Bangkok, there must be more than a few commuters asking if there isn't a better way to get around the island.

Those of us old enough to remember vintage cartoon series like *The Jetsons* were fed visions of a future where cars had gone the way of the Dodo Bird, replaced by small, personalized aircraft taking off and landing with ease on one's front doorstep.

While some of the technological expectations we held back then have become realities we now take for granted – like our smartphones – when it comes to personal travel the real revolution is just beginning – and it comes in the form of safe, easy-to-operate ultralight aircraft.

RISE ABOVE

The Thai-Danish team "By The Air", operating out of Phuket Air Park in Paklok, is now offering would-be aviators a chance to gain a Thai ultralight flying license at a bargain introductory price of just 390,000 baht, about half of what the certification would cost in countries in Europe or Australia.

By The Air, run by Best Wannamakok and his Danish partner Torben Busk Jensen, is Thailand's sole distributor of the

AutoGyro, an ultralight aircraft made in Germany which is a sort of plane/helicopter hybrid that has already been featured in this column.

Mr Jensen recently told *Up In The Air* that they are waiting for the arrival of a second AutoGyro Cavalon, also configured as a teaching aircraft, to meet an expected demand in ultralight flying on the island.

The low introductory price, offered to the first five people who sign up, is meant to attract enough student pilots to do the classroom part of the course as a group. The course also includes 45 hours of flying time in the AutoGyro: 40 hours with an experienced instructor and five hours solo, as required for licensing. The instructors will also guide the students all the way to Bangkok, where they will need to complete four computerized tests in order to gain the license.

"Actually one only needs 15 hours of flying time to qualify for an ultralight pilot license in Thailand, but we place an emphasis on safety here and feel that 45 hours is more suitable," Torben explained.

"Because of the classroom work, it is much more cost effective to do it as a group, which is why we are offering this low price to the first five people who sign up," he said.

SATISFIED CUSTOMER

The *Phuket Gazette* spoke with one of By The Air's first students, well-known Phuket expat Arnaud Verstraete from Belgium.

Arnaud, well-known for his charitable work on the island as a member of the Rotary Club of Patong Beach, has been taking flying lessons on the Cavalon with his instructor Pat James. Not only has he already recorded about 200 hours of flying time, but he be-



The By The Air team (from left to right) Torben, Best and Able present a Certificate of Achievement to Paul Ehrlich (2nd from left), one of the many people who have enjoyed a gyrocopter flight over Phuket. Photo: Supplied

came so enamored with the little yellow Cavalon (aka 'Bumblebee') that he has now ordered one for himself. Its arrival will raise the number of AutoGyros at the AirPark to three when it is delivered in November.

Arnaud's whirlybird will be a special edition Cavalon introduced by the German-based manufacturer AutoGyro GmbH to mark its 10th anniversary in production.

"It is mechanically the same aircraft with two seats side-by-side, but it has some extra features and will be white with green striping," Arnaud said.

Although Arnaud had "a bit" of flight school training during his time in the Belgian Army, he told

the staff at By The Air to treat him as an absolute beginner. He is apparently a fast learner, because he managed to take first place in the "flour bombing" and third place in the "spot landing" event in his category at the General Aviation Thailand Open held in June in Prachuap Khiri Khan.

WINGING IT

The arrival of the Bumblebee at that event, after a grueling 13-hour drive by trailer from Phuket, caused quite a stir among many of the other registered participants. The organizers, The Royal Aeronautic Sports Association of Thailand (RASAT), initially told the By The Air team that they

would not be able to compete since it would be unfair for an aircraft with hovering abilities to compete against more traditional fixed-wing planes.

In the end, RASAT President Tan "Tang" Veerayudth allowed a win-win compromise by allowing the By The Air contingent to compete among themselves in a newly created category for gyrocopters, which, for the record, do not have the same stationery hovering capabilities as a helicopter. For a complete account of By The Air's experience at the event and much more information about AutoGyro flights, lessons or purchase visit By The Air's homepage at: phuketdeluxegroup.com/by-the-air.

New plug and play option for electric aircraft

IN OTHER cutting-edge aviation news, the first fully electric powered training aircraft has completed its maiden flight.

Slovenian light aircraft maker Pipistrel was scheduled to unveil its WATTsUP two-seat trainer at the Salon de Blois Airshow in France last weekend. Developed in partnership with Siemens, which provided the main propulsion components, WATTsUP marks a real step forward for the industry.

Despite weighing a mere 14 kilograms, its 85 kW motor is more powerful than the industry standard 100hp Rotax 912 used on many microlights. Its 17 kWh battery pack is designed to be replaced within minutes or charged in less than one hour, but the downside is that it can stay aloft for just

one hour, with a 30-minute reserve – not enough for cross country flying, but enough to meet the needs of many training schools.

Pipistrel expects the WATTsUP to be on for sale by next year, selling at a target price below 100,000 euros (about 4.2 million baht).

At the least, the "proof of concept" aircraft is another step forward for Pipistrel, which already lays claim to the only electric two-seat airplane in serial production available on the market: its Taurus Electro G2 glider. Pipistrel has also developed a Solar Trailer, which can charge up the G2 in as little as five hours, making it possible to fly free of charge and with zero emissions.

– Somchai Huasaikul



A Pipistrel Taurus glider similar to its new solar-charged G2 version. Photo: Aleksander Markin

Behind the Boatshed

By Chris Husted

ALAN Giles from the UK initially came to Phuket 14 years ago to be a sailing instructor. As the years passed, he finally made the move to become a permanent island resident, and to open the island's own Boatshed brokerage.

Testament to the name on the door is the assortment of boating goodies in the office at the Boat Lagoon, in Koh Kaew. There are tenders in the showroom to navigate past on your way to the sales desk, and even a MiniCat ultralight catamaran, with inflatable hulls, assembled and sitting upright in the corner. The entire boat packs into a bag weighing only 37 kilograms.

Boatshed is also the Phuket agent for Marlow-Hunter Yachts and renowned Cyprus boat builder Karnic, and the range of vessels available through Boatshed is likewise many and varied, from luxury cruisers to river boats.

After starting from zero listings seven years ago, Phuket Boatshed today lists more than 100 vessels anchored or moored anywhere between Phuket and Langkawi.

"The key to our success is the personalized service," says Alan. "We must attend every viewing, every survey of any boat we list."

"We go out of our way to present the boat exactly as it is. The photos we use are intended to show prospective buyers exactly how the boat looks. If anything is not up to standard, then that's what you see."

What you see is what you get."

The simple formula works. "This morning, a client who was inspired to view a powerboat firsthand just from seeing from photos on the website, flew into Phuket, saw the boat for the first time and took it for a sea trial – and decided to buy it," Alan states plainly.

Originally formed in the UK, the popular boating brokerage has since gone global. There are about 60 branches worldwide: in the UK; the US; Europe, mainly along the Mediterranean; and in the Arabian Gulf.

"One of the main reasons for choosing to be a Boatshed branch was the exceptional technical platform and support," explains Alan.

Prospective buyers can view up to 80 photos, and even video footage, of any boat on Boatsheds website.

"It's not unknown for people to buy straight from viewing on the website, such is the strength of the Boatshed's reputation," Alan notes.

MAINSTAY PHUKET

When asked why open in Phuket, and not elsewhere, Alan points out, "The market is here. There are more boats and more boating activity here, more than in Pattaya or elsewhere on the Gulf."

"There are five marinas here and two more in Krabi, with plans for another there, and there are plans for one more in Phang Nga, which will become the very first marina actually on the Andaman coast."

"But the action is in Phuket."

GROWING PLANS

Starting a brokerage from zero listings was a challenge. "It was a struggle to start, as all we had were the boats that no other brokerages could sell. You have to walk the docks, that's how the brokerage business works," Alan recalls.

"But soon people started learning our reputation and the listings started coming. Now we are the first choice for people who want to promote their boat to serious buyers."

While Phuket maintains its image as a luxury boating cruising ground, the Boatshed caters to the more affordable end of the market.

"The top end of the market is already well covered with brokerages such as Lee Marine and Simpson Marine, which are both good, professional brokerages," credits Alan.

"But we are more about the lower to middle-market range. All of our boats listed are under US\$400,000, and the majority of our sales are boats under US\$200,000."

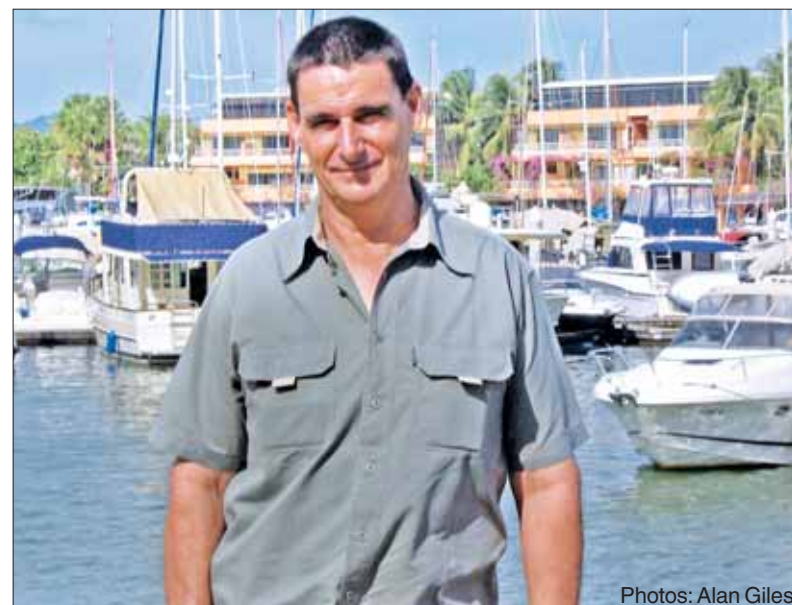
CHANGE IN THE WIND

Over the years, Phuket has enjoyed not so much growth in the secondhand boating market, but there have been changes.

"Some boat buyers have had concerns about piracy in the region, but more important has been the strengthening of the baht and the uncertainty in changes to the visa stay rules," Alan notes.

Also, the demographics of the foreigners in Phuket has changed.

"Once, not long ago, the average foreigner in Phuket was an Australian, British or European. Soon after we opened our most popular clients were Australians buying cruising boats, but then times changed. The dollar dropped



Photos: Alan Giles

Alan Giles believes the future of his business depends on the Thai market.

against the baht, and the market shifted," Alan explains.

"Today, the focus is very much shifting heavily to Chinese, Russian and South Koreans. There are a lot of Russians in Phuket now."

In response, the Phuket Boatshed portal is now available in Russian. "Boatshed has an office in Cyprus that deals with many Russians, and they added the language option for us," Alan explains.

Thanks to the same level of international support, and highlighting the key international markets for Boatshed clients worldwide, the Phuket portal is also available in a number of languages including German, Greek and Spanish.

THE FUTURE

To better engage the Russian market, Alan is currently in talks with a Russian agent who is looking to represent the Boatshed at the

Ocean Marina in Jomtien.

But the sleeping dragon is the Chinese market.

"China has a heavy import duty on secondhand boats, and so many Chinese keep their boats in Hong Kong or Singapore," Alan explains.

"Years ago, Thailand, in response to a rapid decline in competitiveness, dropped its import duties of about 200 per cent of the value of a secondhand boat to the 7 per cent VAT in force today. That helped, but the other factors are still a concern."

So who's going to buy secondhand boats in Phuket?

"At this stage the local Thai market is looking the most likely to develop," predicts Alan. "Thailand has a rapidly growing middle class, and sooner or later, they are going to want to go boating."

For further information visit Boatshed website: Phuket.Boatshed.com.



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Lying: Phuket, Thailand.

Total body transformation

By Maciek Klimowicz

MANY have tried it, few have made it and all of them have proven the maxim – losing weight and getting in shape is no easy task. But, as with any difficult task, it's easier if you have somebody to lean on. This is why Thanayapura Phuket has extended a helping hand to all those people out there who have "tried everything".

Starting on September 15, Thanayapura will be introducing two, eight-week-long training programs, named Fat Burn and Body Transformation.

"The first one is about losing the maximum amount of weight, the second is more focused on shaping certain groups of muscles," explains Chris Weeks, Thanayapura's Fitness Manager.

In the Body Transformation program, the exercises will vary depending on the sex of the participant. "For women, we will be focusing on lower body parts, legs, bum and stomach; and for men, more of shoulder, chest and abs focus," explains Chris.

That said, both programs and all exercises will have one thing in common: it's not going to be easy.

"The exercises are going to be of a pretty high intensity to bring the metabolism up. If you do long duration but easy effort, your body might burn some calories but your metabolism gets lowered. But when

you do a short and intensive effort, then your body understands that it's not quite good enough for the task you're asking of it. It realizes that it's uncomfortable and it starts changing and improving," says Chris.

And you can believe him, he is a level-three Advanced Personal Trainer – in other words, he's a pro.

For all the effort you'll be putting into training, you deserve some kind of reward, and what better way to reward yourself than with a hefty meal?

For participants in the programs the meals will not only be rewarding, but also smart, and will help them get closer to their goals. Special guidelines prepared by the coaches, both of them educated in nutrition, will help in balancing caloric intake, while not starving.

After all, it's not only about looking good, but feeling good too.

"The first priority is health. If you look great and feel awful on the inside I feel like I've failed, and this is not our goal," says Chris.

A fine-tuned exercise routine and a fine-tuned menu are essential, but there is one more crucial ingredient of a successful fitness program – motivation.

If you've ever tried exercising on your own, you might be familiar with the incredible power of your mind to come up with excuse not to exercise. This is where good old peer pressure kicks in.



Thanayapura fitness trainers, Chris Weeks and Vorapong Sriphet, guarantee great results. Photo: Maciek Klimowicz

"Our goal is to create a community. I want a solid group of people who will stick together and help each other out. We will build friendships and a support network. When you train alone and you miss a session you can just wave your hand and forget about it, but if there are 11 other people expecting you to perform, it's more difficult to justify your absence," explains Chris.

Both programs are eight-weeks long, but the idea is to stop the members from going back to their own habits and keep them moving forward.

"We want to create something more sustainable that will last, and

this is why an educational element will be introduced. The idea is not to have people go back to their old ways the moment they get out of the program, and then sign up for another one again."

To achieve that, the session we will include short lessons on how to transform one's lifestyle and make the change sustainable.

To run their new program, Thanayapura is preparing a brand new, fully-equipped room. And Chris promises that when you leave this room eight-weeks later, you'll feel a dramatic increase in fitness, a dramatic increase in strength and an improvement of posture. And you will never look back.

Thanayapura is running a competition to find a person whose weight loss story with the Fat Burn program will be featured on its social media outlets. Applicants are required to explain why they're the perfect candidate to enter the program, in less than 50 words. Email your story to Chris.Weeks@Thanayapura.com by September 10 for a chance to win.

Both programs are priced at 25,500 baht. Thanayapura Club members receive 30 per cent discount. The price includes three group training sessions per week, diet guidelines, trainer support, weigh ins and body composition analyses. For more information, email chris.weeks@thanayapura.com

The tough question of soy



Excuse Buster

By Craig Burton

WITH a multitude of media sources voicing arguments both for and against soy products, it is very easy to become confused about what's best for your body.

However, given the mounting evidence against soy as a healthy diet option, I urge everyone to be very cautious about accepting big soy spin as nutritional gospel – especially in a place like Phuket, where soy is so widely used in various ways.

For many years, contradicting opinions and claims have been put forth regarding the pros and cons of soy products.

A BBC News report from 2004 stated, "soy 'stops cancer and baldness'."

But an article published in the *New Zealand Medical Journal* in 2000, claimed, "Soy foods can stimulate the growth of estrogen-dependent tumors and cause thyroid problems."

Are you confused yet? Well, I'm not done.

"Boosting your soy intake could reduce your risk of breast cancer," said an article on a UK website called "The Healthier Life".

On the other hand, a report on the website of leading independent health group Weston A Price states, "A British Government report concluded that there is little evidence that soy foods protect against breast cancer or any other forms of cancer. In fact, soy foods may result in an increased risk of cancer."

So, what are we to believe?

I, for one, believe that we must be diligent

in our research when it comes to organizing our diets, so that we are fully aware of the advantages and disadvantages of the foods we choose to eat.

Soy history

Claims that soybeans have been a major part of the Asian diet for more than 3,000 years, or "time immemorial", are simply not true, according to KT Daniel, in an article called "Whole soy story: The dark side of America's favorite health food".

Soy did not become a food source until late in the Chou Dynasty (1134-246 BC), when a process of fermentation was developed to turn it into miso soy paste and soy sauce.

Tofu came along shortly after and at about 1,000 AD, fermented soy foods, such as natto and tempeh, entered the food supply.

Modern soy products, such as soy-protein isolate and concentrate, made using highly processed methods, were unknown to Asian countries until well after World War II.

Soy in Asian diets

According to a spokesman for Cancer Research UK, "There's a lot of research that countries with a high intake of soy in their diet, such as Japan, tend to have lower rates of prostate cancer and some other types,

with the active ingredients in soy thought to be isoflavones."

Sounds like a compelling reason to eat soy, doesn't it? Let's take a look at how much soy is actually in the Japanese, and Asian, diet before we jump on board.

According to the soy industry's own figures, Asians eat very little soy; about 9.3 to 36 grams per day in many of Thailand's neighboring countries.

More importantly, Asians generally eat their soy fermented such as in miso soup – not as tofu, sausages or meat replacements.

Does it seem plausible that such a small intake of soy could really reduce prostate cancer rates?

Maybe, but I advise researching deeper before

accepting it as true.

What about the Westerners?

Apart from the obvious, where else is soy lurking?

Research estimates that soy is present in 70 per cent of all supermarket products and widely used in fast food chains. Soy is used to bulk out and bind many processed foods such as sausages, beef burgers and chicken nuggets. Even the husk is used for fiber in breads, cereals and snacks.

Soy is the most-consumed vegetable oil in the world and is used in margarine, salad

dressings and cooking oils. This is in addition to the 90 per cent of the 200 million tonnes of soy produced annually that is fed to animals, which we, in turn, consume.

It seems that soy is infiltrating even the most unexpected parts of Western diets, so what is there to do?

Big soy companies, like some large pharmaceutical companies, have been a powerful driving force behind shaping opinions about soy as a health food.

Despite the size and power of the soy industry and the information it distributes, the substance's reputation as a health panacea is becoming blemished as further research claims to have found that the substance can contribute to a plethora of health problems.

However, there are still some supporters of soy, and many people continue to eat it.

But before you decide to frequent your local Phuket vegetarian restaurant, with the trademark yellow and red flags signifying that the eatery is meat-free, do your homework. Research the benefits of soy and its detriments, and decide if soy, just like any other food, is necessary to maintain a healthy diet that works for you.

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



Friend or foe? Photo: Jing

Don't let life swim by

A diver's tale: Chasing the dream of a lifetime

Diving

By Isaac Stone Simonelli

THERE comes a time for some of us, the lucky ones, that the finances are settled and we have already waded through a midlife crises to be reborn. The world is our oyster... and rather than blowing the 20 to 40 years of hard work at the proverbial oyster bar, some turn to the diving industry.

Martin Edwards is one of those lucky individuals. Happily married, 59 years old and full of drive to pursue his dreams in the underwater photography business, it is hard not to imagine the envy of those still slaving away in an office, your humble writer included.

"Retire from sales? I'll be selling 'till the day I die mate!" Martin says when it's suggested that he has actually retired. Though perhaps not officially retired, the life-style change is noticeable.

"The previous twenty-plus years were spent in my own business – plastics industry; manufacture, repair and agency lines. Also, representing 3M in Far North Queensland."

"Typically, a week's work for me would involve driving 1,500-



Martin's next big project will be underwater nude shots – with a twist. Photos: Martin Edwards

2,000 kilometers as my territory covered Mackay – Mountain Isa through to Cairns. I was out of town every second week, leaving on a Sunday, returning Fridays. The last time I was away 32 out of 52 weeks, when training and conferences were factored in."

Now, Martin is most often found on either an island cruise trip or dive boat, camera kit in hand.

The deep desire to spend more time in the water with a camera, isn't a new one for Martin. Back in 1984, he got his hands on a Nikonos II with a strobe – not an easy beast to wield for 24-36 shots a tank.

"Back then there were very few people with the skills. I was frustrated by only having 'x' number of shots on the film.

"I floundered for about a year before giving it up... that was when I was only diving six or seven times a year. It was back when I was a relatively new diver."

It wasn't until about 2002 when Martin completed his PADI Dive Master, entering the professional sphere of the diving industry, that he returned to the dream. A dozen years, and an un-

derwater wedding later, Martin's new office is the Andaman ocean and the wonders that abound there.

"I like big pictures. A combination of people with marine life, whether it's a shark, a clown fish or a manta. I like that balance – gives it depth, perspective and size," Martin explains.

"I've been working in sales for thirty odd years, so I like working with people. I like to capture a candid moment, something when they aren't blowing bubbles in front of their face..."

With a portfolio already loaded with classic giant manta ray and leopard shark shots, Martin is now looking to give more room to his artistic side as he explores the world of underwater nudes.

"It's very hard, particularly for the models: swim up, breath hold, come down with the right expression on their face. So it's very, very difficult for them," Martin admits.

Nonetheless, he's ready to get to work and bring something new into the underwater-nude-photography scene. What exactly that is? Well, Martin says we'll just have to wait and see... either way, not a bad direction for another go at life.

Setting a baseline to save reefs

SOUTHEAST Asia's reefs are next on the list for "street view" mapping. Richard Vevers, executive director of the Catlin Seaview Survey and CEO of Underwater Earth told *Sci-Tech Today* earlier this month.

The Phuket dive community, and industry, must push for the Similans and our other reefs to be at the top of the list when the surveyors arrive.

Though the reefs along the Andaman Sea are without a doubt still beautiful, it is equally visible that they aren't what they were a decade ago – but few reefs are. A baseline for research to better understand the damage being done by unfettered coastal development and unenforced fishing laws is necessary to protect Phuket and



A diver documents a coral-growth program off Phi Phi Island.

the surrounding provinces as the Tourism Authority of Thailand looks to further develop the region.

"The world's reefs are in a dramatic state of decline – we've lost over 40 per cent of corals over the last 30 years due to pollution,

destructive fishing and climate change. According to the scientific community the decline is set to continue, it will affect 500 million people globally who rely on coral reefs for food, tourism income and coastal protection," writes Catlin Seaview Survey on its website.

The goal of the project is to create a baseline record of the world's coral reefs in high-resolution 360-degree panoramic vision.

Those within the diving community, who regularly face both the beauty and degradation of our reefs, must continue to push for greater government support for projects such as the Catlin Seaview Survey to help protect our natural treasures.

– Isaac Stone Simonelli

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Bullet speeds to the finish

By Bob Mott

ZAM Bevan's Corsair trimaran *Bullet* burst into the running to steal Race 3 in the multihull class of the the 2014 Ao Chalong Yacht Club (ACYC) Keelboat and Multihull Series last weekend.

The win came amid very light conditions and after a new club performance-handicap system was introduced to "level the playing field" among the different boats racing the regatta.

ACYC stalwart Grenville Fordham beat a new, inexperienced crew into shape to take Andaman Cabriolet *Nina* to a well-earned second place, while Mark Horwood and Merv Owen's "Dad's Army" on board *Adrenaline*, a vintage Formula 40 trimaran built in the 1980s, placed third.

Race officer Alan Carwardine took the light conditions into consideration and set a sensible course that allowed the opportunity to shorten the race if need be – and it was, on a day that saw seven multihulls turn out to compete.

Although Stealth catamaran *Hurricane* missed a podium position, the crew still grabbed line honors, coming from behind in their own private breeze to pip

Adrenaline at the line.

Kirill Stashevskiy's *Galeforce*, another Stealth cat, earned a special mention for racing well while being among one of the smallest catamarans in the class.

In cruising monohull division Patinyakorn "Ging" Buranrom on the Sansiri-sponsored *Windstar* took top honors with a solid crew of Thais aboard, while Mig Wehrle's *Aqua* placed second with only two crew in a two-boat division.

As testament to the versatility of the winning Corsair trimaran, Corsair Production Manager Bevan flew in from Vietnam on Saturday, launched *Bullet* from its trailer, raced on Sunday, won, retrieved *Bullet* back onto the hardstand and was back to the clubhouse well before presentations were awarded.

Race 4 of the ACYC Series 2 will be held on September 14.

BART'S HONOR

More than 500 yacht clubs around the globe will be staging races on September 21 to honor Olympic sailing gold medallist Andrew "Bart" Simpson, who died during training for the America's Cup Challenge series last year. He was 36.



Zam Bevan's Corsair trimaran *Bullet* led the pack in ACYC's multihull class last weekend. Photo: Ao Chalong Yacht Club

Known as "Bart's Bash", the event is being organized by the Andrew Simpson Sailing Foundation

"The ACYC is a registered club for this event, so we will be organizing two races on the day," said ACYC Commodore Mick Kealy.

"The first race will start off Koh Naka Yai and finish in Chalong Bay. The second race will start off Koh Naka Yai and finish at Koh Naka Yai."

Both races will share the same start line and start at 10:05am on

the Sunday.

"We encourage sail and power boats that prefer not to race to join in by sailing to Koh Naka Yai on the Saturday and joining us for dinner at the Tenta Nakara Resort," Kealy said.

ICC take down Thalang

THE Outrigger T20 cricket finals are only a couple of weekends away and every result over the last month has shaped the table in a see-sawing season of Phuket cricket. Four teams were still in contention for just three finals spots before Sunday and it was the Island Cricket Club (ICC) that locked away a top three position after prevailing over Thalang by five wickets in a low scoring affair at the Alan Cooke Ground (ACG).

High on confidence after chasing down a big score against Patong last week, ICC's captain, Pares Borkar, had no hesitation in electing to field first after the coin toss fell his way. With the absence of Anthony Dupont and a season-ending injury to Justin Thomatos, Thalang's top order was exposed to the new ball and it wasn't long before ICC had their first wicket. In the next six overs, Andrew McMillan and Donovan Cowell put on 40 runs against the tight ICC bowling but for the second time in two weeks Cowell found himself caught out just prior to the drinks break. A finals berth was in the balance with the scoreboard showing 57/2 at the 10 over drinks break.

After the break Thalang attempted to lift the run rate. Accurate bowling and good field placement's made boundaries hard to score.

By the 14th over Thalang's batsmen assumed more risk in an effort to post a defendable score and it came at the cost of four wickets in three overs for the meager return of 15 runs. McMillan was one of the wickets to fall, caught on the fence for a well-compiled 53 runs. At 96/6 Thai youth cricketer "Paan" combined with Martin Hill to add another 19 runs off the last few overs, but it was the ICC bowlers that had taken the honors by restricting Thalang to just three boundaries and only



Karn, bowling for Thalang, was the pick of the bowlers for Sunday's game. Photo: Michael Way

115/7 from their 20 overs. No bowler had been expensive for ICC and Prashant Shetgaonker finished with the neat figures of 2/23 from his four overs.

ICC had a scratchy start to their run chase. Always in control of the low run rate but never comfortable in the middle, it was the Thalang fielding that was keeping the ICC batsmen out in the heat. Missed run out chances and miss-fields marred the first five overs of play and helped ICC along to 30/1.

A simple drop on a caught and bowled chance saw Thalang's heads hanging as ICC cruised to 62/1 at the drinks break.

With nine wickets in hand the ICC reverted to their normal across the line batting style and were able to find regular boundaries.

Thalang toiled away but Junaid Mohammad's 36 runs had set up ICC's innings. Surprisingly, when he was caught on the fence in the 16th over ICC were still three runs behind Thalang at the same point of their innings. Ravi Naik and Darshan Vaiganker made light work of the next 20 runs and with two overs to go a big boundary was all that was required. Vaiganker waited until

the last over to find the rope, securing ICC second place on the table and sending his team into the Outrigger T20 semi final on September 14.

This Sunday's matches will see Thalang playing the Village in the morning and then the reigning T20 champions Laguna potentially needing to beat Patong to secure a spot in the finals.

The next fixture is on September 7 with Thalang playing The Village in the morning and Bondi Bar Bashers playing Laguna in the afternoon. Start times are 10am and 2pm respectively.

– *Phuket Gazette*

If anyone is interested in getting involved with cricket in Phuket, please email the Phuket Cricket Group Chairman at chairman@phuketcricketgroup.com, or visit phuketcricketgroup.com and acgphuket.com for more information. Kids Junior cricket is also taking place at the ACG on Saturday mornings. If you would like your children, both girls and boys, to get involved then please contact chairman@phuketcricketgroup.com.



Golf clubs available at local shops are often made for the 'average' golfer. Photo: Supplied

Blame the clubs

THERE are always an infinite number of excuses in golf for hitting a bad shot, but few are more irrational than blaming your clubs... or are they?

In fact, golf clubs fitted specifically for your swing can have a massive impact on your whole game, and if your clubs have not been fitted to your specifications, you could be sacrificing critical elements of your swing to make up for it.

An example of how big a part golf clubs play in your game, just take a look back at Phil Mickelson's win in the 2006 Masters. He had two different drivers in his bag, one that produced a draw and another a fade, and he did not change his swing at all.

No two people have exactly the same swing, but most golf equipment has been set up for the "average" person.

If you are using equipment that is set up for somebody else, you are going to be sacrificing your swing in an effort to make the equipment work. In a perfect world, your equipment should compliment your swing. This way any problems can be easily targeted as physical problems and fixed much quicker.

Golf tip by Andy Combe (Official Titleist Club Fitter – Laguna Phuket Golf Club). For golf inquiries, golf course and instruction reservations email golf@lagunaphuket.com

La Liga tops transfer window

By Sam Holden

EVEN though Spain were ousted in the first round of the World Cup, the tournament's brightest lights still flocked to La Liga as Real Madrid and Barcelona again flexed their financial muscles in a busy transfer window.

European champions Real Madrid assembled a new breed of "Galacticos", the most expensive squad of all time with around 640 million euros worth of talent, by snapping up Toni Kroos, James Rodriguez and goalkeeper Kayler Navas who all shone at the World Cup in Brazil.

Barca opted for infamy as they lured Luis Suarez from Liverpool despite the controversial striker receiving a long ban for biting an opponent while playing for Uruguay in Brazil.

English Premier League clubs also splashed out a fortune, Arsenal and Chelsea buying Barca cast-offs Alexis Sanchez and Cesc Fabregas respectively while manager Louis van Gaal began his reign at Manchester United by breaking the British transfer record to sign Angel Di Maria from Real for 75 million euros.

Van Gaal concluded some US\$250 million worth of dealings with a deadline day swoop for Colombian striker Radamel Falcao on a one-year loan deal, leaving England forward Danny Welbeck free to join Arsenal.

However, it was Barca and Real, the two richest clubs in the world in terms of income, that dictated most of the significant comings and goings in Europe.

GOLDEN BOOT

Real coach Carlo Ancelotti secured his targets early, signing

World Cup-winning Germany midfielder Kroos from Bayern Munich and Golden Boot-winning Colombia striker Rodriguez from Monaco.

"I watched James Rodriguez and Toni Kroos play in the World Cup and, for me, they were two of the best players in the competition," Real midfielder Luka Modric told the Spanish newspaper Marca.

"Real have shown their ambition by bringing such fantastic signings to the club. It's great news for us, the players, because we always want to play with the best, and also for the supporters who want to see the best players."

Arch-rivals Barca were forced to act quickly too after receiving a brief reprieve from a transfer ban, for breaching rules on the transfer of under-18 players, while an appeal to world soccer's governing body FIFA was ongoing.

The club eventually lost the appeal but not before they swooped for five players including Croatian midfielder Ivan Rakitic, Arsenal captain Thomas Vermaelen and Chile goalkeeper Claudio Bravo who all featured at the World Cup.

But it was the signing of Suarez, the top scorer in England last season with 31 league goals, who was the biggest buy of the window. He cost 65 million pounds, the third largest transfer fee in history.

The 27-year-old joined former World Player of the Year Lionel Messi and Brazil striker Neymar in a formidable front line at Barca.

"I have really found a great atmosphere in the dressing room... everyone has been very friendly and obviously the time passes quicker if you are with team mates and new people," Suarez said after making his debut in a pre-season friendly.

"Neymar and Messi were fantas-



Real Madrid assembled the most expensive squad of all time with 640 million euros worth of talent. Photo: Reuters

tic to watch. Everyone knows what I can offer and I will work hard to bring trophies back to Barca."

La Liga champions Atletico Madrid also spent big to attract World Cup players in the shape of France winger Antoine Griezmann from Real Sociedad and Bayern's Croatia striker Mario Mandzukic.

CHELSEA DEPARTURES

While one prolific goalscorer left England for Spain, Diego Costa travelled the other way, joining Chelsea from Atletico for 40 million euros.

He already seems to be a shrewd acquisition for Jose Mourinho's side, having scored four in his first three league appearances for the Londoners.

Costa's arrival spelt the end of a disappointing three and a half year

spell at Stamford Bridge for Spain striker Fernando Torres.

He arrived in January 2011 as the then British transfer record at 63 million euros but the fact Chelsea were prepared to allow a player once regarded as among the best forwards in the world to leave for AC Milan on a two-year loan deal was indicative of his spectacular fall from grace.

The high-profile departures from Stamford Bridge in the window, which included Ashley Cole and Frank Lampard, started with Brazil centre back David Luiz moving to French champions Paris St Germain.

The fee for Luiz, worth up to 63 million euros, meant he became the most expensive defender in the world.

Liverpool replaced one bad-boy striker with another by

signing Italian international Mario Balotelli from Milan while rivals Manchester United added firepower as Colombia striker Radamel Falcao joined on loan from Monaco.

Southampton brought in a combined 58 million pounds after selling midfielder Adam Lallana to Liverpool and defender Luke Shaw to United.

Moroccan Mehdi Benatia was another expensive defensive signing when he moved from AS Roma to German champions Bayern for 25 million euros, joining Poland striker Robert Lewandowski who completed a protracted move from Borussia Dortmund.

Bayern, the 2013 European champions, also snapped up Spain midfielder Xabi Alonso from Real.

— Reuters

Blatter: Russia World Cup not under discussion

FIFA president Sepp Blatter has reiterated that Russia's hosting of the 2018 World Cup is not up for discussion.

"We are not placing any questions over the World Cup in Russia," he told an event near Kitzbuehel, Austria, according to DPA news agency.

"We are in a situation in which we have expressed our trust to the organisers of the 2018 and 2022 World Cups," he added. "(A boycott) has never achieved anything."

There have been calls from politicians for the tournament to be taken elsewhere because of Russia's role in the Ukraine crisis and its occupation of Crimea.

Asked last week whether there was any risk that Russia could lose its right to hold the tournament due to the complicated political situation, President



FIFA authorities oppose the calls for boycott of Russia. Photo: Reuters

Vladimir Putin said: "I hope not. FIFA has already said football and sport are outside politics and I think that is the right approach."

Russia will host the 2018 World Cup at 12 stadiums in 11 cities, including two venues in Moscow.

The 2022 World Cup will be played in Qatar which has also

been criticised because of its alleged maltreatment of migrant workers in the construction industry.

FIFA's ethics committee is investigating the bidding process which led to the awarding of both tournaments in December 2010.

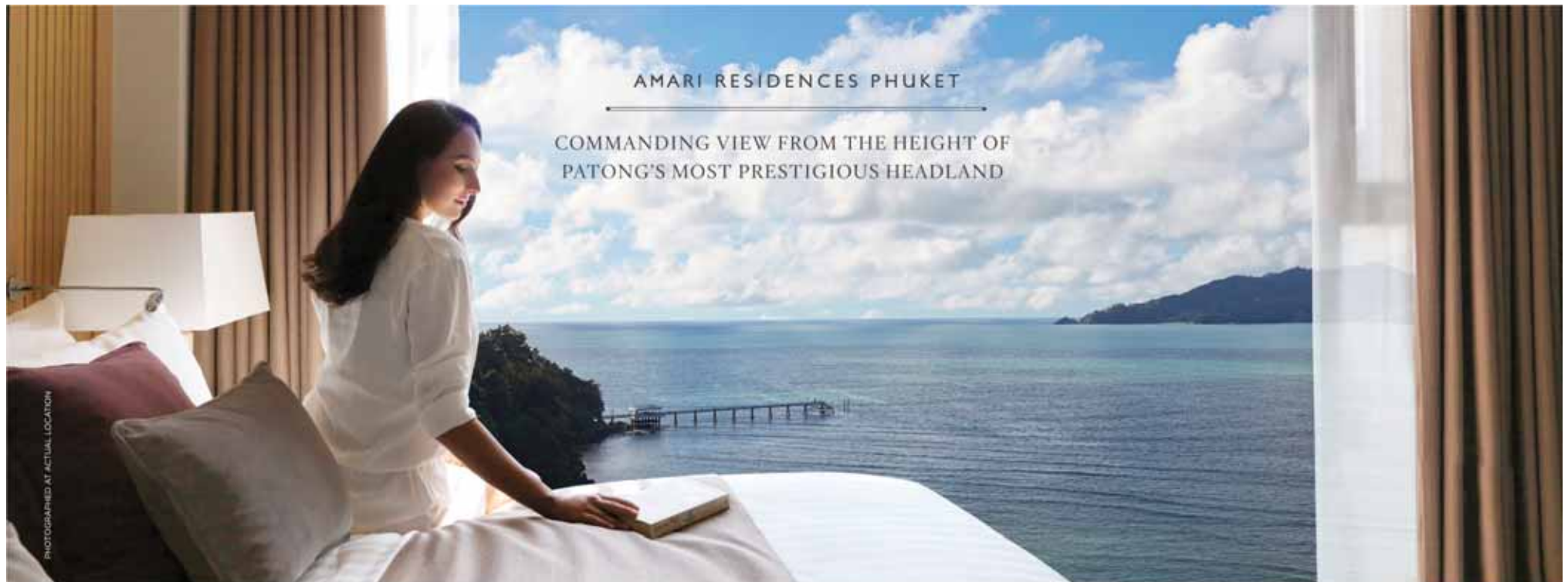
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