

PHUKET DENTAL Signature • Dental Implant • Crown, Bridge, Veneers • Zoom / Britesmile Tooth whitening
Largest Dental Center in Phuket
076 341 700
www.PhuketDentalSignature.com

Phuket today
Phuket Gazette
BROADCASTING PHUKET TO THE WORLD
See page 13

ANDAMAN Edition **PHUKET'S LEADING NEWSPAPER... SINCE 1993** **Now NATIONWIDE**

Phuket Gazette



WANTED: 'Mr Machin'

Police search bars in hopes of spotting Brit thief known only by alias 'Charlie Machin'

INSIDE TODAY

March 21 - 27, 2015 | PhuketGazette.Net | In partnership with The Nation

20 Baht

■ 'SHIP FLED AUSTRALIAN, NEW ZEALAND NAVIES'

NETTED

■ Illegal toothfish vessel caught selling cargo at Phuket port

By Chutharat Plerin

A JOINT task force this week seized one of six known illegal, unreported, unregulated (IUU) vessels caught fishing for toothfish in the Southern Ocean, after it falsely reported and offloaded its cargo.

The ship, which recently had its name changed from *Kunlun* to *Taishan*, had already fled from the navies of New Zealand and Australia, as well as global conservation organization Sea Shepherd, before passing through Indonesian waters and mooring near Phuket.

Since 2008, the boat has changed its name at least 10 times, according to a Sea Shepherd Conservation Society report.

In January, Interpol issued a Purple Notice against *Taishan* for illegally fishing for toothfish inside an area regulated by the Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR).

"The only successful outcome of this arrest would be the seizure of the vessel," Capt Siddharth Chakravarty of the Sea Shepherd ship *Sam Simon* told the *Gazette*.

The *Sam Simon* is taking part in the Sea Shepherd 2014 Operation Icefish, a campaign to stop the illegal fishing of Patagonian and Antarctic toothfish in Antarctic waters.

"There is evidence against the *Kunlun* of multiple crimes, including fishing without a



A crew member of Sam Simon closes in on Taishan. Photo: Jeff Wirth / Sea Shepherd Australia Ltd

permit, using banned gill-nets in a controlled fishery zone, changing flags and names to deliberately avoid detection and operating under shell companies as fly-by-night operators to exploit international loopholes," explained Capt Chakravarty.

"She is sure to have human-rights violations as well on the contracts of the Southeast Asian crew she employs, and I urge the investigators to look into the human and the environmental crimes of *Kunlun*. Thailand has the opportunity

to make an example of *Kunlun* and rid the country's ports of IUU fishing fleets."

Over the past decade, Southeast Asia has been a hotbed for IUU operators with them launching and ending their Antarctic fishing seasons from the ports in these countries, Capt Chakravarty explained. Indonesia has recently sent a very strong message to the poachers...

Story Continued on Page 6

Diver dies at Similans while volunteering

OFFICIALS have yet to learn what the catalyst was in the death of an experienced diver who fell unconscious during a mass-diving volunteer project at the Similan Islands on March 14.

The man, who reportedly had more than 700 dives recorded, died from the effects of decompression sickness after a dive to the depth of 47 meters.

Full story on Page 3

Lifeguards yet to bid on next beach contract

THE island's beaches again may be without lifeguards starting next week, as the government contract for the Phuket Lifeguard Club (PLC) to provide its essential life-saving services expires on March 26.

The bidding has been opened up twice, in accordance with law, but no bids have been made.

Full story on Page 7

Chinese tourist fined for public footwashing

A CHINESE woman was fined for washing her feet in a public sink on Phi Phi Don, following a recent change in policy.

The woman was caught within an hour of officers posting a "no foot washing" warning sign in the public restroom.

Full story on Page 4

SHOW From 09:00 PM
ILLUZION
FIRST BROADWAY AND VEGAS SHOW & DISCO SHOW STYLE IN ASIA
Hotline: 076.683.030 | Mail: ticket@illuzionphuket.com | Fax: 076.683.059
facebook.com/illuzionphuket | www.illuzionphuket.com | 31 Bangla Rd, Patong, Phuket

DISCOTHEQUE
Live Entertainment
From 10:45 PM

This Week



Business

New columnist Simon Wetherell shares social media tips. **Page 11**



Property

Pricing your property in the face of rising land prices. **Page 25**



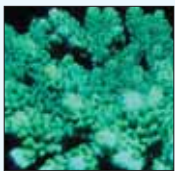
Well-being

Craig busts widely believed myths about cholesterol. **Page 29**



Boating

The Singapore Yacht Show is gearing up to impress. **Page 31**



Explore

Diving into the sea's depths with a UV torch in hand. **Page 33**



Sport

Phuket Cycling Fest returns for second year of fun. **Page 34**

Saturday



36 - 23

Sunday



36 - 24

Monday



36 - 24

Tuesday



36 - 24

Wednesday



36 - 24

Thursday



36 - 24

German expat robbed over iPhone sex swap

By Kritsada Mueanhawong

TWO women have been charged for robbing a German expat after he allegedly reneged on a deal to buy one of them an iPhone and clothes in exchange for sex.

Rattriya Sirijumpa, 25, and Nongluck Homhuan, 26, were arrested at Tina Salon in Thalang on March 14, after police spotted the German's stolen car in front of Ms Rattriya's salon.

The arrests followed Wolfgang Gerhard Helmut Dehl-Buntha, 62, filing two complaints of theft.

"On January 23, he reported that several items had been stolen from his house in Soi Patak in Karon," Lt Col Ason Jiraksa of the Karon Police said.

"On February 2, he woke to find his car was gone. He then reported that stolen, too."

Mr Dehl-Buntha told police that on January 23 he went to the airport, where he met Ms Nongluck.

"They went to his house in Karon. Ms Rattriya joined them, but followed them in her own car," explained Col Ason.

All three drank beer at the house for about an hour, before Ms Rattriya left. Ms Nongluck stayed overnight.

Mr Dehl-Buntha woke up and realized Ms Nongluck was gone,



Mr Dehl-Buntha gives a thumbs up after his car was returned.

along with many of his valuables.

Police checked footage from CCTV cameras in the area and saw that Ms Rattriya's Toyota Altis was nearby on both days that Mr Dehl-Buntha was robbed.

"Officers tracked down where the two suspects lived and worked," Col Ason said. "At about 6pm on [March 14], officers spotted a black Toyota Camry with a red licence plate parked in front of Ms Rattriya's salon."

"Ms Rattriya claimed that the car was hers, but police checked the engine number, which matched the number of Mr Dehl-Buntha's stolen car."

The women were taken to Karon Police Station to be questioned. The pair told police that Ms Nongluck knew Mr Dehl-Buntha from chatting online through the social-media application Badoo.

"Mr Dehl-Buntha promised to buy Ms Nongluck an iPhone and clothes if she agreed to be his girlfriend. The morning after they had slept together, she asked him to keep his promise," said Col Ason.

"Apparently, he ignored her after some grumbling. So, she called Ms Rattriya and decided to teach Mr Dehl-Buntha a lesson."

Ms Rattriya and Ms Nongluck were both charged with theft.

Phuket sailors warned of falling space-launch debris

THE Royal Thai Navy has issued a warning for ships to steer clear of an Indian Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) debris-fall zone in the Andaman Sea between March 9 and April 8.

The area marked in the warning, about 400km northwest of Phuket, is within the following coordinates:

9°15'00"N 94°45'00"E
10°05'00"N 95°05'00"E
9°45'00"N 96°00'00"E
8°55'00"N 95°40'00"E

"All ships, please be careful and avoid this area," the statement read.

The PSLV will be launched from



Photo: Fightingfalcon2005

the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in India. It will carry the Indian Regional Navigational Satellite System (IRNSS) -1D, which is the fourth of seven satellites slated to be launched to provide navigational services to the region.

— **Kongleaphy Keam**

Masseuse suicide sparks manhunt

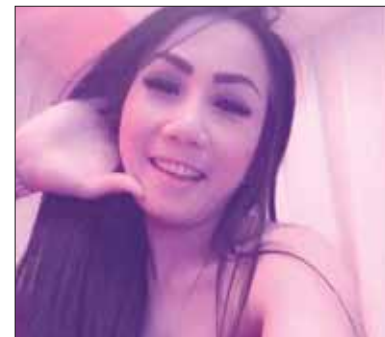
POLICE are looking for a man wanted for beating his masseuse girlfriend who was found dead by apparent suicide in Phuket Town on March 15.

Friends discovered the body of Taweapat Boontawee, 33, at her apartment at a four-story complex on Phun Pol Road Soi 7. She was found hanged by a bathrobe sash tied to a light fitting.

"She left several messages of distress written with lipstick on her make-up mirror," said Capt Jariyawat Taencheun of the Phuket City Police.

Ms Taweapat, who worked at the nearby Angel Massage, was last seen before dawn on March 13.

"She filed a complaint with Phuket City Police at about 3am,"



Ms Taweapat. Photo: Facebook

Capt Jariyawat confirmed. "She said that her ex-boyfriend [named by police only as "Mr Bung"] came to see her on [March 12].

"Ms Taweapat said they had argued and that he began hitting her. Then he dragged her from her room to the parking lot, where he

continued to beat her. Then he left with her cash, mobile phone and credit cards."

After Ms Taweapat filed the complaint, her friends urged her to stay elsewhere as they were afraid Mr Bung would return.

"She declined their offers and asked to stay alone at her place," Capt Jariyawat told the *Gazette*.

Police have identified Mr Bung through CCTV footage from cameras in the area, he added.

"We are not ready to reveal the man's name, but we hope to arrest him soon," Capt Jariyawat said.

Ms Taweapat's body was taken to Vachira Phuket Hospital for confirmation of the cause of death and to await collection by relatives. — **Kritsada Mueanhawong**



Window Design & Awnings



WINDOW DESIGN AND AWNINGS CO., LTD.
70/89 M.4 Chao Fa West Road, T.Vichit, A.Muang Phuket 83000
Email: arunsawadde@hotmail.com, www.tentphuket.com, www.windecor.co.th

OUR PRODUCT LINE
INCLUDES WINDOW
DESIGN AND AWNINGS

- ◆ Tension Membranes Product
- ◆ Retractable Awnings
- ◆ Vertical Awnings
- ◆ Canopy
- ◆ Tents and Warehouse Tents
- ◆ Drop Arm Awnings
- ◆ Pergola
- ◆ Insect Screen
- ◆ Sunscreen Roller Blinds

◆

+66 (0) 89 724 6914

+66 (0) 76 216 447

+66 (0) 76 216 448








Experienced diver's death baffles park officials

OFFICIALS have yet to learn what circumstances led to the death of an experienced diver who fell unconscious during a mass-diving volunteer project at the Similan Islands.

Suthat Suktuk, a 45-year-old businessman from Songkhla province, went into shock while diving beyond recreational depths to 47 meters at a site south of Koh Miang, also called Koh See (Island Four), on March 14.

"We have been informed that Mr Suthat died from the effects brought on by decompression sickness," Nut Kongkasorn, chief of Mu Ko Similan National Park, said on Monday.

"It was a very deep dive and he stayed too long. There was too much nitrogen in his

body, which caused him to go into shock."

However, Mr Nut has yet to learn why Mr Suthat stayed too long at that depth, and why his dive buddy Suwat Jutapruet did not suffer the same fate.

The park chief added that he hoped to learn what caused the tragedy.

"According to Mr Suwat, Mr Suthat had logged more than 700 dives," Mr Nut said. "Also, Mr Suthat's tank was more than half full, so we are investigating further in the hope of learning what caused his death."

Mr Suthat's body was transported from Phuket to Haad Yai on March 15.

— **Kritsada Mueanhawong**



Suthat Suktuk (left) died while on a dive near Koh Miang. Photo: Facebook



The blockade took place last year in Patong. Photo: Kritsada Mueanhawong

Tuk-tuk drivers charged over huge blockade

THIRTEEN tuk-tuk drivers who were charged for their involvement in a massive blockade of Patong in March last year were fined and sentenced to one year's probation on March 12.

The drivers were part of a group of 68 drivers who were arrested and charged for blockading major roads in the party town in protest of the arrests of four tuk-tuk drivers for preventing green-plate taxi drivers from using public parking spots the day before.

"The drivers were handed the sentence [on March 12]. They were fined 3,000 baht each and put on probation for one year," Chief Judge Sakun Suanpharn of the Phuket Provincial Court told the *Gazette*.

According to the court's public documents, the 13 drivers were first sentenced to one year in prison and a fine of 6,000 baht each. However, since they confessed to their crimes and accepted the charges following their arrests, their sentences were halved to six months in prison and a fine of 3,000 baht. Because the drivers had no previous criminal records and were not considered a flight risk, the six month sentence was suspended to one year of probation, in addition to the 3,000-baht fine.

— **Chutharat Plerin**

Hunt on for foreign thief

By Voratuss Intasee

POLICE are trying to track down a foreign thief, believed to be a British expat, who is wanted for robbing a Swedish man's home of about 200,000 baht in valuables.

Known so far only by his alias "Charlie Machin", the suspect is known to frequent bars in Bang Tao and Rawai.

"At this stage, all we know of his identity is that he goes by the name Charlie Machin. He's about 35 years old, and we believe that he is of British nationality," said Lt Chamaiporn Supakom of the Karon Police.

Police were alerted to Mr Machin's antics when Swedish national Alexander Djerf, 26, filed a complaint that his house had been robbed on March 4.

Mr Djerf, who has been living and working in Phuket since 2010, told police that he left his house in Kata at about 11:30am that day.

"He returned at about 3pm to find the steel security bars over a window damaged and that his house had been robbed," said Lt Chamaiporn.

Among the items reported as



Police are hunting mysterious Mr Machin. Photo: Karon Police

stolen were a Longines watch, gold ring, laptop computer, camera, diving bag, keys and a portable phone charger.

Video footage from CCTV at the house captured images of Mr Machin breaking in, and exiting about 20 minutes later, while hauling a black backpack bulging with booty. He fled the scene on a motorcycle parked outside.

Police traced Mr Machin's getaway vehicle to a motorcycle rental shop, where the staff gave Mr Machin's address as a rented room in Mai Khao.

Officers soon arrived at the abode, only to find a woman who admitted to being Mr Machin's girlfriend, but denied any knowledge of the robbery or her boyfriend's whereabouts.

Police searched the home and found several stolen items.

"We found a lot of stuff hidden in the room which we believe Mr Machin had stolen from many people," Lt Chamaiporn said.

"We found Mr Djerf's portable charger, but we believe the rest of the items stolen from him had been sold."

Officers did not take Mr Machin's girlfriend into custody.

"She co-operated with us during questioning, and we believe that she had nothing to do with the robbery," Lt Chamaiporn said.

The landlord for the room explained that Mr Machin said that he was from England and that he had been to Thalang Hospital for an x-ray and a prescription.

"We learned his name from hospital records, but staff there confirmed that they did not ask for his passport," said Lt Chamaiporn.

"We checked with immigration, but they also have no record of a Charlie Machin in Phuket."

The search continues.

"We are now searching bars in Bang Tao and Rawai to track him down, and hopefully to learn his real name," Lt Chamaiporn said.



HOME
SUITE
HOME

CHANINTR LIVING

HÄFELE DESIGN CENTER PHUKET
T. +667 661 2887

Water-meter thief nabbed

POLICE arrested a man on March 10 after finding him in possession of 18 water meters stolen from homes in Cherng Talay.



Mr Youngyut.

Youngyut Matchawet, 25, was arrested at his house in Cherng Talay after police tracked him down through CCTV footage.

"We began receiving complaints from local residents on [March 7] about their water meters disappearing," said Lt Col Saad Wongwiangjan of the Cherng Talay Police.

"After reviewing CCTV footage of the thief, we were able to pinpoint the area where he lived."

Police raided Mr Youngyut's house, where they found the meters, some of which had already been taken apart so that the brass parts inside could be resold.

"Mr Youngyut confessed to stealing the water meters because he had no job and no money," said Col Saad.

— Kraitsada Mueanhawong

Foot-washing tourist fined

By Kraitsada Mueanhawong

A CHINESE woman was fined for washing her feet in a public sink on Phi Phi Don on March 13, following a recent change in policy on the tourist-popular island.

Within half an hour of officers posting a "no foot washing" warning sign at the public restroom, the tourist, who police declined to name, started washing her feet in the sink.

"She didn't pay any attention to the sign directly in front of her," said Koh Phi Phi-Nopparat Thara National Park Chief Chaithat Boonphupantanti. "Our officers took photos of her breaking the law before informing her that she was committing a crime."

The woman was given a 1,000-baht fine and her tour guide was informed of the incident.

Mr Chaithat explained that an area for tourists to wash their feet used to be in front of the toilets, but it had been moved behind the building in January because it was making the bathroom slippery and dirty.

"The sign is in English with clear pictures of what is prohib-



The signs had been printed and posted on the wall only 30 minutes before the tourist was fined.

ited. We will be looking to include Chinese-language warnings as well," Mr Chaithat said. "We were not rude or aggressive when we were dealing with the tourist. We

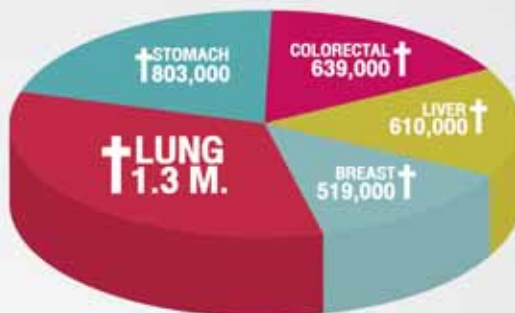
are just trying to establish rules that will keep the place clean and beautiful."

Mr Chaithat explained that he understands that there are cultural

differences to be overcome, but that it is essential for tour guides to inform their guests of the rules and encourage them to help keep Thailand beautiful.

8.2 MILLION PEOPLE DIED OF CANCER WORLDWIDE, OR 13% OF GLOBAL MORTALITY

SOURCE: WHO (2014)



TOP FIVE CANCERS WORLDWIDE DEATHS EACH YEAR

Minimize your risk of cancer today
Early detection can save your life

	FULL PRICE THB	SPECIAL PRICE THB
Standard Cancer Screening for Men	9,790	5,500 **
Standard Cancer Screening for Women	13,590	8,500 **
Advanced Breast Cancer Screening (with ThinPrep)	8,124	5,990
Cervical Cancer Screening (ThinPrep)	1,800	1,500
Colonoscopy	20,000	12,700
Skin Cancer Screening (NEW)		1,350

**starting from

Book now until 31 March 2015 only
(Packages remain valid for use until 30 April 2015)

For more information, please call the Wellness Center at 1719 ext. 8448, or e-mail us at info@phukethospital.com



Call. 1719
www.PhuketHospital.com



Kratom delivery to Phuket intercepted

A SHIPMENT of 45 kilograms of *kratom* leaves from Nonthaburi to Phuket was intercepted by Phuket Tourist Police on March 13.

"We were tipped off that a truck with the Bangkok licence plate 61-6211 would be delivering the leaves today," said Tourist Police Division 5 Superintendent Chusawat Janrojanakit.

When police spotted the truck, they pulled it over and checked the documents of the driver, Akkapon Konluk, 46, and the passenger, Supharerk Kaewnam, 38. While searching the truck's contents, police found 10 bags of *kratom* hidden among furniture items being delivered to Phuket.

"Yesterday afternoon, an unknown man called me, asking me



Police seized the cargo.

to deliver the bags of *kratom* to Phuket. I accepted the job because I wanted the money," Mr Akkapon said after his arrest.

Both men were charged with possession of a Category 5 drug with intent to sell. Mr Supharerk denied knowledge of the illegal cargo. — Kraitsada Mueanhawong

Illegal wedding photographer arrested on Bang Tao Beach

A WEDDING photographer was arrested for working illegally on Bang Tao Beach on March 11.

Chinese national Ma Chuan, 26, was arrested while taking a series of wedding photos, explained Lt Col Tienchai Chompoo of the Phuket Immigration Office.

"Illegal Chinese photographers are not a new thing. We regularly receive reports of Chinese tourists entering Phuket to take pre-wedding photos at many of the island's attractions, such as the beaches, temples and buildings in Phuket Old Town," Col Tienchai said.

"We are gradually arresting



Mr Ma (center) was arrested.

them, but they are still finding ways to illegally conduct their businesses."

Mr Ma was charged for working illegally in Thailand.

— Kraitsada Mueanhawong

Suspect land investigated

By Chutharat Plerin

THE Deputy Permanent Secretary of Justice inspected four of 20 land plots on March 13 believed to have been obtained through illegal land-title deeds or illegally developed.

The plots examined are on Koh Raet, along Surin Beach and in Kamala, said Dussadee Arayawuth, Deputy Permanent Secretary of Justice for the Ministry of Justice.

Col Dussadee was the head investigator for the Public-sector Anti-Corruption Commission (PACC) probe into alleged illegal lands in Phuket and was transferred to the Ministry of Justice on October 1, 2012.

"We are conducting the investigation following complaints from locals and NGOs made directly to the Ministry of Justice," Col Dussadee said. "The complaints allege that Phuket officials illegally issued business owners *Chanote* titles and signed off on unlawful building permits."

The first plot of land was on Koh Raet, off of Ao Por Pier.

"The owner of the land was



Col Dussadee (right) led an inspection of four plots of land last week allegedly obtained or developed illegally.

issued a *Chanote* title by using a *NorSor 3 Kor* as a reference. That document reported that the land was being used as a plantation, allowing it to be released and owned with a *Chanote*," Col Dussadee explained. "However, our inspection of the 161-rai island made it clear that there are no plantations."

Officers circled the island in a speedboat, noting the dense jungle.

"We can see trees in the area that are more than 50 years old. Given this, a *Chanote* title cannot be legally issued," Col Dussadee said. "We are sure that the information provided by local officials was falsified."

The team later visited the La

Colline estate, which was allegedly being constructed without having passed its Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). Additionally, it was being built in an area about 120 meters above sea level – no buildings are allowed to be constructed more than 80m above sea level in Phuket, Col Dussadee said.

The third area examined was an

under-construction building along the road near Surin Beach.

"The building is being built in Zone 1, 20 meters from the sea," Col Dussadee said. "Nothing is supposed to be built in Zone 1. Despite this, Cherg Talay Tambon Administration Organization (*OrBorTor*) officers issued a building permit."

The final location visited by the investigation committee was the Kamala Beach Hotel and Resort, which allegedly sits on public land.

"We are sure that the *Chanote* for the land was illegally issued, as it is within a public park," Col Dussadee said.

No property owners or representatives were asked to present evidence to the investigation team and no charges were filed, Col Dussadee confirmed.

"The officials involved in the false reporting of information and the unlawful issuance of *Chanote* titles will be charged for abusing their power. The owners of the properties will face charges for accepting and using unlawful *Chanote* titles and building permits," he said.

Vendors crash land inspection



The vendors were waiting when Col Dussadee arrived in Kamala.

A GROUP of about 30 beach vendors interjected themselves into an inspection of Kamala Beach on March 13 to submit a complaint letter to the Deputy Permanent Secretary of Justice, who was visiting Phuket for a property development investigation.

Deputy Permanent Secretary of Justice Dussadee Arayawuth came to the island to inspect four of 20 land plots believed to have been obtained through illegal land-title deeds or illegally developed.

However, the vendors were waiting for him when he arrived with his team at Kamala Beach.

"We all want sunloungers back, for the sake of the vendors and the tourists. The governor hasn't been listening to the vendors and doesn't understand the tourists like we do," said Manas Yenjit, a vendor from Karon, who spoke on behalf of the group.

"Tourists need sunloungers,

especially the elderly."

Mr Manas also expressed his confusion over the decisions made by Governor Nisit Jansomwong about the beach policy.

"First, the governor ordered the rented sunloungers off the beach. Now, tourists cannot even bring their own chairs. I cannot understand this," he said.

"This is a huge mistake. It makes Phuket look like it does not welcome tourists anymore."

Col Dussadee accepted the letter and told the vendors that he would speak with the governor himself.

"The governor has his reasons for these rules. This is not about the locals, tourists or the governor, this is about law, policy and order," Col Dussadee said.

"I will take everything into consideration and speak with the governor."

– Chutharat Plerin



Sunday Night Live Band @ Mint

Come and enjoy a fun night of live band music with good foods and superb drinks @ Mint, a place to chill out and define your own fun.

Have a blast on Sunday, 22 March 2015 from 7.00 to 10.00 pm.

Karon Beach Square VIP card members will enjoy 20% discount.

For more information or for RSVP, contact askme@karonbeachsquare.com or at +66 76 396 139 ext. 442.

* Price is subject to 10% service charge and 7% government tax
* No other discounts apply for this promotion.

KARON BEACH SQUARE

KARON BEACH SQUARE
509 Patak Road, Karon Beach, Phuket 83100, Thailand
T +66 76 396139 www.karonbeachsquare.com
www.facebook.com/karonbeachsquare2014





Firefighters took about two hours to douse the flames.

Fire blazes overloaded landfill site

TWO rai of the overflowing 120-rai Sapan Hin landfill were destroyed in a fire on Tuesday evening.

Five firetrucks immediately responded to the fire and were able to contain and douse the flames within two hours, said the Phuket City Municipality Environmental Division chief Prachum Suriya.

"We are unsure of the cause of the fire. It might have been caused by the hot and dry weather," said Mr Prachum.

"There was no property damage, as we were well prepared and had firetrucks already on standby for such emergencies."

An official fire warning was passed down from Bangkok to the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM) Phuket office last month.

Officers met after the incident, with the Phuket Environmental Office confirming that locals should not be worried about health risks following the fire.

— Kritsada Mueanhawong

Vessel netted at Interpol's request

Continued from Page 1

...by blowing up multiple illegal Vietnamese vessels and Malaysia has arrested and fined vessels in the past.

"The captain of the *Kunlun* definitely miscalculated the extent of the refuge he would be granted in Phuket," Capt Chakravarty said.

The vessel was seized following a jointly-coordinated operation between Phuket authorities, Interpol and law-enforcement authorities in Australia and New Zealand.

"Australian authorities contacted the Customs Department asking that the contents from the *Taishan* be examined due to allegations of illegal fishing," a high-ranking officer from the Royal Thai Navy Third Area Command, who asked not to be named, told the *Gazette*.

"The *Taishan* was delivering seafood products. It arrived at the Phuket Deep Sea Port at the beginning of March. The vessel passed through customs with no issues, as they presented all the legally required documents."

However, after the notification, authorities recalled the shipment from Songkhla and discovered that the ship had falsely reported which kinds of fish product were being delivered.

"Toothfish are the sharks of the deep. If the world knew more about a fleet of six vessels poaching vulnerable shark populations in a managed fishery zone, there would have been public outrage and the vessels would have been apprehended instantly," Capt Chakravarty said.

"But typical of humankind's approach to the oceans, 'What cannot be seen, cannot be a problem', these vessels have been allowed to operate for a decade in complete violation of the conservation mea-



The leaders of Operation Icefish, Captain Sid Chakravarty and Captain Peter Hammarstedt. Photo: Jeff Wirth / Sea Shepherd Australia Ltd

asures in the Southern Ocean.

"While the market for this fish is high-end restaurants in Europe and the United States, the gateways to those markets lie in Southeast Asia. Consumed as a delicacy in these markets, the operators earn millions of dollars from the catch of one vessel alone, and those sums of money, along with the blind eye that has been turned toward them, means they have continued to exist for the past decade."

The vessel owner, Stanley Management Inc, was contacted, as was the local handler South Services Co Ltd, to determine their role, if any, in the deceit at customs, said the investigating officer at the Phuket Customs Office, who declined to be named.

"The alleged illegal fishing took place outside of Thailand's waters.

It is beyond our authority to investigate those matters," the officer said. "It is under International Law, so we expect international support in dealing with this case."

"Representatives from Interpol have yet to arrive, so at the moment we are simply detaining the vessel and investigating the false reporting in regards to the fish product."

All 36 people on board the vessel – the Peruvian captain, four Spaniards and 31 Indonesians – have yet to face any charges, but remain under watch onboard the ship.

One Spaniard was removed from the ship before it was seized due to self-inflicted wounds over alleged family issues. According to a Sea Shepherd report, the *Taishan* is believed to have links to the Spanish organization Vidal Armadores, which has all but been convicted for countless allegations

of operating fleets of illegal fishing vessels.

The *Taishan* is one of three IUU vessels intercepted by Sea Shepherd in January.

The *Sam Simon* intercepted the *Taishan*, then named the *Kunlun*, along with the *Yongding* inside the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) of Australia and well within the controlled waters of the CCAMLR in January.

"The vessels were not engaged in fishing when spotted, but were in transit to the fishing grounds after a spell of bad weather," Capt Chakravarty said.

"However, the photos and the visual sightings confirmed the vessel's identity, the presence of banned gill-nets on board and the immediate attempt of the vessel to flee from the fishing grounds without responding to any radio calls by me."

Sea Shepherd ship *Bob Barker* has been in pursuit of another poaching vessel, *Thunder*, since December 13, making the pursuit the longest sea chase of a poacher in history.

"By shining the spotlight on these operators and by intercepting their operations, an international web of enforcement is quickly being cast on these vessels. To now see one of the vessels being apprehended is the reward we have been waiting for," Capt Chakravarty said.

"This is the first instance where governments, non-governmental organizations and Interpol, along with local authorities, are acting in concert to end IUU operations on the high-seas."

"This heralds in a new dawn for the enforcement and the prosecution of fishing crimes and a successful seizure of the *Kunlun* would help Thailand set a benchmark in international investigations into IUU fishing operations."

Bryde's whale spotted alive, whale shark turns up dead

A BRYDE'S whale and a whale shark have both been found near Phuket this month – one alive and well, and the other dead.

The first was the Bryde's whale, seen near Koh Haa off the coast of Krabi on March 9, which excited and alarmed divers and officials.

Both groups have cited an improving marine environment as a possible reason for the sighting, but have also warned against any actions that could hamper the Andaman Sea's recovery.

"It is strange that they saw it in the Andaman Sea, as these whales mainly live in the Gulf of Thailand. The whale could have simply lost its pod, but this could also mean that the Andaman marine environment is indeed improving," said Tathpon Krajangdara, head of the Natural Resource Observing and Analyzing Team in the Andaman Sea Fisheries Research and Development Center Phuket office.

Therapot Kasirawat, chairman



The young fish was found dead.

of the Koh Lanta Tourism Association, was not as excited about the spotting, as the area where the whale was seen is in the possible path through which coal will be transferred to the coal-fired power plant slated for Krabi province.

Then, on Wednesday, a 500-kilogram whale shark was found dead near Koh Pu, off Krabi.

On examining the fish's body, a veterinary team found cuts on its head, as well as clots of blood.

"The cuts on the head were likely from a fishing net. We believe the shark died about 24 hours before it was discovered," said Dr Rachawadee Jantra.

— Kritsada Mueanhawong



Judo - Aikido - JiuJitsu
AikiJitsu - Police / Guard / Womens' selfdefence

kids / teens / adults
contact
phuketjudo@gmail.com
www.phuketjudo.com

Beach lifeguard contract renewal hangs in balance

By Chutharat Plerin

PHUKET'S beaches again may be without lifeguards starting next week, as the government contract for the Phuket Lifeguard Club (PLC) to provide its life-saving services expires on March 26.

The Phuket Provincial Administrative Organization (PPAO) has offered the annual 22-million-baht concession for private operators to provide lifeguard services through the coming year to public bidding twice – as required by law.

No one placed any bids under the terms offered, confirmed the PPAO officer in charge of the contract, who asked not to be named.

"After failing to receive any bids twice, we called it off," he said.

"We have now handed the file to Governor Nisit Jansomwong to review and approve the hiring lifeguards through a special process, which is standard practice under these circumstances."

PLC President Prathaiyut



An unmanned lifeguard station at Karon Beach. Photo: Voratuss Intasee

Chuayuan said on Tuesday that the key issue was the 2.2mn baht required to be held in deposits in order to bid for the contract.

"We did not apply for the contract as we cannot commit millions of baht just to be held in deposits," he explained.

Mr Prathaiyut assured that he would like the PLC to continue providing lifeguards.

"But the conditions of the contract have to be taken into consideration, too," he said.

The PPAO officer explained that under the contract offered, 1.1mn

baht was to be held as a "deposit to enter the bid" and a further 1.1mn baht was to be held as a deposit to guarantee the contract terms are fulfilled.

"Both amounts are refunded to the bidder on successful completion of the contract," he said.

However, the contract offered this year provided no financial scope for the PLC to maintain or improve on the level of service provided over the past year.

This year's offer of 22mn baht is the same amount offered last year, which already took a hit with 20 per cent of lifeguards being laid off because of lack of funding.

"There are 86 lifeguards based at 38 stations at Phuket beaches," Mr Prathaiyut confirmed.

At the end of contract last year, there were 104.

"It is hard work, but we do our best to save people's lives. We work hard for little pay. I respect all the lifeguards for doing their job," Mr Prathaiyut added.

Illegal aliens caught during karaoke raids



Six people were arrested during the raids. Photo: Phuket City Police

ANTI-human trafficking raids of nightlife venues on March 12 netted two employers for hiring illegal workers from Myanmar.

Saengthian Luepanya, 24, owner of Happy Sea Man karaoke, was arrested for employing Myanmar nationals Lwin Thuza Myint, 26, and Thi Dar, 42, said Phuket City Police Deputy Superintendent Khunnadet Nanongkhai.

Later that night, police found two Myanmar nationals working at Thitaporn karaoke. The bar owner, Kritsana Musija, was arrested along with the workers: Myint Than, 26, and Ohn Mar Win, 27.

"The four Myanmar nationals will be charged for working illegally," Col Khunnadet said. "Ms Saengthian and Ms Kritsana will be charged for hiring employees without a work permit."

– Kongleaphy Keam

Krabi's got crabs

KRABI officials are moving to create a new eco-tourism destination out of a tidal plane that millions of tiny orange-clawed crabs call home.

Locals were amazed to see a horde of crabs suddenly appear and migrate across the sands of Ao Tang Len at low tide, prompting them to notify district officials.

"The stretch of sand at low tide is about a kilometer long and 30 meters wide. We saw millions of crabs in that stretch. They are tiny, about one centimeter long, with gray bodies and orange claws," said Ao Leuk District Chief Boonpas Raknuy, following his inspection of the site on March 12. "As we started to walk on the sand, the crabs sped away to hide in their holes. It was an amazing thing to see."

Mr Boonpas has requested that the local people help to protect and



The crabs on the move in Krabi.

conserve the area so that the crabs and the natural environment can remain unharmed.

"The beauty of Ao Tang Len is unmatched by other attractions in Krabi. After I saw the crabs in action, I immediately wanted to develop the area as an eco-tourism destination, but also to preserve it as part of 'Unseen Thailand'," Mr Boonpas said.

– Kritsada Mueanhawong

German, French tourists take jet-ski accident case to court

A GERMAN tourist who was hit by a Frenchman riding a jet-ski in Phuket last month is now in court with the Frenchman settling the matter.

Erich Heim, 55, was knocked unconscious by Chadd Attard, 20, while swimming at Paradise Beach on February 28. Mr Heim was taken to hospital that day, and discharged on March 5.


The two tourists have since been unable to negotiate a settlement, Lt Col Anukul Nuket of the Patong Police told the *Gazette* on March 10.

"On Monday, Mr Heim and Mr Attard came to Patong Police Station to negotiate the case. Mr Heim asked for about 700,000 baht, but Mr Attard said that he could only pay 200,000," Col Anukul said.

"They could not reach an agreement at the station, so the case was transferred to Phuket Provincial Court."

Col Anukul said the case is now in the hands of the court, and any decision made henceforth will be at the discretion of the judge.

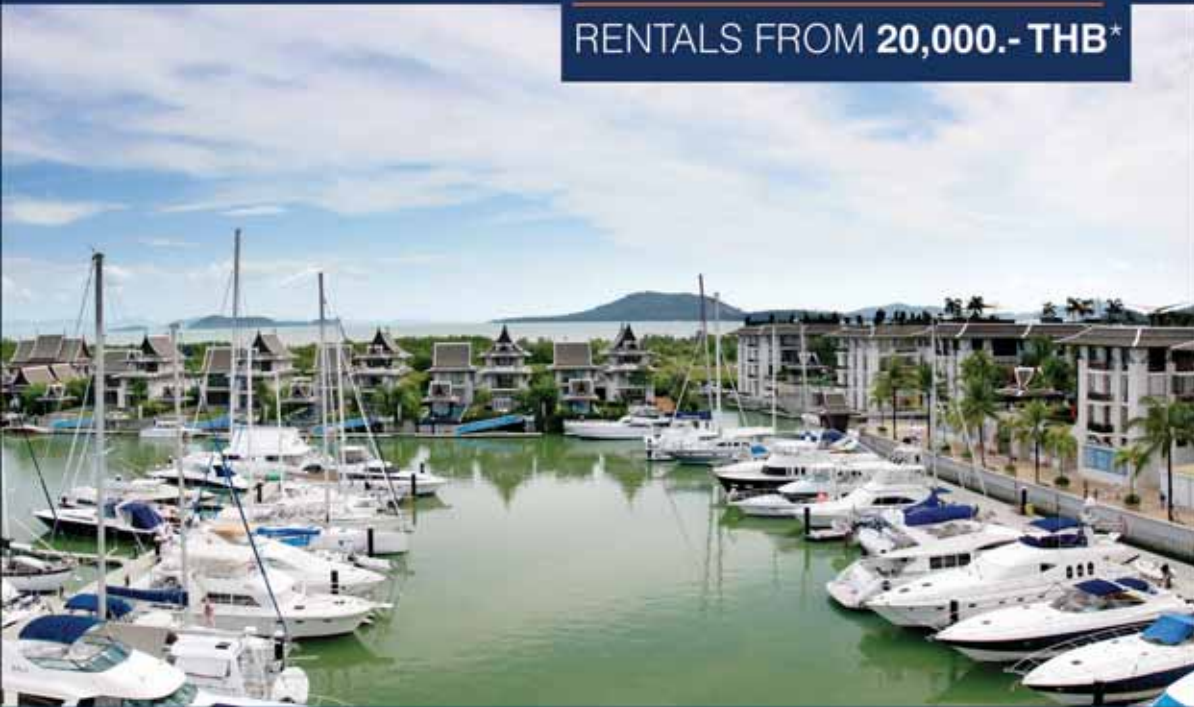
– Kongleaphy Keam



ROYAL PHUKET MARINA

WATERFRONT OFFICE & RESTAURANT SPACE

RENTALS FROM 20,000.- THB*



- use of meeting rooms
- convenient central location
- underground parking

086 943 7840 | 076 360 811

info@royalphuketmarina.com
royalphuketmarina.com

*monthly rental price based on 45 sqm

AROUND THE nation



Selfies are taking the world by storm. Photo: Garry Knight

Underboob selfie ban brings threat of prison time

THE government issued a warning to women on Monday over posting "selfie" photos of the lower half of their breasts – a social media trend that has gone viral – saying their actions could violate the country's computer crime laws.

Thailand's 2007 Computer Crimes Act bans any material that causes "damage to the country's security or causes public panic" or "any obscene computer data which is accessible to the public".

The Culture Ministry said that "underboob selfie" offenders faced up to five years in jail, but did not say how they would identify the culprits, *The Nation* reported.

"When people take these 'underboob selfies' no one can see their faces," ministry spokesman Anandha Chouchoti told Reuters. "So it's like, we don't know who these belong to, and it encourages others to do the same. We can only warn people to not take it up. They are inappropriate actions."

The ministry has long been criticized for being overzealous in its censorship of films, music, television and some Western cultural practices in an attempt to preserve traditional values of Thailand, which is also world famous for its raunchy nightlife.

Smog in North worsens

THE amount of tiny dust particles in the upper North rose beyond safety levels again on Monday and poor visibility reportedly prevented at least four flights from landing at Chiang Mai Airport.

An informed source told *The Nation* that from 11am to 1pm, haze reduced visibility at Chiang Mai Airport to only 800 meters, which forced pilots to make a decision on whether or not it was safe to land. At least four decided not to: Thai Airways Flight 102 from Bangkok had to u-turn to Suvarnabhumi Airport; SL 8504 (Lion Air) flew back to Don Mueang; while PG 241 (Bangkok Airways) from Samui and FD3161 (Air Asia) from Phuket landed at Mae Fah Luang Airport in Chiang Rai, which reportedly had its lights turned on to improve visibility.

Other flights at the Chiang Mai Airport continued as usual.

Meanwhile, a 60-year-old Mae Hong Son man was the first person arrested this season for violating the outdoor-burning ban, which is a key measure to alleviate the smog problem.

Police used satellite data to detect hot spots, which led to the arrest of Dang Maneejan as he burned weeds on his property during the ban period, explained



The smog over Northern provinces has worsened. Photo: The Nation

Mae Hong Son Provincial Police Commander Jaruek Limsuwan.

"Police are now taking violations of the burning ban seriously, so we ask people to avoid burning anything during the province's 60-day ban. Police can detect a fire from satellite surveillance," Maj Gen Jaruek warned.

The ban is March 1 to April 29.

Readings of small particulate

matter up to 10 microns in diameter (PM10) were very high at Mae Hong Son and Chiang Rai at 311 micrograms per cubic meter.

Readings at other towns in the North were: Phayao 271mcg, Chiang Mai 279mcg, Lampang 189mcg, Lamphun 189mcg, Phrae 152mcg, Nan 141mcg and Tak 130mcg. The maximum level that is considered safe is 120mcg.

Local government bodies were trying to combat the haze with various measures. Chiang Mai sent fire trucks to sprinkle water into the air, while Mae Hong Son requested an artificial rain-making operation to reduce the dust.

In Phitsanulok's Chat Trakan district, a wild fire ravaged around 500 rai of forest. The blaze started on Sunday evening, but wasn't brought under control until Monday. The smoke affected 100 families living within a two-kilometer radius.

The haze problem has hit local people's health and daily lives, with thousands seeking medical treatment for respiratory problems. Isara Sathapanaset, director the Tourism Authority of Thailand Chiang Rai office, however, insisted that tourism was not affected, as it is the low season.

After a private joint committee met on Monday to discuss the impact the 10-day haze is having on Chiang Mai's tourism sector and economy, Chiang Mai Chamber of Commerce chairperson Wipawan Woraputipong said that a survey showed that hotel bookings had not yet been affected.

However, visitors from other regions of Thailand have either dropped or postponed their visit to the province, she said.

Arrest warrants to be issued for two court grenade suspects

ARREST warrants will be issued for two fugitives for their alleged involvement in the hand grenade attack at the Criminal Court on March 7, a police source told *The Nation* on Monday.

The two men have been identified only as "Wit" and "Wasu".

It is alleged that they paid 50,000 baht for two men to carry out the attack, in which no one was injured, plus another 50,000 baht after the attack.

Of the 14 suspects, 10 are already in custody. Another two – Manoon Chaichana, also known by the alias "Anek San Francisco" and Wirasak Towangjorn, also known as "Yai Pattaya" – are on the run abroad, while officials believe Wit and Wasu are still in Thailand.

The military court in Bangkok on Monday

returned four suspects to military custody after earlier handing them over to the police. The suspects are Charnwit Jariyanukool, Sansern Sri-unruen, Wichai Yoosuk and Norraphat Luephol.

Speaking to the press before being brought to the military court, Mr Charnwit denied the charges against him, but admitted to being the MC at a meeting in Khon Kaen – although he claimed the attack was not discussed.

Mr Charnwit said that he had cooperated with military interrogators. He said that he did not know Mr Manoon or another suspect Suphaphorn Mit-arak.

Police said that they found Ms Suphaphorn's Line chats with Mahahin Khunthong, the motorcycle rider in the attack, in which they allegedly talked about the attack.



Mr Charnwit denied the charges. Photo: The Nation

Thai national, two others arrested in murder-for-hire case in United States

A THAI woman and two Americans are in police custody for the death of a man found in his Texas home.

The woman, Chansamorn Pokai, and her friend Stephen Brockway are charged with hiring Ronald Rosser to murder her husband, 66-year-old Richard Moore, two weeks ago.

The US media quoted police as saying that the couple had an unhealthy relationship, and officers had been to their home as recently as January to hear complaints that each had been unfaithful, reported *The Nation*.

"This was not a healthy relationship," explained Assistant McKinney Police Chief Randy

Roland. "They'd had a lot of on-going and off-going strife."

Police said Ms Chansamorn reported finding her husband alone in their home, located in the 8700 block of La Quinta Lane, with multiple gunshot wounds.

Detectives were later able to piece together that the woman and Mr Brockway hired Mr Rosser to kill Mr Moore and that the motive was money.

Police also believe that the marital problems led to the murder.

"Part of our ongoing investigation to find out: was it a romantic relationship, how involved were they, when did that friendship start," said Chief Roland.

McKinney Police with the help of East Texas police departments and Texas Rangers arrested Ronald Rosser on Tuesday.

McKinney Police Department and Texas Rangers then arrested Mrs Chansamorn and Mr Brockway.

Mr Rosser is currently being held at the Gregg County Sheriff's Office on unrelated federal firearm charges in addition to the capital murder charge.

Ms Chansamorn and Mr Brockway are being held in the Colin County Jail.

All three suspects are charged with capital murder, and each is held on a US\$1 million bond.

ROMRAWIN
Aesthetic Clinic / ศูนย์เสริมความงาม

Get your face & neck back
The non-invasive face and neck lift - tightens loose skin on the face and neck by boosting collagen.

- Single treatment
- No surgery
- No downtime

Ulthera Program Thermage Program

Give us a call today and find out how you can have youthful skin.

Romrawin Central Festival Phuket 4th Flr. Romrawin Jungceylon Patong Beach Phuket
Sense of Wellness Zone, 3rd Flr.

☎ 076-307-098 ☎ 076-600-148

Need for more speed in court proceedings

FIRST PERSON

IT IS very hard work to be a judge in Phuket. Our court is overloaded, with the number of cases to be heard having risen to more than 13,000 over the past year. We have only 21 judges to take care of all of these cases.

Our court is already booked up with hearings through February of next year.

About 80 per cent of all Phuket court cases involve drug offenders, followed by incidents of theft and other types of criminal cases.

Civil cases in Phuket, however, are quite different from those in other provinces, as we have many cases involving land disputes. Land in Phuket is much more valuable and expensive than land in other provinces, and becoming a landowner in Phuket is complicated. This is why land dispute cases take a very long time to work out in court.

Litigants in these cases are willing to take their cases to the Civil Court, the Appeals Court and even the Supreme Court – it ends up being a long and drawn-out process.

When I first took up this position a year ago, there were nearly 500 cases that had been in the court process for a while already. This backlog is a result of defendants and plaintiffs not presenting their witnesses to the court, and the ever-increasing number of new cases that need to be heard piling up on top of the old ones.

I came into this job well aware that it was going to be difficult,



Sakun Suanpharn, 53, originally from Uttaradit, took up the position of Chief Judge of Phuket Provincial Court on April 1 last year. Judge Sakun earned a Bachelor's of Law, Barrister-at-law from Ramkhamhaeng University. Before coming to Phuket, Judge Sakun served as Chief Judge of Yala Juvenile

Court, following more than 20 years' experience after graduating from university.

Here, he explains why it is important to stay on top of cases and close them in a timely manner, despite having only a small number of judges taking on thousands of cases.

as there were so many old cases to be closed and new ones to be taken on.

The first thing I told all of the judges and court staffers when I first started was that I was here to work. They can either love me or hate me – I will accept it. Being loved is better,

but love is only an emotion, and it would be forgotten after my time here had passed.

I made it my goal to not hold on to cases for unnecessary lengths

of time. It is essential to close cases as quickly as possible so that we can handle the new ones. I have pushed my judges hard over the past year to do just that.

My policy was to push for defendants and plaintiffs to be responsible for bringing their own witnesses to testify in court. We do not have enough staffers available to do this for them, and I did

not allow either party in a case to leave that task to our staff.

My rule was that if any party failed to bring a witness to court, the witness testimony would be dismissed. Either they ensure the witnesses come to court to be heard, or they lose the chance to use the witness. This makes the court process much faster. Judges are allowed to dismiss witness testimony, but if they must extend a case, they have to inform me and I will make the final decision.

I told my judges that we are like boxing referees. The match is set for five rounds. After five rounds, it is over. We are the ones who set the rules for the litigants; they do not control us and tell us what to do. Each case must be closed as efficiently and swiftly as possible.

As a result of this policy, we have cleared out a huge amount of ongoing cases. Only 10 per cent of them are left. This is an impressive feat, as we have managed to do this on top of handling incoming cases.



Grab a towel and enjoy the feeling of sand beneath you. Photo: Voratuss Intasee

Easy, people

Island View

By Anchan Panna

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

TAKE it easy, people. What our government is trying to do is bring back "The Land of Smiles". The nation's leaders are trying to fix all of the problems that have plagued Thailand for decades.

I have heard some say that Rome wasn't built in a day... so, give the government a chance to work out these problems.

What attracted tourists to Phuket in the old days were the three "S's": sea, sun and sand. There was a clean ocean, warm weather and white sands.

Now, many places all the beaches, as well as the ocean itself, is full of garbage.

It is time for this cleanup. We need to make Phuket a beautiful place of quality again, so we can attract quality tourists and the money that they are willing to pay for the experience.

We must change our habits to be more in tune with nature, not distort nature to satisfy our every whim. The beaches are naturally so beautiful. Why do people insist on "decorating" them with beach chairs and umbrellas? Just sit on a mat or a towel and feel the softness of the sand.

Yes, there is a ban on food and all types of alcohol, but that doesn't ruin the experience. Take a break from baking on the beach when the sun is at its hottest and enjoy the coolness of a nearby cafe, or the shade of a restaurant and bar.

But – please don't confuse the girly bars of Bangla with Thai culture.

Girls sliding up and down stripper poles, swinging and dancing is not an example of Thailand. It is not what the Tourism Authority of Thailand or what Thais consider "Thainess".

Go immerse yourself in real culture and the real beauty of Thailand. Help us reclaim the natural beauty of Phuket.

Let's not force quality tourists who want more than girly bars to neighboring provinces, where so much of what is beautiful about Thailand has yet to be ruined by careless development.

Though we are proud of our Thainess, Thailand still welcomes people from all over the world.

Those who say that we will ban tourists or that the current bans and new laws issued by the government will push the tourists away are just being negative and sarcastic.

These kinds of attitudes toward Thailand – which has for many years and continues to play host to people from all over the world – unfairly damage the country's reputation as the Land of Smiles.

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

Safely navigating the Heroines

The Heroines' Monument roundabout is closed to through traffic during rush hour, with cones set up further down the road so drivers can safely make a u-turn.

There are no signs warning that the lane ahead is closed.

I have seen a car driving over the cones, and I have seen drivers brake hard and swerve into the left lane to avoid hitting them.

In my opinion, these "safety cones" create a far more dangerous environment than just keeping the circle open during rush hour.

Is it possible to have signs a few hundred meters before the cones, saying: "Lane closed. Keep left." in Thai and English?

Zib,
Rawai

Samak Luedwonghad, director

of the Phuket Highways Office, replies:

We have not installed any warning signs because the cones are there temporarily. Police put them out only during rush hours.

Though there are no signs warning drivers that there is a closed lane ahead, there is already a sign warning motorists of the u-turn, which drivers should always approach with caution.

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

Waiting on a work permit

How long should it take for a work permit application to be processed? I am aware that the required non-immigrant B visa is valid for 90 days, but will a work permit application be processed before the permit-to-stay expires?

Do applications for some professions take longer than others?

And if I start work while waiting for my work permit to be issued, am I working illegally? What punitive measurements might I be liable to if working while waiting for my work permit to be issued?

Interested Party,
Phuket

Pitool Dumsakorn, chief of the



Wait for your permit to be processed before you begin working.

Phuket Employment Office, replies:

As long as we receive the correct documentation with the application, the work permit will be issued within seven working days.

Employers can submit applications ahead of time to make sure

their foreign employees are issued work permits in time to start work according to their employment contract.

All applications take seven days to process, regardless of profession. When an application is filed, we issue an appointment ticket marked with a date to come to our office and pick up the completed work permit.

Foreigners cannot work before the work permit is issued. The penalty for working without a permit is up to five years in jail, a fine of between 2,000 and 100,000 baht, or both.

After serving any punishment handed down, the foreigner found guilty of working illegally will be deported.

Footiquette 101: Teach tourists

THE fining of a Chinese tourist for washing her feet in a sink in a public restroom on Phi Phi Don hardly comes as earth-shattering news.

It does, however, raise several cultural issues in a country which is so dependent on mass tourism, but at the same time famously sensitive to issues regarding the lowest of the lower extremities.

Why anyone would choose to contort themselves into a position to wash their feet in a raised sink clearly designed for hand use is anyone's guess.

It is certainly possible to conjure up emergency medical scenarios that might justify such an action, but such alarming situations would no doubt be few and far between: hardly frequent enough to spur park officers to erect a sign not only banning the practice, but threatening a 1,000 'bath' [sic] fine.

If true, the fact that it only took said officers an hour to rake in their first 1,000 baht also tends to indicate that the practice, whatever might be driving it, is more common than one would expect.

Lacking in-depth knowledge about Chinese customs, but aware that female "foot binding" was widespread in China for many centuries, the *Gazette* asked reliable sources in the Mainland Chinese expat community if we were missing some key piece of foot-related Chinese cultural information that needed to be understood in this puzzling phenomenon.

However, these sources assured the *Gazette* in strong terms that such behavior would be looked down upon as "very abnormal" in their country and suggested that the unnamed woman at the center of the controversy may simply have been "an eccentric".

Mainland China is perhaps the "final frontier" for Thailand's inbound market, one which will likely play a key role if there is any hope of filling all the hotel rooms that were built during the huge expansion of the tourism sector in recent decades.

Given this information, it is time to gear up and prepare for this huge potential market and ensure that they get the most vital information before arrival: such as the need to stay out of the surf when red flags are flying in the upcoming southwest monsoon season.

As for washing feet in public sinks on Phi Phi Don, the *Gazette* will of course continue to monitor the situation to see if this disturbing phenomenon becomes more widespread, though we fully expect that this will be the last we hear about it once news of the stiff fines – and the existence of purpose-built foot washing facilities out back – becomes known to Chinese tourists and those who guide them through this Land of Smiles.



Change the subject and move on

I am getting bored now of the constant bleating about loungers on Phuket beaches.

I went to Nai Harn yesterday – no jet-skis, no constant hassling from vendors, I could sit anywhere I wanted and an umbrella was available for hire for just 100 baht.

What is the problem here?

A peaceful, uncluttered hassle-free beach is just what 99 per cent of visitors want and expect.

Please change the subject and move on.

Andy Phillips
Phuket

Letters to the Editor

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

long overdue.

I don't want to enter the discussion about vendors, sleep loungers and touts among other things, as everything has already been said.

The problem here is that this island is overcrowded with tourists and Thais who all want a piece of the cake.

Claude
Gazette forum

on either side of the island to jet-skiing and parasailing only – no swimming!

This way there can be no accidents, no violent thugs renting them out. No robberies and it can be regulated.

Anyone wanting to go jet-skiing can go to the designated beach as they do for all day trips.

All the other tourists will then be safe.

It's not hard to work out.

Simon
Gazette forum

Sewage is the problem

Re: *Gazette online, Opinion: Tourism – Once Thailand's golden goose, March 12*

I agree with letting vendors back on the beach, but in moderation.

I believe that the sewage problem all around the island should be a major concern to all who visit and live here as it is still accumulating, and the sewage needs to go somewhere besides the ocean, where you want the tourists to swim.

Those tourists don't want that untreated human waste on their bodies.

No one likes to swim in a cess-pool, and that's what Patong Beach has become.

Benjamn
Gazette forum

Queue up to report extortion complaints

Re: *Gazette online, Phuket Immigration extortion allegations denied, March 10*

In reference to Col Sunchai's request to report to him personally about extortion at Phuket Town immigration office and his unbelievable denial of the truth of such allegations: If people were not frightened of the power of immigration officers to make life even more difficult, Col Sunchai would have to issue queue tickets to myself and many others who have been extorted money for free services.

Expat
Chalong

What's the problem with wedding photos?

Re: *Gazette online, Illegal wedding photographer arrested on Bang Tao Beach, March 13*

Wedding photos are some of the best tourism promotions possible.

People keep these photos for life, tell their friends about Phuket, and normally treasure this memory.

Unfortunately, this couple walks away with a poor memory of Phuket and they will tell hundreds of people to avoid Phuket.

Officials need to encourage photos and find a way to make them legal.

Vegasd8
Gazette forum

Too many people on this island already

Re: *Gazette online, Phuket beach vendors crash land inspection, March 14*

We have here an idealist governor who has decided for the moment, and at the cost of being unpopular, to clean up the beach, which in my humble opinion was

Set aside jet-ski areas for safer beaches

Re: *Gazette online, German, French tourists go to court over jet-ski accident case, March 13*

The jet-skis must be banned from all public beaches.

They can dedicate one beach

Remember the enemy

Re: *Gazette online, Thinking Green: Striking a beach balance, March 17*

They forget so quickly.

The issue was never the beach chairs or umbrellas; it was the big money attached to it, and the corruption.

Jome
Gazette forum

Phuket Gazette

In association with The Nation Multimedia Group PCL

Editor-in-chief: Isaac Stone Simonelli
News Manager: Chris Husted

Managing Director: Oranee Hildebrand
General Manager: Natthira Susangrat
Publisher: The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

Contact us:

Editorial: news@phuketgazette.net
Advertising Sales: adsales@phuketgazette.net
Classified Advertising: classads@phuketgazette.net
Website services: anna@phuketgazette.net
Gazette Guide: guide@phuketgazette.net
Events Sponsorship: events@phuketgazette.net
General: info@phuketgazette.net

Telephone: 076 273555 (10 lines) Fax 076 615240
79/94 Moo 4, Thepkasatri Rd, T. Koh Kaew, A. Muang, Phuket

The views expressed in the Phuket Gazette are those of the writers and contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Publisher, the Editor, the shareholders or the directors of The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd.

Volume 22 Issue 12

Copyright © 1994-2015 The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

Social media revenue boost

'Your business either uses social media, or it's likely to suffer a premature death'



NO MATTER where we go, we are surrounded by social media and its influences. Tweet this, like that, share and like this; terms we were not familiar with all that long ago are now in common, daily use.

So is this a passing fad or is this social media craze here to stay, and even more importantly, is this something we need to embrace and master? If we own a business, is social media even more important to know and understand?

Looking at some statistics gives us the best clues to answering those questions. Facebook had 100 million users in 2008 and now has over 1.6 billion users. Twitter has over 240mn users. Instagram has over 200mn. Thailand is the second largest user of Line with about 40mn registered accounts. YouTube has more than 1bn unique monthly users!

All this sprung up quickly, but with the momentum and stamina to suggest that it is the way of the future. Though some apps are more popular than others, and new ones will pop up, while some older ones manage to survive and some die, the simple reality is that social media is definitely here to stay.

Now, from a business perspective, what does this mean?

Put simply, you either use social media or you are likely to suffer a premature death.

I was trying to think of a business that could survive without, or at least did not need to benefit from social media, and the list was very small. As long as your com-



APPLE OF MY EYE: The Gazette's newest columnist is here to teach business owners the tricks of the trade for social media. Photo: Reuters

petitor is on social media, they are a step ahead.

In Phuket, where there are so many businesses competing in the same niches, such as real estate, accommodation and tourist activities, having a successful social media profile can make a difference in how big your share of the pie is, and possibly even whether you will succeed or fail.

This column is going to explore the most common social media platforms, provide the latest infor-

mation on what is working; explain how social media should be used to maximize results; and detail what pitfalls to look out for.

Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube, Google+, Pinterest, Instagram, Line and so on all can have business applications that can benefit your existing business, or even create a new income stream for you. The greatest aspect of adding these to your business development is that it is a lot easier to do than most people

realize.

I will leave you with this thought – where else could you find more than a billion potential customers that you can target for as little as a couple baht per person, and know enough about them already to know if they fit into your target market. Next time, we will explore how to turn them into happy and satisfied customers!

Want to know more? Attend a live workshop.

Simon Wetherell is a social media expert, best selling author and international speaker. He now resides in Phuket where he trains businesses and individuals on how to profit from the use of social media. For more information, go to <http://PhuketOnlineMarketing.com> or call him on 095-085 3355. Follow him on Social Media - Twitter @SimonWetherell or @PhuketMarketing Facebook: SAWetherell or PhuketOnlineMarketing LinkedIn th.linkedin.com/in/simonwetherell/en

Advertising spending rises 21.4% in Jan-Feb

ADVERTISING expenditures in the first two months of this year showed signs of a recovery, surging 21.4 per cent to 19.94 billion baht from 16.42bn baht a year earlier, according to Nielsen (Thailand).

Digital terrestrial television was still on the rise. Just 10 months after its launch, ad spending on the new medium reached 5.36bn baht – 26.9 per cent of the total for the industry.

Nielsen (Thailand) categorized 21 of the 24 digital terrestrial television channels as “digital television” and excluded Channel 3HD, Channel 7HD and MCOT HD (Modernine television) as they are simulcasts of analog terrestrial television channels.

Analog, cable and satellite television operators appeared to be the losers. In the first two months, ad spending on analog Channels 3, 5 and 7, Modernine TV and

NBT slid 7.9 per cent to 8.79bn baht from 9.54bn baht in the same period last year.

Ad outlays through 56 leading cable and satellite television channels plunged 60 per cent to 615mn baht from 1.54bn baht in the same period last year.

Radio, newspapers, magazines, cinema, outdoor media and in-store media continued going downhill.

Advertising on radio fell by 2.9 per cent to 712mn baht, on newspapers by 3 per cent to 1.75bn baht, on magazines by 18.1 per cent to 574mn baht, on cinemas by 1.1 per cent to 567mn baht, on outdoor media by 4.4 per cent to 653mn baht and on in-store media by 12.1 per cent to 181mn baht.

However, last month saw a turnaround in advertising on radio, newspapers and outdoor media, besides transit media and the internet. – The Nation

PHUKET INTERNATIONAL LAW FIRM

Family Law/Custody /Divorce/Will
Child Adoption
Notary Public
Litigation (Civil & Criminal Cases)
Company Setup
Business Contracts
Property Law/Due Diligence
Visa & Work Permit

Tel : 091-078 9595
info@phuketinternationallaw.com
www.phuketinternationallaw.com

Looking for a place to stay?

See more classified ads at
www.phuketgazette.net

Safe Smart Simple Storage Solutions

FROM ONLY 995 THB PER MONTH!

Reserve Your Storage Space
Call 076 29 29 09
or visit mystorageasia.com

MY STORAGE
Secure, Clean & Cost Effective Self Storage

Mon to Sat 9am-6pm, Sun & Holidays 10am-4pm - Jungceylon Shopping Center, Patong, Phuket

- ✓ Sizes to Suit all Budgets
- ✓ Personal & Business Storage
- ✓ Motorcycle Storage
- ✓ Left Luggage Service
- ✓ Archive Storage
- ✓ Storage Insurance Inclusive

Invest in your children

Finance

By David Mayes

I READ an article in the BBC recently that I thought was worth sharing with my readers.

It is about an investment that actually costs no money, but could yield very large returns to your children in the future.

The investment is in their imagination, and the study I read about had some counter-intuitive advice. It actually concluded that the best thing you can do for your kids' future, in short, is actually nothing.

Before you say hogwash, let me explain in more detail what the study found. Imagination is often cited as one of the most important traits for success in life, yet the modern world is robbing young people of something that throughout history happened quite naturally. Boredom, it turns out, is the most important requirement for young people to develop their imagination.

When children are stimulated constantly, they never have a need to creatively think about how to entertain themselves.

Every second that is spoon fed to them, whether by television, teachers and tutors, or tablets and mobile phones, is a loss of a chance for the child to exercise his or her imagination muscles. Of course, there needs to be balance; nobody is recommending locking kids in a closet for their entire childhood or taking away their education.

The problem with the ultra-competitive modern world is that fear of falling behind has led the "more is better" philosophy to

wreak havoc on balance. Kids are being pushed harder and faster than ever, and those lazy summer days of no responsibility that I remember from my youth seem nonexistent to most children these days.

Those boring times are precisely when kids' imaginations flourish, and nobody seems to realize this is the cheapest investment in your child's future that you can make.

Piano classes, soccer teams, extra English lessons and all of that is fine, but I think it is important to never forget that kids, after all, are just kids. They will

never get another chance to go back, and if pushing them into adulthood is shown to have the likely effect of making them less prepared for success in the real world when they grow up because of a decreased imagination, why not schedule some time without the high-tech toys and outside stimulation?

Schedule in some weekly "imagination building" hours.

Don't just take away the

gadgets, but make them go outside and play.

Let them complain that there is nothing to do outside, and let them be bored. They will figure out a way to deal with it, and in the process they will build their imaginations.

When I go up to Isarn every high season (in fact I am writing this from there now), my kids spend countless hours getting filthy, playing with sticks and rocks and dirt.

Many of my friends ask me if I am worried about them missing lessons during this time, but when they get back to classes they always catch right back up with all



Photo: Greg Westfall

Boredom, it turns out, is the most important requirement for young people to develop their imagination.



Make your kids go outside, and leave all gadgets behind. Photo: Hillebrand Steve, US Fish and Wildlife Service

their classmates.

In the end there is no perfect formula for raising children, and a common response to this is to throw as much money as possible into their education and extracurricular activities.

In my opinion, spending time with them is far more important and it costs nothing.

Making them overcome boredom also costs nothing.

Balance is the key and forcing your children to develop their imaginations could very well someday be the thing that leads to real problem-solving ability and sets them apart in what is bound to become an increasingly competitive world.

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

Banks rush for slice of trade finance pie

THE country's banks are facing a degree of pressure in terms of their margins from international trade finance, with a slowdown in the nation's exports and imports causing them to focus on sectors offering better growth prospects.

According to Kasikornbank, market leader in the segment, competition in trade finance among Thai banks has intensified as the number of new potential exporters and importers seeking such financing has fallen, often causing several banks to go after the same targets.

Last year, Thailand's overall

trade grew 1%, but KBank's trade finance grew by 6%.

The bank's export trade finance grew 19%, while import trade finance dropped by 5%, higher than the 3% fall in the country's overall imports, said Chongrak Rattanapian, executive vice president of KBank.

Mr Chongrak said the slowdown was caused by two main factors: trading partners having lower demand as their economies have yet to recover significantly, and the appreciation of the baht.

"If we look ahead, Thailand will

still rely on trading activities. Connectivity in Asean will bring more trade flows and when the logistics system in the region is improved, the transportation of goods will be more easy, resulting in exports and imports increasing in the future," he added.

Moreover, Thailand can import goods from neighboring countries where there are lower production costs, therefore trade activity is unlikely to decline, while improved connectivity will help boost trade, and consequently, trade finance too, said Mr Chongrak. – *The Nation*



Siam International
38/54 Nanai Road,
Patong, Kathu, Phuket 83150

Siam
International

❖ Legal consultation Contact: K. Joy
❖ Company formations Tel: 076 346 149
❖ Notarial Fax: 076 346 150
 certifications Email:
❖ Contracts siamint@loxinfo.co.th
❖ Work permits
❖ Bookkeeping
❖ Visa service
❖ Translations

WHAT'S ON

in Phuket

March 23-27. 8am to 5pm. BISP IB Art Exhibition.

British International School, Phuket (BISP) welcomes everyone in Phuket to its 2015 IB Art Exhibition, where the works of three of the school's most talented artists – Mimi, Jaratchai and Boram – will be on display.

The exhibition is open to the general public, with the grand opening at 2:45pm on March 23. For more information, contact art teacher Kathy Coulson: kcoulson@bisphuket.ac.th

March 28-29. 9:30am to 6pm Social Media Mastery – 2-Day Weekend Workshop

In today's competitive business world, social media marketing is the standout method to build brand awareness, grow your customer database and increase sales.

This two-day workshop covers, in detail, how to use social media to maximize results for your business and dominate your market.

We cover Facebook, Twitter, email marketing, blogging, building sales funnels, SEO, branding and a whole lot more.

Don't have a business? No problem. We will show you how you can leverage Google, Amazon and other global brands to create new income streams.

After this workshop, you will be far more successful in your business – guaranteed.

Contact Phuket Online Marketing at PhuketOnlineMarketing@gmail.com or 095-0853 355.



April 4 - 11. 9:30am to 12:30pm. Social Media Mastery – A Free Two-Hour Seminar

Attention Thailand business owners – there are little known facts that will help you double or triple your customers, increase their spending and massively in-

crease your profitability!

Attend our free two-hour seminar and learn how to use social media to boost your online success. Don't have a business? We have you covered. We will also show you how you can team up with partners like Google, Ama-

zon and other big names to create an extra income stream working online.

Everything you need to know to get started with immediate results, just from attending this course. Limited spaces on multiple dates, so register now.

Contact Phuket Online Marketing at PhuketOnlineMarketing@gmail.com or 095-0853 355.

April 6. Chakri Memorial Day
Chakri Day commemorates the origins of the ruling Chakri dynasty, founded by King Rama I, who established Bangkok as the nation's capital. HM King Bhumibol Adulyadej is the ninth monarch of the Chakri dynasty.

April 9. 6:30pm to 10pm. Facebook's Fast Cash Secret – Learn How FB Can Instantly Make More Money For You Or Your Business

Unleash the earning potential of Facebook.

This training will show you how you can use the social media giant to instantly increase the profit your business is making.

Imagine being the No. 1 business in your niche and having an unlimited flow of customers with cash in hand lining up to give you money.

Don't have a business but want an extra income? Don't worry; we have that covered too!

This course can be attended live or you can watch on line from your computer. But don't miss out, spaces are limited and the live event will include a special bonus...

Contact Phuket Online Marketing at PhuketOnlineMarketing@gmail.com or 095-0853 355.

April 13 - 15. Songkran Festival
Songkran is the Thai New Year Festival, also known as the Water Festival.

Held during the driest month in Thailand, Songkran is celebrated by Thais throughout the country by pouring – traditionally only a little, but these days a lot – of water on other people to wish them good luck for the New Year.

Now on

SUNBOX

PGTV

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

Phuket Cable

Coverage: All of Phuket

Channel: 1

Monday-Friday: 10.30am, 6pm, 9pm

Saturday-Sunday: 10.30am, 9pm

Rawai Cable

Coverage: Rawai, Kata, Karon

Channel: 1

Monday-Friday: 10am, 1pm, 7pm, 10pm

KDTV

Coverage: Phuket's West Coast from Patong to Cherng Talay

Channel: 10

Daily: 8.30am, 2.30pm

NATIONAL COVERAGE

MCOT World

Tuesday: 6.10am, 12pm, 7.10pm

Wednesday: 6.10pm

Thursday: 1.10am

Friday: 1.10am

Saturday: 1.10am

Sunday: 6.10am

Truevisions

Channel: 79

PSI

Channel: 223, 320

Dynasat

Channel: 106

Thaisat

Channel: 185

Infosat

Channel: 185

Sunbox

Channel: 81

GMMZ

Channel: 103

INTERNATIONAL COVERAGE

Broadcast to China, the Philippines, Southeast Asia, India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Turkey, UAE, and many other countries around Asia and beyond.

Thaicom 5 Sat

3520H

Tuesday: 6.10am, 12pm, 7.10pm

Wednesday: 6.10pm

Thursday: 1.10am

Friday: 1.10am

Saturday: 1.10am

Sunday: 6.10am

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

The young and talented



The grand opening of 'The Young Talented Artists' art exhibition at the Nitjasilp Gallery in the Boat Lagoon was a great success in showcasing children's art. It was attended by Phuket City Mayor Somjai Suwansupapana (center front); Boon Yongsakul, deputy managing director of Boat Development Co (2nd row, left); Naththanit Nithiwiiron, owner of Nitjasilp Gallery (2nd row, 4th from left); Gritchanaphat Kaewchaiyo, managing director of 89.75 Radio Trip (2nd row, right); and Nattawit Intasan, owner of Krusing Sornsilpa (back row, right).

DON'T HIDEAWAY



Panuphong Kritjanarat (left), chief executive officer of Boat Development Co, and Boon Yongsakul, deputy managing director of Boat Development Co, celebrate the grand opening of their project Hideaway@Bypass last weekend at the Underwood Art Factory. Photo: Pacharawat Wasikarn

Manathai opens doors to Khao Lak visitors



At the grand opening was (left to right) Suchad Chiaranussati, chairman of SC Capital Partners Pte Ltd; Phang Nga Governor Prayoon Rattanasenee; Meena Rattanasenee; Sirivibha Dusiyamee Berger; and Christoph Berger, chief operating officer of Hotel Operations for SC Capital Partners Pte Ltd.

Green with jealousy: Saint Patrick's Day Ball charity event with Sharon Shannon

Mövenpick Resort & Spa Karon Beach Phuket hosted a Saint Patrick's Day charity ball on March 14. The annual ball was a major fundraising event for the Life Home Project, a local foundation that provides shelter for women and children affected by HIV, as well as childcare, vocational training, health education and hospice assistance.



Among the Phuket society members to join were (left to right) Nampetch Tipaxsorn, director of communications at Mövenpick Resort & Spa; Irish Ambassador to Thailand Brendan Rogers; Phuket Vice Governor Pakpoom Intarasuwan; Helene Fallon-Wood, Irish Honorary Consul to Phuket; Panatda Chidchiew; and Kata-Karon Subdistrict chief Winai Chidchiew.

Phuket Reporters Awards at Royal Phuket City Hotel



The 'Best Crime Photo' award went to Chaichana Keowkaow from Thairath. Photo: Phuket Andaman News



In attendance were Virapol Cholvibul, director of sports events of Thanyapura; Boonrat Apiwanthanakorn, president of the Phuket Reporters Club; Suparat Thannuy, marketing and communications executive of Thanyapura; and Pickkawang Rodpasa, presenter for IdeaTV8. Photo by: Phuket Andaman News



The 'Best Sport Photo' award went to Apinan Saithong from Paktai Today. Photo: Phuket Andaman News

The Phuket Gazette's weekly

ISLAND TRADER

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

March 21 - 27, 2015 | PhuketGazette.Net

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

PROPERTY SERVICES of the week



See page 18

JOB of the week

Phuket Gazette
CHIEF SUB-EDITOR

See page 19

GENERAL of the week

Alcoholics Anonymous

email: phuketaa@yahoo.com

See page 20

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES of the week



**GUESTHOUSE
FOR SALE**

See page 20

All Property, Boat and Business Ads are **PAID!**

– your assurance that whatever's advertised here is seriously for sale.
Gazette Classifieds – they work! Because they're **REAL**.

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

Properties For Sale

KAMALA NEW HOUSE

Living room. Bedroom. Bath. room. Terrace. Cable TV. Internet. Quick Sale 2,500,000 baht. Secure place. Tel: 098-045 5421

3.5 RAI LAND AT LAGUNA PHUKET

Wonderful land for sale. Yellow zone. Chanote title. 3.5 rai. Only 5.75 MB/Rai. Email: soipasak8@gmail.com

WAREHOUSE FOR SALE

Thalang area, near Phuket airport. Land area: 4 rai (6,400 sqm). Space available: 900 sqm. Staff house: 320sqm. Contact: 081-536 9252. Price: 38 million baht. Email: sppcnx@gmail.com

TOWNHOUSE SALE / RENT

Townhouse for sale (2.8mn baht) or rent (12,000 baht/mo) in Supalai City Hill estate, Phuket Town. 3bedrooms, 2 Bath. Quiet, convenient location. Furnished, full kitchen, decor, garden, car park, 2 aircons Good for family. Avail. from 5/2015. Tel: 089-874 0061, 086-291 4115. Email: stephenfein@gmail.com

BEAUTIFUL LAND PLOT FOR SALE

Very conveniently located in a secure estate with underground electricity, less than 10 mins from Phuket International Academy, airport, Tesco, Nai Yang beach, Ao Po Grand marina, in a peaceful foreign community. Chanote title, 1,100sqm. Flat land with fences around, mountain view, ready to build, good investment. For quick sale direct from owner only 3.5 million baht. Tel: 081-343 0777.

ANDAMAN BEACH SUITE

Spectacular sea-view condo located on the 12th floor in Patong. This 127sqm apartment, with 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 balconies and a spacious living/dining room, has everything you need for comfortable living. Close to shops, the beach (2 minute walk), access to swimming pool and other facilities. Tel: 081-691 1580 (English & Thai). Email: Estherandi@gmail.com

FREEHOLD CONDO FOR SALE

Patong Tower building. One bedroom with 270-degree view of Patong Beach and town. 10th floor. 54.35sqm. 11 million baht ONO. Contact Songpan. Genuine buyers only. No brokers please. Tel: 081-737 8662.

OCEAN FRONT VILLA

Brand new, fully furnished, 3-4 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 10-meter infinity swimming pool, beautiful view. For quick sale only 19.5 mn. Tel: 081-343 0777.

POOL VILLAS RAWAI

New top design pool villas, 2 & 3 bedrooms and bathrooms. Large 5x8 pool, nice green area, Rawai, close to MACRO. Start 9mn THB. Tel: 096-284 2463 (English & Thai), 084-898 8258 (English & Thai). Email: p.bumrungs15@gmail.com

URGENT PATONG VILLA 4 BED

Fire sale price - sudden departure - direct from owner - now 19.9 million baht, estimated 29 million baht - Luxury 4-bedroom villa, mountainside, panoramic seaview of Patong Bay, 4 bathrooms, private pool, tennis, fully furnished modern style, 270sqm. Tel: 081-832 8154 (English).

LAND & RESORT IN YOUR BUDGET**Your Dreamy Pool Villa "The Andaburee Phuket"**

Seaview, mountain view, Mission Hills Golf Resort view.

Starting from 18 million baht.

(include Steak furniture and home theater)

Contact: 083-389 7799, 082-894 6699

Email: pee_bang56@hotmail.com

KATA HOUSE SALE

4 bedrooms. Reduced price, must sell. Was 3.5 million baht and now 2.99 million baht. Tel: 082-4659 939.

LAND HOUSE FOR SALE

400sqm, seaview, Karon: 3.9 million baht. Also, house and land (120sqm, 400sqm): 7 million baht. Tel: 091-040 2471. Email: naruchai@gmx.de

2-BEDROOM BEACHFRONT CONDO RAWAI

2 bdr / 2bath. huge balcony with direct walk out to pool, beach, restaurant. In 5-star resort with access to gym, spa. Ideal for family. Separate storage, furniture incl. Fast owner sale, leaving Asia, 13.9 million baht. Neg. Tel: 096-532849 (English). Email: laura@tilaholdings.com

PANORAMIC SEA VIEW LAND

For sale 5.5 rai, Ao Makhm, Chanote title, 12 million baht / rai call 089-649 9939. Email: siri_phuket@changrunner.com

OCEAN VIEWS, KATA

New 1-bed condo, 44sqm. Great views, in-house management & rental program available, investment. Ready move in. 3.98 million baht ONO. Email: larscondo@yahoo.com

STUDIO FOR SALE

In Phuket Town. 5 min to Central, Big C. 2nd floor, 33sqm. Kitchen, furnished. Price 680,000 baht. Tel: 081-719 7015. Email: jassarabee@gmail.com

NICE HOUSE CHALONG

400sqm. Furnished, 3bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, European kitchen, 4 aircons, swimming pool. Sale 4.9 million baht. Tel: 081-787 4831.

LAND IN NAI HARN FOR SALE

Nai Harn. Chanote title. 1 rai. 300m to the beach. 13 million baht. Tel: 086-943 0871 (English). Email: Vodorod12@mail.ru

THE DECK CONDO FOR SALE

2 units condo for sale at the center of Patong. The Deck Project Studio unit no.0103309 Floor 3, Building A, 31 sqm. Price 3.5 million baht. And 1 Bedroom Unit no.010310, area 41.5 Sqm. Price 4.5 Million THB. Fully-furnished, ready to move in May 2015. Tel: 081-085 7550 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-344789. Email: ornholland@hotmail.com

NISEKO, JAPAN
ASIA'S TOP SKI RESORT

HOTSPRING VILLAGE LAND | US \$16,000, (THB 520,000)

- Freehold, fully serviced residential blocks
- Nestled below Mt. Annupuri
- 5 mins to ski lifts
- 100% foreign ownership Okay.
- Proven growth area
- Land bank or build now
- Limited release

ph +852 5688 3783 | e-mail: northpngps@gmail.com

LUXURY VILLA SALE

5 bedrooms. 10x5 pool. Big living room. Nice kitchen. Fully furnished. About 300sqm. Quick sale only 8.5 mb. Tel: 093-713 2278

QUICK SALE HOUSE

2 bedrooms. Near Laguna. Fully furnished. Only 2.2 mb. Tel: 093-713 2278.

HUGE FIVE-BED BIG POOL VILLA

This huge five bedroom villa with massive feature pool in Rawai is greatly reduced for urgent sale at 12.5 MB. Tel: 080-124 1245. Email: kay@phuketandamanrealestate.com

3-BED HOUSE - LARGE GARDEN

Chuan Cheun Lagoon, close to British International School and the Boat Lagoon Marina. Chanote land title, 146sqm. (584 sqm), private cul-de-sac location in secure, clean village. Cool, bright, open plan with large Western kitchen and good water supply. Large car park, patios. 6.85 million baht, negotiable. For sale by owner. Contact for more photos and info. Tel: 086-040 6866 (English), 081-979 6707 (Thai). Email: adrian.j.simpson@gmail.com

3 BED FOR SALE / RENT

Furnished house in Chalong. Sale 3.95 million baht. Rent 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-922 2800. Email: simonchinne@yahoo.com

1-BED APT SALE / RENT

Fully furnished apt in Chalong. Sale 1.95 million baht. Rent 12,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-922 2800. Email: simonchinner@yahoo.com

22 RAI @ 400,000 BT PER RAI

Beautiful plot of land with nice mountain views. Has paved road access and electricity. Located 5km from Tablamu golf course and 10km south of Khao Lak.

Price: 8.8 million baht. Tel: 087-277 7794 (English & Thai). Email: patchanee.samranjai@gmail.com

STUDIO FOR SALE

In Phuket Town. 5 min to Central, Big C. 2nd floor, 33sqm. Kitchen. Furnished. Price 680,000 baht. Tel: 081-719 7015. Email: jassarabee@gmail.com

KARON BEACH CONDO

This 1-bedroom Karon apartment is for sale. Ground floor with direct pool access. Tel: 087-892 3876 (English). Email: info@phuketcondo.net, www.phuketcondo.net

AMAZING VILLA

Modern villa, swimming pool in Rawai, 3 beds, 3 baths, seaview, fully furnished, 3 floors, close to beach & shops. Not for long, price only 9 million baht, no brokers. Tel: 098-464 9220.

RAWAI BEACHFRONT CONDO

New fully furnished with amenities, 2-bed 2-bath. Great location. Must see. Only 7.2 million baht. Tel: 081-892 6710 (English), 081-895 7908 (English & Thai). Email: peterh@asianwind.biz

ENTERTAINMENT PALACE

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

Properties For Rent

1 BR POOL VILLA, NAI HARN

Daily, weekly, monthly and long term. Max 2 persons, no children, no pets. Ask for March/April promotions. For Further details, please see our website at www.coconutgrovephuket.com/rates-and-reservation/Tel: 084-081 6067(English)

1,2,3-BED & POOL PENTHOUSES

Spacious. 2 beaches & town 3 minute walk. Large free-form pools. Gym. Location Kata + Kata Noi Beach. Email: reso rtgm@gmail.com

HOUSE BOAT LAGOON

For long-term rent. Fully furnished. Ms Fon. Tel: 084-629 3244. Email: fon-daki@hotmail.com

PATONG HOUSE RENT

Two-bedroom home available 7 March for short or long term rentals. Central location. Price 27,000 Baht. Tel: 087-900 8445 (English & Thai). Email: lozt@vic.chariot.net.au

BOUTIQUE ROOM FOR RENT

Fully Furnished, Good & Safe Location. Tel: 089-668 3639 (English & Thai) . Email: www.BaanPhi tak Tawee.com

LUXURY RENT KAMALA

Luxury villas and apartment for rent, modern style, big garden, jacuzzi, swimming pool, WiFi, 400 m. from the beach with 2 or 3 bedrooms. Special price start from 3,000 baht per day. Email: francescobonta@gmail.com. For more info call Francesco 085-790 7816. www.villacheloni.com

GUEST HOUSE FOR RENT

1 bed, 1 bath, living room, kitchen. Safe & quiet area in Rawai. Pool. WiFi. UBC. 12,000 baht. Tel: 086-279 7301.

FULLY FURNISHED HOUSE

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

TOWNHOUSE - SUPALAI CITY HILL

Townhouse for sale (2.8mn baht) or rent (12,000Bt/mo) in Supalai City Hill estate, Phuket Town. 3BR, 2Bath. Quiet, convenient location. Furnished, full kitchen, decor, garden, car park, 2 ACs. Good for family. Avail. from 5/2015. Tel: 089-874 0061, 086-291 4115. Email: stephenfein@gmail.com

1-BED BUNGALOW RAWAI

Full kitchen. AC. WiFi. Quiet. 9,000 BHT. Tel: 081-271 7092

CHALONG DUPLEX HOUSE

Furnished. 3 bdrm. Internet. Cable TV. 13,000/mth. Tel: 095-046 4039

HOUSE 4 RENT NEAR BIS

Fully furnished house, new kitchen, A/C. 19,000 baht per month, including weekly cleaning. Tel: (61) 048 800 5408. Email: offshorebizz@yahoo.com

RAWAI 6-BED POOL VILLA

Rawai. 6-bed pool villa. Rent/Sale. Long-term rent. 45,000B/month. Fully furnished. Sell 5 MB. 400sqm plot. 300 m to Rawai Pier. Tel: 098-331 6449. Email: Rawai4@yahoo.com

RENT APARTMENT PATONG

Condo, pool, security, 46sqm fully furnished. Tel: 089-728 4005. Email: thamad17@yahoo.com

HOUSE BOAT LAGOON

For long-term rent. Fully furnished. Ms Fon. Tel: 084-629 3244. Email: fon-daki@hotmail.com

RESORT

For sale or rent. 2.5 rai Chanote for sale, or 2 rai with 16 years' lease left. 9 bungalows, 22 double rooms, some with kitchen. Restaurant. Bar. Pool. Office. Big well. Parking. Sale 27mn baht. 16-year lease. 16mn baht. Tel: 076-381934, 086-940 1860 (English). Fax: 076-381934. Email: bigasail@samart.co.th www.bigasailing.com

TONSAI HOUSE FOR RENT

European standard. Fully-furnished. 3 bedrooms, private pool, 3 bathrooms, living room, dining room, European kitchen, two-car parking. Garden. WiFi and True vision. Tel: 081-606 2827 (English & Thai). Email: nij017@hotmail.com www.rentphuketpoolhouse.com

BEACH FRONT HOUSE FOR RENT

Step on to Kamala Beach. Available on April 1, 2015. Minimum 12-month lease. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Master bedroom has its own sala and private deck looking out over Kamala Bay. Fully furnished. Aircons and ceiling fans. European open-plan kitchen, living areas. Furnished home office. Fiber optic internet available. 48,000 baht/month. UBC, Internet and electric are extra. Call Sean at 081-086 7003. Email: ayearlikenoneother@gmail.com

HOUSE FOR RENT

3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 1 aircon, furnished house, near Phuket Central Festival. Tel: 081-537 9878 (English & Thai). Email: lek265@hotmail.co.th

3 BED, 3 BATH HOUSE

Yearly rate: 250,000 baht. Monthly rate: 30,000 baht. Tel: 081-878 2199, 081-396 0880. Fax: 076-034709. Email: reallifeproperty@gmail.com

TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT

Near Klong Bangwat. 3 bed 3 bath. 3 aircon. Newly furnished. Kitchenette. Roof. Terrace. Monthly B25,000 or 6-12 months B20,000. Tel: 083-181 6037 (English & Thai). Email: thailegobricks@hotmail.com

CONDO FOR SALE

Royal place condo, 3fl at the corner with swimming pool view, 45sqm. Fully furnished.

Pls contact 086-4769612 | annanoi1@hotmail.com

HOUSE FOR RENT

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

KATHU GOLF & LAKE VIEW VILLA

For rent. 2 bed, 2 bath on private hill overlooking Loch Palm golf course. Big pool. 4km to BIS and Headstart International School. Quiet. Furnished. Maid. WiFi. Security. Long-term 35,000 baht per month. Call Noi 087-269 8492.

CHALONG PRIVATE POOL VILLA

3 Beds & Baths. 4 A/C. Furnished. Large pool. Tel: 089-729 1968 (English & Thai). Email: jae.apc@gmail.com, www.villaprana.com

LOCKABLE SINGLE GARAGE

Bang Tao Surin, CCTV, safe long-term parking. 2,900 baht per month (1-year contract). Tel: 084-734 2711. Email: seidl_michael@hotmail.com

Holiday Homes & Villa Rentals**1 OR 2 BED ROOM POOL VILLA**

Furnished, pool, cable TV, WiFi. 14,000B / Mo. Tel: 089-475 1200. www.welcomeinn-phuket.com

2-BEDROOMS BEACHFRONT CONDO RAWAI

2 bedrooms / 2 bath ens, huge balcony with direct walk out to pool, beach, restaurant, in 5 star resort with access to gym, spa, ideal for families, separate storage, furniture incl, fast owner sale, leaving Asia, 13.9million baht neg. Tel: 096-532849(English). Email: laura@tilaholdings.com

Household Items**ANTIQUE FURNITURE FOR SALE**

Antique Chinese day bed complete with cushion and cover. 20,000 baht o.n.o. Tel: 082-954 3901(English)

BAR CONTENTS FOR SALE

Pool tables, TVs, fridges, point of sale tables and chairs, etc, in Patong. Tel: 085-562 6711.

LEAVING PHUKET

Luxbed skin sofa / chair. Various other furniture items. All for sale, leaving Thailand. 10am-12 noon. Located in Kata. Call 089-591 7249. Ask for Morten. Tel: 089-591 7249(English). Email: morten.pasby@gmail.com

Property Services

FIND YOUR DREAM PROPERTY NOW ON

DDproperty.com

NO.1 PROPERTY WEBSITE IN THAILAND



LIST YOUR PROPERTY FOR FREE. NO COMMISSION

**PLUMBER**

We repair what your husband fixed. Solar pool pumps save up to 3,000 baht electric every month. Tel: 089-6454 848, (English), 089-9492 828(Thai).

BUILDING SERVICES

Professional contractor, villa / pool contractor, villa / pool construction, refurbishment, extensions. Free consultation, quote. Tel: 091-654 7383(English & Thai).

Accommodation Available**POOL VILLAS, FLATS FOR RENT**

2-bedroom pool villa + studio and 2-bed apartments. Rates from 9,500 baht, inclusive of maid service. WiFi, furniture, kitchen. Tel: 086-282 6221 (English). Email: info@chalongapartment.com

NAITHON BEACH PALACE

New boutique apartment. 3,800/month. Tel: 081-000 9917. Email: merienhotel@gmail.com

APARTMENT FOR RENT

One bedroom, living room, fully equipped kitchen with 2 great balconies. Tel: 076-344922, 083-280 9433 (English & Thai). Email: kkiran23@hotmail.com www.bluewaterphuket.com

HOLIDAYS AVAILABLE

2-bed pool villa Feb 18. 3-bed pool villa Feb 2. 4-bed pool villa Jan 27. Tel: 085-787 3046. Email: patrickmeo@gmail.com

Luxury Residential Villa Estate Project at Layan

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

Property Management Coordinator (1 position)

In charge of operating and maintaining residential villa estate property
► Experience working for luxury villa estate or hotel is preferred

Mechanical and Electrical Engineer / Supervisor (operation and maintenance 1-3 positions)

In charge of supervising operation and maintenance of MEP equipment and common area service systems for residential villa estate property
► Experience working for luxury villa estate or hotel is preferred

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

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

Property Sales Executive (1 position)

Assisting Sales Manager for property sales activities
► Good knowledge of laws related to real-estate transactions
► Capable of using office computer software, including MS-Access
► Working on weekends and public holidays

Project Architect (1 position)

Project Quantity Surveyor (1 position)

Applicant must:

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

Please send your C/V by email to: hr@bangtaobeachltd.co.th
(All applicants will be treated in strict confidence)

Bang Tao Beach Ltd

CHINESE SALES COORDINATOR

Our company is looking for a very motivated Chinese sales coordinator. Minimum 1 years' experience in real estate. Apply now. Tel: 095-429 6653. Email: natcha@arhouse.asia

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Mainly assist PA and general assistance to VPs. Candidate must have good communication in English. Computer skills and flexibility to work in town would be beneficial to the candidate. Tel: 076-318230. Email: thitirat.karnchana-arbhakul@outrigger.com

THAI RECEPTIONIST

Small hotel in Patong. Two days off per week. Must speak English well. Tel: 081-8921 621

REAL ESTATE EXECUTIVE 70K+

LivePhuket is a leading agency looking for a talented, motivated and hungry person to join our sales team. The role will involve managing and maintaining leads and inquiries for the sales team. Email: paul@livephuket.com

REAL ESTATE SALES EXECUTIVE

Interested, qualified candidates, please submit your CV. Tel: 076-325288, 097-139 0621. Fax 076-325388.

THAILAND MANAGER REQUIRED

We are a global company and we are now seeking an experienced Thai Manager for our Phuket Office. We are looking for a dynamic, well-presented individual from Thailand, ideally degree qualified but this is not essential, to take over the administrative running of the Phuket office. Tel: 087-022 6697(English).

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Siam Real Estate require 2 Thai persons for our north and south offices with excellent English, both spoken and written, and who are computer literate and experienced in office administration. Must be intelligent, highly organized, friendly and good with foreign clients and prepared to work hard. Good salary provided. Tel: 076-288908. To contact, send CV by email to jobs@siamrealestate.com, www.siamrealestate.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. Email: aey@princess yacht ssea.com

Phuket Gazette

Chief Sub-Editor Wanted: Looking for an experienced editor with a deep respect for the English language, who wants to stay hand on while developing, maintaining high-quality copy.

CHIEF SUB-EDITOR

- ☐ Native English speaker
- ☐ 3-5 years of full-time editing experience, preferably within the news industry
- ☐ Interested in relocating to Phuket
- ☐ Commercial Social Media and SEO experience a plus

Isaac@PhuketGazette.net

The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

79/94 Moo 4, Thepkasattri Rd, Koh Kaew, Muang, Phuket 83000

Tel: 076-273555 Ext 301 Mobile: 080-526 5362

Phuket Gazette

Administrative Assistant Wanted: Looking for an organized and enthusiastic individual to join Phuket's main English-language media team.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

- ☐ Thai national, aged 22 years and up
- ☐ Organized and detail oriented
- ☐ Reasonable command of spoken English
- ☐ Knowledge of basic office software

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV by email to

Isaac@PhuketGazette.net

The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

79/94 Moo 4, Thepkasattri Rd, Koh Kaew, Muang, Phuket 83000

Tel: 076-273555 Ext 301 Mobile: 080-526 5362

Phuket Gazette

As part of its continued expansion, the Phuket Gazette seeks two advertising sales representatives.

Advertising Sales

- Thai, age at least 26, with an outgoing personality
- Bachelor's degree in marketing or related fields
- Experience in sales and marketing
- Good command of spoken and written English
- Must have own transportation and driver's licence
- Alert, self motivated and goal driven

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV and writing sample by email to Anna@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

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. Savoey 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

CHONG 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

Business Opportunities

**WANTED:
GUESTHOUSE
FOR RENT**

Villa-bungalow style only, 20-40 rooms, max 20 mins drive from Patong, min 50% sea view rooms. Wanted for long-term rent. Tel: 084-690 1139. Email: ppvisseur@hogest.com

**RESTAURANT / BAR
BANGLA RD**

Restaurant on Bangla Rd. Four floors. Laundry on 2nd floor and rooms/apartment on 3rd and 4th floors. Rent is 100,000 baht per month. Four year contract that can be renewed. Furniture, aircons, laundry machines and a fully fitted kitchen included! Price: 900,000 baht. Tel: 081-5821 756 (English). Email: matte_zz@hotmail.com

**UNDER TIGER
DISCO**

Good situation (middle, line 4). Fully equipped, 1 full year contract (expires end February 2016). 1.4 million baht [value: 1.8 million baht]. Tel: 093-575 1969 (English). Email: thai-pascal@hotmail.com

Bulletins

**Alcoholics
Anonymous**

If you want to drink that is your business

If you want to stop that is ours

Daily Meetings

Patong, Phuket Town, Chalong, Surin, Karon

081-895 4763
084-307 7408

Email: phuketaa@yahoo.com

Google AA Phuket

**RAWAI RESTAURANT
URGENT SALE**

Area 3,800sqm. Reduced from 1.5mn to 980,000 baht. Tel: 089-646 7176.

TOUR DESK FOR RENT

Very good place, frequented corner. Tel: 087-554 6872.

Patong

15-room Guesthouse and Sports Bar for sale

Fully Furnished, Equipped & Licensed

**Long Lease 12 Years
B1.3M or nearest offer**

Contact pauljames@xpathotel.com

Business Products & Services

**WANT TO SELL
YOUR CONDO?**

We are looking for condos and apartments for sale in Phuket. Please contact us if you have a condominium or apartment that you want to sell, so we can list it on our website and offer it to our clients. Tel: 087-892 3876 (English & Thai). www.phuketcondo.net

**WORLDWIDE
AIR TICKETS**

Our service is for domestic and international flight tickets. Open daily. Delivery service. Tel: 081-537 2655.

DINO DAYCARE CENTER

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

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

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

DINODAYCARECENTER

Lost & Found

MISSING PERSON

Have you seen this man? His last known whereabouts is Phuket. He is 56 years old and 183 cm tall. On behalf of his wife and two daughters please contact Jesper Elming. Tel: +45-30101113. Email: orjesper@dokuko.m.dk

Any information will be highly appreciated.

Club Memberships Available

**BLUE CANYON
INDIVIDUAL**

Individual membership available. 2015 dues fully paid. 850,000 baht, inclusive of transfer fee. Tel: 65-967 9 600(English). Email: art.mille.r63@gmail.com

**GOLF
MEMBERSHIP SALE**

Life membership at Phuket Country Club Kathu. Tel: 088-382 7166.

GOLF !!!.....GOLF !!!

Lifetime family membership at Phuket Country Club, Kathu. 540,000 baht, including transfer fee. Tel: 086 282 0700 (Werner).

**GOLF
MEMBERSHIP
480,000**

Country club lifetime family membership. 480,000. Includes transfer fee. Email: williamsanig@yahoo.co.uk

LOCH PALM GC

Individual Membership: 430,000 baht, including transfer fee. Tel: 093-772 6498.

Education

**TAO SEX
EDUCATION**

Therapy counselling, gents, ladies, couples, for pre-ejac, sex addiction, impotent, stress and much more Dr. Dave Phone 094-652 2029.

LEARN ENGLISH

20% off all courses this month only. Promotion code - Happy Birthday. Includes free student pack. Courses include: Conversation, Business. Tel: 076-350110.

Wheels & Motors

Saloon Cars

TOYOTA YARIS 2008

Toyota Yaris 2008. White. Top specifications and leather. One lady owner on the school run. This car has never left Phuket. Serviced by Toyota and now with new tyres. 90,000 kms. No marks or blemishes. 315,000 baht. Tel: 081-892 3111 (English). Email: pjddyer@yahoo.co.uk

HONDA CIVIC AUTO

New tyres, aircon, shock absorbers, battery, etc. Leather interior. 250,000 baht. Tel: 087-282 7407 (English). Email: davejkelly2007@yahoo.com

**HONDA CITY
FOR SALE**

Automatic 2006. Aircon. CD player. Price for sale 235,000 baht. Tel: 081-607 8567.

**MERCEDES BENZ
250 CDI**

Silver, 2012, sale 2,100,000 THB. If interested, please contact 085-994 0364 (English).

HONDA CITY FOR SALE

Automatic. 2007. Regularly serviced. 1 Owner. 93,000km. 1st class Insurance. 280,000 baht. Tel: 089-874 2942. Email: chantal.fernandes@gmail.com

**MAZDA 2
ELEGANCE 10/2012**

388,000 baht, 17,000 kms, immaculate condition, LPG, leather interior, recent service. Tel: 085-261 0500.

**2012 BLACK
HONDA BRIO**

Great condition, 1 farang owner. 30,000 kilometers. 355,000 o.n.o. (500,000+ when new). Many extras, skirt, interior, etc. Great deal. Tel: 095-412 4777 (English & Thai). Email: gatae13@gmail.com

TOYOTA VIOS SALE

Good condition. 2013. Carefully maintained. Tel: 093-713 2278

Pick-ups

ISUZU SLX 3.0 LITRE

2003, Dual Cab, manual, Carryboy, second owner, 111,000 kms. 230,000 baht. Tel: (61) 0488-005408

**MITSUBISHI
4WD, 3.2 D.CAB**

Year 2010, only 57,500 km. Automatic, leather, new tires, first class insurance for 1 year. Perfect condition. 550,000 baht or best offer. Tel: 076-313211, 089-729 1113 (English & Thai). Email: richard_mele_n@hotmail.com

Motorbikes

**HARLEY
DAVIDSON FATBOY**

Anniversary 2008. Copper-black. 19,500km. Many extras. No accident. Best condition. Farang owner. Price: Only 675,000 baht. Tel: 076-340043, 083-644 9229.

**KAWASAKI Z800
FOR SALE**

WTS Kawasaki Z800 2014, ODO 3795, Acra povik muffler. Tel: 089-401 8506 (English).

**A KAWASAKI
NINJA 650**

One owner, 2011, only 13,000 kms, A bargain at 179,000 baht. Tel: 089-475 0636.

SUPERMOTARD

KeeWay 200cc excellent condition, used very little. Only 3,000km on the meter. Very low price for a very good motorcycle. 49,000 baht. Tel: 089-289 0214 (Thai).

Other

TRAILER FOR SALE

Ex-American, with blue book. 90,000 baht. Tel: 087-265 0118. Email: ant_p.clark@yahoo.co.uk

Rentals

CARS FOR RENT

Short- or long-term rent with first-class insurance. Delivery service. Tel: 086-690 0626. Email: bcarren_t@hotmail.com

TOYOTA AVANZA

Model 1.5E. Automatic. One expat owner from new. Serviced by Toyota. Champagne color. 84,000km. 329,000 baht, offers considered. Tel: 087-9760 066.

LUXURY CAR**PORSCHE 911(996) Cabriolet**

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



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



LEE MARINE
International Marine Brokerage
SINCE 1997

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

Feature Boat



► Pershing 72
1,200,000 Euro



► Riviera 61 Enclosed Flybridge
\$1,500,000 AUD
NEW LISTING



► Riviera 370
4,500,000 THB



► Riviera 48
\$350,000 USD



► Azimut 43
349,000 Euro



► Jeanneau 57
590,000 Euro
NEW LISTING



► Fusion 40
298,000 Euro



► Outremer 55
320,000 Euro
NEW LISTING



► Luc Bouvet Custom 52
200,000 Euro
REDUCED ASKING PRICE

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

WOODEN TEAK JUNK BOAT

45ft HK teak junk, excellent family day boat. Extensive re-fit, single engine Caterpillar, full galley and bathroom. USD 105,000. Tel: Hong Kong 852-9238 9114. Email: blanny2000@yahoo.com

33F W/A 2007 GULF CRAFT

For sale by owner. Suzuki 225 HP outboards, only 300 engine hours, air-con, custom dinghy with outboard, Raymarine GPS, many other extras - asking 3.85 million baht. Tel: 089-873 3713 (English). Email: erwin.a.hardy@gmail.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

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@wanadoo.fr

DEAN 440 CATAMARAN (2002)

Four double cabins Twin Vetus 42 Hp Diesels. Reduced to US\$160,000. Contact Alan Giles at Boatshedphuket.com on 084-842 6146 or alangiles@boatshedphuket.com

BOTNIA TARGA 32 (2013)

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

10% DISCOUNT

On Hypalon Yachtsman Tenders. Light weight. Aluminium hull RIB's. Good quality at very competitive prices. Now in stock at our Boat Lagoon Showroom. For details contact Alan Giles. Andaman Boat Sales. Tel 084-842 6146. boat@andamanboatsales.com

BLASTING SERVICE

All kinds of surface preparations
• Marine: Anti fouling or full hull paint removal and parts! • Vehicle parts or total paint stripping of cars and trucks! • Cleaning of swimming pools, sand wash and walls (including removal of graffiti)! Tel: 076-243089, 081-968 3118 (English), 081-271 3228 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-238947. Email: info@greenmt.asia Call or e-mail for more info, www.greenmt.asia

NAUTICAT 42 PILOT HOUSE (1999)

A top quality well-built yacht. Excellent condition and lightly used. Well-priced at US\$ 280,000. Contact Alan Giles at Boatshedphuket.com on 084-842 6146 or alangiles@boatshedphuket.com

NAJAD 360 SLOOP (1989)

Quality Scandinavian-built yacht. New Nanni 38 Hp Diesel. Well-equipped and realistically priced. Asking only 98,000 Euro. Contact Alan Giles at Boatshedphuket.com on 084-842 6146 or alangiles@boatshedphuket.com

POWER CATAMARAN

Austhai 6200. Cabcat. Full specs. Electric toilet, winch, etc. Galvanized trailer, boat cover. 2 Honda 90s with only 118 hours! Great boat. 900,000 baht. Tel: 081-894 0339 (English). Email: hilltribe@poppiessamui.com

STOCK CLEARANCE :

Yachtsman Hypalon Tenders HYS, 280, 79,000 Bt, inc VAT (4 pcs) HYS, 310, 85,000 Bt inc VAT (4 pcs) HYS 350 96,000 Bt inc VAT (1 pc), Light weight aluminium hull RIB's. Good quality at very competitive prices. For details contact Alan Giles. Andaman Boat Sales. Tel: 084-842 6146. Email: boats@andamanboatsales.com

BAYLINER175 BOAT (USA)



Including GPS-Sona Sailed 3 times (total 20 hours) 650,000 baht. Tel: 083-636 0125, 091-758 8829.

BENETEAU EVASION 34



1981 50 HP Perkins Motor Sailer, many extras, best state. 1,290,000 baht. Nihat Gunduz. Tel: 086-274 6272. Email: nihat_gunduz@hotmail.com

21' SPEEDBOAT



2014 boat 140hp 4-stroke Suzuki, GPS/depth finder, livewell, 700,000 ono. Tel: 087-418 2474 (English). Email: tim@twci.com

NEW YACHTSMAN TENDERS

Aluminium hull RIBs and "Air Floor" inflatables. Welded PVC and Hypalon options. Good quality at very competitive prices. Now in stock at our Boat Lagoon Showroom. For details contact Alan Giles. Andaman Boat Sales. Tel: 084-842 6146. Email: boat@andamanboatsales.com

FOR SALE PHUKET



Gaff Rigged Schooner, Launched 1981. LOA 28-42ft. Beam: 10 ft. Draft: 4 ft. Displacement 3 tonnes. Engine: Yammar 15 HP. Builder: Robin Harris. Designer: William Garden. Good condition. Price 1.15 million baht. Email: jcdupont.thai@gmail.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, Jane at our office
Phuket Boat Lagoon
paew@lambertbrothers.co.th
Tel: + 66 76 273 385

www.lambertbrothers.co.th

KETTERING JE29 TRIMARAN (2007)

Carbon fiber, deck-stepped, rotating mast. Genoa & Genaker both on furlers. Yamaha 8 Hp Hi Thrust Outboard. Reduced to only US\$49,950 OBO. Contact Alan Giles at Boatshedphuket.com on 084-842 6146 or alangiles@boatshedphuket.com

DEFEVER TRAWLER 44 (1981)

Generally in very good shape but needs new engines. A bargain for someone who wants to spend a little time and money. Only US\$80,000. Contact Alan Giles at Boatshedphuket.com on 084-842 6146 or alangiles@boatshedphuket.com

DEAN 440 CATAMARAN (2002)

Four double cabins. Twin Vetus 42 Hp Diesels Reduced to US\$160,000. Contact Alan Giles at Boatshedphuket.com on 084-842 6146 or alangiles@boatshedphuket.com

SOLUTION TO THIS WEEK'S

Cryptic crossword



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

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

Letters left out: underlined.

Across:

9. DISCOUNT: take no heed 10. RAT: tar[rev] 11. NOTARY: not-a-Ry. 12. BLENCH: b-L-ench 13. LEGATEE: *delegate* 14. OWNS: *won-S* 15. INTERVENED: *idtennever* 17. OBLIGATE: *ibetgoal* 18. COMPARE: compere 19. BLOC: B-L-O/C 21. PAPACY: *cappay* 24. ONEHUNDREDPERCENT: *tenunderdoneperch* 27. BIASED: B-*aside* 29. CREW: Cr.-E-W 30. STRAINS: strains 33. DEMOCRAT: *docartme* 35. CONGESTION: *costingone* 36. TRAT: *tart* 37. TROOPER: *porter(0)* 38. LENTIL: lent-1-L 40. CANNON: can-N-on 41. AIR: A1-R 42. DOGMATIC: *actgodim*

Down:

1. VIOLINSOLO: arrangement 2. SCAN: S-can 3. PUSHOVER: P-U-shover 4. STYLING: St.-*lying* 5. STETHOSCOPE: *stophecst-E* 6. INTERLOPER: *itnorrepl* 7. STRONG: s-T-R-ong 8. FRENETIC: *ifcenter* 10. RAGED: *grade* 16. EXPRESS: non-stop 20. LIEGE: *liege* 22. PRECAST: *spacer(T)* 23. EDUCATIONAL: *noiledacut* 25. UNDERSTAND: subject to-remain in force 26. TENDONITIS: *idnotestn* 28. ICECREAM: *micerace* 31. THEOLOGY: *gotholy(E)* 32. INTRUDE: *nit-rude* 34. OUTING: *unitgo* 35. CAPER: top-E-R 39. NUA1: N-U-A.1.

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:
N4798W – USA
N479GE – USA
I-ECCE – Italy
G-BVNL – UK



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

Specs:

Horsepower: 260	Gross Weight: 3140 lbs
Top Speed: 166 kts	Empty Weight: 2094 lbs
Cruise Speed: 157 kts	Fuel Capacity: 68.00 gal Usable
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.

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

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

HAVE A PASSION FOR AVIATION?

If you have an aircraft for sale or an interest in aviation and wish to learn how to fly or buy an aircraft or arrange a private flight, etc. Website: www.aeropromgr.com/newsletter

AIRPLAY ALTIS MICROLIGHT

Superb trike with Konig radial engine. Great economical fun. Little used. Please contact for more information. Tel: 089-111 6457 (English & Thai), 081-397 7598 (English & Thai). Email: kajoda1954@yahoo.co.uk

1999 ROBIN 2160i

I would like to sell my Robin aircraft or trade it for a 4-seat Cessna or Piper (based in Hua Hin). The Robin: TTAf 300hrs. SMOH 60hrs. This is a well-equipped, two-seat aerobatic aircraft. Has the Christen inverted oil system. Excellent inside and outside. King KMA24 audio panel, KX155 nav/com, KI203 vor, KY197A comm, KN64A dme, KR87 adf, KT76A transponder, CSPA400 i-com, FP5 fuel computer, CHT, OAT, Pitot heat. Price: 4 million baht. Please contact Thom. Email: thos_w@hotmail.com

YOUR HELICOPTER

Flying and owning your own helicopter has just become possible. Free complete flight instruction course with your purchase. Email: pat@aeropromgr.com

TECNAM P-92

- Price: 1.5 million baht
- Registration: U-B08
- Year of Manufacture: 2002
- Equipment: Full standard equipment
- Engine: Rotax 912-80HP

350hrs. Tel: 081-840 8418.

Unique development - 124 Rai

If you would like to:

- Learn to fly
- Buy or hanger a plane, or
- Build or rent a hangar

Call Robert: 081-810 4510 (Eng. Ger.)

Обучение и полеты вокруг Пхукета:
+66 94 386 2294, по-русски.



General Aviation

- Aircraft for Sale
- Aircraft Sharing
- Aircraft Wanted
- Aircraft Charter

Please use this form to write your classified advertisement.

	(heading)

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

See Phuket from above
Book a trial!



Book now: 0935 92 7558

Cape Panwa Hotel wins coveted HolidayCheck Award 2015



HolidayCheck's Director of Content Georg Ziegler (left) presented the coveted HolidayCheck's Most Popular Hotels Worldwide 2015 award to Poomiphat Navanukroh (center), Cape & Kantary Hotels Travel Industry group director, and Maja Geldner, Cape & Kantary Hotels German sales manager, in honor of Cape Panwa Hotel, Phuket, the recipient of the award. The presentation took place at the ITB Berlin – the world's largest tourism trade fair – in Berlin, Germany. The award is based on guest reviews through the HolidayCheck travel portal.

More than a simple shoe shine

Momoko Bag & Shoes Spa opens at Central Festival Phuket.



SHINY SHOES: (from left to right) Papawin Pachantabutr, Siripattra Kusuwan Na-ranong and Sarinnakorn Pinit.



BRILLIANT BAGS: (left to right) Bundit Kerdvongbundit, Maetapong Upatising, Pongsapak Upatising, Sarinnakorn Pinit, Papawin Pachantabutr, Siripattra Kusuwan Na-ranong, Kaniittha Prasopsirikul, Sittipong Siritantrakool and Phon-Ek Mayakarn.

Throwing balls for Coke Senior Petanque Competition

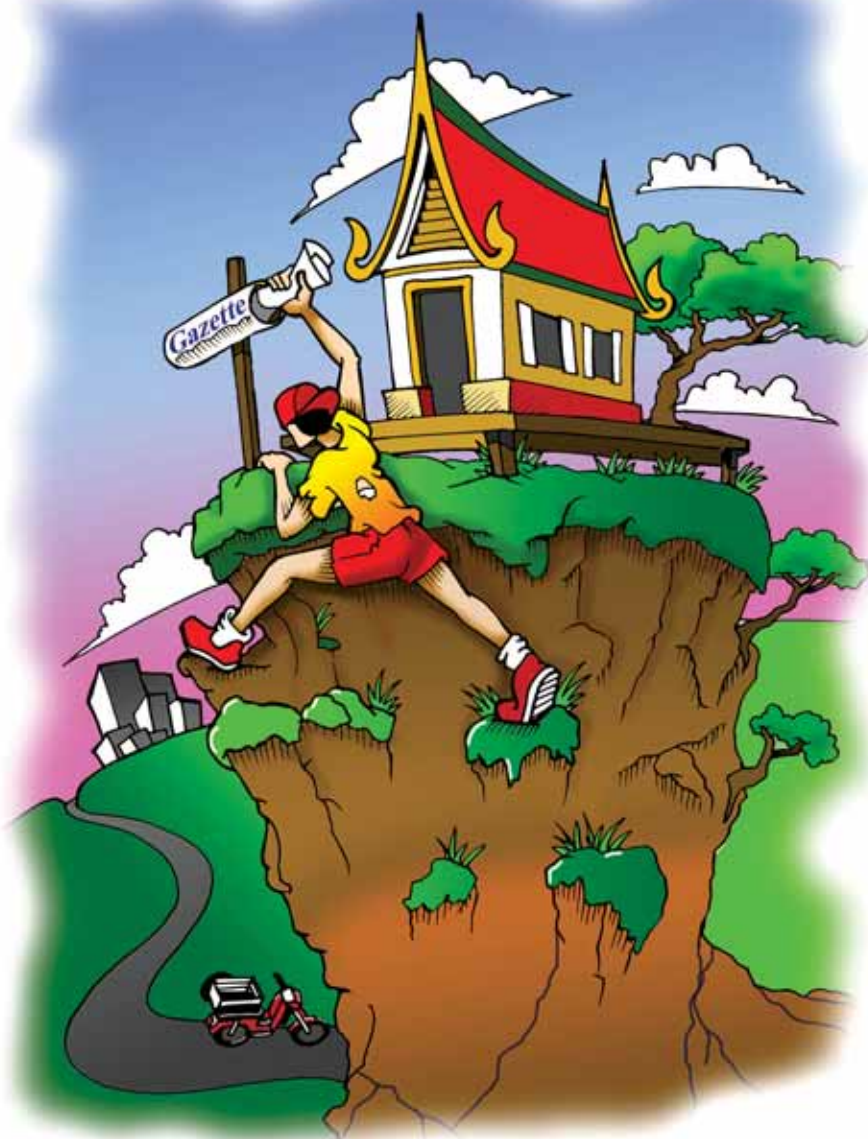


Theerawat Hungsapruch, vice president for planning and development for Prince of Songkhla University, chaired the opening ceremony of the Coke Haadthip Senior Petanque Competition at the Prince of Songkhla University Sport & Health Center.

Toyota gives away gold at Vigo Fair Mobile Event



Akihiro Fujii (right), president of Toyota Next, presents Chamrat Ngenthong (center) with a voucher for solid gold, after he won a drawing at Vigo Fair Mobile Event on March 10.



Please fax the form to 076-615240, or email subscriptions@phuketgazette.net
Or subscribe online at www.phuketgazette.net/subscribe.asp



Phuket Gazette SPECIAL DELIVERY

Weekly Gazette hand delivered to your home or office!

1 year (52 issues): 1,560 baht

EVERY SATURDAY
ANYWHERE on Phuket Island
RAIN, SHINE (bird flu, whatever....)

☐ Enclosed is my check payable to The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

☐ Charge my: ☐ Visa card ☐ MasterCard

Surname (as appears on card)

Given name(s) (as on card)

Card #: _____

Expiry Date: _____
Month / Year

Security Code: _____
Last 3 digits
on back of card

Issuing Bank _____ Country _____

Signature _____ Date: _____
Day / Month / Year

Deliver to: _____
NAME (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY.)

COMPANY NAME (if this will help us find the address)

Address: _____

TAMBON

AMPHUR

ZIP CODE

Tel: _____ Email: _____

(Required)

(Required)

Words from the wise

"Change does not roll in on the wheels of inevitability, but comes through continuous struggle. And so we must straighten our backs and work for our freedom. A man can't ride you unless your back is bent."

— Martin Luther King, Jr

Medium

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

Hard

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

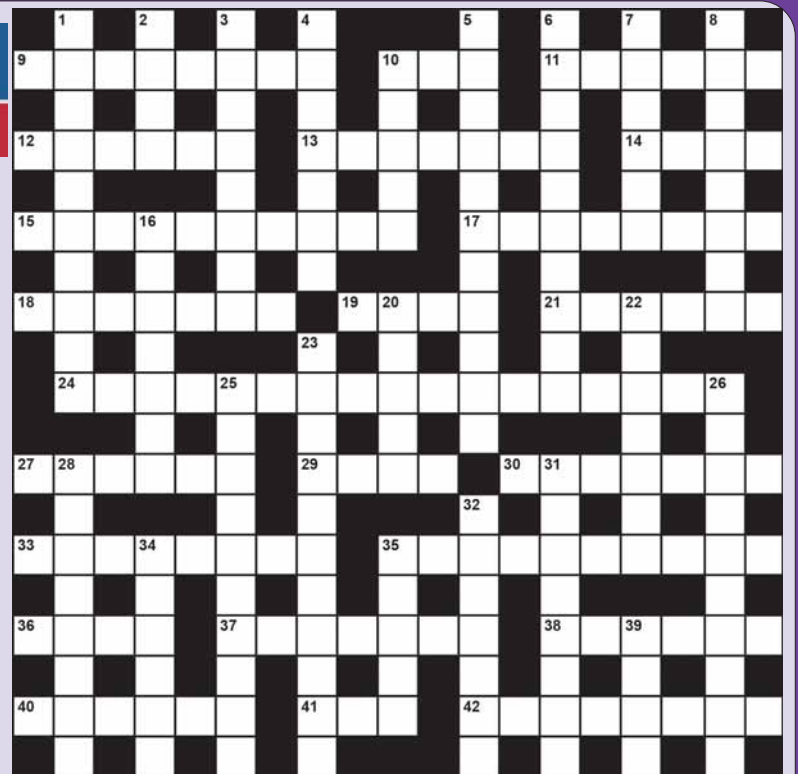
SUDOKU: Each row, column and 3x3 sub-grid must contain the number 1-9 once only. © Kevin Stone (brainbashers.com)

COFFEE
break

Cryptic Crossword

Across

9. Take no heed of rebate (8)
10. Deserter sailor returns (3)
11. Not a railway lawyer to certify contracts (6)
12. Flinch at bench which includes learner! (6)
13. Maybe delegate no daughter as inheritor (7)
14. Admits possibly won, son (4)
15. Maybe never intend to have stepped in (10)
17. I bet goal moved to legally bind (8)
18. Point out resemblance in noise of compere (7)
19. Note, left Officer Commanding coalition (4)
21. Maybe cap pay in highest Catholic office (6)
24. Cooked ten underdone perch whole (3,7,7)
27. Prejudiced. Bravo, moved aside! (6)
29. Credit two points to the ship's company (4)
30. Overtaxes the musical sounds (7)
33. Do cart me off to an advocate of rule by the people (8)
35. Overcrowding could be costing one (10)
36. Tart cooked in Easternmost Thai province (4)
37. Porter possibly got nothing as private soldier (7)
38. Loaned one large edible seed! (6)
40. Repetitive piece of music about new mounted gun (6)



41. First class run for tune (3)
42. Act God, I'm possibly opinionated (8)

Down

1. Arrangement for one who fiddles without backing (6,4)
2. Son is able to carefully look (4)
3. Page University pusher, an easy task (8)
4. Good man maybe lying about creating fashion (7)
5. Stop, he cost new note for medical device (11)
6. Disturb it, nor repel intruder (10)
7. Song about tango runs very well (6)
8. Hectic if center disturbed (8)
10. Fumed about grade (5)
16. Definitely state non-stop (7)
20. Feudal sovereign in Belgian city (5)

22. About time, spacer assembled and formed beforehand (7)
23. No, I led a cut, slashing anything to do with learning (11)
25. Follow subject to remain in force (10)
26. I'd no test in fixing trouble with sinews (10)
28. Mice race out for cold treat (3,5)
31. Got holy movement out East for study of religion (8)
32. Nit could be rude to force way in (7)
34. Move unit, go for excursion (6)
35. Top note, right, dance about (5)
39. November, turn first class sleep in Thailand (4)

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20):



Though the options before you might leave you feeling somewhat insecure, it can help to see them as stepping stones to greater things. Friday's Solar Eclipse may also encourage you to get to grips with a long-held dream. Over the weekend, the Sun newly arrived in Aries, will, however, give you the vitality and courage to take on board an exciting, fresh challenge.

TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21):



The arrival of Venus in your sign brings a reassuring touch to a week that could seem a tad edgy. A change of approach to a key relationship might be at the crux of things, but if you err on the side of more freedom rather than less, you may have more options. It's also possible you'll benefit from expanding your social network this week.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21):



If you find yourself at the mercy of too much red tape or find it hard to communicate with cer-

tain individuals, a patient approach may work wonders early this week. However, other pressures can take their toll causing you to rethink key plans. In the end though, it might be the advice of close ones that motivates you to take firm action.

CANCER (June 22-July 23):



If conflict threatens to spill over in a relationship, it may be down to the Uranus-Pluto link and its potential for disruption. Even so, it's time to edge out of your comfort zone and break through limitations that might have held you back for some time. In fact, the idea of expanding your horizons could hold greater appeal than you imagine.

LEO (July 24-Aug 23):



Although exciting opportunities can continue to show up, you might be tempted to ignore them due to pressures felt in other areas of life. This week though, the realization may dawn that by doing so you're cutting off the chance for progress. This can extend to your finances too, where grasping new opportunities could serve you exceptionally well, Leo.

YOUR
horoscope

By Patrick Arundell

VIRGO (Aug 24-Sept 23):



Do your best to steer clear of unnecessary problems, but don't worry if you can't avoid them completely. The astrological picture this week could encourage you to be open to ideas that can involve a leap of faith. Also, Friday's highly intense Solar Eclipse might also prompt you to review the ground rules regarding someone you are close to.

LIBRA (Sept 24-Oct 23):



The week ahead can encourage you to revamp a key relationship. Though you may have attempted to change this previously, perhaps before you have stopped just short. Over the coming days any desire to push the boundaries can get stronger, even if disruption ensues. In addition, the Eclipse could put lifestyle issues on a more important footing.

SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22):



As Venus sashays into Taurus it will empower your love life and other relationships too. The week ahead brings a soothing quality to interactions enabling you to smooth over trouble spots and make the most of golden opportunities for romance – or even business. However, a new liaison could begin on a something of a turbulent note.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21):



This week it seems you'll be keen to embrace new ideas. The chance to move ahead concerning a special opportunity should be grasped immediately if you want to make the most of it. However, when it comes to family matters, it may be worth trying out ideas that can encourage greater happiness for the long-term.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20):



If faced with a need for action, do what you have to do to calm matters, then wait a few days for things to settle before making further moves. Do-

ing so may make you may feel temporarily on edge, which could lead to a determination to make those necessary changes. It's possible that a connection with someone you think highly of can be rejuvenated.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19):



The focus is on expanding your horizons, while integrating old activities with new routines. However, when dealing with finances, this week's Mercury-Neptune link could be a cause for confusion. With a little care you can avoid any pitfalls. Friday's Solar Eclipse could see far-reaching monetary changes in the next six months.

PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20):



The Solar Eclipse in your sign dominates not just the week ahead but the next half year, with the chance of exciting new opportunities or the option to put an ongoing problem to rest. Venus's move into Taurus adds a note of stability to the proceedings, and may coincide with the sound advice or supportive activity from friends keen to help out.

Pricing your Phuket plot

By Kevin Hodges

IF ONE single fact has become evident in Siam Real Estate's Residential Market Report 2014, it is that since the tragic tsunami on Boxing Day 2004, land prices in Phuket have tripled in value.

The surge in prices has been led by land prices on the west coast, most notably in the traditional and well-established tourist destinations of Patong, Kata, Bang Tao, Laguna and Surin. However, land prices in southern and central Phuket have also bloomed, and now average more than 10 million baht per rai.

What is clearly noticeable is that land prices in the north of Phuket have lagged compared with these in all other locations on the island. To many Phuket residents this may seem obvious, as for years the north of Phuket lacked the necessary infrastructure and tourist appeal for land-price increases to match the rest of the island.

This is all about to change.

After the global financial crisis of 2007-08, residential property development concentrated on the traditionally popular locations along Phuket's west coast, the increasingly popular southern locations of Nai Harn and Rawai and Phuket's central hub, Kathu.

In comparison, the north saw little in the way of new developments in recent years and today remains the least-developed location on the island.

However, we are seeing a growing trend of improving infrastructure in the north of Phuket, which will lead to a growing demand for more residential property development in the area.

The north is already home to two deep-water marinas, at Ao Por

and Yacht Haven; the Phuket International Academy and school, which boasts some of the highest education standards and best sports facilities in Thailand; not to mention Phuket International Airport and Phuket Airpark; plus three golf courses, Blue Canyon (two 18-hole courses) and Mission Hills.

Tesco Lotus now has a new superstore in Thalung, and Homepro and Makro have recently opened their latest stores neighboring Tesco.

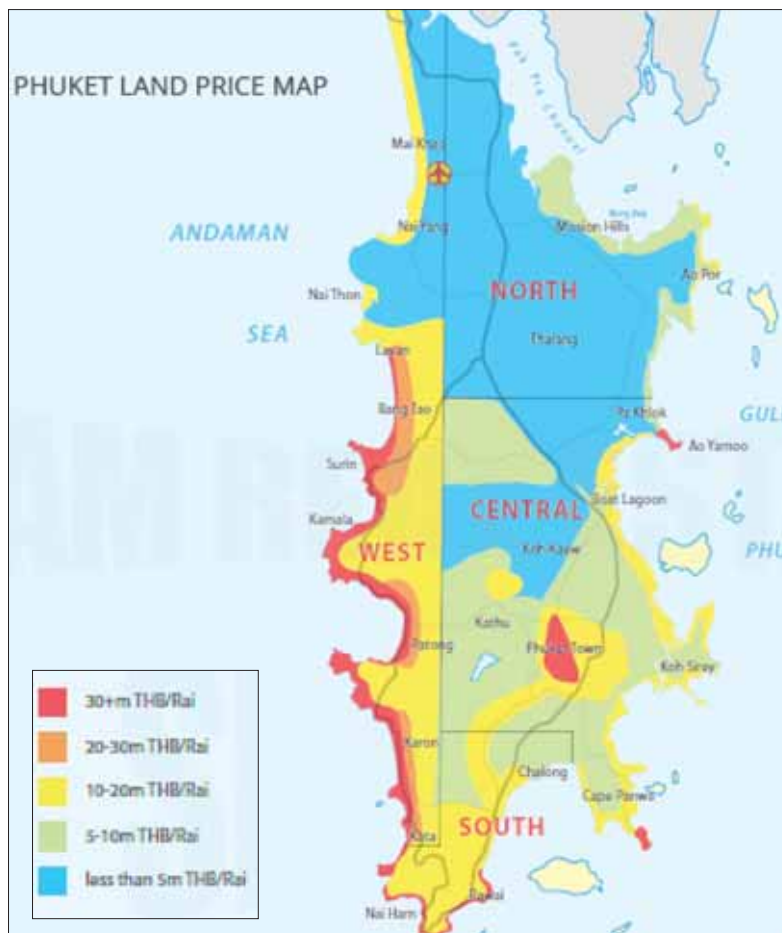
Phuket's northern area provides easy access to some of the island's best beaches: Nai Yang, Mai Khao, Nai Thon and Layan, which offer long stretches of white sand along the Andaman Sea and are almost deserted in comparison to the beaches of Patong, Kata and Karon.

This year will see the completion of the 5.8-billion-baht expansion of Phuket International Airport, to which the northern areas of Phuket provide fast and hassle-free access. This is ideal for the increasing number of Phuket residents who use the island as a base and commute for business throughout the region.

Despite these improvements in the local infrastructure, land prices in the north still remain reasonable. We are now seeing a growing trend of individual buyers looking to build large residential homes taking advantage of these lower land prices.

Longer-term land investors have also been attracted to cheaper land prices in the north, plus the great opportunities to buy reasonably priced land with potential to increase in value.

Yet, the clock is ticking. We expect to see increasing land prices in the north as demand increases from property developers



Phuket's west coast still tops the charts. Image: Siam Real Estate

and individual buyers looking to take advantage of the lower land prices in an area.

WEST COAST

Other trends in land prices to note are a growing trend on Phuket's west coast of new residential property developments moving more inland to locations such as Cherng Talay and Layan and further north to Nai Thon, Mai Khao and Nai Yang.

This growing trend is due to the lower land prices in these more inland and less-developed locations. Specifically, the price of land

within one kilometer of Bang Tao Beach has been driven up by large resort developments, in particular the Laguna resort area, which continues to expand.

CENTRAL

For property developers to keep their prices in line with market demand, residential developers have had to move to new locations where land prices are lower.

Land prices in central Phuket have been driven upwards in recent years due to the expansion plans by Central Shopping Mall

and the plans for The Mall Group (Siam Paragon) to open its new 20-billion-baht BluPearl Mall in Kathu. Adding to the mix is the surge in condominium developments in the area, also adding pressure to the increase in land prices.

SOUTH

Land prices in the south of the island, in general, match those of central Phuket, as the south has seen a steady increase in residential property development due to prices being much cheaper compared with those along the west coast.

The south has a thriving expat community; Chalong marina for boating and diving enthusiasts; access to Nai Harn beach, which is attractive to tourists; and has the necessary infrastructure to support the growing demand.

Yet, while all these price movements have been in play elsewhere on the island, it is the north where the movements are gaining momentum. The increases in Phuket's land prices have woken investors to the potential of the north, which has excellent prospects to outperform relative to current land prices.

Siam Real Estate's (SRE) Phuket Residential Market Report provides detailed information and analysis on Phuket's residential property market. For more information about this article or to receive a larger version of SRE's land price map contact Mr Hodges, the North Branch and Investments Manager for Siam Real Estate in Phuket and author of SRE's Phuket Residential Market Research Report. He has more than six years' experience in Phuket's real estate market. Tel: 076-324042 Email: kevin@siamrealestate.com; www.siamrealestate.com.

Property firms set on 10 - 20% pre-sale, revenue growth in 2015

LISTED property firms target pre-sale and revenue growth of 10-20 per cent compared with last year thanks to demand in the market recovering and high backlogs built up since 2011 being booked as revenue this year.

According to the business plans and financial targets for this year announced by the 17 listed developers, they target total pre-sales of 291.95 billion baht and total revenue of 264.03bn baht, up by an average of 15 per cent from 2014.

That revenue target accounts for 44 per cent of the nationwide property market, worth 600bn baht.

Pruksa Real Estate takes the lead by targeting pre-sales of 47bn baht and a similar amount in revenue this year, up 20 per cent and 10 per cent respectively from the 39.09bn baht and 42.7bn baht posted in 2014.

Sansiri is next, targeting pre-



Sansiri targets pre-sales of 30bn baht to 32bn baht.

sales between 30bn baht and 32bn baht and revenue of 35bn baht, up 255 per cent and 18 per cent respectively from pre-sales of 9bn baht and revenue 29.5bn baht in 2014.

Land & Houses ranks third in terms of targeted revenue at 28bn baht, but second in forecast pre-sales at 34bn.

— The Nation

PANWA HOUSE

The Ultimate in Fine Thai Dining

Enjoy exquisite Thai cuisine served in a colonial era Sino-Portuguese mansion right on the beach at Cape Panwa Hotel.

For reservations call, 0 7639 1123-5

Open Tuesday - Sunday, 6.30 p.m. - 11 p.m.

CAPE PANWA HOTEL
27, 27/2 Moo 8, Sakdidej Road, Cape Panwa, Phuket 83000, Thailand
E: enquiries@capecollection.com f: capepanwa www.capecollection.com

A part of the prestigious Cape Hotel Collection

Harvesting monsoon bounty

How to take advantage of the abundance of free-falling freshwater



Across the Land
By Amy Koh

THOSE of us who have lived in a tropical country nearly all our lives tend to take rain for granted. We regularly forget that it's the rain that keeps the plants a lush green, while also providing for our everyday water-usage needs.

My grandmother used to collect rainwater in big Chinese urns in the garden. She would use the water for the plants in her gardens.

Rainwater harvesting throughout Asia dates back to the 9th or 10th centuries.

Nowadays, there are more sophisticated methods of rain water collection available to use.

For those homeowners who are more ecologically aware, it all starts with the catchment of rainwater from their rooftops, which gets piped down to a collection tank. Here, the water is filtered and recycled.

Recycled water is then used to water plants in the gardens, flush toilets and so on. It is also pos-

sible to install a fine filter and use the recycled water in a washing machine, as well as in sinks and showers, though it is advisable to sterilize the rainwater using a chlorine dosage pump.

In Phuket, despite officials' statements to the contrary, there always seems to be a shortage of freshwater during the dry season. Due to this, more and more homeowners on the island are starting to practice rain harvesting to supplement ground water sources.

In addition to ground water sources, another common way homeowners have been getting water is by buying it from water trucks, which is an expensive practice.

The going rate for a truck load of water containing about 12,000 liters is 800 baht. During the high season, the demand for trucked water is very high, as many hotels, villas and devel-

opments are running at nearly full occupancy, pushing water consumption way up.

However, this water is being sourced from lakes and ponds all over the island, and still needs to



Photo: Pengo

In Phuket, despite officials' statements to the contrary, there always seems to be a shortage of freshwater during the dry season. Due to this, more and more homeowners on the island are starting to practice rain harvesting to subsidize ground water sources.



Rainwater harvesting starts with the catchment of water from the rooftops. Photo: Edal Anton Lefterov

be filtered before use.

Rainwater harvesting can offer substantial savings for homeowners. However, someone pointed out to me that such practices were illegal in some areas in the United States.

The regulations about rainwa-

ter in the US focus on the fact that the rainwater falling from the sky onto private land does not make it the homeowner's property.

In several states, rainwater harvesting requires a permit to ensure that the harvesting equipment does not affect groundwater or

infringe on others' legal rights to the water.

Looks like those of us out here in Asia will not have the same problems as the US, as we can freely harvest rainwater off our roofs anytime – assuming there is rain falling.

Splendid

Condominium

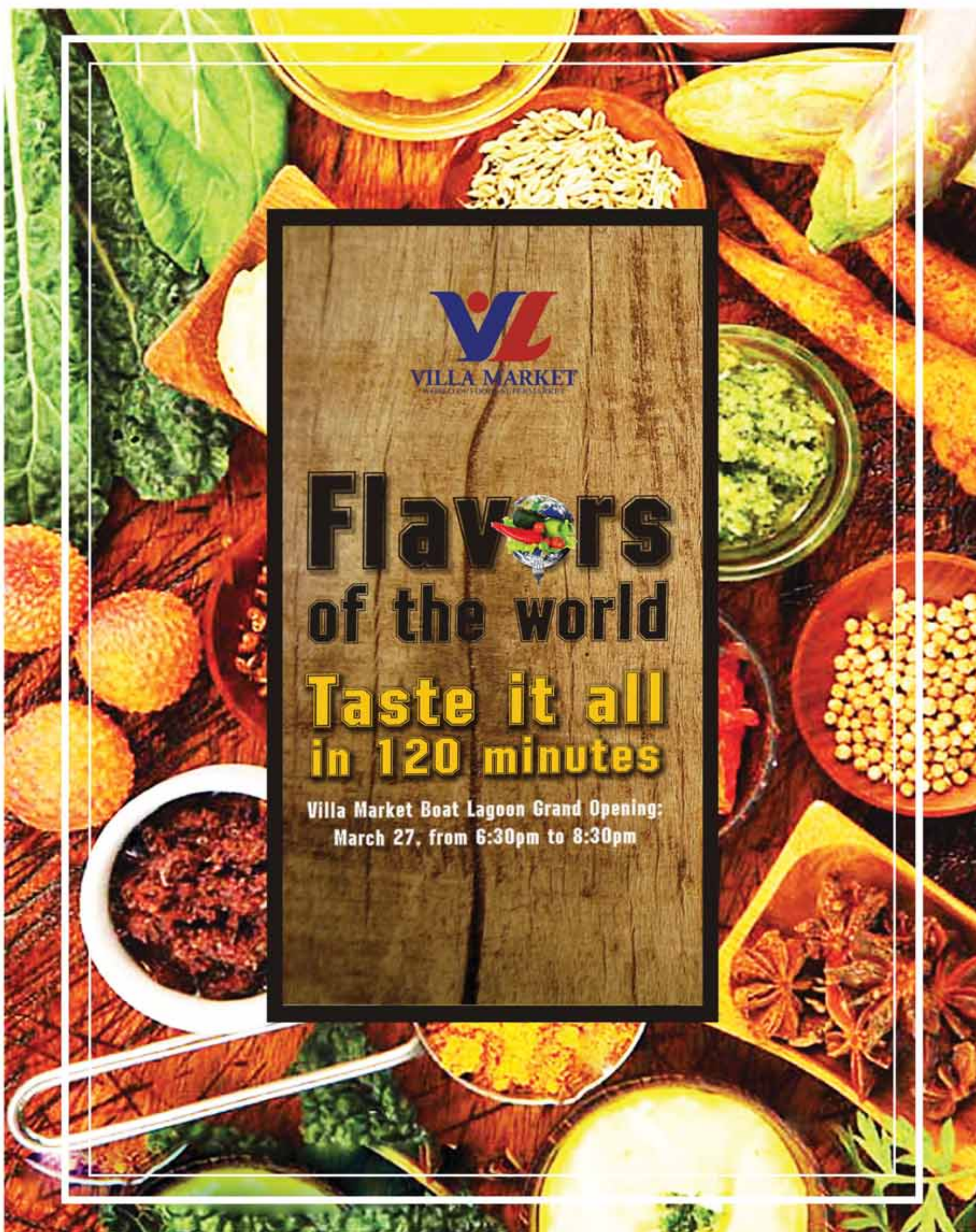
Start 4.85 MB.


KATA BEACH PHUKET

FORREIGN FREEHOLD CONDOMINIUM

Serenity by the sea
LUXURY SEA VIEW CONDOMINIUM

www.splendidcondo.com +66(0)86 321 4999 BY KATA SEAVIEW VILLA




VILLA MARKET
PHUKET BOAT LAGOON

Flavors of the world

Taste it all in 120 minutes

Villa Market Boat Lagoon Grand Opening:
March 27, from 6:30pm to 8:30pm



Further Information: pr@phuketboatlagoon.com

☎ 081 810 3328

Scoring big in Africa

Books

By James Eckardt

DENIS Johnson published his first of three books of poetry at the age of 19. His meticulous attention to words is evident in his 11 books of fiction, which tend to be slim and terse, but intensely descriptive.

I've read his second novel, *Fiskadoro*, a post-nuclear apocalypse set in Key West, and his eighth, *The Tree of Smoke*, an epic – if somewhat overwrought – novel about the Vietnam War, winner of the 2007 National Book Award. Now, at 65, he has published *The Laughing Monsters* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, New York, 2014, 228pp) – an impressionistic black comedy set in bleak, war-torn Africa.

The narrator is Roland Nair, a spy for the espionage agency of NATO, who is dispatched from Amsterdam to Freetown, Sierra Leone. His mission has been prompted by the sighting of his old friend Michael Adriko, a US Special Forces operative who has gone AWOL. Their friendship dates back over a decade to Sierra Leone's civil war. They had both made a bit of money on the side and Nair is looking to repeat the operation. Most crucially, however, he is bored. "I've come back because I love the mess," he explains. "Anarchy. Madness. Things falling apart."

Nair holds a Danish passport and the rank of captain in the Danish Army but can barely speak the language. Adriko holds a Ghanaian passport but is from Uganda. He is headed now for the eastern mountains of the Congo where his clan had fled reprisals after the fall of Idi Amin. The occasion will be his wedding to Davidia St Clair, the beautiful African-American



The three conspirators fly off to Uganda to put their enriched uranium up for market. Photo: Andrew Regan

daughter of his commanding officer at the 10th Special Forces Group headquartered in Colorado from which he is now "detached". Nair explains to the naive Davidia that she is now Adriko's "fifth fiancée".

Adriko and Nair had also been

up to some vague skullduggery in Afghanistan. Now they look to profit from the poisoned African atmosphere of post-9/11. "The World Powers are dumping their coffers into an expanded version of the old Great Game," Nair tells Davidia. "The money's without

limit, and plenty of it goes to snitches and spies. In that field, there's no recession." Or as Adriko has it: "Oh my goodness, you just tickle them in their terrorism bone, and they ejaculate all kinds of money."

As bait, Adriko has a chunk of

enriched uranium which he will claim came from an airplane full of the stuff that crashed in the Congo. The three conspirators fly off to Uganda in a Russian charter jet and put their radioactive wares up for market. They find a shifty pair of customers who turn out to be rogue Mossad operatives. After a fight, the trio flee into the Congo in a stolen Land Cruiser. They are now in a land of no law. Davidia is horrified when they run over a market woman and just keep going. She screams repeatedly for them to turn back, "but we wouldn't go back, we couldn't – not in Africa, this hard, hard land where nobody could help that poor woman flopped probably dead in the road and where running away from this is not a mistake. The mistake was looking back at her in the first place."

They find shelter in a village where the people speak Adriko's native language, but a renegade Congolese army detachment arrives in pick-up trucks for an orgy of massacre, looting and rape. The commander takes the trio captive and turns them over to the American 10th Special Forces Group at a base they maintain to hunt down the Lord's Resistance Army. Adriko escapes en route, leaving Nair to be interrogated by another spook for going rogue on his spy mission. This dialogue between two world-weary schemers turns out to be the funniest section of the book, and Nair is released to search for Adriko deeper into the heart of darkness.

Denis Johnson has been compared to Joseph Conrad, Graham Greene and Robert Stone, though he lacks their moral gravitas. He is a fine prose stylist but his characters aspire to nothing more than the ill-gotten loot than will buy them a retirement of drunken pleasure with African hookers. Nihilism at its finest.

Thai designers shine at London Fashion Week

ASPIRING Thai clothing designers Pongsak Kobrattanasuk and Thita Kamonnetsawat of the Rotsaniyom-White Label got a nice career boost recently when their Malai collection was featured in the "Next in Line" show at London Fashion Week.

Brewer Street Car Park in the British capital's Soho district was the humble setting for what's been called "the fashion show of the year", a chance for young designers to strut their stuff for the industry.

This year there were hungry labels from 10 countries. Along with Rotsaniyom-White Label, there was Lena Martorello (Argentina), Sid Neigum (Canada), Zurita Design (Chile), Liucija Kvayte (Lithuania), Siham El Amri (Morocco), Anouk Van Klaveren (the Netherlands), Hamza Bokhari (Pakistan), Adrian Foster (Trinidad and Tobago) and Christina Economou (Greece).

The Thai duo had the backing of Siam Center and the British Council in Thailand, and say they find in white lace – a signature material for them – a reflection of "the true beauty of Thainess".

"The Malai collection derives from our interpretation of Thainess," says Pongsak. "We combine Thailand's characteristic textiles with western lace to create the captivating look. There's a hint of the 'Anna and the King' story – the relationship between two unfamiliar cultures that can still shake hands, that unique



The up-and-coming designers often use white lace. Photo: The Nation

harmony between strangers."

Ms Thita points out how their experimentation with different prints and materials has produced truly fresh results. "In this marriage of cultures, the hint of foreign culture is harmoniously infused into Thai culture. We focus on two key factors – the raw materials and the technique. We also use white on white to create dimension."

Siam Center's Chanisa Kaewruen says the mall seeks to "gather the most complete range of fashion labels in Thailand".

The clothes are already available for purchase on the third floor of Siam Center in Bangkok.

"For more than 40 years it has contributed to the evolution of Thai fashion and has driven the industry to the international level, built an image, upgraded the standards and provided young designers with an opportunity to show their potential and express their imagination," Ms Chanisa says.

With Rotsaniyom-White Label, she adds, Siam Centre is "showing the world that Thai designers are second to none".

Andrew Glass of the British Council calls its collaboration a big step to support the Thai fashion industry and personnel to achieve the success and reach the destination in global platform.

"This collaboration not only incorporates the different culture of each country, but also is a good opportunity to expand the fashion network across the world," he said.

– The Nation

Cholesterol myths



Excuse Buster

By Craig Burton

IN MY previous column, I explained how a published dietician missed the mark when it comes to the potential benefits of consuming coconut oil.

This week, I want to focus on the following comment made by the same expert:

“Speaking from a medical point of view, coconut oil contains over 90 per cent saturated fatty acids, which are likely to raise blood cholesterol levels and increase the risk of contracting certain diseases.”

What I would like to put forth is the possibility that this link between saturated fat, high cholesterol levels and heart disease has not been proven, but remains a highly topical subject among scientists and researchers.

Currently, the jury is still out, with many studies and researchers challenging and contradicting previous conclusions. Let's start with examining one of the benchmark studies.

In 1953, Dr Ancel Keys published a seminal paper that serves as the basis for nearly all of the initial scientific support for the Cholesterol Theory. The study is known as the Seven Countries Study, and it linked the consumption of saturated fats to coronary heart disease. However, the study had issues. One of the most alarming is that allegedly Dr Keys selectively analyzed information from only seven countries to support his correlation, rather than comparing all the data available at the time – from 22 countries.



Craig points to sugar and high-fructose corn syrup for causing heart disease. Photo: Marlith

Why didn't he use all of the data? Well, the reasons are unclear and the dead can't talk – but one of the theories is that he cherry-picked his information, as many of the countries he excluded were those that did not support his hypothesis.

What this later led to was the construction of the “Dietary Goals for the United States”, which recommends that all Americans reduce their fat, saturated fat and cholesterol consumption, and increase their carbohydrate consumption to 55-60 per cent of daily calories. This stance was also adopted by other western

nations.

It appears Dr Keys contradicted his own findings in many of his other works. For instance, in “Human Atherosclerosis and The Diet”, he writes that “from these animal experiments only, the most reasonable conclusion would be that the cholesterol content of human diets is unimportant in human atherosclerosis.”

Additionally, in his paper titled “The Relationship of the Diet to the Development of Atherosclerosis in Man”, Dr Keys says: “The evidence – both from experiments and from field surveys – indicates that the cholesterol content, per

se, of all natural diets has no significant effect on either the serum cholesterol level or the development of atherosclerosis in man.”

A lot of contradictions from just one man – welcome to the world of nutritional science. In this world, one day eggs are bad, the next day they are good. Imagine being the poor old egg having to deal with these ever-changing tides.

So, what has the latest research found out about saturated fat and heart disease?

A recent large-scale meta-analysis study published in the *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* concluded that there is no

relationship between the intake of saturated fat and the incidence of heart disease or stroke.

It pooled together data from 21 unique studies that included almost 350,000 people, about 11,000 of whom developed cardiovascular disease (CVD), and were tracked for an average of 14 years. This one should have tipped the scales for many, but experts are still divided.

If we go with the results of this study, perhaps saturated fats aren't the bad guy after all. Another question to throw in the mix then would be: are there any studies showing health benefits of saturated fats like butter and coconut oil? Last week, I listed some of the many studies that suggest coconut oil has many positive attributes.

If we throw out the idea that saturated fats are the main suspect for causing chronic heart disease – could there be some other culprits?

I, for one, look to sugar, processed junk food rich in high fructose corn syrup (such as soft drinks), and trans fat (such as those used in frying and in many packaged foods). Sadly, in Phuket we don't have a shortage of those foods – you can find them on any corner.

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 expertise in functional training and nutrition, focusing on detoxification, food intolerance and nutrient deficiency. For more information about Craig and his services, please visit thevitruvianmethod.com.

When the heart beats out of tune

A HEART that flutters temporarily because of love might well be a wonderful thing, but a heart that consistently beats out of tune is a cause for concern. The heart normally beats at a steady pace.

The tempo of the heartbeat can and does vary depending on both the body's condition and our health. During strenuous activity the heart beats faster to get more oxygen to the muscles. This is a natural response to the body's needs.

However, the heart can also sometimes change its tempo and rhythm without any reason. When a malfunction causes the heart to beat faster, it is called tachycardia. There are different types of tachycardia and they each have their own causes.

When the heart beats rapidly but rhythmically, it is called supraventricular tachycardia (SVT). Another type of tachycardia is re-entry tachycardia. This is caused when there is a short circuit in the electrical signals controlling the heartbeat. As a result, the current



Don't let your heart skip too many beats. Photo: The Nation

does not complete a circuit and tries to re-enter the beginning of the cycle, resulting in the heart beating out of pace.

The usual symptoms of tachycardia are fatigue, chest pain and heart palpitations, all of which are often overlooked.

Since many different factors can cause tachycardia, the first step of any diagnosis is a thorough examination. This involves a review of the patient's medical history and a physical examination. Diagnosis may also involve EKG or an echocardiograph to test

the rhythm of the heart. Here, we will focus on the treatment of supraventricular tachycardia (SVT).

Oral medication can slow down the electrical currents, while adenosine injections will bring the heartbeat back to normal by blocking the electrical current. However, neither of these options get rid of the underlying cause.

Radiofrequency ablation brings the current back to normal and prevents short circuits on a permanent basis with a 95 per cent rate.

Most cases are found in people who are stressed or have an unhealthy lifestyle, such as those with anger issues, who consume too much caffeine or take stimulants.

In most cases, the symptoms of SVT come and go, but diagnosis is easier when symptoms are present. If you experience any of symptoms of SVT, you should seek medical advice straight away.

In the meantime, try to lead a healthy life as this will minimize your risk of suffering from SVT.

– The Nation



Ready For Help? We Listen.

Empowering Individuals, Families and Communities

Rita Dobson: Counsellor DipPsych, MA Counselling, MBPS, BACP Member
Email: info@balancegroup.asia | Phone: 076-390 614

www.balancegroup.asia

A flyby to success

Airpark to bring more air show events to Phuket



THE successful Phuket Air Show & Fly'n event at the Phuket Airpark on March 28 is just the first in a number of similar activities planned at Phuket's only private airfield, with another fun event scheduled to take place in mid-May.

Pat James, head of the Phuket Aviation Club, told Up In The Air: "The airshow on March 28 was intended to be an introductory event for the local community. We are planning a minimum of three or perhaps four more such events annually, under the umbrella of the Phuket Aviation Club, joined by the Experimental Aircraft Association and the Siam Aviation Association."

Pat explained that all three are part of a global community of "general aviation" enthusiasts: recreational fliers using a truly wide range of aircraft – everything from fixed wing planes to gyrocopters and paramotors – to explore the skies above.

He described the event earlier this month as "an unbelievable success at every level," with more than 70 passengers going up for rides in a variety of aircraft, and a number of people, Thais and foreigners, signing up for flying lessons.



A fixed-wing aircraft takes off at the Phuket Airpark during the Phuket Air Show & Fly'n event. Photos: www.oilinki.com

Although smaller than the two-day US Independence Day Event in 2013, which involved multiple sponsorships and drew over a thousand people on both days, the recent event showed that the Phuket Flying Club and Phuket Airpark are now capable of hosting large events largely on their own, he said.

Among those taking part were former recreational flyers who wanted to get back into the sport, as well as newcomers who hadn't been aware of the recreational aviation options available in Phuket.

Among the most popular activities were short gyrocopter rides

offered by the 'By The Air' group at 1,500 baht per passenger.

The recorded attendance at the gate was about 700, with the first arrivals coming at dawn and soon filling up the large car park at the Airpark.

"There was a lot of activity all day long. As soon as a few cars departed a few more pulled in to take their places," Pat said.

The event also served as good general operations training experience for staff at the Phuket Airpark, he added.

"So now we are really looking forward to the May 16 event. It will go under the Young Eagles

Program, which is being sponsored by the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) based in America, as well as the Siam Aviation Association and Phuket Aviation Club," Pat explained.

Youths interested in earning their wings will definitely want to attend, as the top 12 to 15 young people participating between the ages of 14 and 18 years old will have the chance to get a free online course and certificates valued from 15,000 to 25,000 baht.

"That's a tremendous opportunity for young, qualified individuals who truly have an interest in aviation. It can give them

a foothold," he said.

Youngsters showing interest in the March event also represented a balanced mix of Thais and expats, Pat noted.

The minimum legal age to operate an aircraft or take part in actual pilot training in Thailand is 16, but there is a wide variety of other training options open to ambitious would-be aviators under that age. Among the options available are ground school, safety training, navigational training, learning about atmospheric conditions, as well as just observing how a veteran pilot safely operates an aircraft.

Rocket Man: check out the water-propelled jetpack

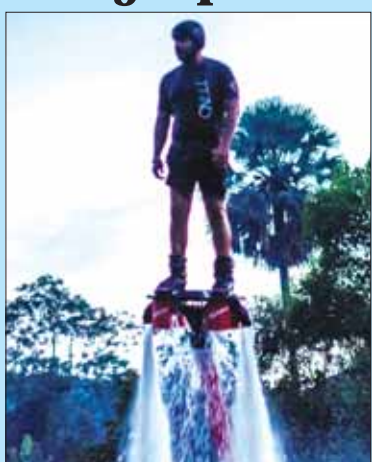
ONE of the many highlights of the day was a "water jet" apparatus set up at the Airpark pond by one participant.

It was set up on a rather impromptu basis, but turned out to be a very good form of entertainment – especially on such a hot day.

The system comprises a pair of water nozzles that the user hooks up to both feet. A jet-ski parked nearby pumps high pressure water through a hose and into the nozzles, propelling the user from the lake into the air.

With a little practice, users can learn to balance themselves atop the two columns of water, perhaps feeling like a dolphin using its tail fluke to balance itself and "walk on water".

Despite the considerable thrust involved, the water jet activity appears to be quite safe. The greatest risk ob-



Fly without wings.

served on the day came when newcomers lost their balance and belly-flopped face down into the pond with so many spectators looking on. Hopefully those behind the fun activity will be in town for the May 16 event, so even more people can give it a try.



READY FOR TAKEOFF: Those who attended the event had the opportunity to try out the gyrocopter.

Slinging for Singapore

By Chris Husted

A HOST of Phuket's leading brokerages and charter companies are preparing to hoist anchor to join the Singapore Yacht Show (SYS) at the ONE° 15 Marina Club at Sentosa from April 23-26.

Phuket-based companies alone will have hundreds of millions of baht of boats on display at the show. The key attraction for joining the event is the reach the show offers to the prospective international clientele throughout Southeast Asia, explained Bert van Muylwijk, resident director and sales broker at the Northrop & Johnson office at Phuket's Boat Lagoon Marina.

"The SYS is by far the most important show in the region, attracting large numbers of punters that can indulge in viewing yachts of all sizes and sorts," he noted.

"Like every year since the inception of SYS, Northrop & Johnson Asia participates both in water and on land. This year's line-up of yachts under the N&J Asia banner is quite impressive."

He's not kidding. The N&J lineup includes the brand-new 52-meter power superyacht *Jade 959*, the 2009-launched 34m custom sailing superyacht *Ocean Runner*,



The new Princess 52 will be among the Phuket boats on display in Singapore. Photo: Northrop & Johnson

the Sparkman & Stephens 28m sailing superyacht *Letizia* and the 20m first solar-assisted power catamaran *Heliotrope*.

Heliotrope and the 20m Monte Carlo power yacht *Norma*, also to go on show in Singapore, were present at Phuket's PIMEX expo earlier this year.

Rico Stapel, marketing and charter manager of Princess Yachts South East Asia, also based in Phuket, will be taking an estimated 15 boats to the show, including the stunning 88 MY, as well as the new 52, 56 and 68 models.

"These yachts are a good

match for our clientele, and we have had strong interest from people throughout the region for these developments," Mr Stapel told the *Gazette*.

"The SYS is largest show in the area and we always have very high exposure there... We always receive good feedback from the

show, and it provides exposure to the right clientele."

Looking to gain a foothold in that realm is Multihull Solutions. Andrew de Bruin, Multihull Solutions' Asia general manager, based in Phuket, will be presenting the impressive Fountaine Pajot flagship motor yacht, *Queensland 55*, at the show.

"The yacht is a very late model in showroom condition and will be available for immediate sale," Mr de Bruin told the *Gazette*.

The *Queensland 55* will be looking to bridge the gap from the traditional preconception of a luxury cruiser being a powered monohull, to a fully-endowed catamaran.

"The 55 is a large, roomy power catamaran with great long-range cruising ability and is very economical to run. We believe this boat is perfectly suited to the SYS market," he said.

As Phuket, for now, attracts a smaller percentage of international visitors, Mr de Bruin noted, Singapore remains the place to be seen.

"The Singapore show is far bigger, so these clients prefer to travel to Singapore, where they are exposed to a larger choice of yachts," he said.



Papeete Harbor features stern-to mooring. Photo: AP Superyachts Tahiti

Tahiti marinas ease superyacht stopover

POPULAR island stopover Tahiti is now home to three marinas that can accommodate superyachts making the journey across the Pacific.

Located 4,400km south of Hawaii, 7,900km from Chile and 5,700km from Australia, Tahiti has become one of the most popular stopovers for superyachts crossing the "Big Pond", explained Etienne Boutin, head of Asia Pacific Superyachts Tahiti.

While Papeete Harbor remains the only suitable dock in Tahiti for yachts longer than 65 meters, just five miles to the west is Marina Taina, which can tie up 550 boats.

Two cement docks at the marina are reserved for luxury yachts and capable of handling up to 27 units at the same time, with stern-

to mooring with anchor and lines on bottom moorings at depths of three to 15m.

The marina is recognized for receiving the respected eco-label "Blue Flag" in 2012, created by the French Office of the Foundation for Environmental Education in Europe in 1985.

Papeete's downtown area will very soon have a new marina, one that is currently under construction and due to completed at the end of April. It will mostly cater to yachts 30 to 75 feet long; with three berths for 35m yachts. One of the cruise ship's finger quay will be included inside the marina precinct to offer a more "yacht friendly" alternative downtown for large visiting yachts.

- *Phuket Gazette*

MIMI SIRIWANGSANTI
JARATCHAI CHONGJAROENJAI
BORAM LEE

British International School, Phuket

GRAND OPENING 2.45PM 23RD MARCH 2015

'ARTSKETEERS'

EXHIBITION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC 23-27 MARCH 2015

IB ART EXHIBITION

Phuket Gazette

BISPHUKET.AC.TH

BOAT-LAGOON

LIGHTHOUSE MARKET

ตลาดนัดประภาคาร

28-29 March 2015

SHOP CHILL EAT

5-10 pm. at Phuket Boat Lagoon

REPRIZZO **Phuket Gazette** **Phuket today** **89.75 RADIO TRIP** **SCB ไทยพาณิชย์**

f FB: The Lighthouse Market **Instagram: LIGHTHOUSEMARKET**

BY KANITTHA **089-9945029, 081-8103328**

All aglow down below

Recreational divers exposed to UV wonderland during glow dives

Diving

By Isaac Stone Simonelli

MOST divers remember taking a crash course in the color spectrum and light waves from their advanced diving course. Notably, that we see short wavelength colors, such as red, yellow and orange, quickly disappear as we descend on a dive. The lesson is usually combined with a color-comparisons activity on our first deep dive to about 40 meters.

There is, of course, an entire world of light beyond what we can see.

Pounding across Kata Beach with a quarter moon overhead, we are about to shine the light of discovery and see what it does to the underwater world during a "Glow Dive" with Vince from Kiwidiver. Glow dives, also known as Glo dives and Flo dives, are new to the diving market, as the technology for ultraviolet (UV) and blue-light torches for divers have just recently become commercially available.

There are two distinct types of glow dives: one with UV torches, which shine light at a wavelength that is invisible to the human eye (395 nanometers); and blue light, which shines a strong blue light of about 455nm, and still resides in the visible spectrum.

As we swim out among the longtail boats anchored at the north end of the beach, Vince explains that we will be using a UV torch, as a blue-light torch requires divers to wear yellow filters (and fit their cameras with the same) in order to see the magic. Of course, Kata is loaded with biological wonders that aren't UV magical, so we are all carrying good old-fashioned LED torches as well.

As we approach the edge of the



The corals glow in green and blue after reacting with the UV light from a diver's torch. Photos: Kiwidiver.com

reef, it's possible to hear Vince clicking his torch over to UV mode. We tuck our own torches away.

At first, it's dark. There is a little moonlight trickling down to the sand and the top of the reef, and a hard wave of the hand causes a burst of bio-luminescent particles to light up like Tinker Bell's dust. Then, the corals are hit with the light from the UV torch and explode with color – strange colors: neon greens, deep purples and stunning oranges.

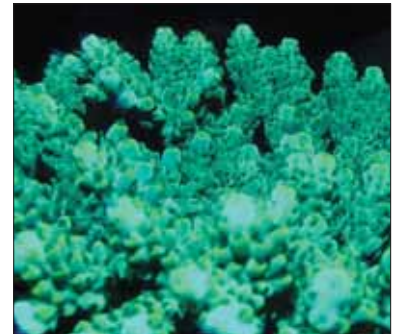
They are glowing in the dark-

ness like beacons in a science-fiction movie. Floating close to a small colony of brain coral, the swerving maze-like lines becomes mesmerizing as the tops glow, falling away into black crevices.

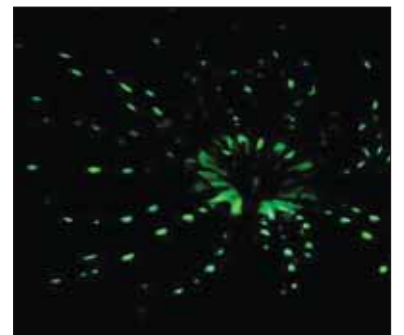
The corals are emitting light within the visible spectrum due to a chemical compound contained in their tissue, which reacts to the UV light, causing them to fluoresce. Unfortunately, not everyone is able to be the belle of this rave-like UV ball.

In fact, only certain animals react at all – most notably corals and soft-bodied critters. The rest remain hidden from sight. Though corals provide the most spectacular of the UV-color shows, invertebrates such as jellyfish put on an enamoring display as they pulse through the ocean.

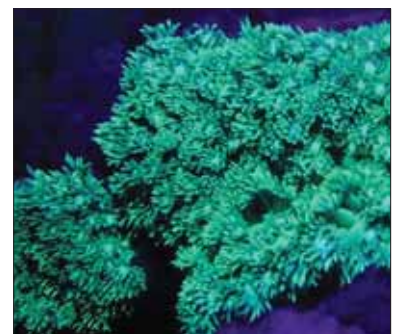
However, without a jellyfish in sight and the glow of the corals giving way to our imaginations wandering about, curious as to what else is out there, Vince shuts off the UV light to continue the



Corals react differently.



A tube worm shows off in UV.



The textures are pronounced.

dive – only to turn it back on every so often to check what else is willing to glow for us.

Though not so lucky as to find ourselves in a bloom of jellyfish, Vince was able to give us a taste of the wonders that present themselves to torches of the visible-light spectrum: two ornate ghost pipefish, two frog fish and what appeared to be a bumblebee squid (*Sepiola atlantica*), not to mention an assortment of crustaceans and other marine life that come out to play once the sun goes down.

Brunch by Regent- a true culinary experience

Every Sunday from noon to 4pm



Regent Club at Regent Phuket Cape Panwa invites you to spend an ideal Sunday afternoon with your friends and family with live music as we indulge your taste-buds with a scrumptious selection of delicacies from around the world. Choose from sumptuous Sunday Roasts cooked from free range & farm raised meats, oysters, fresh lobsters & seafood, organic salads, artisanal cheese, handcrafted bakery & pastries, healthy & organic raw juices, European cold cuts, made-to-order Belgian waffles and desserts that will surely revive your senses. Accompany the celebration with tempting beverages offers and fine wines.

THB 2100++ per person includes free flow of soft drinks

THB 2600++ per person includes a bottle of white, red, rosé wine or Chandon per couple

Children aged 4-12 years old eat half price plus free access to the Kid's Club

Advance reservation for The Brunch by Regent is required

Brunch by Regent offers a truly gastronomic experience with the stunning views of the Andaman Sea.

REGENT PHUKET CAPE PANWA

84 Moo 8, Sakdidej Road, T. Vichit, A. Muang, Phuket 83000, Thailand Tel: +66 7620 0800, +66 7631 8888

Email: reservations.phuket@regenthotels.com www.regenthotels.com/phuket www.facebook.com/Regentphuket

Cycling Fest peddles back into town

THE Phuket Cycling Fest returns for its second edition on March 28-29 with a weekend of cycling fun, including a 46km tour of the south of the island.



A cyclist nears Saphan Hin. Photo: Phuket Cycling Fest

Cyclists will depart Saphan Hin at 6:15am, head south to Promthep Cape, then ride back to town via Chao Fa West Road.

Meanwhile, the outdoor bike festival will be held at Saphan Hin Park from 10am to 8pm on both days. On show will be a range of activities with a huge variety of cycling products also up for grabs.

There also will be a Phuket City Bike Seminar and a bike collection on display at the show. Lucky draws will be held for special prizes, including vouchers for luxury packages from hotels, resorts and spas, and more.

For more information, visit PhuketCyclingFest.com

– *Phuket Gazette*

Local players pucker up in first shot at annual cup

By Scott Murray

PHUKET's first foray into the annual Mekong Cup ball hockey tournament, held in Karon last Saturday, ended with an ousting in the round-robin stage, but the competition for Southeast Asia's most coveted ball hockey trophy has been hailed a success.

Though this was the fourth straight year that the cup was staged at the Centara Karon Resort Phuket, it was the first time a team from Phuket entered the competition.

The Phuket Pucks, organized by Surin expat Joe Burgess, even featured a former draft choice of the San Jose Sharks, Dominik Bielke, who was drafted in the seventh round in 2009.

However, the Pucks (0-4-1) made a hasty exit, finishing sixth overall. Joining them were the Chiang Mai Highlanders (0-3-2), who secured fifth place.

The first semi-final saw a battle of the two Bangkok teams, with the top-seeded Thai Stix (5-0-0) beating the fourth-seeded Bullies Resurrected (1-2-2) 6-1.



The 21st Mekong Cup, held in Karon last weekend, drew teams from Thailand, Singapore and Hong Kong.

The other semi-final saw the second-seeded Singapore Chili Crabs (3-1-1) come back from two goals down to beat the third-seeded Hong Kong Islanders 3-2 (3-2).

That set up a final between the Thai Stix and the Chili Crabs. Singapore jumped out to an early 1-0 lead, but the Thai Stix stormed back with three unanswered goals.

Singapore scored a late goal to close the gap, but when the final whistle sounded, the Thai Stix had triumphed and were back on the top of the Asian ball hockey world, laying to rest the ghosts of recent past – especially last year's heartbreaking last-minute championship loss to the Hong Kong Islanders.

Thai Stix forward, and the

youngest player on the team, Aku Korkonen, was the tournament MVP, as he scored 10 goals.

This was the fifth championship for the Stix, but their first since 2004. Captain John Stevens and goalie Yves Gaboriault are the only surviving members from that team still on the Stix today, though Phuket team-member Scott Murray, as well as referee and former tourney organizer John Casella were also part of that dynasty, which won four titles over five years.

The Stix are now tied with the Hong Kong Islanders for the most cups, with five each.

Yves Gaboriault was praised for an outstanding job in his first year as tourney organizer. Praise was also given to referees Craig Noon and John Casella for a great job of maintaining order.

A charity auction at the awards banquet raised 40,000 baht for the Vivian Slot scholarship fund. Attending the event and playing for the Phuket team was Roman Torok, senior vice-president of the International Street & Ball Hockey Federation.



ปั่นกันหรรอย ปั่นกันหลาว

PHUKET CYCLING FEST 2015

28th-29th
MARCH
2015

Join the challenge
with annual Phuket
Cycling Festival at
Sapanhin public
park



Bike shop
& bike lane talk



Bike movie



Bike
Sightseeing



Bike exhibition
& more



Jazz music

For more info, please contact ☎ 081-970-7091

Sponsor by



Australian boxer killed

Queensland medics call for boxing ban following fatal fight

By Patrick Johnston

SENIOR Queensland medical officials have called for a ban on boxing in Australia following a local fighter's death after losing a title fight last weekend.

Braydon Smith, 23, had congratulated Filipino John Moralde for claiming a unanimous points decision win in their WBC Asian Boxing Council continental featherweight title bout in Toowoomba on Saturday.

He collapsed after returning to his dressing room.

The law student was put into an induced coma, but never regained consciousness and his life support was turned off at a Brisbane hospital on Monday.

Australian Medical Association Queensland president Shaun Rudd said that the fighter's death showed why boxing should be banned nationally.



Is it time for Australian boxers to hang up their gloves and move on? Photo: US Air Force

"We believe that a so-called sport where two people knock each other in the head as often as you possibly can to win a bout seems rather barbaric," he told

ABC on Monday.

"You're not allowed to hit the organs beneath the belt whereas you're allowed to hit the organ above your shoulder, which is the

most important organ in the body."

A representative of the Smith family said that the young boxer, who was unbeaten in 12 fights prior to the Moralde bout, had

wanted to show that boxing was not as dangerous as people feared.

"He really wanted to change the image of boxing," James O'Shea told AAP on Monday.

"A lot of times in this country the sport gets a bad rap.

"A big goal of his in life was to show people it's not [a bad sport]."

The death of Smith, also known as "The Great White", comes four years after another Australian boxer, 18-year-old Alex Slade, collapsed in the fourth round of a bout in Townsville. He never regained consciousness and died a week later.

Boxing Queensland president Ann Tindall defended the sport's reputation.

"It's a tragic accident, a tragic accident as you can have in a car or any other sport, there are many sports that have deaths in them," Tindall was quoted as saying by ABC. — Reuters

World's top golfers

1. Rory McIlroy (Britain)
2. Bubba Watson (US)
3. Henrik Stenson (Sweden)
4. Adam Scott (Australia)
5. Jason Day (Australia)
6. Jordan Spieth (US)
7. Jim Furyk (US)
8. Sergio Garcia (Spain)



Best ball busters. Photo: Cristina Carvalho

9. Dustin Johnson (US)
10. Justin Rose (Britain)

Exclusive
FAMILY GOLF MEMBERSHIP

BE ONE OF OUR FIRST 20 NEW MEMBERS AND ENJOY COMPLIMENTARY VOUCHERS WORTH THB 83,000 TO USE AROUND LAGUNA PHUKET RESORT!

5 YEARS
MEMBERSHIP
THB 375,000

10 YEARS
MEMBERSHIP
THB 495,000

- Newly upgraded 18 holes golf course
- Golf carts available all year round
- Luxury clubhouse facilities
- Discounts on Pro Shop, Dining, Golf Instruction and Driving Range
- Exclusive privileges around Laguna Phuket Resorts
- Reciprocal playing rights to over 200 world renowned golf courses

MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES LEAD NAME ADULT, SPOUSE AND TWO CHILDREN UNDER 21

076 270 991
golf@lagunaphuket.com
lagunaphuketgolf.com

MARE

Italian Restaurant

Dine on the authentic flavours of classical Italian cuisine in the evenings, savour uncomplicated Italian fare for lunch, and enjoy Mare's award-winning wine list. Mare's Italian Chef, Chef Matteo Verini, offers to indulge you in exciting dishes that feature exquisite local produce and some of Italy's finest imports either indoors or al fresco, with a view over the beach. Vegetarian and healthy options are also available. With its own wine cellar, high ceiling and décor dominated by warm colours, the private room at Mare is the ideal dining venue for groups of eight and for exclusive dinners.

683 Karon Beach, Patak Road, Tambol Karon, Amphur Muang, Phuket 83100, Thailand

Tel : +66 (0) 7620 1234

Fax : +66 (0) 7620 1235

Email : maremcpbr@chr.co.th

www.centarahotelsresorts.com/centragrand/cpbr

Did Mercedes kill F1?

By Julian Linden

NO SOONER had Mercedes cruised to the checkered flag at Sunday's season-opening Australian Grand Prix, their rivals were all but conceding the 2015 Formula One championship was as good as over.

Dominant in 2014, Mercedes were again in a class of their own with double-world champion Lewis Hamilton coasting to victory over teammate Nico Rosberg.

Despite taking it easy throughout the 58-lap race, concerned more about saving tyres and fuel than checking their mirrors for challengers, Mercedes finished more than half a minute clear of third-placed Sebastian Vettel's Ferrari.

Only two other drivers finished on the same lap as the Silver Arrows.

"You have to be realistic," said Vettel after his first race for Ferrari. "This weekend it was in

their hands and they did a great job, not just as a team but individually.

"They are the favorites, they had a huge advantage last year and I think they did a good job increasing that advantage this year."

Vettel won four titles in a row for Red Bull before Mercedes overtook them last year, and that team's principal Christian Horner said 2015 was looking like another procession.

"On today's evidence we're set for a two-horse race at every Grand Prix this year," he said.

"Take nothing away from Mercedes, they've done a super job, they've got a great car, they've got a fantastic engine and they've got two very good drivers.

"But the problem is the gap is just so big you end up with three-tier racing and I don't think that's healthy for Formula One."

Mercedes won 16 of 19 races last season and started 18 on pole. If last Sunday was anything to go

by, they may be even more dominant this year.

"I feel a bit for the fans," said Australia's Daniel Ricciardo, who finished sixth for Red Bull. "It was a boring race. It was frustrating."

Even the Mercedes drivers have said they fear their dominance could drive fans away. In the lead-up to the race, Hamilton admitted



Photo: Reuters

that he would be bored as a fan, while Rosberg said that he hoped the others could catch up.

"I hope they can give us a challenge, because it's important for the sport and the fans," the Ger-

man said.

"Half of me, or part of me, thinks about the show because I want to give people a great time at home watching on TV or at the track." **- Reuters**

Red Bull F1 Team: Broken wings, broken dreams



Red Bull Formula One driver Daniil Kvyat of Russia drives onto the gravel during the Australian F1 Grand Prix. Photo: Reuters

A RED Bull adviser has warned that the team could pull out of Formula One unless changes were made to the current regulations.

Red Bull are among a number of teams frustrated by their inability to keep up with Mercedes, who dominated Formula One last year and cruised to an easy victory in last Sunday's season-opening Australian Grand Prix after a virtual procession.

Rival drivers described the race as boring and Red Bull motorsport adviser Helmut Marko said that if it went unchecked, it could drive other teams away and reduce interest in the sport.

Marko even suggested that Red Bull, who won four championships in a row before being left in the Mercedes slipstream, might pull out if the team's billionaire owner Dietrich Mateschitz lost interest.

Marko's comments came after Red Bull team principal Christian Horner told reporters that Formula One officials should take action to equalize the engine performances of every team to create a more level-playing field.

Red Bull made a disastrous start

to the new season with Daniel Ricciardo getting lapped before finishing sixth in his home race.

His new Russian team mate Daniil Kvyat didn't even make it to the grid, withdrawing before the start with gearbox failure.

"When we were winning, and we were never winning with an advantage that Mercedes has, double diffusers were banned, exhausts were moved, flexible bodywork was banned, engine mapping was changed mid-season – anything was done to pull us back," Horner told reporters.

"The FIA, within the rules, have an equalization mechanism; I think it's something that perhaps they need to look at."

Mercedes team boss Toto Wolff had little sympathy for Red Bull, accusing their rivals of moaning because they were losing.

"If you try to beat each other and perform at the highest level and then you need equalization after the first race – you cry out after the first race – that's not how we've done things in the past," Wolff said.

- Julian Linden / Reuters

THANYAPURA PHUKET

SONGKRAN SPORTS CAMP

HAVE FUN & GET FIT THIS BREAK

*Weekly rate starting from
2,000 THB
Daily drop in rate available!

SWIM TENNIS TRIATHLON

MULTI-SPORTS

13-17, 20-24 APR 2015
9:30AM - 5:00PM

reservations@thanyapura.com
www.thanyapura.com
thanyapura

#SummerSportsCamp