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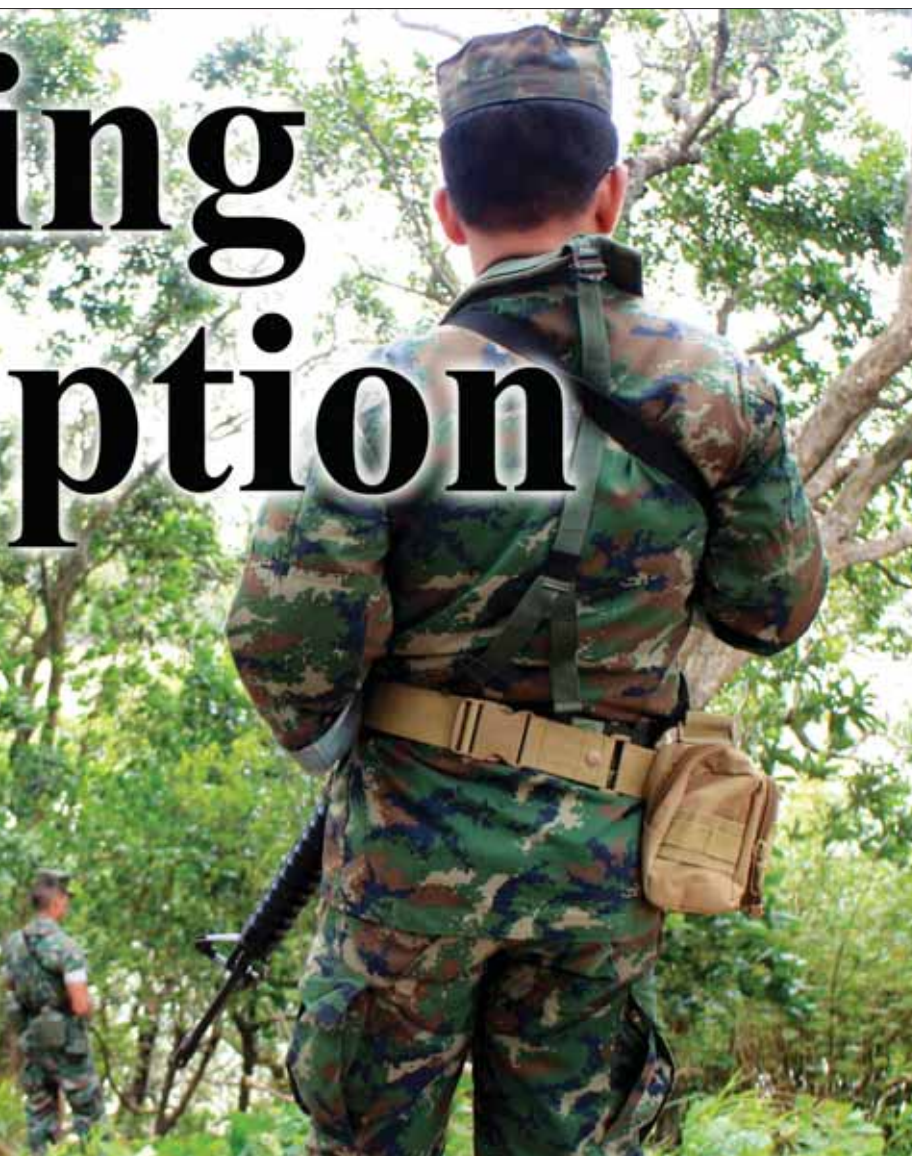
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INSIDE TODAY

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20 Baht

Hunting corruption

- Illegal land titles valued at 8bn baht issued
- 16 officials targeted for decades of malfeasance
- More on Forestry Department's hit list



Australian yachties sail free, but allege extortion attempt

FOUR Australian yachties last weekend claimed that six uniformed Thai marine officers had shown up on a dinghy and attempted to extort money from them while at sea in Phang Nga Bay.

However, the officials left the boat empty handed and the 10,000-baht fine issued to them was dropped after it was established the yacht was registered in Phuket.

Full story **Page 6**

Dealer pulls gun on officers during ya ice drug raid

A DRUG dealer attempted to ensure his freedom by drawing an illegal firearm during a scuffle with police.

Phuket Provincial Police were able to quickly subdue the man, who was then forced to reveal his *ya ice* (crystal methamphetamine) stash. The man's girlfriend was also arrested for possession of a Category 1 Drug with intent to sell.

Full story **Page 3**

Dolphins destined for island facility part of Taiji killing

OFFICIAL export documents from Ukraine procured by Sea Shepherd Conservation Society confirm that five of the eight dolphins tagged for Nemo dolphinarium are from Japan.

The only dolphins exported from Japan are from the Taiji cove, which is host to an annual slaughter of dolphins starting in September, confirmed Shepherd Conservation Society Asia Director Gary Stokes.

Full story **Page 7**

By **Chutharat Plerin**

THE Royal Forest Department (RFD) has set its sights on breaking open a network of corrupt officials who have allegedly issued illegal land titles over the past three decades covering at least 8 billion baht worth of protected land in Phuket.

Working in collusion since 1987, the officials continued to issue *SorKor 1* land-use documents for plots in Sirinath National Park, RFD Director-General Theerapat Prayurasiddhi said this week.

"Our current investigations have uncov-

ered illegal land documents covering 300 rai in the park alone," he said. "Those documents could be used to apply for full *Chanote* title deeds, worth in total an estimated 6bn baht."

At least 16 officials are being targeted in the campaign, Mr Theerapat said.

"Our investigation is far from over, and we expect more officers to be involved," he told the *Gazette* on Wednesday.

Eight officials are already in the line of fire, facing charges for their involvement in producing illegal land titles for plots within a protected forest area on the headland south of Patong Bay near Freedom Beach.

"That land alone has an estimated value of

2bn baht," said Mr Theerapat. "But we'll never figure out the cost of the natural resources lost."

The Karon Police have been tasked with bringing the charges against the officials, Cheewapap Cheewatham, the former Sirinath National Park chief who now serves as director of the RFD's Forest Protection and Fire Control Division, confirmed on Wednesday.

"They are facing charges under Sections 157 and 162 of the Thai Criminal Code," Mr Cheewapap said.

If found guilty of both charges, the...

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This Week



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AMCHAM forum looks at how to define the 'New Phuket'. **Page 29**



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Vijitt resort offers a tranquil escape from urbanization. **Page 31**



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What free radicals are and how to keep them under control. **Page 34**



Boating

Why the first thing every yachtie should get is insurance. **Page 35**



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The final clash between Thai Army and Thai navy in 1951. **Page 36**



Sport

Phuket lifeguards score gold medals in Vietnam competition. **Page 38**

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Fire-ravaged dive boat sinks in Chalong Bay

By Chutharat Plerin

PHUKET boat *Chok Somboon 15*, of local dive tour company Andaman Ocean Safari, caught fire and sank in Chalong Bay on September 12.

Marine Police were notified of the fire at about 2am, and responded by dispatching a boat and eight officers to pump water onto the blazing vessel in order to douse the flames.

"While trying to put the fire out, we towed it away from the other boats in the bay, as we were afraid the fire would spread," Lt Col Chatchai Sakdee of the Marine Police said.

After firefighters spent two hours battling the flames, the wooden-hulled boat began to sink.

"We did our best but we couldn't bring the flames under control. The boat sank at about 4am," said Col Chatchai.

The boat had an estimated value of about 10 million baht, he added.

"Fortunately nobody was injured," said Col Chatchai. "We talked to the boat captain. He reported that one Myanmar national was on board when the fire broke out, but he jumped to safety when the fire got out of



The burning boat was towed away from other boats. Photo: Martin Edwards

control.

"At this stage, we believe that an electrical short-circuit in the engine room started the fire. We will call the staffer who was on board when the fire broke out for further questioning."

Col Chatchai told the *Gazette* that as of Wednesday, the major-

ity of the boat was underwater.

"Per the request of the owner, some parts of the boat have been recovered from the scene for investigation," he said.

The cause of the fire is still unknown to officers, and an investigation is ongoing, confirmed Col Chatchai.

Executed, naked body of man found on beach

THE naked body of a man with his feet and hands bound was found washed up on a Phuket beach on September 13.

"We received a call at about 8am from a local villager, saying that the body of a man had been washed up on Tah Nun Beach, about half a kilometer from the Sarasin Bridge," Capt Terdsak Kaewmanee of Khok Kloy Police said.

"The body was that of a dark-skinned Asian man, estimated to be about 30 years old. He had suffered head trauma and there were five stab wounds to his chest. His hands and feet were also tied up with a nylon rope," said Capt Terdsak.

"We believe he had probably been dead for about 24 hours. We questioned local fishermen nearby, but nobody knew who he was."

Capt Terdsak said the police investigation would first focus on identifying the man.

"We have no idea who he is or why he was murdered. It could be a revenge killing, or because of a business dispute. He may even be a Myanmar national smuggled into the country."

The body was transferred to Takua Thung Hospital, where it will undergo a post-mortem examination.

— **Thawit Bilabdujar**

'Butcher' faces slew of charges

A MAN, who in a drug-crazed fit killed his friend, injured his girlfriend and tried to commit suicide, is facing serious charges for the horrific August 14 attack.

Niwat Sampoosri, 25, who later tested positive for *ya ice* (crystal methamphetamine), is facing charges for murder, assault with a deadly weapon and use of an illegal drug, confirmed Capt Pornthip Chumsri of the Phuket City Police.

"Mr Niwat was moved today from Phuket City Police Station to the jail at the Phuket Provincial Court," said Capt Pornthip on September 14.

"He was detained at the Phuket City Police Station after he was discharged from Vachira Phuket



Police broke down the door to stop Mr Niwat from killing himself.

Hospital, which was a few days after the attack."

Although he has been moved to the courthouse jail, the court has

yet to set a date for Mr Niwat's trial, confirmed Capt Pornthip.

On the night of the attack, police found Mr Niwat locked inside his dormitory on Santisuk Soi Mai Luan Road covered in blood and attempting to kill himself.

By the time police arrived on the scene, Mr Niwat had already attacked his 22-year-old girlfriend Rarinya Putthawong and his friend Chalermopol Pasurawiroj, 25.

Both Ms Rarinya and Mr Chalermopol were rushed Vachira Phuket Hospital after escaping from the room, but Mr Chalermopol, who suffered deep lacerations to his chest, was pronounced dead on arrival.

— **Natthaphol Wittayarungrote**



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Bad weather: boat operators told to put safety first

BOAT operators must put the safety of tourists before their businesses, said San Jantharawong, chief of the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM) Phuket office.

Mr San's warning this week comes after days of heavy rain lashed the island and formal small boat and landslide warnings were issued by the DDPM. A severe weather warning was also issued for Phuket and the surrounding provinces due to the fallout caused by Typhoon Kalmaegi.

"Wave heights are expected to reach three meters with winds of 20-40km/h. I would like to pass my concern on to small boat



Speedboats at Phi Phi. Photo: Isaac Stone Simonelli

operators, especially tour boats that carry tourists," Mr San said on Monday.

"Boat operators must be very cautious and regularly check weather reports."

Kata-Karon chief lifeguard Uten Singsom has also urged beachgoers not to swim at Kata or Karon beaches during the poor weather and to obey the warning flags posted on other beaches.

Though the bad weather is due to continue into next week, the amount of rain should lessen, reported the Thai Meteorological Department (TMD).

"We are facing [the southwest] monsoon season, with rain clouds from the north east moving south. However, it should improve by the beginning of October," Sopon Sangkaew from the local TMD office told the *Gazette* on Wednesday.

— Chutharat Plerin



The man fell 14 meters from a coconut tree. Photo: Thawit Bilabdullar

Dealer draws firearm on group of police officers

By Thawit Bilabdullar

A DRUG dealer pulled a gun on a group of Phuket police officers as they moved in to make an arrest at a Srisoonthorn community housing project on September 13.

"When officers presented themselves to 28-year-old Kriengkrai Chookeaw, he attempted to fight back and pulled out a gun,"

said Lt Col Jarun Bangprasert of the Phuket Provincial Police.

After a short struggle, police were able to detain Mr Kriengkrai and seize his illegally owned .38 calibre handgun and two rounds of ammunition.

"The suspect and a few officers sustained minor injuries during the fight. After we subdued Mr Kriengkrai, we had him take us to his room so we could carry

out our search," Col Jarun said.

Inside the room, police found Mr Kriengkrai's 33-year-old girlfriend, Prapaporn Rongdej, two bags of *ya ice* (crystal methamphetamine) and a book with a list of customers' names.

The couple then led the officers to a water-pump room, where 51 more bags of *ya ice* and digital scales were hidden inside an electrical control box.

"We seized a total of 108.14 grams of *ya ice*, as well as the gun and rounds of ammunition," said Col Jarun. Both suspects confessed

to selling drugs and were taken to the Thalang Police Station for further questioning.

"The couple were charged with possession of a Category 1 drug with intent to sell. Mr



Mr Kriengkrai attempted to battle his way to freedom. Photo: Thawit Bilabdullar

Kriengkrai was also charged with possession of an illegal firearm and corresponding ammunition, and with carrying an unlicensed firearm in public," Col Jarun said.

Man collecting coconuts takes fatal plunge from palm tree

A MAN collecting coconuts died after a 14-meter fall from the top of a tree on September 13.

Rescue workers arrived on the scene at Baan Bang Lieng coconut farm at about 9:30am to find Thammanoon Prateep Na Talang, 34, unconscious on the ground.

"Mr Thammanoon was rushed to Vachira Phuket Hospital, where a medical team did their best to revive him. They believe his lungs and other internal organs were too badly injured in the fall for him to survive," said Capt Pichai Wattanawalan of the Thalang Police.

Capt Pichai told the *Gazette* that he later inspected the scene of the accident.

"We believe Mr Thammanoon had been at the top of the coconut tree he was found next to," said Capt Pichai. "A fall from that height can certainly cause serious injury, or death, but we are investigating in the hope of gathering more information about what happened."

— Thawit bilabdullar



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Men charged for B12mn land grab

By Kritsada Mueanhawong

A PHUKET man was slapped with a second land encroachment charge on September 12 for the same multi-million baht plot of land in a protected forest near Freedom Beach.

Parin Ruangrattanawanit, who owns "about three rai" of the land along the border of Patong and Karon, explained to Royal Forest Department (RFD), Navy and local officials that he was in the process of having the Land Department formally survey the property and upgrade his land-use document from a *SorKor 1* to a *Chanote* land title deed.

"We went to inspect the area. In the house on the property, we found Jettawat Onchulee," said Cheewapap Cheewatham, the former Sirinath National Park chief who now serves as director of the RFD's Forest Protection

and Fire Control Division.

Mr Jettawat told officers that he did not own the house, but was looking after it for a relative.

Nonetheless, Mr Jettawat was charged with illegally encroaching on protected forest land.

Mr Parin, who was called to the site by Mr Jettawat, arrived with his *SorKor 1*.

"About two years ago, I bought the land from Muanjai Chuachud, my grandfather's friend, for 12 million baht,"

Mr Parin explained to officials. "I was verbally told by Mr M u a n j a i where the border of the property was. Based on his description, I built the house, garage and fence."

Mr Parin is already facing charges by the RFD for encroaching. That case is now being heard in court.

Mr Parin explained that he had contacted the Land Department earlier this year.

'They claim that they have no idea where the property boundary is, but they have continued to expand their land beyond even where the wire fence is'

— Cheewapap Cheewatham



Mr Cheewapap (center left) stands next to Mr Jettawat (center right) at the scene near Freedom Beach.

"On April 24, I asked the Land Department to survey the property and have a *Chanote* issued, so I could tell exactly where my property lines are," Mr Parin said.

"I'm willing to pull down any structures that I have built that are not on my land. I don't want to encroach on protected forest, I

just don't really know where my land starts and ends."

Despite already facing charges over this specific section of land, Mr Parin will face a second round of charges, this time for clearing protected forest beyond the area already being contested in court, confirmed Mr Cheewapap.

"Mr Parin and Mr Jettawat have been charged with encroaching on protected forest. They claim that they have no idea where the property boundary is, but they have continued to expand their land beyond even where the wire fence is," Mr Cheewapap said.

Motorcyclist crashes into Chinese tourists

A MOTORCYCLIST plowed into a group of five Chinese tourists standing at the Thalang-Bandon intersection in central Phuket on September 12.

Two tourists, Xuxiao Qlano, 32, and Xiaomei Kang, 29, both received minor injuries after the motorbike struck them – three of their companions managed to avoid being hit.

"The 21-year-old driver, Peerapong Soisai, told us that it was very dark at the intersection and that he was trying to avoid a pick-up truck that had crossed into his lane," Capt Pichai Wattanawalan of the Thalang Police told the *Gazette*.

"Once the truck passed, he saw the group of tourists and just wasn't able to stop in time – so he hit them."

Kulsoldharm rescue workers



Xiaomei Kang, 29, was taken to Thalang Hospital after the crash.

took Mr Xuxiao and Ms Xiaomei to Thalang Hospital.

Mr Peerapong was taken to the police station and charged for reckless driving causing injury, confirmed Capt Pichai.

— Thawit Bilabduddar

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Surin Beach rubble wall not part of cleanup plan

By Natthaphol Wittayarungrote

THE shocking piles of rubble on Surin Beach are not part of an initiative to clean up the beach area, confirmed Cherng Talay Tambon Administration Organization (OrBorTor) President Ma-ann Samran.

Following the demolition order for illegal buildings on the beach, workers have started using the rubble to create a makeshift seawall.

"The dumping of rubble along the beach to stop erosion is not part of my orders. I think the workers involved in the demolition have just taken it upon themselves to use it this way, but it's certainly not part of our development plan," says Mr Ma-ann.

Mr Ma-ann also told the *Gazette* that plans to clean up the beach have been temporarily put on hold until the beginning of next month due to heavy monsoon weather.



The unsightly piles of rubble along the beach were placed by workers to form a seawall. Photo: Supplied

"We will continue the development after the storms have passed, probably, at the beginning of

October," he said.

"Part of our plan will include repairing eroded areas of the

beach, as well as rebuilding the 12 to 15-meter road leading to the beach."



Former PM Thaksin. Photo: The Nation

Thaksin not erased from textbooks in Phuket – yet

PHUKET officials have yet to receive any orders to remove high-school history textbooks that mark Thaksin Shinawatra, the first prime minister in Thailand's history to lead an elected government through a full term in office.

However, Mr Thaksin has been erased from the history presented in textbooks that the National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO) has recently ordered to be used in high-school courses.

"The officials at the ministry just deleted it," the textbook's author, Thanom Anarmwat, told *The New York Times*.

Nonetheless, there will be no changes in Phuket schools for the time being, confirmed Tatchavetch Junsuksri, who heads the Secondary Education Area Office for the provinces Phuket, Phang Nga and Ranong.

Many different textbooks have been authorized by the Ministry of Education to be used for the high-school curriculum, Mr Tatchavetch noted.

"We will wait for a direct order from the Ministry of Education. Until then, Phuket schools will use their current texts."

– Natthaphol Wittayarungrote

Corrupt officials facing jail time for land fraud

From page 1

...officials each face up to 17 years in prison, or a meager fine of up to 34,000 baht, or both.

However, Mr Cheewapap declined to name the suspects, noting, "We need to withhold their names for now as it might affect the investigation."

To cement its case against the "Freedom Beach Eight", the RFD has enlisted three "big guns" to ensure the suspects do not escape justice.

The Natural Resource and Environment Crime Suppression Division (NREC), a division of the Royal Thai Police headed by

Gen Chaloeangkit Sriworakan, is assisting the Karon Police in their investigation, Mr Theerapat confirmed.

The NREC is acting under a direct order from the National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO) to reclaim all public land in the country, and is tasked with updating the nation's leaders on the unit's progress each and every month.

"The NREC officers are experts in land cases," Mr Theerapat explained. "They have better equipment and more in-depth knowledge. This can also lighten the load on the local police officers and help the investigation to proceed more quickly."

Joining the fray is the Public Sector Anti-Corruption Commission (PACC), which can invoke further penalties against the suspects for engaging in corruption.

Key to the campaign is the support the NCPO has granted to investigators, Mr Theerapat explained.

"The investigators will report their findings to their superior officers, who in turn will report their progress to the NCPO," he said.

"The NCPO has our backs and we have their protection. We are under armed military escort while conducting investigations on the island."



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Cobra mistakes Chalong bathroom sink for dry ground

A LOCAL was shocked to find a cobra curled up in his bathroom sink when he went to hang up his underwear to dry on September 14.

The startled man called Ruamjai Rescue Foundation workers to the scene to have the reptile removed.

"The home owner said that he had gone into the bathroom to hang up his clothes to dry when he found the cobra in the sink," said Sayan Samphan, secretary of the Ruamjai Rescue Foundation.

Rescue workers rushed to the house in Soi Klumyang, near the PTT gas station in

Chalong, about 500 meters from Chao Fa West Road.

"Our staff took a few minutes to safely bag and remove the cobra. Fortunately, no one was injured during the incident," said Mr Sayan.

The rescue chief urged all Phuket residents to avoid removing any snakes from their homes without help from trained professionals.

"It is the rainy season, and snakes will often go into homes to find a dry place to stay. Please do not deal with any such situation on your own, unless you have been

trained in catching snakes," he said.

"If you need help, please call us. We are available around the clock."

The Ruamjai Rescue Foundation can be reached at 076-283346. The foundation covers incidents in Chalong, Kata, Karon and Rawai. It is recommended that the caller be able to speak Thai.

For assistance in Phuket Town, Thalang, Patong and Kamala, call the Kusoldharm Foundation at 076-246301. Staff are available 24 hours a day. It is also recommended that the caller be able to speak Thai.

— Chutharat Plerin



The snake was removed by professionals.



The bus crossed the white line and ran over the bike. Photo: Rawai PR

Chinese bus crushes bike, man dives to stay alive

A FOREIGNER escaped being run over by a Phuket tour bus loaded with Chinese tourists in Rawai on September 12 as he dumped his motorbike and dived to safety.

The foreigner, who asked not to be named, was waiting to turn right at the intersection in front of the Rawai Municipality offices.

"The tour bus crossed the center of the intersection while turning onto the beachfront road," Rawai Mayor Aroon Solos said.

Seeing the bus heading straight toward him, the foreigner dumped his motorbike and leaped out of the way.

"The motorbike was crushed under the bus," Mayor Aroon said.

Both the foreigner and the bus driver, who was carrying Chinese tourists from Phromthep Cape to Rawai at the time of the accident, were taken to Chalong Police Station for questioning.

"The bus driver called his insurance agent to resolve the situation," Mr Aroon explained.

— Natthaphol Wittayarungrote

Aussie yachties dodge fine, allege extortion attempt

By Chutharat Plerin

A 10,000-BAHT fine lodged against an Australian-owned yacht was dropped after officials confirmed that the vessel was registered with the Phuket Marine Office.

Last weekend, four Australian yachties claimed that a group of six uniformed Thai marine officers had shown up on a dinghy and attempted to extort money from them while at sea in Phang Nga Bay.

The Thai officers and Australians had a 45-minute-long broken conversation about the charges before the officers wrote up the official fine and left without money, explained Phang Nga Marine Office Chief Wimonman Suwannarat on Monday.

"The officials that handed down the fine that day are my staff," Ms Wimonman said.

"I ordered them to drop the case after we found out that the Australian yacht was registered in Phuket."

Ms Wimonman denied reports that her officers had called the Australians multiple times after the fact, asking for the payment.

Ms Wimonman also denied that the fine had been imposed because the Australian vessel was not flying a Thai flag while in Thai waters.

"The 10,000-baht fine was charged because the marine officers inspecting the yacht believed that there was no Thai captain or



Marine officials left empty handed and the 10,000-baht fine was dropped. Photo: Supplied

engineer on board. They were not aware that the vessel had already been registered with the Phuket Marine Office," she explained.

"The fine had nothing to do with the lack of a Thai flag."

Both Ms Wimonman and Phuket Marine Office Chief Phuripat Theerakulpisut confirmed that there is no fine for not flying a Thai flag on a foreign vessel in Thai waters.

"Of course, it is good manners to fly the flag of the country you are passing through. However, you will not be fined for not doing so," said Mr Phuripat.

Moreover, Ms Wimonman con-

firmed that internationally-registered vessels are not required to have Thai captains.

"Captains on these vessels have international licences, therefore a Thai captain is not required," she said.

Ms Wimonman told the *Gazette* she believes this incident can serve as a lesson for better communication among marine officials.

"Good communication skills and making sure that everyone is up-to-date and properly informed are all important issues that need to be raised in Phang Nga and Phuket – and even in

other nearby provinces," she said.

Ms Wimonman also voiced her hopes that the new regulations regarding the Automatic Identification Systems (AIS) for all foreign-flagged yachts would help make marine officers' jobs easier.

"The same AIS regulations for Phuket will also take effect in Phang Nga and Krabi. I hope that this system will help make our jobs easier, and help us to identify all boats entering and exiting our waters," she said.

"We must find a way to manage this system so it will benefit everyone."



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Taiji killing connection to dolphin park confirmed

By Isaac Stone Simonelli

A DIRECT connection between five wild-caught dolphins bound for Phuket's dolphinarium and the annual slaughter of thousands of dolphins at the Taiji cove in Japan has been confirmed, the Asia Director of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society told the *Gazette* last week.

Initial reports said that a total of six dolphins would be transported to Phuket via the Ukraine. However, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) permit issued by the Ukraine Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources identifies eight dolphins and two South American Fur Seals to be exported to Thailand.

Three of the dolphins, two Pacific Bottlenose dolphins and one Black Sea Bottlenose Dolphin, were born in captivity in 2012 and are being directly exported from Ukraine, said Sea Shepherd Conservation Society Asia Director Gary Stokes.

In addition, five more Pacific Bottlenose dolphins are being re-exported from Ukraine; and all five were originally caught in the wild

in Japan, he explained.

"The only place in Japan that catches wild dolphins is Taiji. We had 20 Bottlenose [dolphins] shipped from Taiji to Nemo [representatives] in Ukraine a few years back. Nemo has not imported any other dolphins from Japan except these," Mr Stokes told the *Gazette*.

"This is why I can confidently state that these are Taiji dolphins from the infamous killing cove... The same cove where we currently have a team of Cove Guardians

on the ground watching and updating the world every day of the hunt season."

The Taiji dolphin-hunting season started on September 1 and runs until the end of March.

"So far we have had 12 'blue cove' days, as we call them. A 'red' day is when they catch and

slaughter dolphins," Mr Stokes explained.

The two South American Fur Seals being imported for the Phuket tourist attraction were allegedly caught in the wilds of Uruguay.

"Two of the permits expire on October 24, so they may be arriving very soon, or they may already be somewhere in the country, being held until the



Dolphins being captured during the annual slaughter in Taiji, Japan – made famous by the documentary 'The Cove'. Photo: DolphinProject.org

dolphinarium is ready for them," Mr Stokes said.

"With only one small pool and no additional side pens where animals can be isolated if needed, Nemo [operators] are literally cramming these animals into a goldfish-bowl-sized tank. Throwing in two South American Fur Seals for good measure."

Renowned dolphin trainer turned animal rights activist Ric O'Barry, lauded for his role in the Academy-award winning docu-

mentary *The Cove*, recently spoke to the *Gazette* in an exclusive interview, voicing his warning that Phuket officials allowing the import of animals directly associated with the massacre at Taiji would tarnish the island's reputation on an international scale.

"If Phuket actually imports dolphins from Taiji, it's going to be a blemish on tourism in Phuket on an international scale, because Phuket will be supporting this dolphin slaughter," Mr O'Barry said.



Police believe the fire was caused by faulty wiring. Photo: Thawit Bilabdullar

Forensic police to probe fire at B20mn mansion

FORENSIC Police were called in to investigate a fire that broke out on September 14 at a 20-million-baht home under construction in Cherng Talay.

The house, named Baan Palita, was about 90 per cent complete, said Lt Thanapop Rattanaburi of the Cherng Talay Police.

"Damage caused by the fire is estimated at about 1 million baht," he said.

Construction contractor Suphat Khamtor, 42, said he reported the fire as soon as his staff noticed smoke coming from the mezzanine level of the home at about 3:30pm.

Two fire trucks soon arrived and firefighters took 30 minutes to bring the fire under control.

"We believe the fire started in the control room, which controls the electrical system, the air conditioning and the water heaters in the house," said Lt Thanapop.

"Fortunately, firefighters were able to prevent the flames from spreading to other rooms."

Phuket Forensic Police were called in to investigate the cause of the fire, he added.

"The owners of the house, one of whom is an Australian, are now in Australia," said Lt Thanapop.

"They have been contacted and notified of the fire."

– Thawit Bilabdullar



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ASIA'S BOUTIQUE AIRLINE

Gov Maitri moves on up

MAITRI Inthusut has been nominated for a promotion from governor of Phuket to permanent secretary at the Ministry of Interior, effective October 1.



Maitri Inthusut

Governor Maitri was among more than 30 high-ranking officials nominated by the Ministry of Interior for promotion or transfer in a list presented to the Cabinet on Tuesday, reported *The Nation*.

Any promotions or transfers approved by the Cabinet will be presented to HM King Bhumibol Adulyadej for royal endorsement.

Gov Maitri on Tuesday declined to comment on his impending promotion.

"The order has yet to be made official," Gov Maitri said. "It is too soon to comment. Let's wait until the order is official."

Nominated to succeed Gov Maitri as governor of Phuket is Nisit Jansomwong, who is current governor of Ratchaburi province. — **Chutharat Plerin**

No service held in memory of 2007 One-Two-Go plane crash

By Chutharat Plerin

THERE was no official memorial service on Tuesday to remember the 89 people who died in the crash landing of One-Two-Go Flight OG269 at Phuket International Airport seven years ago.

"We do not want to perpetuate horrible memories of the incident. It was a tragedy and not a day to remember," Phuket Airport Director Prathuang Sornkham said.

Mr Prathuang explained that airport officials make sure the facilities at Phuket's critical tourism portal meet international standards and that safety procedures have been improved since the horrific crash in 2007.

"Our facility meets the standards of the International Civil Aviation Organization [ICAO] and every year we are inspected by the Department of Civil Aviation to make sure our safety procedures meet international standards," he said.

"Since the incident, our air traf-



The One-Two-Go crash-landing disaster killed 89 people on September 16, 2007. Photo: Gazette file

fic controllers are in more frequent contact with pilots of approaching aircraft and we have improved our system of landing lights and other navigational aids."

Of the 130 passengers and crew aboard One-Two-Go flight OG269 that slammed into the run-

way before breaking apart and bursting into flames at about 3:45pm seven years ago, only 42 survived.

More than three years after the crash, the British coroner cited the "flagrant disregard for passenger safety" by the airline.

"The primary failure so far as I am concerned relates to the corporate culture which prevailed both at One-Two-GO Airlines and Orient Thai Airlines prior to and following the air crash," noted Her Majesty's Coroner SPG Fisher in his report.

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Injured olive ridley sea turtle washes up on Kamala Beach



Locals at Kamala Beach called Kusoldharm workers to rescue the badly injured olive ridley sea turtle and take it to the PMBC.

A MAIMED sea turtle tangled in a fishing net washed up on Phuket's popular Kamala Beach on the afternoon of September 12.

Kusoldharm Foundation rescue workers were called to the scene by locals, and brought the badly injured olive ridley sea turtle to the Phuket Marine Biological Center (PMBC) at Cape Panwa.

"The turtle had grown tired from dealing with the big waves in the Andaman Sea and was badly injured by a fishing net – its left fin was severed," said PMBC Veterinarian Patcharaporn Gaewmong.

"Many turtles that are caught by fishermen are thrown back into the sea without being un-

tangled from the fishermen's nets. This makes it almost impossible for them to swim and feed properly."

Currently, 20 sea turtles are under the PMBC's care; most of which have been injured by fishing nets.

"This is mating season for olive ridley sea turtles, so they won't be staying in deep water and can be easily caught. Fishermen need to take better care of cutting turtles free from their nets before putting them back in the water," said Dr Patcharaporn.

"If the community doesn't take better care of them, olive ridley sea turtles will become extinct."

— **Kritsada Mueanhawong**

Spirits descend

Phuket Vegetarian Festival: Get all of the essentials for this year's event here!

YELLOW and red flags are popping up around the island ahead of the world-renowned Phuket Vegetarian Festival, which will kick off on September 24 at shrines across the island.

The much anticipated annual festival, which will run until October 2, will begin with a ceremonial raising of *go teng* poles to allow the Jade Emperor and the Nine Emperor Gods to descend to our earthly realm.

The nine-day event attracts thousands of visitors to Phuket to witness the festivities, which include fire-walking, bladed-ladder climbing, hundreds of stalls fully stocked with vegan foods and processions at locations across the island.

On the last day of the festival, all participating shrines stage street processions to Saphan Hin between 11:45pm and midnight to bid the gods a "Grand Farewell" before they are sent heavenward.

The final processions are well-known for the large number of firecrackers set alight by devotees and revelers as the processions pass by.

This year, for this first time in the history of the festival, Phuket will host two Vegetarian Festivals, as an intercalary month, or leap month, falls in the ninth month of the Chinese calendar.

An official schedule for the second Vegetarian Festival, which will run from October 24 to November 1, has not yet been released, but several shrines on the island will honor the festival with a second round of commemorations.

The shrines that will be holding two commemorations are as follows: Cherng Talay Shrine; Gim Tsu Ong Shrine in Cherng Talay; Hai Yian Geng Shrine in Mai Khao; Kathu Shrine; Sam Sae Su Hud Shrine at Rang Hill in Phuket Town; and Sheng Leng Tong Shrine in Muang Mai, Thalang.



THE SCHEDULE OF PROCESSIONS FROM SEPTEMBER 24 IS AS FOLLOWS:

SEPTEMBER 25, 2014

8am: Choor Su Gong Naka Shrine (Phuket Town)

SEPTEMBER 26, 2014

6:30am: Bangkok Shrine (Phuket Town)

7am: Sapam Shrine (Phuket Town)

7am: Hai Yian Geng Shrine (Nai Yang)

4pm: Cherng Talay Shrine (Baan Manik)

SEPTEMBER 27, 2014

6:30am: Cherng Talay Shrine (Surin Beach)

7am: Tae Gun Shrine (Chalong, Karon)

7:09am: Sheng Leng Tong (Muang Mai, Thalang)

7:19am: Lim Hu Tai Su Shrine (Samkong)

8:30am: Bu Seng Tong Shrine (Baan Don - Surin beach)

3:30pm: Hai Yian Geng Shrine (Tah Chat Chai)

SEPTEMBER 28, 2014

6:30am: Jeng Ong Shrine (Phuket Town)

7:15am: Tae Gun Tai Shrine (Cherng Talay)

7:30am: Ban Tha Rue Shrine (Phuket Town)

4:45pm: Choor Su Gong Naka Shrine (Wichit)

7pm: Sapam Shrine (north of Phuket Town)

SEPTEMBER 29, 2014

6am: Sam Sae Su Hud Shrine (Phuket Town)

6am: Bang Neow Shrine (Phuket Town)

6:30am: Gim Tsu Ong Shrine (Mai Khao)

7am: Cherng Talay Shrine (Baan Don)

3:30pm: Sheng Leng Tong Shrine (Baan Maphrao, Thalang)

SEPTEMBER 30, 2014

6:30am: Gim Tsu Ong Shrine (Baan Don-Airport-Muang Mai)

8:09am: Jui Tui Shrine (Phuket Town)

OCTOBER 1, 2014

6:45am: Kathu Shrine (Phuket Town)

7am: Tae Gun Shrine (Chalong)

8:30am: Hai Yian Geng Shrine (Mai Khao)

8:30am: Ban Tha Rue Shrine (Thalang)

9:30am: Yok Ke Keng Shrine (Phuket Town)

OCTOBER 2, 2014

7:45am: Ngor Hian Tai Shrine (Cherng Talay)

8am: Sui Boon Tong Shrine (Phuket Town)

8am: Bangkok Shrine (Sapam, Bang Khu)

SCHEDULE FOR FIRE-WALKING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 29, 2014

8pm: Ban Tha Rue Shrine

8pm: Jeng Ong Shrine

8:09pm: Jui Tui Shrine

8:45pm: Yok Ke Keng Shrine

9pm: Sui Boon Tong Shrine

9pm: Tae Gun Shrine

9pm: Tae Gun Shrine

9:30pm: Hai Yian Geng Shrine

SEPTEMBER 30, 2014

9pm: Bu Seng Tong Shrine

OCTOBER 1, 2014

2pm: Gim Tsu Ong Shrine

8pm: Lim Hu Tai Su Shrine

8pm: Bang Neow Shrine

8pm: Tae Gun Tai Shrine

8pm: Sam Hong Hu Shrine

8:30pm: Sheng Leng Tong

8:30pm: Hoon Joong Jor Su Gong Shrine

OCTOBER 2, 2014

3pm: Kathu Shrine

7:30pm: Sam Pai Kong Shrine



10 RULES FOR THE VEGETARIAN FESTIVALS

1. Maintain personal cleanliness
2. Clean kitchen utensils used separately from others who do not participate
3. Wear white
4. Maintain polite behavior
5. Abstain from eating meat or other animal-based products
6. Abstain from sexual activities
7. Abstain from consuming alcohol
8. People in mourning should not take part
9. Pregnant women must refrain from watching festival rituals
10. Menstruating women should not attend festival rituals



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AROUND THE nation

Plans to install microphones in meeting rooms 'fishy', says poll

POLL results have revealed disapproval and distrust of an installment of high-tech audio systems for Cabinet meeting rooms, with almost half of respondents voting against it, reported *The Nation*.

The Prayuth administration was hit by a public and media outcry after announcing the planned installation of the systems, which included 89 microphones estimated to cost 100,000 baht each.

The poll revealed that 47.2 per cent of respondents wanted the project scrapped, and 50.8 per cent said that they felt there was something fishy about the installment of the microphones.

However, 49.3 per cent of the public said they felt nothing was wrong with the purchase deal, and 35.2 per cent supported it.

Police arrest Brit backpacker for murders of fellow Britons

By Phuket Gazette

SURAT Thani Police have arrested a British tourist suspected to be involved in the murders of fellow Britons Hannah Witheridge and David Miller (inset) on Koh Tao late Sunday night, reported Thai news agency PBS.

Police named the man as Christopher Alanvare, said the report.

Mr Alanvare was arrested after resort staff reported seeing him walking near the scene where the bodies of Ms Witheridge and Mr Miller, both 24, were found.

The pair, whose semi-clad bodies were discovered on a Koh Tao beach, were slain in a vicious attack carried out with a hoe. Both victims died from head trauma.

Officers reported that they had found blood stains on Mr Alanvare's clothes, and that he urgently left Koh Tao on the first ferry to the mainland on Monday morning, reported PBS.

Police said they were waiting for DNA test results to confirm



Rescue workers remove the bodies from the scene on a beach on Koh Tao. Photo: The Nation

whether or not the blood stains on Mr Alanvare's clothing matched DNA samples collected at the scene of the murder and from the victims' bodies.

Police also collected DNA samples from foreign workers who lived nearby, said the report.

However, Region 8 Police Commander Panya Mamen confirmed that three Myanmar workers, all initially suspected of the murders, were freed after questioning revealed they were not involved.

Police have asked friends of David Miller to remain in Thailand

pending further investigation into his murder, national deputy police chief Somyot Pumpunmuang said on Wednesday.

Mr Miller's friends, whom Gen Somyot did not identify, were at Suvarnabhumi International Airport, about to leave Thailand.

Officers arrest 'men in black'



Four of the 'men in black' that were arrested. Photo: The Nation

POLICE have arrested four men and one woman in connection with the killing of several soldiers in Bangkok during the political unrest in 2010, and are hunting for two more suspects.

During a press conference to announce the recent arrests on September 11, Gen Somyot Pumpunmuang, deputy National Police chief said that an eighth suspect has died.

All the suspects were allegedly involved in a firearm and grenade attack against troops dispatched to a protest rally in a small alley near the Democracy Monument on the night of April 10, 2010, Gen Somyot explained.

The attackers all wore black clothes and hoods, he said.

Earlier investigations into the 2010 disturbances found that armed men in dark attire, dubbed "men in black" by many people, had mingled with red-shirt protest-

ers, reported *The Nation*.

Gen Somyot said that under questioning, the suspects had confessed to their involvement in the attack. Investigators would next attempt to link the suspects to their accomplices and the mastermind.

The suspects were identified as Kittisak Sumsri, 45, Preecha Yooyen, 24, Chamnan Pakeechai, 45, Ronnarit Suricha, 33, and Punika Choosri, 39, who are now under custody, while Wattanachok Chinpui, 23, and Thanadej Ekapiwat, 45, remain at large.

The suspects were charged with carrying war-grade weapons in public without a permit. They were handed over to Crime Suppression police for detention after the press conference.

Police have identified the mastermind as Chakrarin Ruangsakvichit, who is now wanted under warrant issued by the military court of Saraburi.

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A brighter future for metered-taxi drivers

FIRST PERSON

MY CAREER started 20 years ago in a tuk-tuk queue outside Robinson community mall in Phuket Town.

Robinson was once the most popular mall on the island, but after a while people started flocking to the beaches, and large shopping centers like Jungceylon and Central Festival began popping up to cater for them.

After eight years of driving a tuk-tuk, I eventually had to give it up because I wasn't making enough money.

After that, I was stationed at Rassada Pier for four years. However, it still wasn't enough, so I decided to become a metered-taxi driver in 2004.

At first, it was really tough to be a metered-taxi driver. The idea of metered-taxi fares was, and still is, a new concept in Phuket. There were many rules, and we were only allowed to pick up passengers at the airport. After dropping them off at their destination, I had to drive my empty cab back to the airport for the next customer – I was not allowed to pick up passengers along the way. It was a real waste of time and money.

The taxi mafia made things even harder for those of us with meter taxis. Most of the busy tourist spots around the island were controlled by the mafia. They only



Chomsorn Chaowai, 57, from Prachuap Khiri Khan, has been working as a taxi driver on the island for more than 20 years. The long-time Phuket resident and mother of two was the first female taxi driver in Phuket and became one of the first metered taxi drivers in 2004.

Here, she talks about the rapidly changing world of taxi driving on the island, and voices her support and hopes for the new metered-taxi system in Phuket.

allowed their members to pick up passengers in those areas.

Everyone was aware of the problem, but there was nothing we could do.

Today, though, the National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO) has swooped in to clear out the mafia and manage public transportation in Phuket.

This has given myself and so many others a new chance.

Metered taxis can now roam the streets and pick up people from anywhere, without the threat or intimidation of mafia.

This is not only good for taxi drivers, but it is also good for passengers. People can now make a choice, whether it be to take a metered-taxi or another form of legal transport, without being intimidated by anyone.

These changes are undoubtedly

positive, but it will take time for the changes to truly take hold. Local people are not really familiar with, or aware of the option to take a metered taxi, but time and experience can change this.

I have already started picking up passengers who have hailed my cab from the side of the road.

I truly believe we are moving in the right direction. The NCPO has set up a good system for us, and there is no need for us to go against these new rules.

One of the most exciting things that has happened with the new system is that many of the new roving metered-taxi drivers converted from driving black-plate, illegal taxis. It is good to see these people change. They understand that we must adapt with the times in order to survive.

If Phuket's taxi-driving community can pull through all of the changes being made on the island, I believe this will be a great new start for us. There is now hope and a bright future for all the island's taxi drivers.



Russian numbers rise despite recent political turmoil. Photo: Gazette file

Show Russia love

IS PHUKET on the brink of losing its Russian comrades?

According to a recent report published by the Kasikorn Research Center, Russian arrivals to Thailand are expected to drop 5.5% by the end of this year.

When you consider that Russian visitors to Thailand (1.73 million) were almost double the number of visitors from the whole of Europe last year (1 million), then the decline could represent quite a large hole in Thailand's overall arrival numbers.

Looking at these figures from Phuket's point of view, one has to wonder whether we've reached a tipping point and are about to see a fall in the number of cash-flush Russian holidaymakers.

It's not so long ago that you would have been hard-pressed to find a Russian tourist in Phuket.

They came to these shores in small numbers at first – like the first settlers of the New World – looking for a new life in the sun... while keeping an eagle eye on the business opportunities and angles.

Back then, they were a strange curiosity: Tall and beautiful (the women, anyway) – lacking any recognizable English language skills – but not afraid to haggle in their own unfamiliar-sounding verbiage. Now they number as many as the stars.

Whatever your views on the habits of Russian tourists, there's no doubt they have become an important revenue staple of

Island View

By Daniel Davies

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

Phuket's tourism industry.

Russian and Chinese arrivals at Phuket International Airport in 2014 have been the two largest groups with 228,691 and 225,949 visits, respectively. While Chinese arrivals declined slightly in the first quarter by 1.6%, Russian arrivals to Phuket grew by a staggering 20.4% year-on-year.

Combined, Russia and China constituted about 50% of total arrivals to Phuket, but perhaps what's more interesting is that despite Kasikorn's predicted overall decline in Russian arrivals to Thailand by year end, their numbers in Phuket continue to grow.

It would be difficult to pinpoint one particular factor influencing their growing numbers, and even tougher to speculate about any future role Russians might play in the tourism industry. However, for now, the figures suggest they are here to stay.

This is, of course, good news for the tourism industry, but with the EU tightening the screws on Russian sanctions, it could still go to pot. And that's something the Tourism Authority of Thailand's Phuket office shouldn't be taking lightly.

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

Is it worth it to book a dive trip during the low season?

Is the diving in Phuket any good during the rainy season? I have heard mixed reports and want to be sure before booking a dive holiday there.

Andy Ballard
United States

Joe Blasy, Scuba Instructor at Sea Bees Diving, Phuket, replies:

Yes, the diving is still good during the rainy season.

During the low season, or "green" season as it is often called now (from late April to mid-October), the national parks at the Similan and the Surin Islands are closed. The diving at those parks is considered world class, and some of the best diving Thailand has to offer. Diving at the Similans

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www.PhuketGazette.net/IssuesAnswers

is primarily offered through "liveaboard" boats operating out of Phuket or Khao Lak, with a few operators doing day trips by speedboat or high-speed catamaran.

However, there is much more diving here than just the Similans. The Hin Musang and Koh Dok Mai Protected Marine Sanctuaries – together comprising four dive



Dive despite the season. Photos: Isaac Stone Simonelli

sites, including Shark Point, Anemone Reef and the King Cruiser Wreck – are open year-round, as is the national park at Phi Phi Island with its several excellent year-round dive sites.

Also popular are Koh Racha Yai and Koh Racha Noi with their stunning views at any time of year, with Koh Racha Noi known for its giant manta rays.



Go diving and you might find Nemo under the sea.

There is a greater chance of rain during the low season, but that really isn't an issue for divers.

However, there is a westerly wind that comes off the Indian Ocean at this time of year, which means there is a chance of some swell on the way out to the dive sites.

The wind and the rain, however, have no effect on the dive sites

themselves, which are usually just as beautiful in the low season as they are in the high season – perhaps even better to enjoy because there are fewer divers and dive boats visiting them.

It is rare, but on occasion operators will cancel or move to a more protected dive site during the low season depending on sea conditions.

Brand Phuket

EFFORTS by local hotel industry leaders to revive the Phuket Hotels Association in order to give a unified voice to the island's tourism industry could not have come at a better time (see page 29).

Phuket needs a positive public relations push to provide foreign visitors with clear, accurate information about the "new Phuket", in contrast to its mafia-infested, pre-coup precursor.

The National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO) understands the importance of the tourism industry, which has perhaps been most vividly demonstrated by its efforts right here in Phuket.

Step by step, authorities have managed to clean up some of the most offensive and damaging aspects of the island by simply ordering police and other authorities to do their jobs and enforce relevant existing laws.

The results could hardly have been more visual than the transformation of the west coast. It is as if a magic wand has been waved and popular beaches restored, almost overnight, to their former natural beauty – one of the island's most important selling points for visiting tourists.

Images of Phuket's revival figured prominently in last Saturday's English-language segment of the NCPO's "Return Happiness to The People" broadcast.

Though the segment served its purpose – as it focused on Thailand's image as a whole, both domestically and internationally – it did not present a clear understanding of what the "new Phuket" will mean to the international community.

It is here that the Phuket Hotels Association is most needed. Is Phuket defined by its beaches (with or without beach chairs), its shopping, its luxury lifestyle, its marine activities, its nightlife, or a combination of them all? Ask a dozen industry leaders, and you will get a baker's dozen answers in return.

However, what is clear are the reasons why some international travellers avoid Phuket: tuk-tuks, taxis, beach touts, airport rip offs, government corruption and a less-than-pristine natural environment.

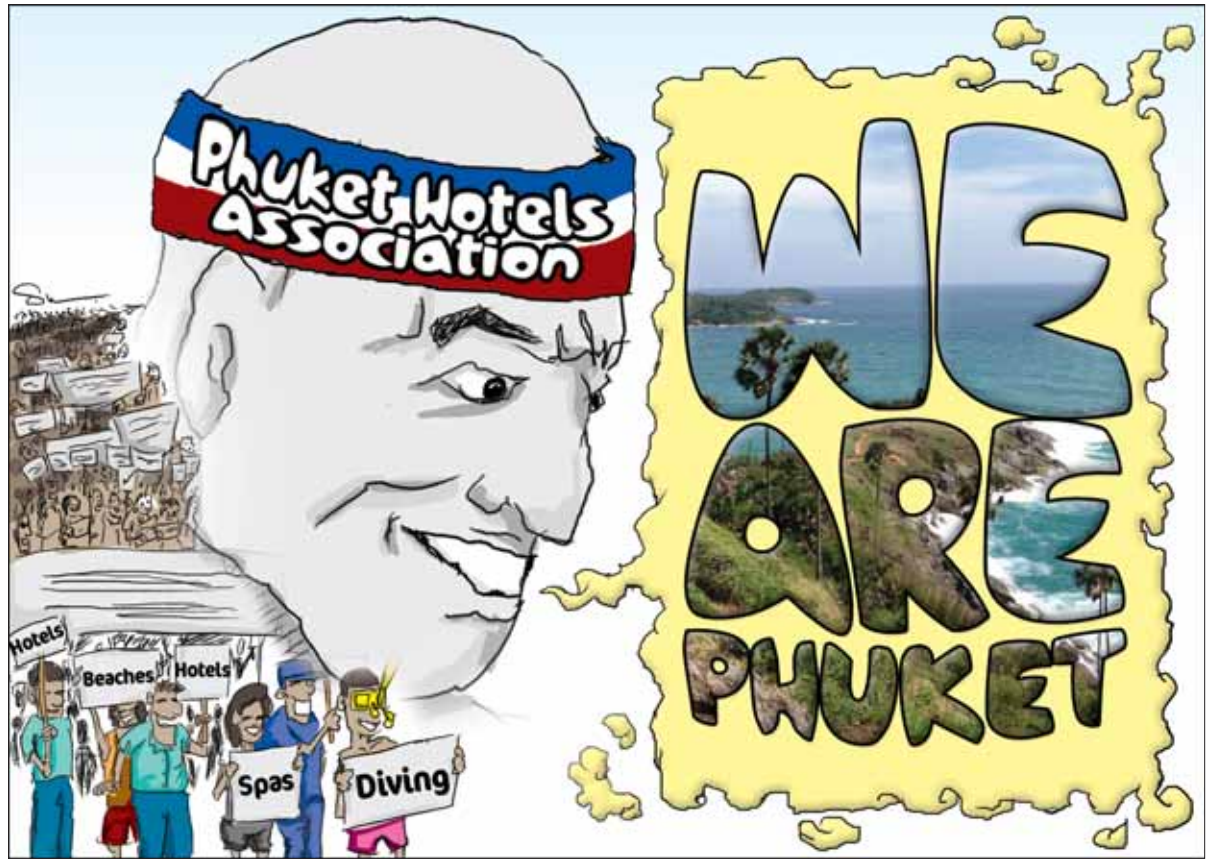
The fear expressed at the recent AMCHAM meeting is that as Phuket vies for its share of the world's travel market, a failure to develop, implement and promote a clear concept of what Phuket stands for could lead the province down the proverbial yellow brick road to a place ruled by further uncontrolled development, more taxi mafia and jet-ski touts, and a slew of other factors that have tarnished the island's image.

The NCPO's cleanup of Phuket has offered a unique opportunity for the island to re-group, re-brand and re-invent itself in the world's mind.

It is not a clean slate.

All of the harmful development on the island cannot be undone – we can't return to the Phuket of 1987 and try again.

However, with a single voice to lobby Bangkok and the local government, we can start to create a Phuket to be proud of.



Did you mean to say corruption?

Re: Gazette online, Sixteen corrupt officials to be charged for B100bn national park land scandal, September 16

Good that they will be charged, but for 'negligence'?

If they benefited financially from their actions surely it should be corruption?

*Mister Ree
Gazette forum*

Patong has changed, but not in a good way

I just recently went back to Patong and spoke to some locals. They told us the army had removed all the beach chairs.

This was one of the best things Patong had to offer. Lots of Australians I have spoken to have said that it was great being waited on and offered massages on the beach.

Patong has changed.

*Fiona Hupton
Australia*

Remember those lost

Re: Gazette online, Phuket's One-Two-Go air crash a disaster 'not to be remembered': airport officials, September 16

It's not about remembering the crash, but about the people who perished.

I for one will raise a glass and say a prayer for the victims of Flight OG269.

*Neill Campbell
Facebook*

Investigate, please

Re: Gazette online, Three suspects questioned about murder of British tourists on Koh Tao, September 16

I sincerely hope that this is not a witch hunt and that these Bur-

Letters

to the Editor

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

mese are not framed.

It seems to be a tendency to blame much of Thailand's crime on the Burmese, if at all possible.

If they are guilty, so be it, but I remain skeptical.

*The contrarian
Gazette forum*

Reveal every detail

Re: Gazette online, Aussie yachties dodge 10,000 baht fine east of Phuket, September 15

This appears to be an extortion attempt with a lot of back-stepping. Much of what Ms Wimonman stated does not make sense at all.

I suggest that there be a public hearing and that all the facts be made public.

This incident truly affects the respectability of the marine department and has long-term consequences.

I have operated yachts here for more than 20 years and am tired of being a target for Thai government "entrepreneurs".

*Mariner
Gazette forum*

A sad day for boats

Re: Gazette online, Phuket boat Chok Somboon 15, of local dive tour company Andaman Ocean Safari, catches fire, sinks in Chalong Bay, September 12

Devastating. Absolutely great boat, great staff and a great company.

Hope they will be back bigger and better soon. Much love to all involved.

*Matty Vale
Facebook*

Proper cleanup call

Re: Gazette online, Rubble being used to stop erosion on Surin Beach not part of cleanup plan, says OrBorTor president, September 16

This debris will ruin the beach for years to come. Clean it up now and dispose of it properly before it disperses into the sand.

Once it has dispersed, beach users will be cutting their feet on it for years to come. Respect the beach – it is not a garbage dump.

*Daren Jenner
Facebook*

Horribly disappointed

Re: Gazette online, Dolphin slaughter connected to Phuket dolphinarium confirmed, says Sea Shepherd [video], September 12

This is terrible news. I'm so saddened by this. I was really hoping that Phuket would make the right decision in this case.

How many animals have to suffer in this country just so people can generate money from them.

What kind of a statement is this to the world?

*Andrea Jaag
Facebook*

Way to go, boys

Re: Gazette online, Phuket lifeguards bring home gold from Vietnam, September 11

Good showing, guys! You should be proud. Hopefully this puts a competitive spark in all of Phuket's lifeguards.

Maybe the drive to succeed will force most of them to quit sitting in their towers and smoking all day, as smoking is not compatible with being a lifeguard.

Many other lifeguards could also learn from this.

*Ed Sanders
Gazette forum*

Phuket Gazette

In association with The Nation Multimedia Group PCL

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WHAT'S ON in Phuket

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. To get more information call David on 081-892 9207 or email davidarell@yahoo.com.

This event is proudly sponsored by the *Phuket Gazette* and PGTV's 'Phuket Today' show

October 10, 11am-11pm. Curry Fridays at Navrang Mahal

Navrang Mahal Indian Restaurant presents Curry Friday's. Here is your chance to enjoy an authentic and lavish Indian Curry Buffet every Friday. Buffet highlights include: Tandoori chicken, mutton vindaloo, butter chicken, matat paneer, bombay aloo, garlic naan, basmati rice, vegetable samosa, aloo tikka and more. All you can eat for only 449 baht nett! Venue: Navrang Mahal Indian Restaurant, only at Karon Branch. Open Daily: 11am to 11pm. For reservations, please call 076-286464 or visit the website: navrangmahal.com

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

The October lunch will be at Divino, Cherg Talay. Early booking is recommended as seats are limited. All are welcome. Members 600 baht, guests 750 baht. Contact Maggy Wigman on 086-594 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, send a message to BISP Athletics Director Jeff LaMantia at jlamantia@bisphuket.ac.th

The *Phuket Gazette* and PGTV's 'Phuket Today' show, the island's only nationally broadcast television program (aired daily on True Visions channels 79 [HD] and 107 [SD]),

are proud to sponsor this event.

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.

Looking for a place to stay?
See more classified ads at www.phuketgazette.net

Phuket today

Phuket Gazette

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 |
|--|---|---|
| <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> Now on Truevisions HD 79, SD 107 </div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div> Phuket Cable Coverage: All of Phuket Channel: 1 Monday-Friday: 10.30am, 6pm, 9pm Saturday-Sunday: 10.30am, 9pm </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div> Rawai Cable Coverage: Rawai, Kata, Karon Channel: 1 Monday-Friday: 10am, 1pm, 7pm, 10pm </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div> KDTV Coverage: Phuket's West Coast from Patong to Cherg Talay Channel: 10 Daily: 8.30am, 2.30pm </div> </div> | <div> MCOT World Tuesday: 12.05pm & 7pm Wednesday: 6pm Thursday: 1pm & 8pm Friday: 9am Saturday: 1pm Sunday: 6am </div> <div style="margin-top: 10px;"> Truevisions HD Channel: 79 Truevisions SD Channel: 107 PSI TRUE TV Channel: 37 GMMZ Channel: 103 </div> | <div> Broadcast to China, the Philippines, Southeast Asia, India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Turkey, UAE, and many other countries around Asia and beyond. </div> <div style="margin-top: 10px;"> Thaicom 5 Sat 3520H Tuesday: 12.05pm & 7pm Wednesday: 6pm Thursday: 1pm & 8pm Friday: 9am Saturday: 1pm Sunday: 6am </div> |

Online: www.phuketgazette.net/tv | www.youtube.com/PGTVPhuket
Plus 4,600 hotel rooms around the island and all international hospitals.

NOW AVAILABLE ON
KHAO LAK CABLE Channel 50
And local cable networks across Thailand



YOUR Phuket

'Asia's Next Top Model' judge visits Amari Phuket



Pierre-Andre Pelletier, vice president and area general manager, South Thailand (right) welcomes Todd Anthony Tyler, a celebrated fashion photographer and a judge on 'Asia's Next Top Model', along with his wife, Karina Smith (middle) and Kittiphong Sansomboon, general manager of Thai Airways Singapore Office (left), during their recent visit to La Gritta Restaurant, Amari Phuket.

Famed florist visits Saturdays Condo



Famed florist Sakul Intakul (left) and Kanokpan Pranveerapaiboon, director of The Attitude Club, took part in an event offering flower arranging classes, which took place at the company's Saturdays Condo Gallery office.

Outrigger Resorts help local school

Sixty-five Outrigger Resorts senior executives and staff recently attended Ban Bang Rong Primary School in northeast Phuket to assist in painting and redecorating the school.



Darren Edmonstone, managing director of Outrigger Asia-Pacific, and David Carey, Outrigger CEO, donated materials for the school's library to the Headmistress of Ban Bang Rong School.



Peter Hopgood, general manager of Outrigger on the Lagoon, Fiji, helps children re-organize the school library.



TREAT YOURSELF TO A REFINED DINING EXPERIENCE

Located at the heart of Angsana Laguna Phuket, Bodega & Grill is renowned for its premium meats and Mediterranean delights.

These signature favourites now stand alongside a range of more delicate, equally scrumptious dishes that include Coffin Bay Oysters in Champagne Sabayon, Yellow Fin Tuna Tartar, 18 months aged Burrata Cheese, Bodega's Signature Beef Carpaccio and Rock Lobster Risotto.

Bodega & Grill's mirrored walls, warm woods and marble floor create a stunning venue for a perfect night out with family or friends.

Spoil yourself or a loved one and come try our new signature menu.

For reservations, please call +66 (0) 76 324 101 or email bodega-lagunaphuket@angsana.com

**BODEGA
& GRILL**



ANGSANA
LAGUNA PHUKET



Angsana Laguna Phuket
10 Moo 4, Srisoonthorn Road, Cherngtalay,
Thalang, Phuket 83110, Thailand



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The Phuket Gazette's weekly

ISLAND TRADER

Phuket's **LARGEST CLASSIFIEDS** Marketplace – in Print and Online*

September 20 - 26, 2014 | PhuketGazette.Net

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

PROPERTY of the week



THE ANDABUREE PHUKET

See page 17

JOB of the week



HACOGROUP
Haco Group (1991) Co., Ltd.

See page 21

INVESTMENT
of the week

**Patong
Restaurant**

See page 22

BOAT of the week



See page 25

HOT Promotion – Gazette **CLASSIFIEDS**

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Phuket today
Phuket Gazette

Questions?
Anna@PhuketGazette.Net

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

Properties For Sale

LAND FOR SALE



73square wah with Chanote titles. 15 minutes to Panwa Beach (Ao Makham bay). Conveniently located, road frontage. Please contact 081-6912526. Email: s_jumpon@yahoo.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 300sqm, ADSL, SAT TV, autogate, quick sale 9.5 MB. Tel: 093-713 2278, after 5pm.

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).

RESORT

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

LAND - PATONG BEACH

Opposite White Box restaurant. Seaview & 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@pacificlighthotel.com

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

LUXURY POOL VILLA



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

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

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

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.



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

APARTMENT FOR SALE IN BOAT LAGOON

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

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 on. For more information, please call 089-874 00 61. Email: stephenfein@gmail.com

PHUKET NEW CONDO FOR SALE

2bed, 2bath. 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.

HOUSE FOR SALE



In Soi Sansabai, Patong. Call Yooyen for details on 087-895 0362 (English & Thai). Email: panyaah249@gmail.com

NICE STUDIO APT, B 1.5 MILLION

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

HOUSE FOR SALE



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



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

FREEHOLD POOL VILLA



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

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@phuketandaman realestate.com

LARGE SEAVIEW HOUSE AT LAYAN



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

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

Properties For Rent

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

FULLY FURNISHED HOUSE

3-bedrooms, 400sqm, free WiFi and cable TV. 25,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-892 4311. <http://palai.green.weebly.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

BRAND NEW MODERN POOL VILLA

Brand New Modern Pool Villas (2 & 3 beds). fully furnished. free WiFi, satellite TV, pool & garden Maintenance. Between Cape Yamu & Ao Po Marina. Tel: 081-893 5270, 093-014 5072. Email: srdupouy@gm-ail.com, www.tropical-house.net

BOUTIQUE ROOM FOR RENT

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

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, Fully furnished, 12,000 baht/month. Call 086-690 0626 or email bcarrent@hotmail.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

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

1-BED BUNGALOW

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

RAWAI BEACH CONDO

Great location, new 2 bed, 2 bath condo with pool, kitchen and WiFi. Fully furnished with amenities. From 35,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-895 7908 (English & Thai), 081-892 6710 (English). Email: peterh@asianwind.biz

CHEAP KAMALA

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

POOL VILLA FOR RENT

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

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

VILLA FOR RENT NAI YANG

3-bed, fully furnished. Long term rental. 21,000 baht per month. Please call 084-847 4377 (English), 084-842 6147 (English & Thai). Email: info@thaidreams.se

2-BED APT PATONG

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

7,000 BAHAT PER MONTH

1-bedroom house, furnished, WiFi + cable TV, quiet area. For more information, please call 081-892 4311. <http://panwagreen.weebly.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. Tel: 094-706 7671. 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

KATHU GOLF & VALLEY VIEW VILLA

3 and 1 bed Kathu Loch Palm Golf Course and valley view villa. For rent, big pool, 4km to BIS. Quiet, on top of a private hill. Fully furnished. Maid, WiFi, security. Long-term 75,000 and 35,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-269 8492 (English & Thai).

2-BED CONDO PHUKET

2 bed, 2 bath on 10th floor for rent at Suan Luan Park, offering both park and ocean views. 6 mins to biggest shopping mall, and just 20 mins to the beach. 35,000 baht per month, long term. For info and pics, call Noi on 087-269 8492.

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

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

**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: annanot1@hotmail.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

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

STUDIO APARTMENT ZCAPE

Fully furnished. large TV. Wifi. Great location. Close to all amenities. Email: Pkthai1@gmail.com

200SQM WAREHOUSE

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

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Live in Rawai? Place your **GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS** at The Network property office



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

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!

Household Items

MODERN KITCHEN & APPLIANCES

For sale. Complete with all modern appliances, fridge and dining table. Please call for photos. Bargain price at 85,000 baht. Tel: 084-650 1048, 085-354 9694.

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



BABY BED FOR SALE

3 bed, Fully furnished. Long time rental. 21,000 baht per month. Tel: 084-847 4377 (English), 084-842 6147(English & Thai). Email: info@thaidreams.se

NICE AND QUIET CONDO PATONG

**RENT APARTMENT/
HOUSE RAWAI**
Need to rent apartment or
house in rawai / nai harm from
25 September to 10 Desember.
Email: comantin@gmail.com

Tesco Lotus
Phuket Town



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!**

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

[illegible]

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

All advertising must be paid for in advance.

Deadline for Property Gazette page: Friday 3 pm.

Deadline for all other ads: Saturday 12 noon.

Looking for land to buy?

See more classified ads at www.phuketgazette.net

**HOUSEKEEPER
NEEDED**

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

**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

**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@cmmd-intl.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@princessyachtssea.com or call 076-238 060.

**FULL TIME
HOUSEKEEPERS NEED**

Villa in Nai Harn looking for live-in staff, possibly a married couple. Duties include: cleaning, laundry, cooking, and day-to-day maintenance. Experience, references and English required. Excellent salary and accommodation. Tel: 081-970 7633(English & Thai). Email: fortina_nachat1@gmail.com

**FOOD & BEVERAGE
MANAGER**

We are hiring Food & Beverage Manager. Good salary with work permit. Experience working with Thai staff preferred. Tel: 081-905 8353. Email: hrbangt_ao@oceanresortgroup.net

**EXPERIENCED CS
STAFF WANTED**

Native English Speaking Customer Service Agent needed for E-commerce Fashion Retailer. Work Permit. High Salary. 5-day Work Week. Work on Macs. Tel: 076-282759. Email: carla@holyclothing.com Web for full Details Here: <http://bit.ly/ROwNBD>

BOAT CREW

Two positions available on the Chalong-based premier power catamaran Blue World – a Chinese Speaking Tour Guide and a qualified Boat Engineer. Both vacancies are for Thai Nationals. Excellent conditions and rates of pay. Please send photo and CV to Mike. Tel: 085-475 0447 (English). Email: blueworldsafaris@gmail.com

OPC MANAGER

Real estate company looking for OPC manager. Good English skills. Tel: 089-564 6888. Email: info@arthouse.asia

OFFICE ASSISTANT

Tropical Properties Real Estate is urgently looking for an Office Assistant. Must have good knowledge of spoken and written English. Basic accounting and good computer skills are essential. Must be able to organize and work independently and be in a position to start work almost immediately. Tel: 087-882 2856 (English). Email: luc@phuket-tropical-realestate.com

**PERSONAL TRAINER
POSITION**

We have a position open for a Qualified Full-Time Personal Trainer / Fitness Instructor. To apply, email or call for full job description / requirements. Tel: 085-783 0141 (English). Email: liam@phuketfit.com

**CONDOMINIUM
MANAGER**

A medium-sized condominium development in the Cape Panwa area is looking to appoint a CJP Manager to take over the day-to-day running of the estate. Applicants should ideally have related experience and possess a good knowledge of English. Salary in the range of 30,000 to 50,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-695 0088 (English & Thai). Email: to_recruit@hotmail.com

Phuket Gazette

The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following position:

CLASSIFIEDS ADMINISTRATION 1 POSITION

Qualified candidates will be:

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

and should have:

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

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

The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

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

Phuket Gazette

The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following position:

SUB-EDITOR

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

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

The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

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

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!**

Authorized Agents for Classified Advertising:**CHALONG**

- ▶ **Julapan Stationery** (Chaofa East Rd) Tel: 076-282254
- ▶ **KL Mart** (Patak Rd, Chalong 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. Savoy 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



Haco Group (1991) Co., Ltd.

About Us

HACO Group was established in 1973. HACO Group has maintained its reputation as the market leader for a wide range of well-established, highly successful international brands. The main business development strategies of HACO Group are outstanding product portfolios, strong distribution networks, quick and on-time deliveries, together with the best after-sales services.

Sales Executive (Phuket Area)

Role and Responsibilities

- Maintain effective working relationships with customers, dealers or other sales channels.
- Promotion of products.
- Resolving customers' complaints.
- Negotiate the terms of an agreement & closing sales.
- Other assignments by supervisor.

The Candidate who we are looking for

- Bachelor's Degree in any related field
- At least 2 years in sales retail, modern trade, project
- Be able to work in Bangkok 2-3 day/month
- Able to drive and have car licence, own car is preferred

Attractive starting salary
Provident Fund
Social Security

ON SQUARE Co., Ltd.

Building B1-B2, Gallery Zone
888,888/1 Moo.2, Koh Kaew, Mueang Phuket, Phuket 83002
Contact : Watcharaphon Wiriyaansakun
Tel. 02-168-1368. ext 2203
E-mail : HRD@haco.co.th
Website : www.haco.co.th



Financial Controller

The Financial Controller oversees the day-to-day activities of the financial team and ensures the company's finance function is organized and efficient, as well as produces accurate financial and management accounts.

Duties include:

- Management of the finance function and overseeing the finance team
- Preparation of budgets, forecasts and cash flows
- Maintenance of financial ledgers and accounting processes
- Preparation of Monthly Consolidated P&L and Balance Sheet
- Timely production of statutory and internal financial reports
- Financial modelling and analysis
- Cash management and treasury duties
- Ensuring that appropriate systems and internal controls are implemented and maintained
- Overseeing the Payroll process
- Preparation of VAT returns
- Must be fluent in written and spoken English
- Salary 100,000 baht + monthly depending on experience

Interested parties please forward CV to
will@tigermuaythai.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-supe ryachts.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: 081-893 5492 (English & Thai). Email: jtissier@aquamaster.net

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 ea.com or call 076-238 060.



Phuket's premier property management company is looking for suitable, qualified candidates for the following position available in the field of villa rental and management services.

Property Operations Supervisor: 1 Position

- 1 year experience in property management operations.
- Leadership skills and team player.
- Excellent written and spoken English.
- Thai nationals only.
- Microsoft Office and Email proficiency.
- Car license.
- Ability to manage and lead a team.
- Competitive Salary, plus Service Charge.

Please send application and photo to Human Resource Dept.
Email: tasanee@pipsphuket.com



393/2 Moo1 Srisoonthorn Rd, Chergtalay, Thalang, Phuket 83110
Tel: 076 270 750 Fax: 076 270 751

OPC'S WANTED KOH SAMUI.

OPCs wanted for Koh Samui. Good sales people. Must speak English. Good salary. Tel: 077-413598.

SALES PERSON

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

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@cmmd-intl.com

HOUSEKEEPER NANNY WANTED

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

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

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@bayshore projects.com

COPY WRITER

Siam Real Estate requires 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.

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: ritalouisedo bson@hotmail.com

Live in Patong?

Place your **GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS** at Taurus Travel



Simply write out your ad, pay and leave it with
Khun Kai: (076-344321-2)

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 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!**

Looking for a **JOB?**

Looking for a better candidate?

Find more Recruitment Classifieds at WWW.PhuketGazette.Net!

Phuket's leading agency is now looking for one position only to represent us and deal with our Chinese speaking clients. You should have extensive knowledge in sales and know Phuket island well. Reading and speaking Chinese is a must. Terms and conditions will be presented at the interviews. Please send your resume to the email address below. Tel: 076-341045, 081-459 0152. Email: info@phuket-condos-homes.com

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

Mobile Phones

IPHONE 4S CALL NOW

Call 091-161 0868 for quality secondhand iPhone 4s (16GB).

Personals

BACKGAMMON

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

Personal Services Wanted

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.

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

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. | parwgg@aol.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

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.

Computer

IMAC

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

Audio / Video Equipment

HI-FI AV RECEIVER

Cambridge Audio 540R V.20, excellent cond: 7,900 baht. 9-inch Acer monitor: 18,506 baht. Tel: 080-041 4240.

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)

Business Products & Services



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

INSURANCE SERVICE

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

WORLDWIDE AIR TICKETS

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

VISA SERVICES

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

Camera & Equipment

WANTED CAMERA MAN

Real Estate company requires an amateur cameraman to take 360 property views on regular basis. Have equipment. Tel: 089-472 4925. Email: jones.o.broberg@gmail.com

SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT

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

40FT SEA CONTAINER

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

Phuket Gazette

PROMOTION PRICE Your Ad on PGTV

CLASSIFIED AD ORDER FORM

STANDARD AD (Text only): **140 baht/line**

OPTIONS (NEWSPAPER ONLY - NOT WEB):

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

NUMBER OF INSERTIONS: issue(s)

ONLINE OPTIONS:

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

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

TELEVISION OPTION:

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

350 baht



Total cost of your classified baht

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

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

For more information, Please call 076-273555.

Email: kookai@phuketgazette.net

SAMPLE ADS

TOYOTA HILUX HERO

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

Standard: 840 baht (incl VAT)

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

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

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

Phone Mr Reece
(02) 668-1268

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

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

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

Saloon Cars

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 mancapiatal@gmail.com

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

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

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

Fusion 40
298,000 Euro
PRICE REDUCTION

Searay Sundancer 375
\$129,000 USD

Wally Power 47
650,000 Euro
NEW LISTING

Pershing 50
499,000 Euro

Grady White 300 Marlin
4,500,000 THB
INCLUDES AIRBERTH

Luc Bouvet Custom 52
250,000 Euro
NEW LISTING

Fountaine Pajot Belize 43
\$350,000 USD

Jeanneau Sun Odyssey 409
190,000 Euro
REDUCED

Don Brook 80 Pilothouse
\$695,000 USD
REDUCED

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

DIVING - SNORKELLING BOAT

Fully operational 45-person scuba diving boat. Just finished a 400,000 baht full boat refit. Twin engines. Reduced price 2,900,000 baht ono. Tel: 076-293052, 090-030 8965 (English), 086-942 6883 (Thai). Email: charlesbird@me.com

SELLING YOUR BOAT?

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

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

AIS CLASS B DEAL

AIS DEAL by Electrical Marine Co, Ltd. Has the Simrad Class B NAIS-400 complete with GPS and VHF antennas that will interface with all marine systems with NMEA2000 & NMEA 0183. 32,500 baht+VAT sales @electrical-marine.com Tel: 076-272177, 081-892 0534 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-272178. Email: sales@electrical-marine.com

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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. Tel: 084 842 6146. Email: alangiles@boatshedphuket.com Boatshed phuket.com

BOTNIA TARGA 32 (2013)

As new and with nearly all the options. A quality Scandinavian build, go anywhere, fast cruiser at a substantial saving on the new price. US\$340,000. Tel 084 842 6146 alangiles@boatshedphuket.com Boatshedphuket.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

JEANNEAU 52.2 (2002)

The owner has spent a fortune on her, New teak decks, B&G instruments, leisure furl in boom furling, upholstery and head linings, new stove, battery charger and inverter, a 42" flat screen TV and much much more. A great boat and good value at US\$260,000 FIRM. Tel: 084 842 6146 alangiles@boatshedphuket.com Boatshedphuket.com

FRASER 41 (1988)

Solid construction by De Kleer Brothers in Canada and a successful competitor on the local racing scene. Perkins 4108 50hp auxiliary diesel for details contact Alan Giles. Tel: 084-842 6146. alangiles@boatshedphuket.com Boatshed phuket.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 TAMD71B, 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

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

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).

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.

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

SOLUTION TO THIS WEEK'S

Cryptic crossword

COFFEE break

Abbreviations: UPPER CASE (if used as part of anagram, in brackets).

Normal spelling: lower case.

Anagrams: *italic* (indicated in clue by words 'out', 'possibly', 'strangely', 'wild', or similar).

Letters left out: underlined.

Across: 9. LIONTAMER: *trainmole* 10. PRETEENS: *pretense* 12. IMPS: I-M.P.'s 13. POMELO: *po-me-lo* 14. CHALONG: tea-yearn 15. OBLIGATES: *bestgoals* 17. INSURANCE: *arunsince* 18. SEDATED: steady-D 20. PREFIX: P-Ref-IX 21. BRIO: B-Rio 24. RELATION: relative 26. PENDULUM: *nudelump* 28. DAMP: Da-P.M.[rev] 29. STUPID: *puts-I.D.* 31. PARADES: *spareda* 34. CONCOURSE: con-course 36. PARTYLINE: *itrypanel* 38. THEOREM: *themore* 39. INROAD: in-road 40. TSAR: *star* 41. RETAINER: retainer 42. CREMATION: cre-M-ation

Down: 1. ILLINOIS: I'll-in-0-is. 2. COMPEL: Co.-M.P.-el 3. IMPORTED: *demotrip* 4. ORDERS: *redo-R-S* 5. OPPOSITE: *sopiepot* 6. PERCUSSION: per-cushion 7. REPAIRS: re-pairs 8. UNBORN: *burnno* 11. EGGEDON: *doggene* 16. GATEAU: G-at-eau 19. DREAM: *armed* 20. PEN: P.E.-N 22. ROUND: *dorun* 25. INTERNMENT: intern-men-T 26. PAD: pad 27. EDUCATE: educ-a-T-e 30. PREMIERS: *permesir* 31. PERVADED: per-V-dead 32. SWEARING: *wingsare* 33. FORREAL: for-genuine 35. NEEDED: *ended(E)* 36. PIRACY: p-1-racy 37. INSTIL: in-list

Looking for a boat?

See more classified ads at www.phuketgazette.net

Private Aircraft and Flight Services in Phuket

Rockwell Commander 114 HS-AWS



Built: 1976

Registration: HS-AWS
(in Thailand for the last 6 years)
Previous Registrations:
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N479GE – USA
I-ECCE – Italy
G-BVNL – UK



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

Specs:

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
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| Stall Speed (dirty): 55 kts | Range: 700 nm |
| Rate Of Climb: 1088 fpm | Fuel Av Gas 100LL |
| Ceiling: 17,400 ft | 1 crew plus 3 passengers |

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

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Celebrity cyclist visits Thanyapura



Thai celebrity cyclist, Aroonnapa 'Varn Varn' Panichjaroon recently trained with legendary Ironman Jurgen Zack, Thanyapura's senior triathlon coach. She received lots of cycling tips to help her compete in the recent 'Phuket Cycling Fest 2014'.

Central Festival Phuket celebrates 10 years

Central Festival Phuket celebrated its tenth anniversary on September 13. The event, which was held at Central Festival mall, was attended by a number of well-known celebrities and business people.




From left: Pramuke Achariyachai, president of Kata Group Resorts Thailand; Pranee Sakulpipatana, Honorary Consul for Nepal; Sommai Prijasilpa, Phuket Vice Governor; Panat Pookpho, general manager of Central Department Store (Phuket branch); Siriyos Devahasdin na Ayudhya, PR director for Central Department Store; Mario Maurer, Thai model and actor.



Thai model and actor Mario Maurer sang at the event to celebrate Central Festival Phuket's tenth anniversary.

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Words from the wise:

"Luck is what happens to you when fate gets tired of waiting."
— Gregory David Roberts

"The true adventurer goes forth aimless and uncalculating
to meet and greet unknown fate."
— O. Henry

Medium

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| | | 8 | 3 | | 7 | 1 | | |
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SUDOKU: Each row, column and 3x3 sub-grid must contain the number 1-9 once only. ©Kevin Stone (brainbashers.com)

Hard

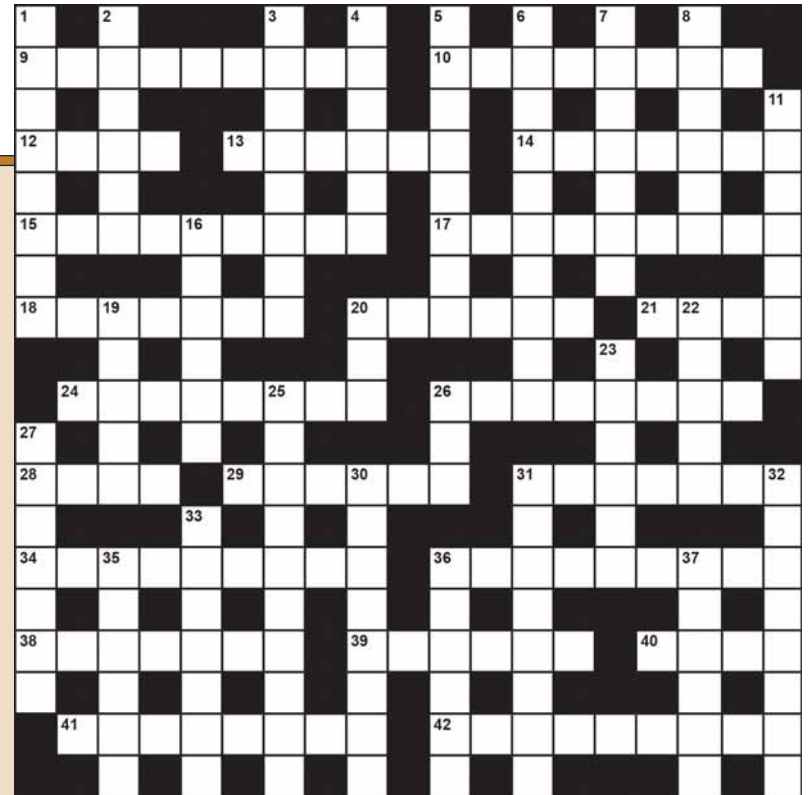
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| | | 4 | | | 5 | 1 | 3 | |
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COFFEE break

Cryptic Crossword

Across

9. Possibly train mole as wild animal handler! (4,5)
10. Strange pretense of those under thirteen (8)
12. Island Members of Parliament are rascals (4)
13. A shaddock for me in the rocky pool (6)
14. Yearn after tea in a Phuket tambon (7)
15. Best goal I arranged which legally binds (9)
17. Cover a run since moving (9)
18. Steady daughter tranquilized (7)
20. Past reference nine for letters added to the front (6)
21. Bravo Rio, for vivacity! (4)
24. Relative connection (8)
26. Nude lump could be swinging body (8)
28. Father, back afternoon to be rainy (4)
29. Foolish, puts incorrect Identity Document (6)
31. Marches spared a disturbance (7)
34. Against direction of assembly of people (9)
36. I try panel confused by official political opinion (5,4)
38. The more complicated proposition (7)
39. In way an incursion (6)
40. Star upset Slav ruler (4)
41. Advance fee to lawyer for family servant (8)
42. Minute in creation of consumption by fire (9)



Down

1. State I will, shortly, in love island (8)
2. Firm Member of Parliament the Spanish force (6)
3. Demo. trip possibly not made in the country (8)
4. Instructions to redo about right, son (6)
5. So pot pie carved on the other side (8)
6. Super scion moves sharply hitting one object with another (10)
7. Fixes up in the matter of couples (7)
8. Burn no rework yet to come (6)
11. Encouraged dog gene to be manipulated (5,2)
16. Golf at water in France a piece of cake (6)
19. Imagine badly armed (5)
20. Physical Education new in compound (3)
22. Do run about in one part of a competition (5)
23. Victim of excavation (6)
25. Probationer men time imprisonment (10)
26. Walk quietly in the apartment (3)
27. Tutor to educe a time inside (7)
30. Heads of government possibly per me, Sir (8)
31. Penetrated for each victor possibly dead (8)
32. Using bad language, wings are moving (8)
33. In actual fact in favor of the genuine (3,4)
35. Was necessary ended disorder out East (6)
36. Illegal copying, page 1 suggestive (6)
37. Implant in new list (6)

VIRGO (Aug 24-Sept 23):



With Mars speeding through your home zone, upgrading property and creating more room for yourself may be on the cards. If you've been thinking about decorating or renovating a space to give you more scope, you might want to make a start. Meanwhile, it pays to listen to an intuitive hunch that could turn into a lucrative opportunity.

LIBRA (Sept 24-Oct 23): This week your communicative skills may come in very handy, though you're best to be ultra tactful when discussing sensitive issues. Yet, if you're undecided regarding an ongoing problem, Mars in Sagittarius might motivate you to research various options. Later, a romance could leave your heart beating a little bit faster.



SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22): Jupiter's fabulous link with Uranus could indicate you're open to trying out new things. Take note



of any original ideas this week, as a window of opportunity could open, allowing you a glimpse of exciting possibilities. Meanwhile, a supportive friend may come to your aid by helping you shoulder an irksome responsibility.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21): With Mars now moving deeper into your sign, you may notice a rise in energy levels along with the enthusiasm to get things done. This is the time to make a start on any plans you've been entertaining, particularly those that could be a bit of a challenge. Avoid being overly critical of yourself, which might hold you back unnecessarily.



CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20): Take things as they come and be content with modest gains this week, as bigger successes can be just around the corner. Over the days ahead focus on the details and do a little fact-finding, as this can stand you in good stead with the powers that be. Later, a very special influence hints at a stroke of good fortune or a small windfall.



AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19): With your social life looking livelier this week, you might feel encouraged by a surge in friendly invites to mix and mingle or organize a few events of your own. Happy coincidences can bring you new opportunities and upbeat offers. Plus, someone may proffer advice that enables you to make progress regarding a cherished goal.

YOUR horoscope By Patrick Arundell

AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19):

PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20): Career options look positively upbeat over the next few weeks as Mars, teamed with other exciting influences, suggests it's all systems go regarding personal ambitions. Regarding romance, a budding liaison might start out as a serious friendship. It's possible you'll be drawn together by an interest you're both passionate about.

PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20):

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20): Are you getting curious about an opportunity that's calling out to you? If so, perhaps you'll be motivated to do something about it. As a result, events could move quickly, leaving you in no doubt that it's time for a change. Meanwhile, a Venus Saturn link might inspire you to be extra vigilant regarding joint financial matters.

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20):



TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21): The quarter moon can entice you to invest in pleasure activities, even if you feel conflicted about doing so. Time and money may be important to you, but this week the option to relax or be creative could be one sacrifice you won't regret. Later, a chance to talk seriously might result in a commitment you're happy to uphold.

TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21):



GEMINI (May 22-June 21): Personal needs may vie with the demands of home and family, requiring a balancing act in order to make progress. Yet,



Mercury, your personal planet, brings a chance for some fun and perhaps a romantic interlude or two. Later, don't ignore a creative idea knocking on the door of your mind as it may be worthy of your attention.

CANCER (June 22-July 23): If you're wondering whether to pay attention to your intuition or be more logical, then you may benefit from a bit of both. If a hunch gets you excited, connect the dots and see if it's worth pursuing. In addition, you might gain from unleashing your talents upon the world, as a positive opportunity could show up as a result.



LEO (July 24-Aug 23): If a tantalizing offer sounds like fun then go for it, as there may be more to it than meets the eye. In addition, a positive Jupiter link might push you into making a spontaneous move concerning a creative idea that beckons. Later, a thrifty outlook could see you happily snapping up one or two bargains for the home.



Setting course for New Phuket

By Maciek Klimowicz

IS PHUKET lacking identity? What makes the Phuket brand? How can the island benefit from the current winds of change? These and other issues were addressed at the AMCHAM forum on September 12 titled "The New Phuket".

The latest installment in the AMCHAM seminar series took place at Angsana Laguna Phuket ballroom and saw a number of speakers, both on stage and in the audience.

"During our seminars we try to focus on things that are critical to the issues at hand and what we are talking about today is the 'New Phuket', the aftereffect of the government issues, the beach cleanup and everything else. We want people to express their opinions, explain what's happening in the business community here," explained Bill Barnett, managing director of C9Hotelworks and *Gazette* property columnist.

To showcase how dramatic the recent changes on the island have been, Scott Gorsuch, principal at Leisure Design Group, opened the forum with a "before and after" photo presentation depicting Phuket's beach cleanup and a com-

parison between travel agency's folders and the reality tourists actually face on the island.

David Keen, founder and CEO of QUO, a global branding specialist agency, took to the stage to ask if Phuket is one of the largest resort destinations in the world that has virtually no identity. This blunt question contrasted with examples of successful destination branding campaigns such as "Love NY", "Pure New Zealand" and "Incredible India" sparked a lively discussion among the 200 representatives of Phuket's tourism and hospitality industry present at the conference.

"Phuket has an identity that's driven reactively and not proactively. I believe that the time is now, if not a little bit late, for the stakeholders in the industry to take brand Phuket and define it, so Phuket gets the brand that it deserves. We want to lay foundations for the future," concluded Keen.

MORE THAN WORDS

The culmination of positive energy and stimulating ideas aired during the forum, which was sponsored by the *Phuket Gazette*, saw speakers announce moves to create a private enterprise council composed of leaders in the tourism industry in

order to develop a single voice and brand identity for Phuket.

"[It] all starts with the initiation from us here. People will not listen to just one, single person," said Wichit Na-Ranong, owner and managing director of the Indigo Pearl resort and one of the founding fathers of Phuket's tourism industry.

The final outcome of the discussion at the forum was to reactivate the Phuket Hotels Association.

"This industry is too big to go backward. If tourism doesn't exist on this island, what else is it going to be?" asked Mr Barnett.

"We want to give tourism one voice. There are other places that this has worked. The Bali Hotels Association gave a powerful voice for tourism.

"Bali went through tough times, two bombings, but whenever there was a crisis, there was one voice people could go to and ask: 'What is happening with tourism?'"

The new council will be designed to give a unified message to tourists who are also interested in what will happen next, what will Phuket be like when they arrive for their holiday.

Mr Barnett and others have already entered into conversations with Mr Wichit to establish an in-



David Keen, the main speaker at the forum, raised the issue of Phuket's lack of branding and identity. Photos: Woranut Pechdee

terface between the Phuket Hotels Association and the Thai Hotels Association, Mr Barnett told the crowd at the event.

Anthony Lark, vice president of business development for the Montara Hospitality Group and panelist at the forum, backed the move to establish a unified voice and brand for Phuket.

"The urban-resort-mass-tourism market can co-exist with people who want to take out yachts, stay at private villas, eat at five-star restaurants and live a boutique lifestyle. Other places

have done it. But it cannot be done without a representative body who looks at the interests of all of the stakeholders," said Mr Lark.

"Thailand has the opportunity to redefine itself. This moment of peace, the moment of calm that's been imposed upon it by the military government, gives us the opportunity to define the Thailand of the future, and Phuket is an absolutely fundamental, critical part of it," concluded Mr Barnett.

Additional reporting from the forum by Isaac Stone Simonelli



An audience of 200 people filled the Angsana Laguna Phuket ballroom to listen to the speakers and take part in the discussion.



Wichit Na-Ranong (Left), owner and managing director of the Indigo Pearl resort, stressed the need for cooperation in this time of transition.

TAT campaigns to woo Westerners

THE Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) is planning major roadshows and travel fairs in Western countries to lure visitors back to the Kingdom.

As one of four major ports in Thailand that can cater to all sizes of cruise ships, Phuket, along with Samui, Laem Chabang and Bangkok, is being promoted as a destination that can act as port of origin, turn-around port as well as offer pre and post cruise tours.

Juthaporn Rerngronasa, TAT deputy governor for Europe, Africa, Middle East and America,

said the TAT planned to organize the Seatrade Med Cruise Convention in Barcelona as part of its strategy to promote Thailand in the growing global cruise market.

The TAT will also participate in the Cruise Convention in Singapore in November 2014. The TAT and the Singapore Tourism Board have already partnered up to invite senior cruise line executives and media from America and Europe for a familiarization trip.

The Seatrade Convention would be the first of a series of travel trade events and roadshows to be orga-

nized by the TAT in the last few months of 2014, the high season for the Thai tourism industry.

"Europe is proving to be an important source market in these challenging times. The effort is being mounted to ensure the best possible visitor turnout in the last quarter of 2014. Penetrating the cruise market is an important component of this," Ms Juthaporn said.

In addition to being a good source of luxury, high-end visitors, cruises are now attracting more young people, small corporate meetings and incentives. — *The Nation*

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Tax havens only for the rich

The more money you have, the more you can save from the taxman

Finance

By David Mayes

THE annual report published by tax relocation specialist Bradley Hackford has recently named the top ten jurisdictions for 2014.

They use five criteria in total, which include quality of life, security, geographical location and accessibility, as well as the quality of the economic citizenship program. Sadly, for most, the achievable tax savings make the high sticker price of establishing a tax home in these places unjustifiable. However, a high-net-worth individual living internationally, who has been paying a high tax bill every year by default because arrangements set up prior to becoming international or due to the laws of their home jurisdiction, these places could indeed offer a legal way to save a fortune in taxes while spending the bulk of the year in Phuket.

The list includes Switzerland, Dubai, The Channel Islands, The Caymans, Mauritius, Panama, Bulgaria, Monaco, Andorra and the Bahamas. Keep in mind that for Americans, establishing a business or residency in one of these places would not be enough to escape Uncle Sam – obtaining a passport and revoking US citizenship would be required. For everyone else, setting up a business or establishing a personal residency can drop your tax rates down as low as zero per

cent in many of these places.

The catch again, is that dealing in sums of millions to play this kind of legal tax avoidance game is usually necessary, when it comes to personal taxation. Often an investment of more than a million dollars is required to gain personal residency, which doesn't make much sense for a tax bill in the thousands. Of course there is also the prestige that goes along with a place like Monaco, but like most of us here in Thailand, we are more interested in the laid back attitude Thailand has to offer.

For companies, if they are doing business internationally and not sourcing revenue inside the Kingdom, even small fish can take advantage of low or non-existent corporate tax rates. This gives tax planning opportunities to everyone, as profits can be re-invested into the business without drawing a salary or choose under which limits to draw, therefore deciding which bracket to fall into.

While the use of these offshore jurisdictions has historically been associated with cheating and many of their now defunct secrecy laws, there are perfectly legal uses for them to avoid unnecessary taxes. Since most foreigners here are technically classified as non-resident (ever wondered why retirement and marriage visas are called non-resident-O visas?), they are not taxed on foreign income.



For high-net-worth individuals, tax havens offer a legal way to save a fortune in taxes. Photo: Phillip Ingham

Even if permanent residency is achieved, Thailand still only taxes income generated inside the Kingdom.

Unfortunately, most are not in position to have the kind of problems the ultra-rich have, but it's nice to know that if that crazy mobile app being dreamt up takes off, things can be arranged so the least amount of

hard-earned cash goes toward taxes as possible.

The old saying that the rich get richer while the poor get poorer isn't actually true but it's not far off. The poor 20 years ago did not have iPhones and flat screen televisions, but it is apparent why the bit about the rich getting richer will likely continue to remain true.

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.

Govt to inject B304bn into economy

THAI government will inject 304 billion baht into the economy and pump 20bn baht into the central budget in an attempt to stimulate employment in the manufacturing and rural sectors.

It is hoped the move will result in the targeted economic growth of 2 per cent this year being achieved.

Krisada Chinavicharana, Fiscal Policy Office (FPO) director-general, said: "The Thai economy could continue with the public investment in the latter half of 2015.

"However, from now to the first six months of 2015, troubled Thai exports will affect the overall economy despite some improvement in consumption. What we could do is to launch short-term economic stimulus without any impact on the country's fiscal stance."

The announcement followed a joint meeting of economic agencies that looked to find short-term economic measures. The measures will be proposed to the government.

The agencies were the Ministry of Finance, the Bank of Thailand, the Budget Bureau, and the National Economic and Social Development Board.

Most of the measures will be executed through the acceleration of budget disbursement, particularly



Photo: 401kcalculator.org

The budget boost is expected to stimulate employment.

the remainder of funds awaiting disbursement in the 2014 fiscal year and previous years.

According to a Budget Bureau report, 304bn baht is yet to be disbursed. Of that figure, 104bn baht has been awaiting disbursement since 2005 and the rest is expected to be disbursed in the 2014 fiscal year.

"If the awaiting budget is accelerated into the economic system, the Thai economy could fully expand," Krisada said. "We hope the economy will expand 2 per cent this year as targeted."

He said the FPO wanted to

create an immediate employment spike through ministerial projects.

He said that about nine projects could be implemented rapidly including upgrading the knowledge of vocational students to quicken their readiness to work, refurbishing community hospitals, establishing a fiscal database in rural areas and repairing roads.

Krisada said 80bn baht in the central budget remained. Of the amount, 60bn baht would be disbursed soon and it was possible to use the remaining 20bn baht for aforementioned projects.

– The Nation



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Family home turned resort

By Jeremie Schatz

BLANKETING 44 rai of lush hillside above Friendship Beach in Rawai, lies the Vijitt Resort Phuket.

Although the sprawling beachfront resort was subjected to a US\$15 million (480mn baht) make-over in 2008, it has an enduring legacy reaching back 38 years. What began in the 70's as a small family vacation getaway, has been transformed into a top-notch boutique tropical resort offering a variety of 92 private villas, 20 of which have their own pools.

The grounds of the Vijitt are meticulously manicured with dozens of intriguing native species such as heliconias, banana trees and lemongrass, the latter of which emanates its evocative scent when the sun goes down, bathing the hillside in a citrus aroma.

The resort has eschewed any hints at urbanization, instead opting for natural tones and artistic details immediately apparent in the cascading cross-cuts of trees hanging in the lobby; and characteristic organic patterns inlaid with small stones throughout



the walkways, a style that was effected subtly and tastefully.

The theme persists throughout the resort and blends with a level of refinement within the villas.

The high, thatched-roof structures are one-part rustic beach huts and two-parts luxury villas. For example, when navigating the cavernous bathrooms, one is met with an inviting jacuzzi-like tub set in dark, contemporary tile leading to large glass doors, which open into an outdoor, bamboo-enveloped shower area.

The villas are wrapped in glass and manage to evoke a feeling of space, while maintaining privacy. They also check all of the boxes for amenities expected at a resort of this caliber, such as the flat screen televisions, minibars and internet. All the small touches were attended too, from the bowl of fresh fruit waiting by the door to the slippers laid out beside the bed.

Outside the sanctum of the villas are tree-lined pathways which wind through the property and lead guests to the resort's two restaurants, two bars, a kid's club with a pool, a spa, gym, a beauty salon and the beach.

With uncontrollable urbanization unfolding around Phuket, the quiet serenity within the grounds of Vijitt leaves guests with nothing but peaceful memories.



Natural tones and artistic details persist throughout the resort. Photo: Jeremie Schatz

Basking in the saltwater of the main swimming pool is certainly not a regrettable way to spend an afternoon. The huge infinity pool sits just a few meters from Friendship Beach with the vibrant blue waters of the Andaman Sea framed by coconut palms sitting just above the water's edge. Movida, a Bangkok-based architecture firm – known for their creative use of regional materials – sourced distinctive local, gray marble tiles to finish the pool.

For dining options, the Vijitt has two restaurants on the grounds: The Savoury – which sits beside the pool and offers international and Asian cuisine, and the Baan Vijitt situated on the water in a Sino-Portuguese-style house that once served as the Vijitt family's weekend home and now serves regional specialties to the resort's guests.

The resort offers a schedule of activities to round-off the guest's experience. The concierge can guide you towards an endless list of activities on and off Phuket as well as a host of workshops and sports around the resort. Visitors can choose from a guided botanical tour, or a marine walk along the beach at low tide, a rubber tapping demonstration, sea kayaking, Muay Thai lessons and Thai cooking classes.

What sprouted decades ago as a family home, has matured into an inviting five-star resort. With uncontrollable urbanization unfolding around Phuket, the quiet serenity within the grounds of Vijitt leaves guests with nothing but peaceful memories.

For more information, visit: vijittresort.com or call 076-363600 for bookings.



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Same game, different players

Samui's sensitive upscale success is not as resilient as Phuket's broad market base



Property Watch

By Bill Barnett

WHILE many of Thailand's resort destinations think they are immune to what happens in Bangkok, the reality is that they are sadly mistaken.

There is little doubt that the events which played out in the nation's capital had a profound impact on tourism. Be it from martial law or the globally publicized curfews, there has been fallout in the numbers game.

As Samui's tourism path has been somewhat different than Phuket's over the past few years, given access challenges and a considerably smaller development pipeline, the market has been able to perform

extremely well at the upper tier and in luxury segments.

The fact still remains, though, that these segments are also the most sensitive to volatility. They comprise upscale travellers, and political impacts often scare away the martini set.

The lead indicator for the island remains airport arrivals, which for the first half of 2014 saw numbers only slightly up compared to the same period in the previous year. International visitors were up by three per cent as the domestic segment dropped to one per cent negative growth.

One profound change is that Russia now commands the top spot for overseas visitors, claiming the crown from long-time legacy market, Germany.

Speaking to hoteliers across Samui, they hope the sudden impact of May's events to be a simple one-off event, though it did derail numbers in August – the island's high season.



Increasing numbers of Mainland Chinese are flying to Surat Thani and taking boats to Samui. Photo: Hajime Nakano

It's interesting to note that China has not penetrated Samui in the same way it has other destinations in the country. Part of this is the airlift constraint,

though increasing numbers of Mainland Chinese are flying to Surat Thani on AirAsia and coming across on boats. Though China leads the fastest growing Asian markets, it is not in the top five source markets. Recently, direct flights three times a week between Kunming, China and Samui came into service on Lucky Air, which is majority owned by Hainan Airlines.

Market-wide, hotel occupancy rates decreased in H1 to 70 per cent, though one positive sign is that properties across all tiers were able to push rates up. This was most prevalent at the luxury tier which drove RevPAR up. Looking at the geographical performance, the Lamai area commanded the best numbers.

Talking about incoming hotel supply, conversions and renovations are starting to creep into the storyline. The Imperial Samui Beach Resort is being converted to a Sheraton on the heels of an upgrade. Also the Buddy Oriental Hotel, which was acquired by a private equity firm, has become part of the boutique Manathai chain. On an overall basis, there have been only a handful of new hotels announced including the Sofitel

So, Moevenpick, and Prana.

Samui has always had a large base of non-traditional hotel accommodation, especially in the villa segment. Two residential-led hospitality offerings on our radar is the yoo-designed The Beach project by Absolute and YTL's Kasara Koh Samui.

Speaking to hoteliers across Samui, they hope the sudden impact of May's events to be a simple one-off event, though it did derail numbers in August – the island's high season. Expectations remain similar to Phuket in that a gradual easing will take place before year's end, and increased global attention to the country will remain strong while stability calms the market.

On the positive spin, Central Festival Samui – another retail complex by Bangkok's Platinum Group – will debut by year's end. Tagged as The Wharf, it's in a prime location in the key tourism area of Bophut.

As Samui tourism continues to develop, a broader offering and more diversity in location is expected. While 2014 has been a challenging year for Thailand, the ongoing reforms look to be setting the stage for a return to growth in 2015 and beyond.



On the positive spin, Central Festival Samui – another retail complex by Bangkok's Platinum Group – will debut by year's end.

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Love and war in Spain

Books

By James Eckardt

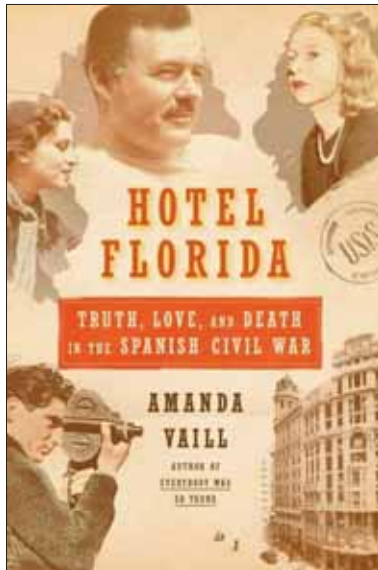
BIOGRAPHER Amanda Vaill has turned to the grand themes of love and war in *Hotel Florida* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, New York, 2014, 435pp). Subtitled *Truth, Love and Death in the Spanish Civil War*, this is the story of three couples: writers Ernest Hemingway and Martha Gellhorn, photographers Robert Capa and Gerda Taro, and Loyalist government press officers Arturo Barea and Ilsa Kulcsar. They were young, idealistic, fearless, hard-working, multi-lingual, cosmopolitan and in love. They had all enlisted in the fight to save the Spanish Republic from the fascist General Francisco Franco and his ruthless German and Italian allies.

Famous author Hemingway was married to his second wife and carrying on an affair with blond, leggy, glamorous, aspiring writer Martha Gellhorn. Reams have been written about them.

Also famous were two penniless, Paris-based, Jewish refugees, Robert Capa and Gerda Taro, who had earned global acclaim in a single year by photographing the heady, early days of the Spanish Civil War. Much has been written about them too, including a recent highly acclaimed novel by Susana Fortes, *Waiting for Robert Capa*.

Unknown to a general reader are Arturo Barea, a Spanish bank clerk, and Ilsa Kulcsar, a Socialist activist and refugee from Austria, who together ran the Madrid bureau of the Loyalist press office. Both were married, Barea with four children, but fell in love in the midst of war as aerial bombs and artillery shells regularly crashed into the streets of Madrid.

A favorite target was the Hotel Florida, the headquarters of a raffish gang of hard-drinking war correspondents, Russian and French air force pilots, off-duty soldiers of the International Brigades and “whores de combat.” Rooms in the rear were at a premium because they were furthest from the daily shrapnel.



Drawing on their voluminous personal papers, listed in 38 pages of scholarly notes, Amanda Vaill draws intimate portraits of all the lovers in the middle of a vast landscape of battles, bombed out ruins and refugee columns. For the German Condor Legion, the Spanish Civil War was a rehearsal for the civilian massacres the Luftwaffe would later inflict on

Warsaw, Rotterdam and London. In Valencia, Gerda Taro photographs the morgue housing hundreds of victims of an air raid:

“There, on marble slabs, on the tiled floor, or laid out on makeshift beds of wooden stools placed next to each other, were the bloodied, broken bodies of the dead. A man in his business suit, blood pooling under his bald head; a black-clad woman, one arm flung up as if in sleep; a little girl with her bare legs akimbo. She and Capa had both come to Spain for – what? Romance? Excitement? Pathos? Danger? This is what she had found... ‘If your pictures aren’t good enough, you aren’t close enough,’ Capa used to say; that day Gerda was very close indeed.”

A day before she was scheduled to leave Spain and join Capa to photograph the Sino-Japanese war, Gerda Taro was riding the sideboard of a staff car during a headlong retreat when she was sideswiped and killed by a tank. The Communists made her a national heroine. She is a glamorous heroine to the author too, who

takes a much dimmer view of Hemingway. While she admires his bravery and literary talent, she is quick to highlight his petty feuds, rages and self-promotion.

The most intriguing characters, however, are Arturo Barea and Ilsa Kulcsar. We know that Hemingway, Gellhorn and Capa would go on to cover World War II, that Capa would be killed in Vietnam in 1954, Hemingway commit suicide in 1961, and Gellhorn would do the same in 1995 at age 90, but there is real suspense about the fate of this pair of idealist Socialists in the face of the Stalinist takeover of the war. As executions of “Trotskyites and traitors” mount, will they heed warnings and flee Spain in time?

The end of the war was grim. When Barcelona fell, 400,000 fled across the border to France. Franco executed 50,000 Loyalists and imprisoned thousands more for decades.

And the Hotel Florida, that monument to youthful passion and bravery, was torn down for a department store in 1964.

Party at Bliss to help the kids



An evening of awesome blues and rock music and dancing. Photo: Sun Int

THE Rotary Club of Patong Beach, along with many other charitable organizations, has been helping with medical care and education for disadvantaged children in Phuket and along the Andaman Coast for over 14 years. All these programs are enabled by a series of fundraising events throughout the year. None of the funds raised by the Rotary Club of Patong Beach are ever used for any administrative costs and 100 per cent go directly to the beneficiaries, in this case, needy kids in Phuket.

Saturday, October 4 is the next opportunity for the Phuket community to show their charitable side by helping the Rotary Club raise funds for the children of Burmese migrant workers, who are studying at the Baan Ya Learning Center in Phuket, and other needy children on the island.


The big event, a “Celebration in Giving”, will be hosted by the Rotary Club of Patong Beach and Bliss Beach Club at Bang Tao Beach, with an evening of fabulous food,

wine, awesome blues and rock music and lots of dancing. The event’s many generous sponsors, including the *Phuket Gazette*, the Outrigger Laguna Phuket Resort and Villas, Bliss Beach Club, as well as the musicians and the many businesses who have donated vouchers, prizes, auction items and a super door-prize promise to make this an event not to be missed.

Pre-event tickets costing 2,500 baht can be purchased by e-mail through the *Phuket Gazette* tickets@phuketgazette.net, who will deliver the tickets to your home or business, or by calling 083-181 2946 and ask for tickets for Bliss. Tickets at the door will be 3,000 baht.

Come along on the 4th to get Blissed and make this a “win-fun-win” event for all, especially those needy kids who will be healthier and better educated because of your support. – *Phuket Gazette*



For more information visit the Rotary Club of Patong Beach website at: rotarypatong.org





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Reining in free radicals



Excuse Buster

By Craig Burton

PHUKET has become recognized for its spectrum of health and wellness retreats that have sprouted up offering fasting, detox programs, raw food diets and anti-aging therapies.

As adults, we all want to look and feel younger, and this quest has led researchers to look for ways to slow, and even attempt to reverse, the aging process.

One such researcher was Dr Denham Harmon, who in 1956 proposed his free-radical theory of aging.

According to this theory, the aging process involves molecular and cellular injury caused by free radicals. This concept remains pertinent today with free radicals and antioxidants still the current buzzwords in the field of anti-aging and, to a lesser note, disease prevention.

So without this article turning into a complicated and very boring chemistry and physiology lesson, let's see if when can get to the heart of it by addressing what free radicals are, how they are formed, how they affect us and what to do about them.

Free radicals are very unstable and react quickly with other compounds, trying to capture electrons they need to gain stability. Generally, free radicals

attack the nearest stable molecule, "stealing" its electron. When the "attacked" molecule loses its electron, it becomes a free radical itself, beginning a chain reaction. Like a game of dominoes once the process has started, it can cascade, finally resulting in the disruption of a living cell.

When free radicals kill or damage enough cells in an organism, the organism ages.

Some free radicals arise normally during metabolism and other times the body's immune system's cells purposefully create them to neutralize viruses and bacteria.

However, environmental factors such as pollution, radiation, cigarette smoke and herbicides can also spawn free radicals.

According to Dr Sherry Rogers, we inhale more than 500 environmental chemicals every day just in an average home, on top of making less than ideal food and drink choices, which will be addressed in future columns.

Normally, the body can handle free radicals, but if antioxidants are unavailable, or if free radical production becomes excessive, the next chemical attack can result in cellular damage.

Damages can lead to symptoms like headaches or mood swings, and then snowball into disease.

Antioxidants neutralize free radicals by donating one of their own electrons, ending the electron-stealing reaction. Only a pair of electrons makes them happy and non destructive.

✓ Vitamins C and E are both anti-oxidants.

But before you stock up with mega-doses of these vitamins, be warned: more is not always better, and the synthetic versions can be problematic and not absorbed by the body. ✓



Environmental factors such as pollution can spawn free radicals. Photo: Alfred Palmer

So, why don't the antioxidants become free radicals themselves after donating an electron?

This charitable donation of an electron by an antioxidant is possible because antioxidants are stable with or without them. They act as scavengers, helping

to prevent cell and tissue damage that could lead to cellular damage and disease.

Vitamins C and E are both antioxidants.

But before you stock up with mega-doses of these vitamins, be warned: more is not always better, and the synthetic versions can be problematic and not absorbed by the body. Eating whole foods that naturally contain these vitamins should always be your first choice over popping pills.

Next time, we will take a closer look at foods that cause free radical damage and the ones that repair it, but for now I will

leave you with one simple rule to put you on the path to eternal youth.

Reduce your processed food intake – if it hasn't been around for 10,000 years, eat it rarely or, better yet, not at all.

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



Photo: Colin Dunn

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Treating expat wife syndrome

EXPAT wife syndrome (EWS) is a term often used to describe the stress-related condition that often affects the wife or partner of an expatriate who has relocated overseas.

EWS, which comes in various intensities, represents the difficulties and/or inability to effectively adjust to important cultural, environmental, linguistic, professional and familial changes occurring in the new location.

EWS is not clearly established in medical literature despite the fact that it is frequently found among foreign communities living in Southeast Asia and elsewhere in the world.

Schematically EWS evolves through three successive phases: First, a more serious-than-expected cultural shock a few

weeks or months after arrival impacts quality of life.

The second stage corresponds to the person's inability to return to normal social interactions despite increasing boredom.

The third step occurs when psychological suffering continues to worsen and does not respond to therapy or support.

EWS needs to first be prevented through optimal preparation from all perspectives, especially for the spouse and children. Upon arrival, the opportunity to connect with other people facing similar concerns is essential. Ways to help cope can range from a job, helping others through joining a charitable organization, setting up one's own business or taking on a new educational interest.

– The Nation



EWS is a common stress-related condition. Photo: Kim S

Better safe than sorry

By Chris Husted

IF there's one thing boating enthusiasts let sail off into the wild blue yonder, it's the thought of liability insurance. The lure of the sea apparently does not account for taking out appropriate coverage.

"One of the most alarming facts about the marine industry in Phuket, and the rest of Thailand, is that there is very little compulsory liability insurance," says Mike Haynes, managing director of the Lambert Brothers insurance brokerage at Phuket's Boat Lagoon Marina in Koh Kaew.

If a person wants to insure their own boat, that's their business, says Mike, but liability insurance is for covering other people who may be affected.

The reasons for poor liability coverage in local waters are varied, explains Mike.

"It's not so much that yacht owners are too cost-conscious to pay for it, it's more of the mindset that 'it won't happen to me'."

What many yacht owners do know well is how prone boats are to bumps and scrapes, especially when navigating tight spaces within marinas.

"Scrape the wrong boat, and the bills can stack up very quickly," Mike warns.

This is especially so if the damage is to an expensive private yacht, or worse, to a commercial boat. Just like hitting a taxi

while driving on the road, while a commercial boat is out of action undergoing repairs – even for minor damage – the person responsible for the damage is also responsible for the loss of income while the repairs are being carried out. The loss of income could



Photo: Supplied

Mike Haynes, managing director of Lambert Brothers in Phuket.

be for a simple day charter or week-long commercial hire.

COMPULSORY COVERAGE

But where boat owners have no choice but to carry insurance in Thailand is when they start carrying passengers as part of conducting business, explains Pornpimol "Paew" Chimsakul, General Manager at the Lambert

Brothers Phuket office.

"Even then, the coverage is not much," she says. "The standard is about 100,000 baht per death plus a nominal amount of about 15,000 baht per person to cover medical expenses."

"Any boat carrying passengers, especially tourists, must have compulsory passenger insurance. It's the harbor master's job to make sure that they do. Whether or not they actually do is another question."

Friends renting out their boat for a day charter are also required to have compulsory passenger insurance. The very minute a foreign-flagged boat is used for a commercial activity, that boat must comply with Thai commercial boating laws, including the compulsory passenger insurance.

LOCAL ADVANTAGE

Another reason for the poor extent of liability coverage in and around Phuket is that there's not much liability insurance offered locally for boating coverage, Mike notes.

"The market volume is not great, but there's also the factor that there is insufficient specialist expertise among local insurance firms," he says.

That's where Lambert Brothers' range and depth of experience shines through. Through opening its Phuket office at the Boat Lagoon in 2008, Lambert Brothers brought with it more than 70 years



'It won't happen to me' attitude permeates in Phuket. Photo: Hans Olav Lien

experience from Hong Kong, where the company first opened its doors in 1947.

"We started with three people, now there are eight in the office through slow but deliberate growth," Mike explains.

Over the years, the company's clientele has not only grown to cover several hundred boats, but extended beyond the marine industry to now include hotels, schools as well as tailor-made packages for individuals.

Yet, the old "it won't happen to me" attitude permeates on the island, Mike cautions.

"For some reason the holiday mentality can take over when people move to Phuket, and any thoughts of insurance just stop," he says.

"We all know we should be more careful than that."

To contact Lambert Brothers Insurance Broker call 076-238662, email info@lambert-brothers.co.th or go to lambertbrothers.co.th.

Lofty relocation at Boat Lagoon

AFTER 14 years at his original premises overlooking the hard stand at Phuket's Boat Lagoon in Koh Kaew, Muzza Nordstrand has moved his Canvas Creations to a new loft.

"We're still in the Phuket Boat lagoon, as you drive in from the main road, turn right alongside the football field behind the gas station and you'll find us in the big orange building – on the second floor," Mr Nordstrand, managing director of Canvas Creations Co Ltd, told the *Gazette* this week.

"Basically, I'd been in my original shop for 14 years and needed more area. We now have 320 square meters to play around with, instead of 200sqm in the old place, and I wanted to stay in the Boat lagoon for need of being central to the yachting community."

Originally from Whangarei in



Muzza Nordstrand poses outside his new loft at Boat Lagoon's 'orange building'. Photo: Supplied

New Zealand and a certified tradesman in the custom marine canvas industry, Mr Nordstrand has been in Phuket for 20 years.

His decision to relocate to a new loft also coincides with the launch of a new website at CanvasPhuket.com

– *Phuket Gazette*

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Bitter sibling rivalry

THAILAND has witnessed many attempted and successful coups since the end of the absolute monarchy in 1932. In 1938, Field Marshall Plaek Phibunsongkhram, a military strongman, rose to power and became Thailand's prime minister. Phibunsongkhram, or as many western historians prefer to call him, Phibun, was a controversial figure. He led Thailand into the Second World War by openly siding with the Japanese, against the allied powers. Phibun, a nationalist and Fascist sympathizer, created a leadership cult through propaganda and military dictatorship.

After being ousted from power in 1944, Phibun was able to stage another coup against the civilian government of Prime Minister Thawal Thamrong in 1947. Phibun declared himself prime minister once again in 1948. The years that followed his second premiership would be plagued by several attempted coups against him.

During his second premiership, Phibun changed his attitude drastically. Once a staunch supporter of fascism and Japanese imperialism in the region, Phibun maintained a façade of democracy during his post-war premiership in order to attract the large amount of American aid that was being poured into war-torn South East Asia.

Despite a show of solidarity, there was still bitter rivalry between different factions in Thai politics during the post-war years, especially amongst the different armed forces. The Thai navy during that time had a bitter grudge against Phibun's government. In 1947, when Phibun staged a coup against the civilian government, important naval officers who were in command attempted to retaliate against the army's coup. Luang Thamrong, Luang Sangwon and Admiral Thahan were important naval officers who openly supported Pridi Phanomyong, Phibun's archrival in government. When the coup proved successful and Phibun came to power in 1948, these top naval officers were prosecuted and dismissed from the navy, as punishment for their role in resisting the coup.

With top naval officers dismissed, command of the navy fell to young radical officers, who felt humiliated and dishonored by the actions of Phibun. They were fearful that dismissal of their senior officers would pave the way for the army to control whatever was



Field Marshall Plaek Phibunsongkhram remained in power until 1957. Photo: NARA

left of the Thai navy. In order to reclaim the honor and prestige of the navy, the junior officers felt they needed to get rid of Prime Minister Phibun. They began planning a coup against him.

On June 29, 1951, Phibun attended the transferring ceremony of an American-donated dredger ship named the Manhattan. During the ceremony, in full view of foreign diplomats and high-ranking Thai officials, Phibun was arrested by a group of armed navy men, led by Lt Commander Manat Charupha. The navy announced the seizure of power over the radio and declared Capt Anon Puntharikapha the coup leader.

Capt Anon immediately ordered all naval units to converge on Bangkok to fight with opposing government soldiers. In the meantime, Phibun was ushered onto a small navy boat and transferred to the navy's flagship, the *Si Ayutthaya*. Smaller navy vessels attempted to capture strategic positions on land, but were quickly

routed by the army. The navy therefore retreated to their stronghold onboard the *Si Ayutthaya*, with their prized captive, Phibun.

Onboard the *Si Ayutthaya*, the naval officers forced Phibun to broadcast a message over the radio, asking the army to exercise restraint. Despite the message, the army prepared to put into effect its drastic plans to destroy the navy. Negotiations went nowhere as both sides were willing to use their firepower to destroy each other.

The next morning, while Phibun was still being held onboard the *Si Ayutthaya*, a combined force of the army, the police and the air force attacked. The army, under the command of Gen Sarit Thanarat, used cannons to bombard naval installations. Air force planes attacked gasoline dumps and bombarded naval positions. Despite the fact that Phibun was still onboard the vessel, the air force bombed

the naval flagship mercilessly. The *Si Ayutthaya*, overwhelmed with little room to maneuver, soon sank in the Chao Phraya River. Miraculously, Phibun was one of the few onboard that survived the bombing. He managed to swim away from the wreckage to the bank of the river safely.

With the destruction of their flagship, the naval forces lost hope and abandoned the coup attempt. Hostilities quickly ended. The failed attempt of the navy to take power in 1951 would thereafter be known as "The Manhattan Rebellion".

Following the Manhattan Rebellion, the rivalry between the army and the navy was ended once and for all. With the rebels defeated, the army moved to reduce the Thai navy to its bare essentials. Phibun ordered the dismissal of every top naval officer along with those he suspected of having taken part in the attempted coup.

Through government decrees, the navy suffered a massive reorganization imposed upon it by the army. From then onwards, the navy was restricted to sea operations only. Any land territories it controlled were seized. Prior to the the coup, coastal provinces like Samut Prakan, Samut Sakhon, Samut Songkhram, Chanthaburi, Chon Buri and Rayong, were controlled by the navy. After the failed rebellion, the army moved to monopolize territorial command of the entire country. The navy's headquarters was moved out of Bangkok to Samut Prakan to keep it away from the government's headquarters. The navy's battle fleet, which was once stationed in the Chao Phraya River near the heart of Bangkok, was moved to Sattahip in Chon Buri province.

Seized naval weapons and armaments were given to the army. Naval aircrafts were seized as well and given to the newly formed Thai air force. Even the navy's prestigious musical band was transferred to the control of the armed forces headquarters. The navy was allowed to maintain only a minimum level of manpower, whilst the rest of its men were distributed among the victorious army, air force and police. The Thai navy, once a powerful rival to the Thai army, was thoroughly crippled and Phibun made sure they would never rise to challenge the authority of the Thai military generals again.

Looking Back

By Anand Singh

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Phuket lifeguards score gold

By Natthaphol Wittayarungrote

THE island's own Phuket Lifeguard Club brought home gold on behalf of Thailand from the Da Nang International Lifeguard Competition in Vietnam, held on September 7.

Seventeen rescue teams, including the Phuket team representing Thailand, took part in Vietnam's first-ever lifeguard competition.

"We won the first-place trophy in the three-man rescue

board relay. This activity is one of the most important parts of a lifeguard's duties, and we won the top prize," said Prathaiyut Chuayuan, 45, the president of the Phuket Lifeguard Club, who acted as team leader during the competition.

The team also won second place overall in total points earned, behind the Philippines.

Mr Prathaiyut was part of a

four-man team during the games, along with local lifeguards Somporn Wareekoon, a guard at Nai Thon; Rittidete Chonlatee, a lifeguard instructor; and Somchai Rodchana, a lifeguard from Kalima Hotel Patong.

"I want everyone to know that being a lifeguard isn't just a job. In many countries, it is a sport as well. Good lifeguards have to be strong and fit, so they are able to save lives," said Mr Prathaiyut.

The Phuket Lifeguard Team has an established reputation throughout Asia, as it participated in the 2012 World Lifesaving Championship in Australia in the name of Thailand.

"I have heard from a representative of Surf Lifesaving Australia that they are pushing to have surf lifesaving events included in the Olympics," said Mr Prathaiyut.

"The sport aspect of lifesaving is becoming popular in many

countries. Vietnam took advantage of its quickly growing popularity and used it to promote tourism in Da Nang.

"Thailand has never held such an event, but I can see it happening in the near future."

Open-water swimming, another major aspect of lifesaving, will be one of the competitions featured in the 2014 Asian Beach Games, which will be held in Phuket in November, Mr Prathaiyut noted.



Phuket team scored gold in rescue relay and a second place overall. Photos: Phuket Lifeguard Club



Seventeen teams took part in Vietnam's first-ever lifeguard competition.

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Skillset for better golf

SO called "cognitive skills" are critical to learning golf and will help you improve your game. Here are the core areas of cognitive skills that come together to form a good golfer:

Processing Speed: The speed at which your brain processes information. Faster processing speed means more efficiency, especially when making decisions during pre-shot routines. What club should I use? Where is the wind coming from? What shot should I play?

Visual Processing: The ability to perceive, analyze and think in visual images. Visual processing is imperative for focusing on a target.

Long-term Memory: The facts and knowledge you have accumulated. This involves how to adapt your play to different conditions or how to set up to the ball to play different shots.

Short-term Memory: Also called working memory, this skill handles the dynamic job of keeping at the forefront of your mind the information you need to complete immediate and short-term tasks.

Logic and Reasoning: The ability to make decisions on the golf course, also known as golf-course management. "Should I hit a hard 6 iron or an easy 5 iron?" or "Should I hit it over the tree or under?"

Attention Skills: Sustained attention is the ability to stay focused and on-task for a period of time. Four to five hours of focus is required for 18 holes of golf.

Selective attention is the ability to quickly sort through incoming information and stay focused on one thing, in spite of distractions. When putting for a birdie, the attention should remain the same. Develop a good set-up routine, then stroke the ball towards the hole. Don't let nerves or "please don't miss!" anxiety affect our attention.

— Andy Combe

Tip by Andy Combe, Principle PGA Golf Instructor at Laguna Phuket Golf Club. For golf enquiries, golf course and instruction reservations email golf@lagunaphuket.com

Aussies seek successor to Cadel Evans

By Ian Ransom

TOUR de France winner Cadel Evans may not have made up his mind about whether to wrap up his professional career but Australian cycling is already wrestling with the problem of how to replace him.

The 37-year-old, Australia's first Tour de France winner, is off-contract with BMC Racing at the end of the season and is expected to make an announcement on his future next week, before he bids to win a second world title in Spain.

Media have speculated Evans will continue until an official farewell race at next year's Tour Down Under and then compete in the inaugural Great Ocean Road race near Melbourne, a one-day event named in his honor along a course that travels through his home town Barwon Heads.

Evans's 2011 triumph in France raised the profile of the sport in Australia and Malcolm Speed, president-elect of

governing body Cycling Australia, said his retirement would be felt by the country's cycling community.

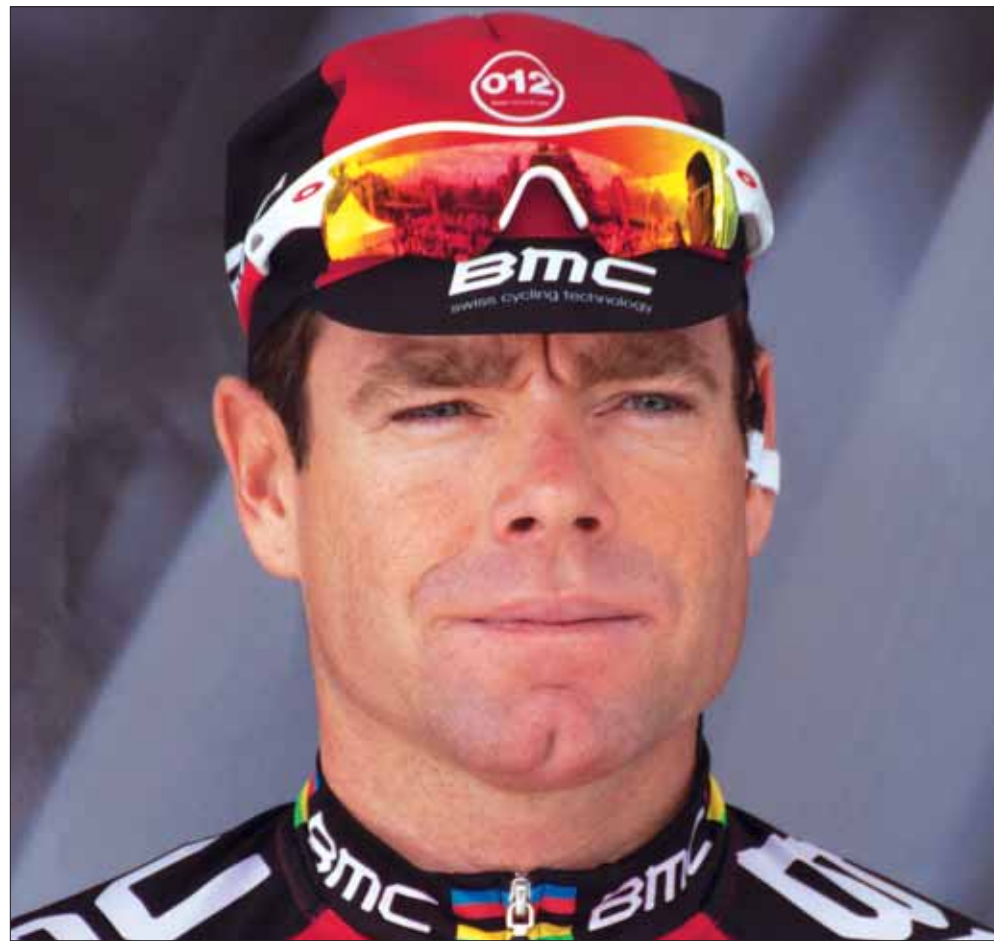
"I think there will be an impact obviously when Cadel retires but I think he will remain an icon for cyclists," Speed told reporters in Melbourne on Tuesday.

"There are other emerging champions coming through and hopefully we replicate Cadel's success with a winner of one of the major events over the next couple of years.

"Cadel's been great for Australian cycling but at some stage he will move on. The challenge we face is to replace him."

Evans competed in the recently completed Tour of Spain, finishing more than two hours off the pace of winner Alberto Contador.

Gerry Ryan, owner of pro cycling outfit Orica-Greenedge and outgoing president of Cycling Australia, said he had sounded out the rider on his future plans,



Evans's 2011 triumph in France raised the profile of cycling in Australia. Photo: Matthieu Riegler

without elaborating.

"We've spoken to Cadel," Ryan said. "One thing, when he does retire, he wants to stay involved (in cycling). We'll wait and see."

Australia had to wait more than 100 years to fete a Tour de France winner but can reasonably hope for a new men's world champion in less than two weeks.

Orica-Greenedge rider Simon Gerrans has been in impressive form in the lead up, winning back-to-back grands prix in Canada.

"I watched a race in Canada last Thursday and I think the winner of that race could wear the rainbow jersey next Sunday week," Ryan said of the 34-year-old Gerrans.

— Reuters

Nearly half the tickets for Rio 2016 to be under \$30



Photo: Agencia Brasil

Then president Lula (center) when Rio was announced as Olympic host.

ALMOST half of all tickets for the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro will be sold for US\$30 (966 baht) or less in a bid to make the Games "as affordable as possible," the organizing committee said on Tuesday.

The most expensive tickets, however, will still be out of range for the majority of local fans, with prices for the opening ceremony as high as 4,600 reais (63,400 baht).

The priciest sporting events, such as the athletics finals, will be 1,200 reais (16,500 baht). This is substantially below the price of the 100 meter final at London 2012 – which cost more than twice as much.

The organizing committee said it was committed to "allow access

to the games for the largest possible number of fans," in a video presentation on the Rio 2016 website.

Of the 7.5 million tickets that will be sold, 3.8mn will cost 70 (965 baht) reais or less. The cheapest ticket will be priced at 40 Brazilian reais (550 baht).

Fans looking to buy tickets can register on the Rio 2016 sales website from November.

Applications for the first phase of ticket sales will then open between March and May 2015, with a second phase planned for July 2015.

Only those who entered in the first draw will be able to participate in the second, with those who were unsuccessful getting priority.

— Reuters

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