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INSIDE TODAY

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20 Baht

■ 'BANNED: SEXY OUTFITS, SEXY DANCING AND BOOZE' Songkran bans

■ Police vow to strictly enforce party 'play rules'

By **Chutharat Plerin**

NO SEXY outfits, sexy dancing, alcohol in water-play zones and no rolling water-fight trucks are allowed in Phuket during the Songkran festival on April 13-14.

Though similar bans were made last year, and saw no reported arrests, Phuket Provincial Police Deputy Commander Teeraphol Thipjaroen warned the public that enforcement in order preserve the traditional aspects of the cultural event would be strict.

Drunk revellers and people caught drinking alcohol in water-play zones across Phuket during Songkran will be removed from the zones and may face charges, Lt Col Teeraphol explained.

"This includes Soi Bangla, in Patong," Col Teeraphol said. "If you want to drink, do so in the bars, but do not carry your drinks into the street. People behaving drunk and disorderly will be removed and may face charges, depending on their behavior."

Also banned from the festivities is mixing powder, ice or foam with water used to 'bless' fellow Songkran celebrants. Additionally, high-pressure water guns and other dangerous devices are also banned.

"If possible, use only a traditional water bowl for offering water blessings," advised Phuket City Police Superintendent Kraithong Chanthongbai.

The crackdown on 'inappropriate' celebra-



Police will be patrolling the island to ensure tourists and locals are playing safe. Photo: Gazette file

tions follows a national order to support and promote a more traditional Songkran festival this year.

"People should dress appropriately, ideally in traditional Thai costumes, and avoid any impolite dancing," Col Kraithong said.

The crackdown will be especially enforced at the alcohol-free 'Songkran No Al' party to be held at Limelight Avenue, opposite Queen Sirikit Park on Dibuk Road in Phuket Town, from 5-9pm on April 13.

The aim of the 'no alcohol' party is to help

reduce the number of deaths in road accidents during the holidays, Phuket Governor Nisit Jansomwong explained at a press conference last week.

"Alcohol causes 39.1 per cent of road accidents," Governor Nisit said.

"The number is even higher for people who ride motorbikes. So urging youths to not drink and drive can help reduce the number of road accidents during the holidays."

Songkran Special Page 33

Nanny arrested for rape, killing of 1-year-old

A MALE nanny wanted for the alleged rape and killing of a 1-year-old boy, surrendered to police Monday night. However, the 38-year-old man has denied the allegations.

The man fled Vachira Hospital after calling the baby's mother and informing her of the death, which he claimed occurred from a fall.

Full Story Page 3

Armed robbers target massage shop – pay day

POLICE are hunting five armed robbers after they held up a spa in Phuket Town and made off with 500,000 baht cash last week.

About 10 tourists were held at gunpoint as three of the robbers snatched the pay-day salaries of the masseuses before joining their conspirators on getaway motorbikes.

Full Story Page 3

First underpass officially opens for Phuket

DESPITE the Darasamut Underpass being treated to a grand opening ceremony on Monday, the island's first underpass did not open to traffic until Tuesday.

The underpass only had two lanes open during the week, but is expected to have all three lanes open by Saturday.

Full Story Page 5

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This Week



Business

Tourist attractions shift from beaches to luxury malls. **Page 11**



Charity

Big Bike Week revs up to raise funds for good causes. **Page 27**



Environment

Former Miss Universe stands up for gibbons. **Page 28**



Food

Pop down to Phuket Town and eat at The Food Gallery. **Page 29**



In Focus

See guys dancing? Banning images is nothing new. **Page 31**



Sport

Kids take the lead at Thanyapura's Superkidz Triathlon. **Page 34**

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Sunday



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Monday



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Campaign launched to help comatose 3-year-old tourist

By Phuket Gazette

AN ONLINE campaign is gaining momentum to raise funds for a 3-year-old Russian girl who lies comatose in a Bangkok hospital after falling unnoticed into a swimming pool at a Phuket resort.

Vasilisa Sagunova arrived in Phuket with her parents on March 27. That same day she fell into a pool at the resort where they were staying, reports the Save Vasilisa! Facebook group.

The Facebook group's posts did not identify which resort the family had been staying at in Phuket.

Her parents quickly realized that Vasilisa was missing and started searching for her, but no one immediately thought to look in the pool.

After finding and retrieving Vasilisa, her parents rushed her to hospital. She received immediate treatment and was then transported to a hospital in Bangkok.

For days, Vasilisa remained in critical condition. Doctors operated successfully to relieve swelling of her brain, but she remains unconscious.

While comatose, Vasilisa is also receiving medication to fight a lung infection.

Doctors at Samitivej Srinakarin



An online campaign has been launched to help Vasilisa. Photo: Facebook

Hospital in Bangkok have issued a 'Fit to fly' notice, but her parents are scrambling to raise funds to fly their daughter home.

Anyone interested in making a donation can find details for doing so on the Save Vasilisa! Facebook group page.

Bangkok-Phuket bus flips in Krabi, 20 people injured

A BUS travelling from Bangkok to Phuket overturned in Krabi on April 4, leaving at least one woman seriously injured.

Officers arrived at the scene of the crash, in the Khao To area in Krabi's northernmost district Plai Praya, at about 6:30am.

"The driver had fled the scene," said Capt Prasert Jamsai of Plai Phraya Police.

"The bus belongs to Phuket Central Co Ltd. There were 33 passengers on board, all Thai. About 20 of them suffered minor cuts and bruises."

Wipawee Sriracha suffered a head injury and was conscious



Twenty people were injured. Photo: Kusol Sattha Foundation

when she was taken to hospital, he added.

"The injured passengers were taken to Plai Phraya Hospital and Thap Put Hospital," Capt Prasert said.

"We contacted the bus company so we can locate the driver."

— Kritsada Mueanhawong

British tourist found dead in hotel bathtub

POLICE believe that a combination of two common drugs, Alprazolam and Nytol, may have led to the death of a British man in the bathtub in his Patong hotel room on Monday night.

Hotel staffers at the Baan Yin Dee Boutique Resort on Muean Ngen Road found the body of Arif Abdul Khalid Ukaye, 33, in his guest room at about 11:30pm.

Staff entered the room after Mr Ukaye failed to check out at midday, said Lt Thawatchai Srimai of Patong Police.

"There were no signs of a struggle and the room showed no signs of being rummaged by thieves," Lt Thawatchai told the Gazette.



Opened packs of Nytol and Alprazolam were found in the room.

"We believe he died about seven hours before his body was found."

Police found an opened bottle of alcohol in the room and two packets of Alprazolam on the bed.

"One packet had been used," Lt Thawatchai said. "We also found

a partly used packet of Nytol."

Doctors at Patong Hospital confirmed the cause of Mr Ukaye's death as a heart attack, Lt Thawatchai told the Gazette.

"His relatives have been notified of his death," he added.

— Kritsada Mueanhawong

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Armed robbers knock over Phuket spa for B500k

POLICE are hunting five armed robbers after they held up a spa in Phuket Town and made off with 500,000 baht cash on April 5.

The robbery took place at about 9:45pm at Imperial Spa, near Chaofa Variety market, in Wichit, said Phuket Provincial Police Deputy Commander Pinit Sirichai.

There were about 10 Chinese customers present at the time, confirmed Col Pinit.

CCTV footage from the spa shows three armed suspects, wearing white gloves and

full-faced helmets, drive a motorbike into the lobby of the massage parlor. In the video, one man threatens customers at gunpoint, while the other two armed suspects run behind the counter, quickly threatening the three staffers before snatching the cash and driving off.

"Two other men were waiting for the three robbers on another motorbike outside the spa," said Col Pinit.

Police are investigating the possibility of

a staffer's involvement in the crime, confirmed Col Pinit.

"We believe someone who works at the spa might have taken part in the robbery, as the suspects knew that it was pay day and they came in at the exact moment when all of the cash was out to be counted," said Col Pinit.

"We will bring the suspects to justice as soon as possible."

— Kritsada Mueanhawong



CCTV footage captured two suspects threatening spa staffers during the robbery.

Man surrenders to police for alleged rape, murder of baby

By Kritsada Mueanhawong

A MALE nanny wanted for the alleged rape and killing of a 1-year-old boy in Phuket Town surrendered to police Monday night. However, the 38-year-old man has denied the allegations.

"Mr Somsak tried to hide in Phang Nga, but we urged his family to convince him to turn himself in," Phuket City Police Deputy Superintendent Khunnadet Nanongkhai said on Tuesday.

"He surrendered to police at Phuket City Police Station at about 9pm Monday night, but denied having raped and killed the baby."

Mr Somsak called the child's mother last Friday night to tell her that the baby had fallen to his death. He then met the baby's mother, named by police only as 'Mon', that night at the hospital before fleeing.

"The body of the baby was taken to Vachira Phuket Hospital, where



Mr Somsak turned himself in to police on Monday. Photo: Phuket City Police

doctors were able to identify signs of bruising, as well as signs of the baby having been raped," said Lt Ronnaphum Permpoon of the Phuket City Police.

Ms Mon works at a karaoke bar and hired Mr Somsak to watch her baby.

"I have two children that I am

raising alone," Ms Mon said.

"I knew Somsak, as he is my friend's boyfriend. He volunteered to watch the baby if I paid him."

Mr Somsak began taking care of the child about two months ago, watching him for a few days or even a week at a time. Ms Mon's three-year-old daughter

was taken care of by a neighbor.

"Every time Mr Somsak returned my baby to me, I found bruises and he looked scared," Ms Mon said. "However, I assumed he had just been punished for being naughty."

"About a week ago, he took the baby for me. Then, I received a call on Friday night [April 3] saying that my baby was dead. I rushed to the emergency room at Vachira Phuket Hospital. My heart was broken when I saw his body."

The body was taken to Region 8 Police headquarters for an autopsy. Col Khunnadet confirmed on Wednesday that police had yet to receive the autopsy report.

"However, case investigator Lt Ronnaphum Permpoon of the Phuket City Police has spoken with doctors at Region 8 Police, and they said that they had not found any visible signs of sexual assault, but added that they had yet to conclude their tests," he said.

Chinese tourist dies on Phi Phi snorkelling trip

A CHINESE tourist died while on a snorkelling day-trip to Phi Phi Island on April 2.

Xu Weixiang, 43, was snorkelling at Loh Mudee Bay with about 30 tourists from Phuket, said Lt Col Danai Niyomdech of the Krabi City Police.

"The tour guide said Mr Xu was snorkelling with the others, but at about 4pm he was found floating face down in the water," Col Danai said.

Alerted by the fact that Mr Xu was motionless, the tour guide had him quickly retrieved from the water, he said.

"Mr Xu was given CPR [cardiopulmonary resuscitation] and rushed by speedboat to Phi Phi Hospital," Col Danai explained. "However, Mr Xu was pronounced dead on arrival."

Doctors confirmed the cause of death as drowning, he added.

The Chinese consulate in Phuket had been notified of the incident, Col Dani confirmed.

— Kritsada Mueanhawong



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Dealer caught with B4mn worth of meth

POLICE arrested a drug dealer on April 3 found in possession of *ya bah* (methamphetamine) pills with a street value of more than 4 million baht.



Mr Wuttichai.

Wuttichai Boonnga was arrested at the Tah Chat Chai checkpoint at about 4am as he attempted to leave Phuket.

"Inside [Mr Wuttichai's car] police found 10 *ya bah* pills and about 700mg of *ya ice* [crystal methamphetamine]," said Tah Chat Chai Police Deputy Superintendent Supawit Suwanpirom.

Police then raided his home.

"In his house, we found 21 packages of *ya bah*, each package contained 195 pills," said Lt Col Supawit. "We continued our search and found 53 more packages, each containing 195 pills."

Mr Wuttichai was charged with possession of a Category 1 Drug with intent to sell.

— **Thawit Bilabdullar**

Boat beached on Kata

By Chris Husted

THE team attempting to salvage a 50-foot ketch stranded on the sand at Kata Beach made a second failed attempt to re-float it on Tuesday, nearly a week after the boat was beached by a passing storm.

The *Inisfail* of the Isles of Scilly was beached on April 1 after the boat drifted on her anchor. Attempts by the two Australian men on board failed to save the boat from becoming stranded.

The Aussies had recently arrived in Phuket from near Ranong when they were caught out by the storm, said Kirill Stashevsky of Phuket's Gokova Sailing School, who rendered assistance on April 2.

"It was also spring tide at about the same time, about midnight on Wednesday [April 1]," Mr Stashevsky said. "The yacht was on anchor at low tide, but they might not have had enough chain out to ensure the anchor stayed on the bottom. Other boats have been caught out by this at Kata before."

"The crew on board dropped a second anchor and tried to start



Mark Horwood (blue shirt) of Phuket's Latitude 8 boatyard inspects the salvage operation. Photo: Bob Mott

the engine, but it wouldn't start. They also tried to hoist the sails, but they didn't have enough time."

Co-ordinated efforts on April 2, using old-fashioned manpower and a 40-tonne crane, managed to turn the boat's bow to sea, though the starboard gunwhale was dam-

aged in the process.

Attempts to re-float the boat on Tuesday also failed. As of Tuesday evening, the boat was still stranded on Kata Beach.

The Aussies who were on board the boat when it became stranded have reportedly returned to

Australia, the *Gazette* was told.

They have also reportedly hired Mark Horwood of Phuket's Latitude 8 boatyard to direct the salvage operation, along with staff and equipment from Coconuts Chalong boatyard headed by Manop Seerirattikan.

Poll asks readers how to keep lifeguards on Phuket beaches

AS REGULAR as the return of the deadly rainy-season surf that will soon lurk off Phuket's west coast, the island is again facing the reality of not having any lifeguards on the beaches to save and protect swimmers – tourists and residents alike – from drowning.

The lifeguards packed up their life-saving equipment and walked off Phuket's beaches at 6:30pm on March 26, the president of the Phuket Lifeguard Club confirmed to the *Gazette*.

That night, a Surin Beach lifeguard told the *Gazette* that they had crossed the red-yellow flags for the last time, indicating the closure of the safe-swimming area.

"Lifeguards have managed to keep Surin Beach drowning free for more than five years. Neighboring beaches, such as Bang Tao and Laem Singh, have not been so lucky, with numerous drownings occurring there over that same period," he said.

"Surin Beach Lifeguards have closed the swimming area for the last time as money for lifesaving services has run out. The loss of ocean lifeguards across Phuket comes as the monsoon season and the dangerous rip currents that come with it are approaching."

"The crossed red and yellow flags indicate the closing of the safe swimming area – usually just for the day – but the lifeguards will not be returning. When the lifeguards will return is unknown at this time."

This year, as with years past, no one filed a bid for the concession to provide lifeguards to patrol the beaches. Not even the Phuket



The lifeguards walked off Phuket's beaches on March 26.

Lifeguard Club, which has provided the essential life-saving service for years.

In our latest poll, we ask *Gazette* readers how we should hire our lifeguards to ensure they can keep safeguarding swimmers at our beaches uninterrupted of bureaucratic hurdles. Should they be hired as full-time employees, instead of hired by an annual contract that expires each year?

In short, "What is the best way to hire Phuket's lifeguards?"

Responses available are:

Make them full-time government employees.

Make them full-time employees, but not necessarily government.

Keep the annual contract, but deadlines for renewal must be brought forward.

Keep the annual contract as used now, it is the best solution.

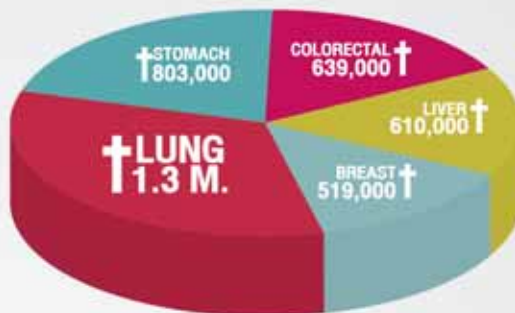
To vote, visit PhuketGazette.net.

— **Phuket Gazette**

See 'No time to let our guard down' on page 10.

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Flights unaffected as protest strikes airport

By Kritsada Mueanhawong

NO FLIGHTS at Phuket International Airport were affected by a protest by contracted baggage handlers and cabin cleaners at the airport on April 4, the *Gazette* confirmed.

"All flights are continuing on schedule. No flights are affected," said airport director Monrudee Gettuphan on April 4.

Workers for Pan Thai Air staged a protest over claims that the workers would be allowed only four days of holiday over Songkran, which will begin on April 11.

News of the protest resulted in rumors rippling across Thai social media websites of delays of at least four flights.

Pan Thai Air is a private logistics company contracted to load and unload luggage and provide cabin-cleaning services for major



No flights at Phuket International Airport were affected by the protests. Photo: Andy Mitchell

airlines at the facility.

Among the company's clients are THAI Airways, Nok Air, Bangkok Airways, Qantas, Gulf Air and Emirates airlines and others.

Workers' representatives and company management held talks following the conflict to resolve the issue, Mr Monrudee said.

It was confirmed to the *Gazette*

by a Pan Thai Air staffer on Wednesday that the company's management had settled the issue with its employees, who were granted the desired holiday time.

Grand opening of underpass delayed again



The underpass should be open by Saturday. Photo: Highways Department

DESPITE the Darasamut Underpass being treated to a grand opening ceremony on Monday, the island's first underpass did not open to traffic until Tuesday.

"We expected to open the underpass after the ceremony, but we had to fix the electric lane markers," said Samak Luedwonghad, director of the Phuket Highways Office.

"Two lanes are now open: one heading southbound and the other northbound. The lane closest to HomeWorks will be closed for a few days while we check the electric lane markers to ensure that they work properly.

"We expect all three lanes to be open on Saturday."

— Chutharat Plerin

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Signs warning swimmers to be cautious have been written in different languages. Photo: Rawai PR

Rawai staff to bolster safety at Nai Harn

RAWAI staff are now on watch at Nai Harn lagoon as part of a move to improve safety after the drowning of 9-year-old Sarun Srisongkram on March 30.

"School breaks are coming up and I am worried about children drowning in the lagoon," Rawai Mayor Aroon Solos said.

There will be at least one staff member from the Rawai Municipality Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM) keeping watch at the lagoon starting from midday to about sunset. Another staffer will be added on busy days, such as during the upcoming Songkran holiday.

However, this doesn't alleviate parents of their responsibility to protect their children and ensure their safety, added Mr Aroon.

"I again want to urge parents to take responsibility for their children and try to prevent drownings. Many children have died already; we do not want anymore. We can not watch your kids for you at all times. Please do not leave them alone," Mr Aroon said.

Four new warning signs have been placed around the lagoon in three different languages: Thai, Chinese and English.

– Chutharat Plerin

Umbrellas, sun loungers seized in raid on Lay Pang, Surin Beach

MORE than 100 pieces of beach furniture were seized in northern Phuket on Tuesday, following complaints of beach encroachment being filed to the Thalang District Office.

"About 30 officers from the Thalang District Office and Cherng Talay Administration Organization (OrBorTor) took part in the raid on Lay Pang Beach and Surin Beach," said Thalang District Office Chief Administrative Officer (Palad) Siripong Leeprasit.

"Since nobody stepped forward to claim the assortment of items spread out along the

beaches, both inside and outside the 10-per-cent zone, we filed a complaint to the Cherng Talay Police."

Mr Siripong expects the police to track down the owners of the furniture and charge them with encroachment.

Mr Siripong pointed out that even items within the 10-per-cent zones are not to be left out by operators as a way of claiming space.

"Vendors must follow the rules, or they will be arrested and charged for encroaching on the beach," he said. – Chutharat Plerin



Umbrellas were seized. Photo: Thalang District Office

Selfie taken by motorbiker raises road-safety concerns

By Kritsada Mueanhawong

FEARS of distracted Phuket drivers were heightened following a woman on a motorbike who was spotted taking a selfie as she was driving.

"I saw a girl take a selfie on my way to Pa Khlok the other day – this is incredibly dangerous," Phuket Governor Nisit Jamsomwong told a meeting of about 100 officers who were preparing for the Songkran road-safety campaign. "This was my first time witnessing such dangerous behavior on the road. People must pay full attention when driving any vehicle."

Echoing Governor Nisit's fears of distracted teens taking to the road was Phuket Land Transportation Office (PLTO) Chief Terayout Prasertphol.

"The number of teens dying in road accidents increases every year. Most of the accidents are caused by reckless driving and people not following traffic laws," Mr Terayout said.

A number of checkpoints will be set up throughout Phuket



Don't mistake driving in Phuket as a selfie opportunity, says Governor Nisit. Photo: Ka-rlis Dambra-ns

from April 10-16 as part of the nationwide Songkran road-safety campaign. Officers will be checking to ensure that drivers are following road laws and not driving under the influence, without a licence or without a helmet (for motorcyclists).

Additionally, the PLTO is asking the Ministry of Tourism and Transport for mobile vehicle inspection devices that will allow them to ensure vehicles meet environmental regulations and are roadworthy.

"There will be a lot more

tourists on the island during the holiday, and we want to make sure that vehicles transporting tourists are safe," Mr Terayout said. "We will also be conducting spot checks of bus drivers to ensure that they aren't driving under the influence."

Ex-lifeguard attacks Russian women

AN OUT-OF-WORK lifeguard faces a 4,000-baht fine and up to three years in prison for attacking two Russian tourists on Karon Beach on March 30.

Jaruy Wongkleang, 31, surrendered to Karon Police on March 31 after Marina Panko and Iana Savchenko, both 24, filed a report of the assault which took place in broad daylight the day before.

"One of the women suffered minor injuries to her foot and toes after he stomped on them, and the other was punched in the stomach," said Lt Weerayut Saebang of the Karon Police.

Both women were taken to Patong Hospital for treatment and to confirm that they had not suffered any further, more serious injuries, he added.

The tourists reported that they were sitting on Karon Beach when Mr Jaruy approached them and seemingly asked them for money.

"They could not understand each other, and they ended up ar-



Mr Jaruy was charged for assault. Photo: Karon Police

guing. Then Mr Jaruy stomped on one of them and hit the other," explained Lt Weerayut.

The women ran off, and quickly found a police officer on patrol close to the beach.

"The officer returned to the scene of the attack with the two women, but they could not find him," Lt Weerayut told the Gazette.

"We checked CCTV and were able to later identify Mr Jaruy as

the attacker. We asked local people in the area to keep an eye out for him and inform us if they saw him."

Lt Weerayut confirmed that Mr Jaruy walked into the police station on Tuesday night and confessed to the attack, but said that he had lost his temper over one of the women raising her middle finger at him.

"Despite his story being different, we charged Mr Jaruy with assault," Lt Weerayut said.

"What penalty he faces is now up to the judge."

Kata-Karon chief lifeguard Uten Singsom confirmed to the Gazette that Mr Jaruy was recently a lifeguard, until the annual contract to patrol the beaches expired last month, leaving all Phuket beaches without lifeguards.

"Yes, he was a lifeguard," Mr Uten said. "And I am very surprised – and very disappointed – to hear of this."

– Kongleaphy Keam

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Phuket pilots trafficking blitz

By Chutharat Plerin

DEPARTMENT of Fisheries Inspector-General Khemchat Jewprasart arrived in Phuket on April 1 to launch a 10-day blitz on inspecting fishing boats in order to crack down on human trafficking in the area.

Phuket, Chumphon, Ranong and Songkhla were the first provinces in the country to pilot the crackdown, Mr Khemchat said.

"A temporary center has been opened at the fishing port in Rassada, where all fishing boats arriving and departing the port must first be cleared by officials," he said.

"Officers will check boat registration, fishing licences and work permits of any foreign crew. The aim is to prevent the human trafficking in the fishing industry."

Several fishing operators welcomed the move to crack down

on human trafficking, but criticized the clearance procedure as too long.

"Checking every single boat every day costs us time," said Apinun Jatuput, owner of Sor Pornchainavee fish-processing plant.

"Checking fishing boats to prevent human trafficking is a good

thing, and it will improve Thailand's image in fighting human trafficking, but it takes at least 30 minutes to clear one boat.

"Each boat has about 30 workers on board and

many fishing boats arrive and leave the port at the same time. That costs us a lot of time before we can get out to sea. We need to get in and get out at the right times, according to the tides."

Mr Apinun suggested that officials conduct random checks on boats on one day on every five,

'Officers will check boat registration, fishing licences and work permits of any foreign crew. The aim is to prevent the human trafficking in the fishing industry'

– Khemchat Jewprasart, Inspector-General, Department of Fisheries



Department of Fisheries Inspector-General Khemchat Jewprasart joined the inspection. Photo: Marine Police

instead of on every boat for all 10 days of the blitz.

Fellow fishing boat operator Surasit Sripanmat agreed.

"This new policy will affect us

for sure. I agree with preventing human trafficking, but now we are the victim," he said.

"Many boats use this port. We all depart at the same time in the

evening, and we all came back in the morning. Our boats must go out every day, as the owners must pay their workers whether the boat goes out fishing or not."

Police laugh off B875mn CCTV installation prank after April Fool's Day



Col Peerayuth laughed off rumors of the CCTV installation.

PHUKET Police have confirmed that the rumored installation of 6,000 CCTV cameras on the island in order to catch high-speed motorists is a prank.

The message shared on April 1 on various social media sites stated that each camera would cost about US\$4,500 (about 146,000 baht apiece) and would have the capability to turn 360 degrees and capture high-resolution images.

Phuket Provincial Police Deputy Commander Peerayuth Karajedee told the *Gazette* on April 2 that he was aware of the story being shared and laughed when asked to confirm.

"I am aware of the shares, but

as it was April Fool's Day yesterday, please do not take it seriously," he said.

Col Peerayuth pointed out that Phuket did not have the budget to buy that many new CCTV cameras, and were still trying to fix the ones they already have.

If the rumor were true, the government would be spending more than 875 million baht on CCTV cameras in Phuket alone.

"At the moment we do what we can, which is fixing the 132 CCTV cameras that are out of order across the island," he said.

"In the meantime, police are doing their best to uphold public safety."

– Chutharat Plerin

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AROUND THE nation

Student from Northeastern Thailand wins literary honor



Ms Kantawan (center). Photo: The Nation

THE winners of the 10th Junior Dublin Literary Awards for Thailand were announced on April 3, with the top honor going to a young student from the northeast.

The event, under the theme 'Two Worlds', attracted some 1,000 entries from students nationwide, and the top national honor went to Kantawan Magkunthod from Udonpittayanukoon School in the Northeast province of Udon Thani.

Ms Kantawan, who walked away with a 10,000-baht cash prize and certificate, will also have a chance to attend the senior International IMPAC Dublin Literary Awards.

City Life Chiang Mai, which oversaw the contest in the North, announced the regional winner as Angie Kim Tran from Lanna International School in Chiang Mai, while the *Phuket Gazette*, which organized the contest in the South, announced the winner as Apichaya Mugem from Mahavajiravudh Songkhla School. In the Central/Bangkok region, Justin Potisit from International School Eastern Seaboard in Chon Buri won.

The main objectives of the contest are to enhance creative English-language writing skills of Thai students and to encourage innovative thinking.

The keynote speaker at the ceremony was Anusorn Tipayanon, the author of *London* and *The Secret of a Kiss*, who shared his experience and offered some tips to all the young writers.

The competition was open to Thai students in Thailand between the ages of 14 and 18. They were required to write a themed essay of between 800 and 1,200 words.

Detained students confess to bombings in Deep South

NARATHIWAT police chief Maj Gen Patthanawuth Angkhanawin confirmed on Monday that four Princess of Naradhiwas University students currently in detention had confessed to their roles in three bombings in Narathiwat Municipality area on February 20, which resulted in 13 people injured and 47 homes damaged.

The most damaging of the February 20 bombs was hidden in a pickup truck parked in front of a karaoke bar, not far from a Chinese shrine. The blast was detonated in the afternoon, and left four people seriously injured and nine others with moderate wounds, reported *The Nation*.

The arrest warrants were issued after police led a raid on April 2, which saw 22 suspects arrested. Of those detained, 18 were found to be innocent, while the four students, whose names are being withheld, remain in custody.

Police said that the vehicle had been stolen from its owner, who was killed in a recent insurgent ambush in Songkhla.

Insisting that the detention of the four students was based on evidence and that no coercion or torture had been used to get the confession, Maj Gen Patthanawuth said authorities were also hunting for seven accomplices.

Meanwhile, a village headman



The car bomb that detonated in Narathiwat on February 20 left four people seriously injured and nine others with moderate wounds. Photo: The Nation

assistant, Ahama Da-oh, 55, lost both legs after he accidentally stepped on a pipe bomb planted in his rubber plantation in Narathiwat's Suangai Padi district on Monday morning.

Police suspect that an ill-intentioned group carried out this attack to create daily unrest in the region.

On April 5, a bomb planted inside a foot-long metal pipe on a

high-voltage pole in Tambon Bana of Pattani's Muang district was destroyed.

As of Wednesday, authorities were searching for three more bombs after receiving tip-offs.

South Korea bans Thai airlines amid safety concerns

SOUTH Korea has started banning charter flights from Thailand over safety concerns after Thai negotiators from the Civil Aviation Department failed to convince officials to ease restrictions.

A source in the Civil Aviation Department said on Monday that the ban began on April 4, reported *The Nation*.

A Thai civil aviation team was involved in the first round of talks with South Korean civil aviation authorities last week.

The negotiation centered on the International Civil Aviation Organisation's (ICAO) safety concerns about charter flights operated by Thailand-registered airlines.

"Earlier, South Korea unofficially banned charter flights from Thailand entering the country. But after the negotiation on April 4, the Civil Aviation Department was officially informed of the ban. There will be no relaxing of the restriction like Japan did on April 2," the source said.

The Civil Aviation Department chief said the South Koreans had banned three Thai air-



South Korea has banned three airlines, including Jet Asia. Photo: Mj-bird

lines: Asia Atlantic, Jet Asia and Asian Air.

He said about 10,000 passengers who were scheduled to fly to South Korea or leaving South Korea in April would be affected, Thai PBS reported.

Regular flights from Thailand will not be affected, although an increase in flights will not be permitted, Civil Aviation Department director general Somchai Piputwat said.

Despite the ban, he said, South Korean civil aviation authorities understood the problem faced by Thailand, and that Thailand would continue to try and persuade the South Koreans to relax the restriction in the same way the Japanese authorities did.

The safety concerns were raised last month during the ICAO's audit of the Civil Aviation Department.

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Stay hydrated during hot months: health officials

THE Public Health Ministry has warned the public about the dangers of heat stroke during the summer, with those most at risk, such as the elderly and outdoor workers, advised to stay hydrated.

Bureau of Epidemiology statistics from 2003-2013 found that 196 people – most of whom were elderly, outdoor workers, chroni-

cally ill or alcohol drinkers – died from heat stroke. In March and April of 2013 alone, 20 people died.

Disease Control Department chief Dr Sapon Mekthong said that hot weather could affect people's health at four levels: from sunburn and heat cramps to heat exhaustion and heat stroke, *The Nation* reported.

Dr Sapon said that heat stroke was the result of the body temperature rising above 40 degrees Celsius.

Symptoms of heat stroke include a throbbing headache; lack of sweat; dizziness; disorientation; rapid and shallow breathing; an abnormal heartbeat; seizures; and unconsciousness.

Turning tides against IUUs

FIRST PERSON

THE Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) trade of toothfish has invariably come to be linked to Southeast Asia, the gateway for the fish – a point where the poaching vessels offload their catch and channel them through for processing and distribution. There's a reason why these poachers call upon the countries in Southeast Asia, and that is the limitations in these countries' national laws which allow the vessels to have a jurisdictional invisibility, which in turn facilitates their operations.

In this maze, a number of international laws are required to come together to prosecute toothfish poaching crimes. The countries often find their efforts not hindered by intention, but by national legislation.

Toothfish poachers are aware of the lapses in national and international law and use this knowledge to stay one step ahead of traditional law-enforcement measures.

However, these poaching vessels have recently been given different reception in Southeast Asia.

They have been tackled from two fronts during the 2014-15 fishing season: patrols in Antarctica and detentions in port. The patrols at sea put an end to the poaching immediately by clearing the fishing grounds of poachers and restoring protection to marine life and the fish stocks, while at the same time collecting evidence against the poaching vessels. The measures against the vessel in port ultimately lead to investigations and prosecutions of the vessels, their



Siddharth Chakravarty, captain of *The Steve Irwin*, has been working for the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society and battling on the frontlines of marine conservation since 2011. Since then, he and his crew have managed to combat Japanese whalers, protect the Whale Sanctuary in the Southern

Ocean, save sharks in the South Pacific and much more.

Here, he talks about the turning of tides against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing trades and their traditional Southeast Asian safe havens.

owners and operators.

After a decade-long hiatus of inaction, this year has seen a coordinated and channelled effort to shut the poachers down. With the Environmental Crimes Sub-Directorate of Interpol issuing Purple notices against five of six vessels suspected of IUU operations in the Southern Ocean, the 190 member countries now have enough information to detain these vessels. As opposed to in the past, when each Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (RFMO) issued its own lookout, with the centralized Interpol notices the poachers are suddenly "wanted" vessels and local authorities are empowered to look for and report them.

The detention of the *Kunlun* in Phuket took place under local laws such as mis-reporting her catch of toothfish as grouper and the incorrect manning of the vessel. This allowed the Thai Port State Control to detain the vessel using national laws. Having established

an initial violation of local law, Interpol was summoned to assist with checking on violations in regard to the Purple-notice alert. Interpol can now determine the extent of the crimes of the *Kunlun* and tie her down to the breaking of rules in the Southern Ocean, connect the dots back to her ownership and also determine the channels used to transport the fish out of Southeast Asia and into the international market.

The bigger advantage of working with the assistance of Interpol is that at no expense to the countries themselves, Interpol's teams are permanently available to support the countries.

This will help countries like Thailand to look beyond national laws and investigate all vessels that call their ports, irrespective of the location of their fishing grounds and/or their nationalities.

The tide is turning against the poachers with the traditional safe havens for them in Southeast Asia ceasing to exist.



Water play usually starts after family traditions. Photo: Kazuhiro Nakamura

Songkran etiquette

Island View

By Debbie Adams

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

AS THE Songkran holiday nears, we are continually reminded of the dangers on the road during the Thai New Year festival. Drivers fight traffic on wet, slippery roads while simultaneously getting pummeled in the face with ice water.

Officials have made it clear that this year they are determined to make this holiday more about tradition and less about what has come to be known as one of the most epic water fights in the world.

Rules implemented include the ban of sexy outfits, high-pressured water guns, water-fight trucks, the mixing of foam or ice with play water and more.

With all of this talk of new regulations to bring back more of what is traditional, I feel that they missed a huge opportunity to actually explain what a traditional Songkran entails.

I decided to do some research and actually found it difficult to find consistent information. However, there were a few key points that were repeated, and then reiterated by my local friends.

The word Songkran actually means the changing position of the sun from Aries to Taurus, and the holiday more or less correlates with the changing of seasons on Earth from winter to spring. New life equals new year.

People generally start off by cleaning their homes to symbolically rid it of bad luck from the previous year and welcome the new one with a clean start.

The water that we have all

come to love and loathe, traditionally represents cleansing and renewal. It is poured gently onto images of Buddha in homes and in temples. If you choose to participate in this, be sure not to pour water onto the head, as it is generally poured on the torso.

Water is also used to show signs of respect and blessings toward your elders and family members. The water is usually poured gently over the shoulders or on the hands, as good wishes and blessings are uttered for the new year.

The water play is usually reserved for the younger generation after their religious and family traditions have finished for the day, but that doesn't mean you won't see everyone joining the fun.

So as this Songkran festival gets underway, remember the tradition and values that people revere during this special time. Think twice before you throw a bucket of ice water onto an older person walking down the street, maybe opt to pour water onto their hands and say, 'Sawadee Pi Mai!' (happy new year) with a great big smile. I'm sure they will be surprised and delighted.

But most of all, have fun, be safe, be respectful and have a happy new year!

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

Is Soi Sansabai a fire hazard?

I NOTE with regularity that Soi Sansabai at night is more or less impassable to any motor vehicle, other than perhaps a scooter.

The street is full of parked motorcycles, at some places up to three or four bikes deep. There are so many motorbikes parked in the street that they even pose a hazard to people potentially trying to evacuate a building.

If there is a fire in one of the many hotels and guesthouses there, which are full in high season, how will the fire brigade be able to respond with the street blocked?

Burning concern,
Patong

Sampawat Wannasangkam, an officer at the Patong Municipality Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM) office, replies:

Soi Sansabai is a private street, and the owner has the right to allow motorbikes to be parked there.

However, we do keep an eye on how many vehicles are parked on the street. Our fire trucks are small enough to access all the buildings while some motorbikes are parked along the sides of the street.

If at any time you believe there are so many cars and motorbikes on Soi Sansabai that it endangers our ability to fight any fires that may break out there, please call us directly at Tel: 076-342600 or call the Patong Fire Department 24-hour hotline at Tel: 199.

Curious about condominium laws

I RECENTLY attended an annual general meeting (AGM) for a company that controls a condominium building. The attendees at the meeting wanted to vote differently on a particular topic, which raised the issues of what number constitutes a quorum, what role do proxies play and the distribution of voting rights.

Where can I find relevant information and literature about this? In particular, I want read up on the Thailand Condominium Act and the rules about voting rights and vote counting at AGMs.

WJ,
Patong

Friedrich Sam Fauma, Senior

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

Submit your issue at

www.PuketGazette.net/IssuesAnswers

Partner, Director and Advisor at the International Law Office, replies:

For general information about the Condo Act of Thailand, we suggest you go online to <http://tdc.thailis.or.th/tdc/>.

This website contains central information linked between all

major publications scripted by Thai universities. The site provides legal journals and theses free of charge.

This web portal is considered one of most reliable sources of legal information in Thailand. On this website, you will find plenty of information discussing the Condo Act, regulations regarding annual general meetings, and so on.

However, please note that all the links are in Thai language.

To view the Condo Act itself – in Thai, of course – you may wish to try <http://www.krisdika.go.th/wps/portal/general>

If you still have questions after reading these sources, we suggest you seek legal advice.

No time to let our guard down

THE Phuket Provincial Administration Organization (PPAO) and the Phuket Provincial Governor's Office must take emergency measures to return lifeguards to active duty at west coast beaches as soon as possible.

The two key governmental offices must also work out a long-term solution to end the annual contract disputes that have left beaches unpatrolled for long periods in recent years – and at the worst possible time: just before the annual southwest monsoon returns to whip up the surf into a lethal maelstrom.

Events in Phuket since the National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO) took control over almost a year ago have shone the spotlight on security issues facing Phuket, with much of the focus correctly trained on illegal activities at the west-coast beaches.

Except for a few exceptions, most notably the notorious jet-ski rental industry, these threats have been neutralized, at least for now. Simultaneously, the island's most precious natural resources have rightfully returned to the public domain, where they can best serve as a natural tourism asset – rather than as a veritable flock of golden geese for corrupt local politicians, state officials and their minions.

Unfortunately, annual contract disputes between long-time service provider the Phuket Life Club (PLC) and its concessionaire the PPAO remind us that the key component of beach safety – drowning prevention – remains a serious and ultimately fatal flaw in our overall beach-management strategy.

The PPAO, under the stewardship of Paiboon 'The Pink Panther' Upatising, has maintained the regulatory transparent and cost-effective standards set for outsourcing the island-wide lifeguard concession under its annual bidding scheme.

One can only imagine how many more lives would have been lost, not to mention how much more money would have been wasted, had these concessions been locally administered by the same administrative bodies that now stand accused of operating the billion-baht beach plot rental scheme.

However, the failure once again to attract any bids under current PPAO requirements leaves these same beaches unguarded, even as the so-called "drowning season" rapidly approaches.

As with any international beach tourism destination with world-class pretensions – not to mention some of the world's statistically deadliest monsoon-season rip currents – Phuket must have lifeguards patrolling our beaches each and every day of the year.

It is depressing to think of how many times the phrase "ignored red flags and verbal warnings by lifeguards" has appeared in the reports of one drowning tragedy after another.

Each and every drowning death that occurs at a formerly patrolled beach will now serve as a reminder of the need to find solutions to a problem that, in essence, should not be hard to fix.



Change complaint hotline for taxi call center

A friend of mine recently arrived on the island, as he does every year to visit friends. My friend lived in Phuket for many years before moving back home, and this year he brought a friend who raised an excellent point.

On the sides of the legitimate taxis in Phuket is the 24-hour hotline number 1584. My friend follows the news and already knew that this is the number for filing complaints against taxi drivers.

His friend who came with him, however, had no idea – and thought the number was for calling a taxi, as is displayed in major tourism destinations around the world.

Having a 24-hour complaint hotline number emblazoned so prominently on taxis speaks tomes about the previous state of affairs regarding taxi drivers in Phuket.

But surely it is time to give the complaints hotline a back seat, and replace the number with a central hotline for ordering a taxi. Can we please do that now?

Tilde Chimbote
Phuket

Round of applause for Miss Universe, please

Re: *Gazette online, Former Miss Universe fights Phuket gibbon touts, Gazette online, April 6*

I applaud former Miss Universe Natalie Glebova! It is so nice to see a celebrity, even a minor one, cleaning up after themselves.

She made a very uninformed, innocent mistake, which actually in itself helped to highlight the problem of gibbons being used by touts (thank you media).

Now, to see her take real interest in the issue is most excellent.

I hope that those who do follow her on Instagram (where she posted the photo she took with a real gibbon) respond well to her new blitz campaign.

As it is, I'm sure the local

Letters to the Editor

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

media didn't mind having to run a picture of her again.

Trevor Green
Rawai

Bring them to justice

Re: *Gazette online, Phuket man-hunt launched for alleged rapist, baby killer, April 6*

There are so many aspects of this story that are horrifying.

It is bad enough that a man has allegedly physically abused, raped and killed a helpless, 1-year-old baby.

Then, there is the added element of the mother admitting that she had seen her child returned to her scared and covered in bruises, clear signs that he was being physically abused and emotionally tormented. Yet, she continued to hand him over to this nanny.

She told police that she had assumed the man was punishing her 1-year-old for being "naughty".

How does that in any way justify either the mother ignoring that her child was being abused or the abuse inflicted by the nanny?

Both of these adults need to be brought to justice for their parts in the death of this poor child.

Rest in peace, little one.

Tyree Boyd
Surin

Deaths will come to pass at the underpass

Re: *Gazette online, Phuket's first underpass officially open to traffic, Gazette online, April 7*

I was vocally skeptical of this project long before it began – in fact, I am waiting for all sorts of

accidents to occur.

In the land where ghost riding leads to plenty of bodies, this underpass will lead to deaths as well.

However, that is not the fault of those who built the underpass; it is a societal problem.

The underpass itself is beautiful. Watching it come together has been enjoyable. It looks sturdy, modern and quite nice.

I'm looking forward to taking advantage of it – I just hope it doesn't become haunted.

Tina Swift
Patong

We cannot multi-task

Re: *Gazette online, Motorbike selfie raises fears over driver safety, Gazette online, April 3*

Who are these idiots?

Not to take a common expat line of thought – the woman who was taking a selfie while driving a motorbike could have easily been of any nationality – but issue a warning? If the level of stupidity hits such a point, then let nature run its course. We already know that talking on the phone is dangerous, while driving a vehicle of any type and texting is even more dangerous.

The main issue is that we believe we can multi-task. The vast majority, about 98 per cent according to some studies, simply can not. What our brain does is flip rapidly between two or more focal points, which can almost feel like multi-tasking, when in reality we are just not paying attention...

Now, if we add an idiot staring at herself, thinking about how the wind hasn't quiet gotten her hair flowing right for the photo, then we are talking about an idiot who is surely on their way to ashes.

The real fear though is that she, or someone like her, will take another individual to the crematory with her.

Andy Churt
Patong

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Changing tourism tides

Phuket's new 'rule book' reads 'out with the beach, in with the shopping'

By Jules Kay

PHUKET'S reputation for attracting luxury tourists with its azure seas, coral sand coves and boutique resorts is being transformed by recent demographic shifts which are seeing wealthy visitors to the island spending more time away from the beach in pursuit of retail therapy.

Shopping is becoming the main activity for luxury travellers coming to Phuket from within the region. The fact that two multi-billion-baht retail developments are due to open by the end of next year are testament to the "new rule book" which has emerged for the island's tourism industry over the past few years, says Bill Barnett, managing director of C9 Hotelworks.

"Phuket is not about the beach anymore," he says. "The trend which we identified in our research in 2013, where more middle-class Asians are looking to spend their time away from the beach and in luxury malls, continues.

"Phuket will become known as a luxury retail destination as the demographics continue to change and shopping emerges as the key driver of tourism. It will no longer be about the legacy tourist market from Europe."

Nicki von Bueren, chief operating officer of Lotus Arts de Vivre, which has a boutique at Amanpuri, says the island's luxury resorts, yachting facilities and increased flight connectivity help bring more luxury visitors to the island, many of whom now spend more time shopping.

"In recent years Lotus Arts de Vivre has seen a steady develop-



The Mall Group is constructing the 20-billion-baht Blu Pearl Plaza in Kathu. Photo: Mall Group

ment in both the increase in the number of clients coming to our boutique on the island and in their diversity," he says. "We have always welcomed a large number of wealthy visitors from Europe, the United States, Hong Kong and Singapore. They are now being joined by an increasing number of luxury travellers from India and mainland China."

Statistics provide further evidence of the scale of the shift in tourism activities. Research by C9 Hotelworks shows that shopping is the second-largest expenditure after accommodation for interna-

tional visitors to Phuket. Retail accounts for about one quarter of their total spending, with three out of every four tourists spending time in a mall during their stay.

This trend is expected to grow with next year's launch of two projects from Thailand's leading retailers. The Mall Group is constructing Blu Pearl Plaza, a 20bn-baht retail and lifestyle center in central Kathu which will feature a waterpark, resort and an 8,000-seat conference and exhibition center. Meanwhile, Central Retail Corporation is investing more than 10bn baht to expand its

footprint on the island with the development of a new 300,000-square-meter center, which the retailer says will be the largest in Southern Thailand. Located opposite Central Festival Phuket, the complex will offer luxury retail outlets, global fashion brands, a new dining concept for the island, entertainment facilities and a large-scale convention hall.

When the project was announced, Tos Chirativat, CEO of the corporation, said: "The new era Central Festival Phuket, which will have a major launch at the end of 2016 with a grand opening bud-

get of over one billion baht, will help make Phuket a world-class city for luxury travellers. Phuket will never be the same again."

Changes are also taking place at the other end of the business spectrum. Rose Maitland Smith is pioneering high-end retail in Phuket's Old Town with her Old Town Gallery, which opened six months ago. The business, which is located in a renovated Sino-Portuguese shophouse on Thalang Road, sells European antiques, contemporary furniture and home decor, as well as paintings and sculptures produced by local artists.

"People are genuinely surprised when they see the gallery," she says. "We're surrounded by shops selling *roti* and t-shirts. The first response when people walk through the door is, 'Wow'."

Ms Smith says she doesn't sell products at 'crazy prices', with artwork priced from about 30,000 to 80,000 baht and furniture ranging from 9,000 to 120,000 baht. Nevertheless, the business is targeting tourists in the higher-spending segments, with customers coming from Europe, as well as designers looking to decorate the interiors of homes and villas.

"We're currently the only people doing this in Phuket's Old Town, but the response from customers show there's clearly a demand," she says.

Jules Kay is a marketing consultant, editor and content curator with 15 years' experience working in the Southeast Asian luxury property, lifestyle and tourism sectors. His latest project is Montazure, an exclusive mixed-use residential resort development on Kamala Beach.

Twitter: Instant marketing tweets of success



TWITTER was created in 2006 by Jack Dorsey and Noah Glass as a method of using SMS to give status updates to all of your friends in your address book but without the cost or time used sending individual messages.

This has morphed into what is now a multi-billion dollar company with 232 million monthly users.

What started out as a form of mass texting between friends has now lead to a marketers dream. Similar to Facebook, Twitter has an incredible database with information all about its users. For some reason, people 'tweet' (a message on Twitter) personal and surprising things, probably forgetting that it goes to a global audience (tweets are not private).

To sign up on Twitter is free. Then you 'follow' people you are



Twitter puts marketing power in the palm of your hand. Photo: Edar

interested in, and people interested in you will do the same to you.

Then, your tweets will be sent directly to them, for free. Twitter can yield customers that can be reached instantly.

Let's look at how this could benefit a restaurant. At the best of times advertising is expensive, but by running a strategic social media campaign you could build a huge following for almost zero cost. For example, we place a sign out front offering a weekly or monthly draw for a free meal cho-

sen randomly from anyone that follows them on Twitter and mentions them in a positive message asking others to follow them.

People then promote the restaurant, which builds more followers. The result – instant crowds and income for the business.

Twitter users have also brought us a great innovation, the # (hashtag). When people post about a trending topic, they use #[topic] to share it. This means we can jump on a trending topic and use it to promote ourselves,

and instead of just reaching our followers we can reach anyone searching for that topic.

Twitter has changed its rules to slow down marketers so they can not add large amounts of people in the hope of gaining followers, but they have now provided a paid option to get more followers.

Then there is paid advertising. This brings in a huge audience, and Twitter know that advertising is a massive revenue pool. So, like with Facebook, we can get access to the database and target a specific market for a low cost.

Twitter is often overlooked as a business tool, yet if used correctly it can yield profits with little effort.

Simon Wetherell is a social media expert, best-selling author & international speaker. He now 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.

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Paying for education

BY FAR the biggest potential financial-headache for a young expatriate family is paying for the cost of an expat child's education.

After all, even large multinationals are increasingly scoffing at hiring expatriates with children or offering pay packages that include paying the full costs of international school fees, which can easily top 325,000 baht to 650,000 baht or more per child per year.

If your employer is not going to pay for the full cost of your child's education, be aware that tuition is only one expense you may incur, as there could be other separate bills for transportation, mandatory school uniforms, extracurricular activities, school books and school lunches. You may also be required to sign a 'debenture' or rather provide a school with a non-interest loan for as little as a few thousand US dollars to as much as US\$30,000 for the duration of your child's education. And while scholarships or discounts may be available (for example, one spouse volunteers to work at the school), do not assume such tuition breaks will be offered to you.

So why are international schools so expensive? The best international schools will have expats as teachers who teach small classes, are usually located in upscale areas and provide high levels of security – characteristics that add to the cost of your child's education. Remember, you get (or should get) what you pay for when it comes to an international school.

PAYING FOR INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS

Even if you have an employer paying for most of your child's education, make sure you know and understand what education expenses your employer will pay for (most likely basic tuition) and what ones your employer won't pay for (such as books and school lunches). Likewise, you should make sure any severance package or clause



Finance

By Don Freeman

is enough to cover tuition payments so that you are not forced to withdraw your child immediately from school

should you unexpectedly be terminated or transferred.

If you are completely on your own when it comes to paying international school fees, remember that these fees will likely rise well above and beyond the rate of inflation and that the interest rates most investments are paying – especially as wealthy Asians increasingly opt to send their children to international schools in the region.

In the worst case scenario – short of the entire family returning home – you may need to plan on homeschooling your children, which will require big sacrifices by you and your spouse, or even sending them back home to complete their education.

DON'T FORGET TO PLAN FOR YOUR CHILD'S UNIVERSITY EDUCATION

If paying for your child's basic education is not enough to worry about, you will also need to start early to save, invest and carefully plan for their university education – which becomes more complicated for long-term expat families.

For example: If you are an American expat who intends to send your child to a state college at in-state tuition rates, be aware that you may need to re-establish residency for your family or for your child by sending them 'home' for high school in order to qualify for lower in-state tuition rates.

However, be careful about re-establishing residency for your whole family, as it could also make your income subject to state income taxes, even if you continue to reside abroad; and don't forget to take advantage of tax-deferred investment accounts intended for education expenses.

Finally, and if your family members have been expats for a long time, you might want to go as far as to consider other more radical options for giving them a university



You get what you pay for when it comes to an international school. Photo: Stokpic

education rather than sending them back home. Many universities in Australia and New Zealand will now accept loans backed by the US Department of Education and other forms of financial aid from other countries, while foreign universities have increasingly set up campuses or programs in Asia to target the region's middle class and professional class. Such education options might prove to be better and more affordable alternatives for your child's university education.

Don Freeman, BSME, is president of Freeman Capital Management, a Registered Investment Advisor with the United States Securities Exchange Commission (SEC), based in Phuket. He has more than 15 years experience working with expatriates. Don specializes in portfolio management, US tax preparation, financial planning and UK pension transfers. He can be reached at 089-970 5795 or email: freemancapital@gmail.com.

DTAC tripling bandwidth available for 4G service

TOTAL Access Communication (DTAC) will allocate additional spectrum bandwidth for providing fourth-generation service as it aims to boost its 4G subscriber base to 2.5 million by the end of the year, from around 970,000 currently, said chief executive officer Lars-Ake Norling.

DTAC currently utilizes 5 megahertz of bandwidth on the 2.1-gigahertz spectrum to offer 4G service, with the remainder being used for 3G. It will allocate 10MHz of its 25MHz bandwidth on the 1,800MHz spectrum to offer 4G, giving it a total bandwidth of 15MHz for providing the service, Mr Norling said.

The company currently uses all 25MHz of its bandwidth on the 1,800MHz spectrum for 2G cellular service, while it uses the 850MHz spectrum to provide 3G.

DTAC has already fulfilled its commitment to roll out 4G in Bangkok and more than 40 other cities across the country, having completed the installation of more



Nearly 2 million of DTAC's mobile-phone subscribers have 4G-capable smartphones. Photo: jeshoots.com

than 6,700 3G and 4G base stations by the end of last month.

DTAC plans to continue expanding its 3G and 4G coverage, with an ambitious target to have the largest number of 4G subscribers in Thailand, said Sigve Brekke, executive vice president and head of Asian operations at Telenor Group, which is the

company's strategic partner.

DTAC has been gradually rolling out 4G to each city since the beginning of the year, after the initial launch of 4G service last May.

The overall average data usage of its 3G and 4G subscribers stands at 4.2 gigabytes per second per month, while 1.75 million

of its mobile-phone subscribers have 4G-capable smartphones.

Mr Norling said that with his strong passion and commitment, he would drive DTAC to achieve the following by the end of this year: the fastest and best 4G service network on 15MHz bandwidth; the largest data network in the industry, with

expansion of the company's 3G network to reach 95 per cent of the population; the highest 4G customer base, with 2.5 million subscribers; and 60 per cent of customers using the internet.

Meanwhile, the National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission this week is resuming preparations for the next auctions of telecom spectrum licences, after the Cabinet's acknowledgment of the proposed time frame last Friday.

There will be four licences up for auction, two of 12.5MHz each on the 1,800MHz spectrum and two of 10MHz each on the 900MHz spectrum.

The NBTC will hold the 1,800MHz auction in November, and take bids for the two 900MHz licences the following month.

Mr Brekke said DTAC was serious about joining the auction, as having a licence was a means of reducing its regulatory cost under the state-concession regime.

– The Nation

WHAT'S ON
in Phuket

April 9 - 12. 7th Annual Arnco
Phuket Oilfield Classic

The Phuket Oilfield Classic attract expats from all over the world to come and participate in the charity-driven tournament. The year's event raises awareness local charity Phuket Has Been Good To Us Foundation. Two million baht has already been raised and will be donated directly to the foundation. Spectators are welcome to come and watch the tournament this weekend.

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.

April 13 - 17. Thanyapura
Songkran Sports Camp

Join us for a fun-filled Songkran Camp running for five days, April 13-17, and April 20-24. Enjoy a variety of skill-improving sports sessions led by professional coaches of Swimming, Tennis, Triathlon and other sports at all levels in a safe and friendly environment. Choose a timing convenient to you – we offer training by the hour, half day or full day. Rates range from 2,000 to 6,000 baht per week, depending on the sport, skill level and hours.



Photo: Jeremie Schatz

May 1. Labor Day

Public holiday for all commercial workers.

May 5. Coronation Day

Coronation Day commemorates the accession to the throne of HM King Bhumibol

Adulyadej on May 5, 1950.

June 1. Visakha Bucha Day

Visakha Bucha Day is observed on the day of the full moon during the sixth lunar month, which usually falls in either May or early June.

The day commemorates three important incidents: the birth, the enlightenment and the passing away of Buddha.

July 30. Asahna Bucha Day

This full-moon day of the eighth lunar month commemo-

rates the Buddha's first sermon to five disciples after he attained enlightenment more than 2,500 years ago. In celebration evening candle-light processions will be staged in all Thai Buddhist temples throughout the island.

Now on

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

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YOUR Phuket

Krabi road trip



Anoma Wongyai, director of TAT Phuket Office, chaired a road trip to Krabi with representatives from TAT, Anuphas Ford Co Ltd and Thai Hotels Association, Southern Chapter. Photo: Pacharawat Wasikarn

Ministers down in Phuket for island's first underpass



Minister of Transport Air Chief Marshal Prajin Juntong spoke at the ceremony. Photo: Pramook Tipvimalmas



Minister of Finance Sommai Pasri attended the grand opening of the underpass. Photo: Pramook Tipvimalmas

Two Chefs Karon boogies all night with The Beatles



A LITTLE HELP FROM MY FRIENDS: (L) Henrik Ojelind, owner of Two Chefs group; Vivee Panee; and Raveewit Paladsri, manager of Restaurant & Deli by Two Chefs.

Cosplay for Connex condo

Connex Condo by Phuket Thaneer hosted a cosplay-themed party on March 29 at their sales gallery on Sakdidej 1 Road to celebrate the successful launch of Connex 2 condominium.



NOT PLAYING DRESS-UP: (L) Peeraya Teowattanakul, executive director, Sales & Marketing; Thawat Teowattanakul president; and Lakkana Teowattanakul, managing director.



New Honda Showroom opens doors in Thalang

FLANKED BY BEAUTY: (2nd L) Tan Chi Kiang, chairman of the Honorary Advisor of Phuket Industrial Council; Teerasak Suanichsakul, chairman of Southern Honda Authorized Dealer; Jakkapan Pichaisanith, manager of Dealer Business Administration, Honda Automobile (Thailand); Montree Hongyok, managing director of Anuphas Vividhakarn Co Ltd; Worawut Songyos, mayor of Srisoonthorn; and Piyawat Jirajamorn, mayor of Thepkasattri. Photo: Pacharawat Wasikarn

The Phuket Gazette's weekly

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April 11 - 17, 2015 | PhuketGazette.Net

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

PROPERTY FOR SALE of the week



LUXURY SEAVIEW POOL VILLA

See page 16

PROPERTY FOR RENT of the week



**FOR RENT
RAWAI /
NAI HARN**

See page 18

JOB of the week

Phuket Gazette

ADVERTISING SALES

See page 19

BOAT & MARINE of the week



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See page 21

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**.

Properties For Sale

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

OCEAN VIEWS, KATA

New 1-bed condo, 44sqm. Great views. In-house management & rental program. A valuable investment. Ready to move in. 3.98 million baht or nearest offer. Email: ianscondo@yahoo.com

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 million baht. Tel: 080-124 1245. Email: kay@phuketandamanrealestate.com

QUICK SALE HOUSE

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

LUXURY VILLA SALE

5 bedrooms. 10x5m pool. Big living room. Nice kitchen. Fully furnished. About 300sqm. Quick sale only 8.5 million baht. Tel: 093-713 2278.

ANDAMAN BEACH SUITE

Spectacular seaview condo located on the 12th floor in Patong. This 127sqm apartment, with 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 balconies and a spacious living / diningroom, 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: Es therandi@gmail.com

REDUCED PRICE PATONG

Condo. Pool. Security. 46sqm. Freehold 2.4 million baht. Tel: 089-728 4005.

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 Please see our website at www.phuketcondo.net

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. Tel: 086-040 6866 (English), 081-979 6707 (Thai).

POOL VILLAS RAWAI

New top design pool villas, 2 & 3 bedrooms and bathrooms, large 5x8m pool, nice green area, Rawai, close to MAKRO. Start 9 million baht. Tel: 096-284 2463, 084-898 8258 (English & Thai). Email: p.bu mrung515@gmail.com

OCEANFRONT VILLA

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

PANORAMIC SEA VIEW LAND

For sale 5.5 rai. Ao Ma-Kham. Chanote title. 12 million baht / rai. Tel: 089-649 9939. Email: siri_phuket@changrunner.com

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. Tel: 080-124 1245. Email: kay@phuketandamanrealestate.com

TOWNHOUSES FOR SALE

Koh Lanta: 5 townhouses for sale on main road at Klong Tob (opposite Rawi Warin Resort). Starting price: 4.8 million baht per unit. Special price for all 5 together. Tel: 081-846 2980.

RAWAI BEACHFRONT CONDO

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

AMAZING VILLA

Modern villa, swimming pool in Rawai, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, seaview, fully furnished, 3 floors, close to beach & shops. Price only 9 million baht, no brokers. Tel: 098-464 9220.

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

KATA HOUSE SALE

4 bedrooms. Reduced price, must sell. Was 3.5 million baht and now 2.99 million baht. Tel: 082-465 9939.

STUDIO FOR SALE

In Phuket Town. 5 mins 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, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, European kitchen, 4 aircons, swimming pool. Sale: 4.9 million baht. Tel: 081-787 4831.

LAND FOR SALE IN PHUKET (SAKOO)

1 to 5 rai, Chanote title, 10 mins south of airport. Fixed price: 2.9 million baht per rai. Tel: 087-076 6016.

LOVELY VILLA NEAR BEACH

3-bedrooms, office, 4 bathrooms. Quality furniture. 15m pool. Short-term rent also. Tel: 076-388236, 089-727 5407 (English).

QUIET NAI HARN POOL VILLA

Well-maintained 2-storey traditional Thai-style pool villa with 3 bedrooms, in small group of 4 homes. Private and serene. Desirable location with a short walk to Nai Harn Beach, restaurants and shops. Perfect for investment. Price reduced to 4.3 million baht. Email: rgartland@comcast.net

POOL HOUSE

Near Heroines Monument, Pa Khlok Road, 250sqm. Land 452sqm. 3/4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 4 aircons, big kitchen, furnished, 9x3m pool. Price: 5.25 million baht. Tel: 089-854 0277. Email: cata_yacht@csloxinfo.com

3 BEDROOMS SALE / RENT

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

3-BEDROOM LUXURIOUS VILLA

In exclusive gated community in Bang Tao, fully furnished. Walking distance to beach, great facilities onsite. Priced for a quick sale at 15.9 million baht. Tel: 089-971 0278. Email: eddyelan@yahoo.com

1-BED APT. SALE / RENT

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

QUIET GREEN AREA

Fully furnished house in Chalong, 2-aircon bedrooms, lovely garden. Start from 10,000 baht / month. Tel: 081-892 4311.

THE DECK CONDO

2-unit condo for sale at the center of Patong. The Deck Project. 1) studio unit no.0103309, floor 3, building A, 31sqm, 3.5 million baht. 2) 1-bedroom unit no.010310, 41.5sqm. 4.5 million baht. Full-furnished, ready to move in May 2015. Tel: 081-085 7550 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-344789. Email: orn holland@hotmail.com

22 RAI - 400,000 BAHT 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

KAMALA NEW HOUSE

Living room. Bedroom. Bathroom. Terrace. Cable TV. Internet. Quick Sale 2.5 million baht. Secure place. Tel: 098-045 5421.

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 or nearest offer. Contact Songpan. Genuine buyers only. No brokers please. Tel: 081-737 8662.

BEAUTIFUL LAND WITH HOUSE 720SQM

Rawai. In this exclusive private project with private blooming road, we sell a building plot. Bali 16m wall. Land is filled up, electricity, sewer, cable, phone. Includes building permit, Chanote title. 8.8 million baht. Tel: 080-890 5187 (English, German), 081-817 4805 (Thai). www.phuketlivergart.com

RAWAI BEACH CONDO

Pay in 10 years. Sell for 1.1 million baht in 40 trimestrial payments of 27,500 baht. Full Chanote title. Ownership forever. Brand new. Fully furnished. Aircon. Kitchen. Tel: 098-331 6449.

LAND IN KAMALA

800sqm of scenic, ready-to-build land for sale in Kamala. Underground electric and water supply. For sale by owner. Agents are welcome. 3.5 million baht. Tel: 087-277 7794.

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 and Ao Po Grand marina, in a peaceful foreign community. Chanote title, 1,100 sqm. 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.

CHALONG HOUSE SALE BY OWNER

Chanote title. 412sqm. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, in and outdoor kitchen, beautiful garden. 4.2 million baht, negotiable. Tel: 093-737 1242. Email: konradantonsson@gmail.com

WAREHOUSE FOR SALE

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

KATA OCEAN VIEW FOR SALE

1 bedroom, fully furnished, 91sqm, seaview. Best price in complex. Only 60,000 baht/sqm, 5.5 million baht total. Tel: 095-037 9680, 089-617 2312.

Properties For Rent

**FOR RENT
RAWAI/NAI HARN**

Vassana Residence starting at 35,000 baht per month for long-term rent. Sea view rooftop deck and bar overlooking the Andaman Sea. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. LCD TV in every room, swimming pool, washing machine in every apartment. 160sqm in size, free Wi-Fi. Tel: 087-882 9604. Email: vassana.residence@gmail.com

**LUXURY RAWAI
3-BEDROOM CONDO**

Available now! Condo with 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 138 sqm. Fully furnished with new furniture, European kitchen. Security, pool. Rent: 50,000 baht per month. Sale: 8.2 million, including Hilux Vigo. Tel: 081-613 1035.

**FOR RENT
KATA BEACH**

1 bedroom. WiFi. Kitchen. Spa. Best price in Kata. Tel: 086-595 8512, 081-970 4638. Email: nalumana2000@yah.hoo.com, kataari@yahoo.com

PURIMAS RESORTEL

Cheap luxury rooms for rent. 500m to Rawai Beach, from 700 baht/night. Holiday & long-term stays available. Agents welcome! Tel: 081-691 3029. Email: info@purimasproperty.com

KARON SEAVIEW

Eden Resort. Fully furnished, 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom. Long term: 30,000 baht/month. Tel: 087-882 9604. Email: artlpmj@yahoo.com

**NAI HARN PENTHOUSE
FOR RENT**

2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 118sqm. Long term: 35,000 baht/month. Tel: 087-882 9604. Email: artlpmj@yah.hoo.com

PATONG CHEAP

3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, furnished, aircons, now only 19,000 / month ono. Tel: 083-181 6037 (English). Email: thailegobricks@hotmail.com

**BEACHFRONT
40-METER LAND**

Approximately 2 rai, Chalong Bay. For lease. For more information, please call 081-826 9390.

POOL VILLA RAWAI

2 bedrooms. 2 bathrooms. Kitchen. Living room. Store. Pool. For 40,000 baht / month. 1-year contract. Contact Duang. Tel: 080-146 13 93. Email: vespajai@hotmail.com

SANSIRI CONDO

The Base Uptown for rent. 2 bedrooms. Fully furnished. For only 35,000 baht / month. Tel: 081-536 5458. Email: saovane@kitchen-tech.com

CHEAP RENT RESORT

Luxury pool villa. Weekly or monthly lease. Laguna area. Has all. Tel: 089-594 4067.

**LUXURY NAI HARN
2-BEDROOM CONDO**

Available now, condo Sands, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 130sqm. Living room, European kitchen, pool, 24-hour security, 200m to the beach. Rent: 120,000 baht per month. Sale: 12,000,000 baht. Tel: 081-613 1035.

LOFT-STYLE FLATS

Secure. Near Kathu Dam. Great location for exercise. Long-term rental. 10-12,000 baht/month. Tel: 086-664 5575 (Thai). Email: hkm sn@yahoo.com

HOUSE FOR RENT

2 floors. Fully furnished. 2 beds. Phone. Internet. TV. Garden. Terrace. Carpark. Near Nai Harn & Rawai. Tel: 083-106 2680.

VILLA FOR RENT

A beautiful villa in Patong. 3 bedrooms. En-suite 4 bathrooms. Fully furnished. Aircons. Kitchen. Indoor parking. WiFi, just a 2-min drive away from Patong Beach. Start from 70,000 baht per month. Minimum 1-year lease. For more information, please call 092-754 5375 (English & Thai), 094-486 9683 (English & Thai). Email: pimnapat12@yah.hoo.com

**PATONG 1 & 2 BED
LONG TERM**

Rentals available. Pool, weekly maid, free WiFi, parking. From 20,000 baht/month. Tel: 080-052 8082. Email: solitude001@aol.com

**SUGAR PALM
APARTMENT**

1 bedroom. 37sqm. Floor 8. Next to public park. Fully furnished for 18,000 baht/month. Tel: 081-536 5458. Email: saovane@kitchen-tech.com

**LUXURY RENT
KAMALA**

Luxury villas and apartment for rent, modern style, big garden, jacuzzi swimming pool, WiFi, 400m 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

**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. For more information, please call 086-282 6221 (English). Email: info@chalongaapartment.com

**STUDIO ROOM
FOR RENT**

Please contact 086-4769612 email: annanoi1@hotmail.com

Royal Place condo, Phuket City, bypass road, opposite Tesco Lotus, 37 Sqm, 2 fl. Studio room, fully furnished.

**HOUSE FOR RENT
NEAR BIS**

Fully furnished house, new kitchen, aircon. 19,000 baht per month, including weekly cleaning. Tel: +61 04 8800 5408. Email: offshorebizz@yahoo.com

HOUSE BOAT LAGOON

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

**BOUTIQUE ROOM
FOR RENT**

Fully furnished, good & safe location. Tel: 089-668 3639 (English & Thai). www.BaanPhitakTaweep.com

**RAWAI
BEACHFRONT
HOUSE**

3 bedrooms, close to Fisherman's Way. For long-term rent: 80,000 baht / month. Tel: 081-593 9559, 081-737 1678. Email: supotpac@phuketemail.com

**TOWNHOUSE
SUPALAI CITY HILL**

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

**CHALONG PRIVATE
POOL VILLA**

3 bedrooms/bathrooms. 4 aircons. Furnished. Large pool. Tel: 089-729 1968. Email: jae.apc@gmail.com

Accommodation Available

**TOWNHOUSE
SUPALAI CITY HILL**

For sale (2.8 million baht) or rent (12,000 baht/month) in Supalai City Hill Estate, Phuket Town. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, quiet, convenient location, furnished, full kitchen, decor, garden, car park, 2 aircons. Available from May 2015. Tel: 089-874 0061, 086-291 4115. Email: stephenfein@gmail.com

**LONG-STAY
APARTMENT**

Serviced. All inclusive. Pool. WiFi. Communal kitchen, quiet and peaceful location in Patong. Tel: 092-657 4287.

**NAITHON BEACH
PALACE**

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

**SERVICED APARTMENT
PATONG**

Fully furnished. Swimming Pool. Promotion rate. Tel: 081-894 4730, 081-892 5983.

HOLIDAYS AVAILABLE

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

Let us take your ad to the top of Google with a 20% discount!



Your key to fast-track placement and easy payment for ads at Thailand's LARGEST classifieds marketplace. Hundreds of new ads every week! Like to have one?

Mail: AdPower@PhuketGazette.Net

F & B EVENING MANAGER

Salary 30,000 to 40,000 baht per month plus service charge + potential bonuses. Assist as evening manager in 42-room boutique hotel in Karon. Oversee dinner for food and beverage department. Experience marketing restaurants and with special events. Ability to seek out wedding planners and organize events. Bachelor's degree in hotel/tourism management or related degree. Two years' experience in food/beverage & event planning. One year's management experience supervising five or more staff. Tel: 086-604 1333. Email: gm@ccshideaway.com

ENGLISH TEACHERS

School teachers wanted. Full time / part time. Students all ages / levels. Schools in and around Phuket city. Start middle of May. Teaching qualification and / or Degree req'd. Please apply to: The head teacher, ECC Language School, Phuket branch. Tel: 076-307 0579, 091-647 5465 (English), 089-139 8453 (English & Thai). Email: Giles@ecc.ac.th

COOKS AND MAIDS

Vacation villas in Patong looking for full-time and part-time Thai staff to work in holiday villas in Patong. Please call 080-699 2436 (English), 081-133 6477 (English & Thai).

ANIMAL CAREGIVER WANTED LIVE IN

Starting March 1. Full time. Position involves handling sick animals, dog walking, grooming & medicating, cooking meals & running errands. Occasional after-hours & nights expected. Animal experience essential. Email: jellinecastro@yahoo.com

NEW RESTAURANT IN LAGUNA

Now hiring: Chefs – all levels; Servers – all levels; Bar staff; Back of house staff; and a Personal Assistant. Basic English necessary, previous experience preferred. Must be under 35 years of age. For the right candidates, we offer an excellent salary, benefits, holidays and structured professional development. Please forward CVs and a current picture to Jamie @bampot.co or call 092-130 3114.

SECRETARY

Female, Thai nationality, good command of written and spoken English, good computer knowledge (Word and Excel programs), good attitude and positive person. Benefit: salary 12,000-15,000 baht per month + commission 10-20%, social fee, public holiday, vacation. Tel: 086-940 5187, 081-415 7774.

PART-TIME BOOKKEEPER

Required to tidy up paperwork. Knowledge of Apple computer an asset. Patong area. Tel: 089-972 3861.

SALES COORDINATOR

Siam Real Estate requires an experienced naturalised English speaker to administer and co-ordinate sales/rentals enquiries at our Rawai office. Must be a strong organiser, have a pre-emptive approach, be computer literate and have good people skills. Salary + WP provided. Possibly part time work acceptable. Tel: 076-288908. Email: info@siamrealestate.com

OFFICE ASSISTANT

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

VIDEOGRAPHER NEEDED

Must be able to shoot video, edit, take photos. Tel: 085-212 8447.

SALES REPRESENTATIVE

Career opportunity for a dedicated sales representative at a holiday ownership company, based in Phuket. Tremendous potential for huge earnings. Legal working status will be arranged. Please send your resume to: rbv@royalperspective.com

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

Phuket Gazette

The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following position:

CLASSIFIEDS ADMINISTRATION 2 POSITIONS**Qualified candidates will be:**

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

and should have:

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

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

The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd
79/94 Moo 4, Thepkasattri Rd, Koh Kaew
A. Muang, Phuket 83000
Tel: 076-273555, ext 207 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

CHERNG TALAY

- ▶ **Chaba Supermarket** (at the Laguna gateway) Tel: 076-325586

RAWAI

- ▶ **The Network property office** (Saiyuan Rd) Tel: 076-388144

KARON

- ▶ **EuroStyle Tailors** (Luang Por Chuan Rd) Tel: 076-396911

Live in Patong? Place your GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS at Taurus Travel



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

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

The Gazette Online is always on top in Google!

Business Opportunities

TOUR DESK
FOR RENT

Very good place, frequented corner. Please call 087-554 6872.

RAWAI RESTAURANT
URGENT SALE

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

FAMILY BAR / GRILL
NAI HAN

Bar / grill area with separate kitchen, seating, play area, separate 2-bed living quarters, 4 months rent free. Good long-term rental agreement. Offers about 900,000 baht. For more information, please call 080-648 1987 (English), 085-575 3027 (English). Email: farrman1@gmail.com

BAR FOR SALE

OTOP Markets, top location, 3 years old, complete trading figures showing profit increase every year. For more information, please call 084-185 8719 (English). Email: charlie@paddy malones.com.au

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). Please call 093-575 1969 (English). Email: thai-pascal@hotmail.com

LOOKING FOR
50% PARTNER

With marketing experience in wholly owned and successfully run business. Apartment / suite Hotel in Kata Phuket. Partnership - 10 million baht - fully guaranteed. For more information, please call 081-788 82 80.

Golf Stuff

15,000 BAH

Wilson fat shaft-full set of irons and drivers, etc, with large Wilson golf bag with 8 outer pockets. Tel: 081-082 5004 (English). Email: arcottrell70@hotmail.com

Business Products & Services



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

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

CALL NOW:

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

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OUR SERVICE

Engineering structural design service- Steel structural design service-retaining wall structural design service-infrastructure design service-renovation engineering service. Please call 076-283549, 089-652 0768, 081-255 7003 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-283549. Email: 2homerestort@gmail.com

STAMPED
CONCRETE

Stamped pattern and colored concrete for driveways, pathways, etc. Many different patterns and colors available. Prompt and efficient service, at competitive rates. Tel: 085-576 6812 (English).

Household
Items

2-PERSON JACUZZI

Hardly used, like new. Near Laguna. Paid 30,000 baht, asking price 15,000 baht. For more information, please call: 089-594 4067.

Lost & Found

MISSING PERSON



Have you seen this man? His last known whereabouts is Phuket. He is 56 years old and 183cm tall. On behalf of his wife and two daughters. Please contact Jesper Elming. Tel: +45-3010 1113. Email: orjesper@dokukom.dk

Pool Tables

STYLISH POOL TABLES

Style is a way to say who you are without having to speak. White 'Tokyo' model pool table. Tel: 085-797 00 05, 085-797 0303. Email: ying@phuketpooltables.com

Computer

ENGLISH
COMPUTER MAN

English computer man. All computers except Apple. Tel: 084-0639 223 (English).

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

Club
Memberships
AvailablePHUKET
COUNTRY CLUB

Life family membership 490,000 baht, includes transfer. Tel: 089-292 7747. Email: matt.rich747@gmail.com

LAGUNA GOLF
MEMBERSHIP

Family membership valid until 12/2024 available for immediate sale 2015 membership dues paid. Price: baht 440,000 inclusive of transfer fee. Tel: 081-970 4228 (English)

Wheels & Motors

Saloon Cars

NISSAN TEANA
2.5 LT

2014 Model. 17,000km. New 1.7 million baht. For only 1.05 million baht. Tel: 081 788-8280 (English), 090-163 2140 (Thai).

BMW 5 SERIES

2 years old. 28,000km, free maintenance at BMW Phuket for another 3 years (all warranties intact), insurance paid until November 2015. 2.7 million baht o.n.o. Email: ursaeabi@gmx.net

FOR SALE



BMW 528i m sport. Dark gray, 6 months old. Includes first-class insurance and warranty. Car looks new with coating treatment. New price 4.299 million baht, now only 3.25 million baht. Can continue finance 39,400 baht per month, down payment 750,000 baht. Tel: 086-274 2308.

RED MAZDA 2011

Lady owner. 38,000km. For sale only 310,000 baht. Very clean. Tel: 081-892 8208.

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

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 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. 90,000km. No marks or blemishes. 265,000 baht. Tel: 081-892 3111 (English). Email: pjddyer@yahoo.com

PROTON SAVVY
1.2 AT

2010, All options, leather, mag wheels, new tyres, new service, ect. 219,000 baht. Tel: 084-842 5920.

TOYOTA AVANZA



Model 1.5E. Automatic. One expat owner from new. Serviced by Toyota. Champagne color. 84,000km. 329,000 baht, offers considered. Tel: 087-976 0066.

HONDA CITY
FOR SALE

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

2002 VOLKSWAGEN
PASSAT

LPG, leather, aircon, automatic. 160,000 baht. Tel: 087-983 4815.

HONDA CITY
FOR SALE

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

Pick-ups

ISUZU SLX 3.0 LITRE

2003, Dual Cab, manual, Carryboy, second owner, 111,000km. 230,000 baht. Tel: +61-04-8800 5408.

2010 RANGER
DIESEL
FOR SALE

4x4 auto. Loaded. Runs, drives, looks great. New service. Very reliable. For 400,000 baht. For more information, please call 083-645 3546.

Motorbikes

HARLEY
DAVIDSON FATBOY

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

AFRICA TWIN 750



Year 2005. 70,000km. Excellent condition. For sale: 220,000 baht. Tel: 081-078 9334 (English & French).

Rentals

CARS FOR RENT

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

SUPERMOTARD

KeeWay 200cc, excellent condition, used very little. 3,000km. Very low price for a very good motorcycle. Tel: 089-289 0214.

JEANNEAU 52.2 (2002)
The owner has spent a fortune on her. New teak decks, B&G instruments, leisure furl in boom furling, upholstery and head linings. New stove, battery charger and inverter, a 42" flat-screen TV and much more. A great boat and good value at the reduced price of US\$245,000 FIRM. Boatshedphuket.com Tel: 084-842 6146. Email: alan.giles@boatshedphuket.com

KANTER 54 PILOT HOUSE (1993)
Aluminium Cutter. Yanmar 4LH 170hp diesel. Well equipped and maintained. Just reduced to US\$335,000. Tel: 084-842 6146. Email: alangiles@boatshedphuket.com, www.boatshedphuket.com

TENDER / PWC
3.5m RIB. 2011 Yamaha 4-stroke 20hp outboard. Brand new Hypalon tubes. Hydraulic steering, electric start / tilt. Fiberglass hull. Trailer and accessories included. 250,000 baht o.n.o. Please call 085-918 4661 (English). Email: wesleybaxter@hotmail.com

DEAN 440 CATAMARAN (2002)
Four double cabins. Twin Vetus 42hp diesels. Reduced to US\$160,000. Contact Alan Giles. Tel: 084-842 6146. Email: alangiles@boatshedphuket.com, www.boatshedphuket.com

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We can meet you on board, take up to 80 photos and full details. We will accompany all viewings and provide non-exclusive brokerage on a "no sale, no fee" basis.

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Mercruiser 300 Hp**

750,000 Bt

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SEA RAY 330 SUNDANCER SPORT
Cruiser (2008). Twin petrol 275hp. Mercury 8.1L Horizon engines with only 300hrs. Aircon. Generator etc. For more information, please call 084-842 6146. Email: alan.giles@boatshedphuket.com, www.boatshedphuket.com

SR MARINE BOAT MANUFACTURER
SR Marine Boat manufacturer. 18-49ft. Used outboards from Japan. Visit our showroom in Rawai. Tel: 081-782 092, 081-782 0921 (English & Thai).

3.1M YACHT TENDER DINGHY

3.1m Stingray RIB with 9.9hp, 4 stroke Suzuki outboard, storage cover, fuel tank, etc. Great size yacht tender, dinghy, as new 140,000 baht. Tel: 089-873 4044 (English), 081-270 3538 (Thai). Email: sc@crone.net.au

STOCK CLEARANCE: YACHTSMAN
Hypalon Tenders HYS 280: 79,000 baht + VAT (2pcs). HYS 310: 85,000 baht + VAT (2pcs). Light-weight Aluminium hull RIBs. Good quality at very competitive prices. For details contact Alan Giles. Andaman Boat Sales. Tel: 084-842 6146. Email: alangiles@boatshedphuket.com

WOODEN TEAK JUNK BOAT
45ft HK teak junk, excellent family day boat. Extensive refit, single engine. Caterpillar, full galley and bathroom. US\$ 105,000. Tel: 852-9238 9114 (Hong Kong). Email: blanny2000@yahoo.com

21M CLASSIC YACHT FOR SALE
Charming 21m motor-sail Gulet yacht, ideal for charter, 55 people. US\$150,000 or nearest offer. For more information, please call 085-666 5504 (English). Email: info@jabudays.com, www.facebook.com/pages/Yacht-for-sale/423591747727674

BENETEAU EVASION 34

1981, 50hp Perkins motor sailer, many extras, best state. 1.29 million baht. Nihat Gunduz. Tel: 086-274 6272. Email: nihatt_gunduz@hotmail.com

NAJAD 360 SLOOP (1989)
Quality Scandinavian-built yacht. New Nanni 38 Hp Diesel. Well-equipped and realistically priced. Asking only 98,000 euros. Contact Alan Giles. Tel: 084-842 6146. Email: alangiles@boatshedphuket.com, www.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@poppiesamui.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.

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

Quality Pre-Owned Multihulls FOR SALE

Fusion 40 (2012)
Asking \$320,000 USD
Mojo is an owner's version featuring good cruising comfort plus light and nimble performance. With low hours on all equipment and high quality build and finishing throughout she won't be available for long.
Lying: Phuket, Thailand.

Schionning Wilderness 1500X (2010)
Asking \$500,000 AUD
Sam Chop features the 3 double cabin layout with huge bridgedeck saloon. Set up for long distance, short-handed sailing, she has recently undergone a full refit and is in immaculate condition.
Lying: Langkawi, Malaysia

Dean 440 (2002)
Asking 169,000 EUR
Bengali is a strong and comfortable sailing cat built in South Africa. The current owner has added new equipment and upgrades, representing good value. Genuine offers are welcome.
Lying: Phuket, Thailand.

For further information, a test sail or advice, please contact our team at Boat Lagoon Marina, Phuket:
P +66 (0) 76 238 117
M +66 (0) 8 1894 1530
E info@multihullsolutions.asia
www.multihullsolutions.asia

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SAIL | POWER | NEW | PRE-OWNED

THE SOLUTION TO THIS WEEK'S

Cryptic Crossword

COFFEE break

Abbreviations: UPPERCASE (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:

8. CAMPING: being affected 9. DESTITUTE: *duetsetit* 13. OBAMA: O.B.-a-M.A. 14. ENSUE: *seeun* 15. LATERAL: later-a-L 16. SPATTER: *settrap* 17. DORIC: do-R-I-C 18. OFFAL: off-a-L 20. PRIOR: *orrip* 22. GRANTS: allows 23. PATONG: pat-on-G 25. MINIMUM: minim-U-M 27. PLAYPEN: play-pen 30. TRIADS: *djarist* 31. DRINKS: Dr-inks 32. SISAL: *lissas* 35. COLIC: Col.-I/C 37. HELIPAD: *hidpale* 39. EXCISES: *exercises* 41. LOCUM: *column* 42. NGARN: N-gar-N 43. CLEVEREST: Cl.-Everest 44. ANTENNA: an-ten-N/A

Down:

1. BANANA: ban-an-a 2. SPLATTER: *settrap(L)* 3. INTERREGNUM: *mereturning* 4. PENETRATE: (E)*pattern-E* 5. ITALICS: *cialist* 6. STATIONARY: station-a-Ry. 7. STIR: St.-I-R 10. TOSSUP: *soputs* 11. USED CAR: *surecad* 12. OLDLAG: O-L-glad 19. FLOWERS: *rowself* 21. INITIAL: *inailit* 24. BLASPHEMING: bla-S.P.he-ming 26. INDECISIVE: *vicedisin-E* 28. DREAMLESS: *dressmale* 29. ENFORCE: *cornfee* 30. TICKET: pass 32. SPLINTER: *sliprent* 33. LADING: *gladin* 34. FISSURE: if[up]-S-sure 38. PLAINT: plain-T 40. COLD: C-old

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

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.

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

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- Buy or hanger a plane, or
- Build or rent a hangar

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

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General Aviation

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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

Lighthouse Market thrills



CIRQUE DU SAILOR: A theatrical circus spectacular was put on by Vlad Bond.

Johnson Health Tech Sales Gallery cuts the ribbon on March 28



GET HEALTHY: (L) Kanakorn 'Top' Kamjatpai, from 'The Model by Top'; Ubon Chaithip; Kamonwan Leelarujiwong, sales manager of Johnson Health Tech (Thailand) Phuket branch; Pramookpisitt Achariyachai, president of Kata Group Resorts; Raywat Areerob, former Phuket MP; Daniel Lai, managing director of Johnson Health Tech (Thailand); Pariyawit Achariyachai; Maetapong Upatising, managing director of Phuket Villa Group; and Chalinee Simmons, director of Condo V.

Villa Market makes memorable entrance at the Boat Lagoon



A NIGHT TO REMEMBER: (L) Pornthep Rouyrin, Big Mom by Simon Group; Apisake Treesangsuwan, managing director of Phuket Television Media Co Ltd; Boon Yongsakul, deputy managing director of Phuket Boat Lagoon Co Ltd; Kaniittha Prasopsirikul from 'By Kaniittha Co Ltd'; and Chawalit Ratanachinakorn.

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Weaving Peace and Happiness Amid Nature.

Embrace the aesthetic of life in a single detached house with a ground floor bedroom fully equipped for a new beginning in life, which is truly in tune with nature, a quality society with clubhouse, swimming pool and fitness room.

A high quality residential project you can trust from Land & Houses.

Start at **6.3 MB***

Project owner: L.H. Muang Mai Co., Ltd. Managing Director: Pittaya Tantipiyakij. Registered Capital: 900 Million Baht (Fully Paid). 88 Land and Houses Koh Kaew Phuket, Location: Thepkasatri Rd. Koh Kaew Sub-district, Amphur Muang, Phuket, Title Deed No. 2948, 104515, etc. Project Area 53.58 Rai, Financial Institution: Sam Commercial Bank Public Co., Ltd. Construction Start: March 2013 Expected Completion: 2015 applying for Operation License. After full payment is completed, transference is made within 7 days.



Words from the wise

"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

– *Maya Angelou*

Medium

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

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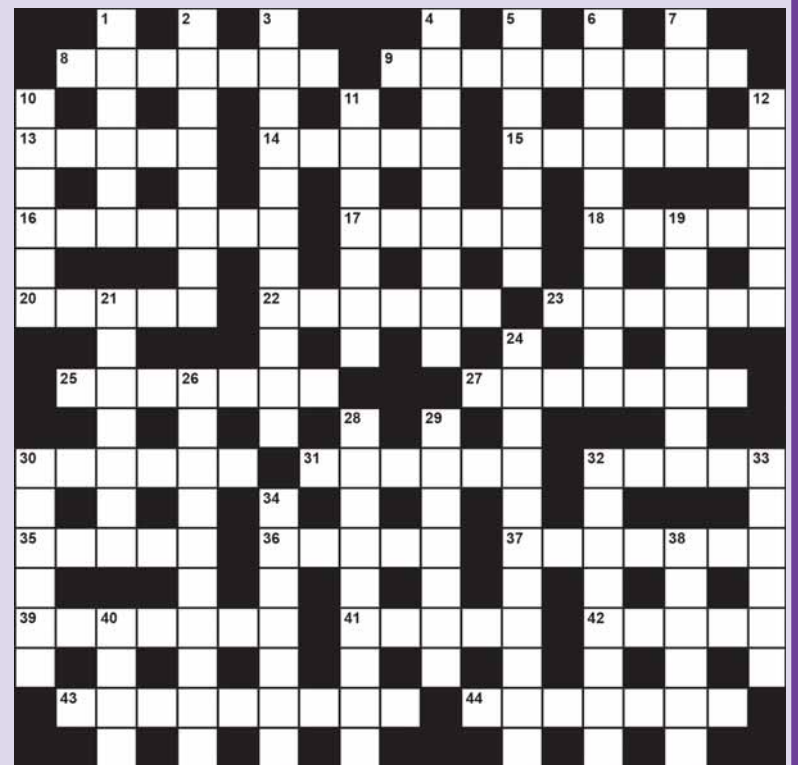
SUDOKU: Each row, column and 3x3 sub-grid must contain the number 1-9 once only. © Kevin Stone (brainbashers.com)

COFFEE break

Cryptic Crossword

Across

8. Being affected living in tents (7)
9. Impoverished duet set it out (9)
13. Old Boy a graduate President in the U.S. (5)
14. See U.N. upset result (5)
15. Subsequently a line on the side (7)
16. Set trap out to scatter liquid (7)
17. Do right, I caught the ancient Greek speech! (5)
18. Rotten, a liter of animal entrails (5)
20. Or rip off beforehand (5)
22. Allows handouts (6)
23. Hit gently on golf in town in Phuket (6)
25. Least short note, turn minute (7)
27. In drama, write of child's enclosure (7)
30. Chinese gangs' diarist maybe, not I! (6)
31. Doctor signs for beverages (6)
32. Lisa's twisted fiber for ropes (5)
35. Colonel in command is a pain in the belly (5)
36. Go, Ma, I disturbed an adult insect (5)
37. Hid pale around VTOL landing area (7)
39. Cuts out exercises without hesitation (7)
41. Column could be not new for deputy churchman (5)
42. New fish, new work in



- Thailand (5)
43. Class on highest peak is most intelligent (9)
44. Article ten not applicable to aerial (7)

Down

1. Prohibit an article of fruit (6)
2. Set trap out, out left, to scatter liquid (8)
3. Period with no monarch mere turning bad (11)
4. Get into, note odd pattern around the East (9)
5. C.I.A. list rewritten in script indicating emphasis (7)
6. Stopping place on a railway not shifting (10)
7. Good man, one right to agitate (4)
10. So puts out either is likely (4,2)
11. Sure, cad arranged a second-hand vehicle (4,3)

12. Ex-prisoner has nothing left, possibly glad (3,3)
19. Row self carefully in bloomers! (7)
21. Possibly I nail it first (7)
24. Cursing, blaming Starting Price he covered (11)
26. Undecided vice I'd sin out East (10)
28. Dress male perhaps wit no rapid eye movements (9)
29. Impose corn fee indiscriminately (7)
30. Pass notice of traffic offence (6)
32. Slip rent apart with thin sharp piece (8)
33. Could be glad in putting cargo on ship (6)
34. If up second, sure to split (7)
38. Obvious time for accusation (6)
40. Almost aged, unfriendly (4)

Aries (Mar 21-Apr 20)



Mercury's move into Taurus emphasizes practicality over chance, especially where money and finances are concerned. Even so, watch out for a communication blip midweek that might derail a discussion or deal. Meanwhile, Saturday's new moon can be excellent for a new beginning, and it seems you'll be quick off the mark from this.

Taurus (Apr 21-May 21)



Ideas you've been mulling over get translated into plans, initiating action. However, where finances are concerned there may be delays midweek that you'll need to circumnavigate. Pluto regresses from Friday, bringing deeper insights into a long-standing relationship. Pleasingly, a home project can get the green light this weekend.

Gemini (May 22-June 21)



Some thoughts of travel may tempt you early on, though the arrival of Mercury in Taurus suggests you'll

be just as keen to explore your dreams as you are to expand your horizons. On Saturday, the Aries new moon encourages initiative regarding your social life, making this a great time to move in new circles or work as part of a bubbly team.

Cancer (June 22-July 23)



Getting involved in community projects or joining a group could be very good for you, as the people you meet seem to have a down-to-earth quality that complements your caring and sharing style. By the weekend, you'll be ready to take on a challenge. Watch out though, as someone could prove to have a hidden agenda.

Leo (July 24-Aug 23)



Consider a friendly suggestion to take on a challenge, as it might open doors that you thought had already shut. In addition, a desire to make progress can be rewarded if you're prepared to put in some effort and application. Regarding Saturday's new moon, you could be ready to explore an idea that once seemed a step too far.

YOUR horoscope

By Patrick Arundell

Virgo (Aug 24-Sept 23)



Studying formally or doing your own research can be positively inspiring, as you may discover skills you didn't know you had. You could also benefit from hiring a coach or mentor who might help you maximize your potential even further. Concerning friendships, avoid making rash promises that you'll find difficult to keep.

Libra (Sept 24-Oct 23)



Mild difficulties can show up in a friendship or possibly a budding romance, but if you're aware of the root cause you'll more easily sort them out. In the meantime, investing your time and money wisely can bring dividends.

Later this week, the new moon could enhance a relationship, although it will be best not to be too hasty in matters of the heart.

Scorpio (Oct 24-Nov 22)



The people in your life can be both considerate and edgy. You will know if you've touched a sore spot as someone probably won't mince their words. Midweek, take care of financial affairs to make the most of an opportunity. Over the weekend start an exercise routine to empower you to get fit and enhance your confidence in the process.

Sagittarius (Nov 23-Dec 21)



As Mercury speeds into Taurus, it could inspire you to start moving and so become more flexible. You'll find activities such as gardening, housework or even walking to do the shopping can all add up to a more active you. Saturday's new moon in Aries puts the accent on pleasure. If you feel like taking up a new hobby or getting creative, this is a fine time to go for it.

Capricorn (Dec 22-Jan 20)



You can make a romantic liaison even more interesting through the power of sharing. Saying the right words at the

right time could change the course of one involvement, so stay sensitive. Starting a home-based project at the time of Saturday's new moon might also help it all go smoothly. Plan first though to avoid impulsive moves.

Aquarius (Jan 21-Feb 19)



Mars in Taurus can act as a spur, encouraging you to get your abode ship-shape and clutter free. With more space available you might feel motivated to use your creative skills to beautify your environment furthermore. However, one involvement may suffer a set-back about midweek, but the willingness to talk can make all the difference.

Pisces (Feb 20-Mar 20)



Your enthusiasm for an idea could help bring others around to your way of thinking, especially if they can benefit from taking it to heart. And when it comes to finances, you may want to make a clean start. Get things sorted out now and it could ease anxiety. However, don't invest in a new project without researching it thoroughly first.

Island's beast of burden

Secondary sector forced to do overtime as market sits in autopilot



Island Fever

By Bill Barnett

A FAMILIAR term for anyone with children is, 'Where do we go from here?' Those inquisitive, blank, questioning looks that penetrate deep into the heart of the seemingly innocent question about what's next? Lately, the topic seems to have shifted to adults in the island's real-estate trade.

It's been nearly a decade since the dining tables shifted from a market where demand far out-paced supply and the overhanging secondary sector continues to hover over the property market like a bad Sunday morning hang-over. *Sunday Bloody Sunday* could well be teed up as the season's theme song.

Real-estate brokers have had to pivot from business models that once relied on retail sales, into survival mode, taking on new streams of business from villa and condo rentals, management, and all manner of peripheral trade. I can count the rising number of drone operators now plying real estate on a multiplying factor of fingers and toes.

Thankfully, there has been an easing in the number of low-priced shoebox condominiums and a number of Bangkok developers who once saw nothing but island daylight are now seeing defaults on the completion and transfer of units, which is again thrusting some serious product into the re-sale mix. 'Rent or die' is an often-heard investors mantra.

Phuket luxury, while still strong on the edges, certainly has been affected by the ongoing Sirinath



Though Phuket is fine in autopilot now as the secondary sector becomes a beast of burden, the real question that realtors and property speculators are asking is, 'What is next?'.

National Park encroachment issue which seems set to play out in the media until hell freezes over. Or perhaps even longer. How long is that roll of string?

Investor sentiment has again fallen foul to that brooding game changer – currency volatility. For

prospective buyers, the angst is on, though for sellers the chance to claw back on favorable Thai currency appreciation is a motivator to trade. As for the rumble of the ruble, there is little doubt the Russian surge is for the moment taking a bit of 'me time'.

Lest we not forget the furor of a few months ago over the national news on Phuket's leasehold challenges and as the ensuing days have worn on, the slowly dissipating interest, given newer more topical subjects such as stabbings, celebrities and all manner of goofi-

ness pertaining to the travelling Chinese.

Phuket's collective property journey is not unlike that of any other maturing market and some would say, thankfully, there is not broad financing available to foreign property buyers at the moment, hence speculation has been contained. There are few indicators about the present government's intention towards increasing lease terms or allowing foreign ownership, but one could assume it's gone cold for the moment.

As for the recent splash of investment-type offerings with guaranteed returns, this too will pass. Given Phuket's rising hotel numbers, the model is not sustainable and in many cases the products cannot compete with full service, dedicated hospitality offerings. Though expect pain for buyers once the guarantees roll off and for hotels trying to keep pace with rates.

In a strange way, Phuket's real estate sector is on autopilot for the moment, while the driver might be cat napping, the sheer size of the engine is powering along into the night, seeking daylight at the earliest opportunity. The island does not have European stress mode, though it also is seeing an increasing secondary sector which is becoming a beast of burden.

Rent or own looks to be a key storyline for the next few years, and at the end of the day, opportunity always exists when the price is right. As for brokers looking to refine business models in an ebb-and-flow industry, diversity or specialization might be in order, though it's a very tall one indeed.

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Paradise: Buying resort rentals

Winter birds looking to cash in on Phuket property market and get their time in the sun



Phuket Pads
Patrick Lusted

MORE and more resorts and hotels in Phuket are offering excellent guaranteed rental returns for properties that buyers are looking to use themselves for only a short period each year. The rest of the year, the property is expected to generate rental income for its owners.

This week's property offers exactly that. Priced at 52 million baht, this one of six exclusive units at the high-end Laguna resort complex also offers the owner 60 days' use per year free of charge at any time, including during high season.

It also offers a net average rental return of 1.12mn baht per year.

For many Phuket buyers, acquiring a unit at a resort is one of the very few ways of owning a property within meters of the beach. This is simply down to the scarcity of private properties in beach locations.

The resort is on private land, and hence has no sunbed restrictions on its own property. What is better than having your own veranda and third-floor swimming pool with a sundeck overlooking the beach and Andaman Sea?

This luxurious, private three-storey home can accommodate up

to six people. The entire ground floor comprises two spacious bedrooms with adjoining en suite bathrooms and direct access from the bedroom to private open-air garden courtyards.

The second floor features a fully-equipped kitchen, and a dining and living area opening onto a beautiful sunlit patio.

The third level has a roof-top deck with an 18-square-meter private infinity pool, an outdoor shower and sun loungers offering panoramic sea views.

The unit comes fully furnished with latest-model appliances and high-quality fittings. There is a compact Western kitchen with a stove-top, range hood, refrigerator and plenty of storage, with large windows allowing in plenty of natural light.

The living area is open-plan, and there is air conditioning throughout.

On site, as part of the hotel, are communal gardens, a gym, restaurants, spas and car parking. There is also home security and video surveillance.

The property comes with a Chanote title, and finance for up to three years is available

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Kiatnakin Bank eyes Phuket, 15 other provinces for property investments

ABOUT 16 provinces are seen as attractive for property investment, according to Kiatnakin Bank.

Suwannee Wattanavekin, executive vice president of the bank, said that amid economic challenges, property investment yielded a 9 per cent return on average, higher than other investment assets, given higher demand from urbanization, state investment projects, special economic zones and limited land plots.

The recovery of the economy remains fragile because of sluggish private consumption and investment, slow state spending, slumping exports and high household debts.

Mr Suwannee said that the 16 provinces seen as attractive for property investment could be grouped into three areas. The first group consists of Bangkok and nearby provinces Nonthaburi, Pathum Thani, Nakhon Pathom



Suwannee Wattanavekin, executive vice president of the bank, sees property as a strong investment amid current economic challenges.

and Samut Prakan.

The second group is Chiang Mai, Phuket, Phitsanulok, Khon Kaen and Chon Buri, which have benefited from urban growth as a result of trade, investment and tourism and being in the logistics network for the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS).

The third group consists of six provinces – Songkhla, Chiang Rai, Tak, Mukdahan, Nong Khai and

Kanchanaburi – on rising border investment and trade, GMS activity and the promotion of special economic zones.

"Now is the time for investment, and property is an alternative for investors. We see low interest rates after the [Bank of Thailand's] recent policy-rate cut to 1.75 per cent with no rise in construction-material prices," Mr Suwannee said.

– The Nation

Ride on, Phuket

By Chutharat Plerin

RIDERS joining the Phuket Bike Week 2015 festivities, which get underway at Loma Park in Patong today have their hearts and their helmets set on doing more than just showing off the best motorbikes in the region.

Among the activities this year is a mass release of sea animals at the Royal Thai Navy base at Cape Panwa to raise awareness of climate change.

There will also be a Ride for Peace, held in conjunction with the local police, to inspire bikers of all walks of life to embrace a non-confrontational lifestyle, and a free helmet giveaway to encourage riders of all forms of motorcycle, including motorbike taxi drivers, to ride with safety in mind.

Bike Week riders will also be taking a day ride out to deliver gifts to underprivileged children and providing support for a day-care facility to look after infants and toddlers of mothers in prison.

The event, this year held under the banner 'Asean Ride Together', is expected to draw more than 50,000 visitors from 30 countries – along with more than 10,000 motorcycles to Phuket.

Phuket Governor Nisit Jansomwong this week praised Bike Week as an event to be cherished.

"It is a good activity through which people can learn more about Phuket, our beaches and Phuket Town," he told the *Gazette* on Wednesday.

"We have bikers from many other countries coming to join the event. We can think of these bik-



Riders mount up for the Phuket Bike Week 2015 celebrations in Patong and Phuket Town. Photo: Jeremie Schatz

ers as our 'cultural ambassadors'."

Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) Phuket Office Director Anoma Wongyai joined Governor Nisit at a press conference to announce the official schedule of events for Bike Week.

"We expect the 50,000 visitors

coming to Bike week to each spend on average about 20,000 baht during their stay here," she said.

"That means that Bike Week alone is expected to generate about a billion baht for the local economy. This is a much welcome

boost for Phuket during the tourism 'low season'."

Governor Nisit called on all bikers and visitors to Phuket to have a safe holiday during the Songkran celebrations.

"Above all, ride safely and have a happy Thai New Year," he said.

Goldie, Eka take to Xana for charity beach show



Join Goldie and Eka at Xana.

WORLD-renowned British DJ Goldie is joining forces with Number One Hit Canadian soul artist Eka for the charity jam 'Music is My Life' at Xana Beach Club on April 11, starting at 9pm and running until late.

The show is a tribute to passionate underground Phuket DJ Josh Ezelle, who died in a motorbike crash last year on his way home from work. He left behind his 5-month-old son, Christian Ezelles.

"We were all here when Josh passed, and I still recall being told that Christian's mother had only a few thousand baht at her disposal after Josh's accident," Eka told the *Gazette*.

"The sense of community sprung up so strongly in me and friends of Josh. My heart broke with thoughts of Christian being fatherless at 5 months old – I wanted to help."

Thus the Christian Ezelles College Fund was created. The proceeds from Saturday's show will go to both Christian's education and the Koh Sireh Orphanage.

Entry fee to the event is 500 baht. – *Isaac Stone Simonelli*

Golf cart has been good to us: world record set

AVID Phuket golfers Mark Cameron and Graham Haslam have completed a world-record golf cart drive from Pattaya to Phuket, and raised even more money for the Phuket Has Been Good To Us Foundation with an auction at the Hard Rock Cafe in Patong Wednesday night.



Mark Cameron

The pair began their record-defeating drive last month, and played at several courses during their 1,400-kilometer journey to Phuket, which ended on April 2 as they crossed the bridge onto the island.

"It was great fun and it was a great experience. I'm glad we did it, but I'm glad it's over," Mr

Cameron said.

Guinness World Records officially confirming the record drive is expected to be a formality.

"They will confirm the new record once they receive all footage, signed statements and photos and so on," Mr Cameron explained.

He also extended his thanks to all sponsors of the drive, especially the 'seed sponsors' Gaylin, Drillpech and Opus Offshore from the oil, gas and energy industries.

"They all separately sponsored the cart trip and the Phuket Oilfield Classic golf tourney, which starts on Friday [see back page]," Mr Cameron explained.

– *Chris Husted*

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Beauty queen goes gibbon

Former Miss Universe returns to Phuket to make things right

By Chutharat Plerin

FORMER Miss Universe Natalie Glebova visited Phuket on Monday to raise public awareness about gibbons being illegally owned and used as props for photo opportunities.

"As a celebrity, I can use my voice and my platform to spread awareness to other people, and say, 'Hey, when you see gibbons, don't take a picture with them'," Ms Glebova said.

The Russian-Canadian beauty queen's move comes after a firestorm of criticism about her posting a picture on Instagram of herself holding a gibbon on Phi Phi Island.

"I am here today because I wanted to learn a little more about gibbons that are being illegally possessed by people in Phuket and throughout Thailand," Ms Glebova told the *Gazette* during her visit to the Gibbon Rehabilitation Project at Bang Pae Waterfall on Monday.

"I wanted to see what they do here to help protect them and how they rehabilitate them. I also wanted to learn a little bit more about why people shouldn't take

pictures with them."

A volunteer at the center, Mikael Mahlberg, explained that anyone who pays to have their pictures taken with protected species is funding a gruesome trade.

"Every time someone pays to have their pictures with animals like this [gibbons], they also pay to have other gibbons killed in the wild. [This is] because they [poachers] have to get the baby gibbons to use in the tourist trade," Mr Mahlberg said. "It is a very, very bad business."

Ms Glebova explained that when she took the photograph with the gibbon on Phi Phi she was completely unaware of the implications.

"I think it is an unfortunate incident [that she took the photo with the gibbon]. However, I think it is now an opportunity to bring this issue to light, because, as I didn't know, I'm sure others don't know," Ms Glebova said.

"I am a big, big animal lover. Of course lots of people who love animals will right away, when they see the animal, want to touch it, cuddle it and take a picture with it. That's why I think it is so im-



I think it is an unfortunate incident [that she took the photo with the gibbon]. However, I think it is now an opportunity to bring this issue to light, because, as I didn't know, I'm sure others don't know



This is the right way to take a picture with a 'gibbon', Natalie Glebova explains following an error on Phi Phi Island.

portant to raise awareness."

Ms Glebova's visit to Phuket with a few of her friends from

Bangkok wasn't all about apes.

The group also visited the Soi Dog Foundation later in the day, and

took toys for Songkran festivities to an orphanage in Phang Nga on Tuesday.

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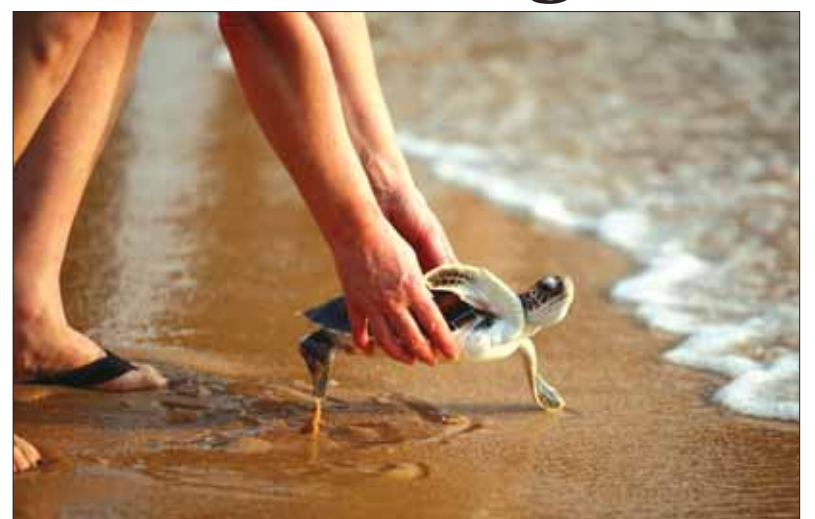
JW Marriott gets turtles wet at Mai Khao Beach for Songkran

PARTICIPANTS will release 60 green turtles on April 13 for the 6th annual Mai Khao Turtle Release, organized by the JW Marriott Phuket Resort and Spa.

The annual turtle release is held on Mai Khao Beach in front of JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa, in close cooperation with Mai Khao Marine Turtle Foundation and its partners.

The Mai Khao Marine Turtle Foundation was launched in March 2002 to raise funds and awareness of the endangered leatherback turtles, which nest in the Mai Khao Beach area.

In recent years, the foundation has broadened its environmental projects from not only conservation of the leatherback turtles, but also of the environment in which they live. Threatened and endangered species of turtles face multiple threats due to environmental conditions, such as



Turtles ready to take off on Mai Khao Beach for the Thai New Year.

commercial fishing, ocean litter and loss of breeding habitat.

Every 3,500 baht raised during the event will pay for the rehabilitation and release of one turtle, and includes turtle education and other fun activities on the day.

To get involved in the release or for more information, contact the Mai Khao Marine Turtle Foundation Manager via email at info@maikhaoturtlefoundation.com or at 089-733 8830.

— *Phuket Gazette*

The art of Food Gallery



The Food Gallery has an excellent selection of incredibly flavorful entrees as well as weekday specials, such as Monday's Burger and a pint for 295 baht.

By Sylvia Joy

IN PHUKET Town, there are many options for your culinary taste buds to explore. In one block, you can find street food, Thai cuisine, Chinese-inspired dishes, breakfast and an array of coffee shops, so it's nice when you find a place that you want to go to over and over again.

For many people, this place is The Food Gallery, located on Rassada Road just past the Promthep Clock Tower. The original attraction for me, and for many people, is the excellent breakfast menu by Chef Patrick Langdon. From the Benedict Bruschetta to the breakfast bagel and Island Porridge, they can fulfill all of your early-morning dietary needs. The menu even includes traditional brunch beverages, such as bloody marys and fresh juices. The lunch selection is also full of goodies: Thai chicken curry wrap, roasted chicken sandwich with thyme mayonnaise, and the roast beef sandwich served with beetroot, watercress and horseradish cream.

This week, however, we wanted to share with you their fantastic dinner menu. Daily specials include Monday's Burger, Wednesday's Curry Chicken and Friday's Fish 'n' Chips, all served with a pint for 295 baht each.

As it was Monday, we decided to go for the burger – and it was definitely the right decision. The beef was cooked to order and adorned with hash browns, crispy bacon, cheddar cheese, tomato and gherkin. The flavors and textures melded wonderfully together and the beef itself was well seasoned and very tender. Served with house-cut fries and coleslaw, this meal was certainly a deal, as it could easily feed two. If you are feeling a little adventur-

ous, I recommend putting the coleslaw on the burger itself. It provides a bit of a fresh crunch.

On deck was the pasta carbonara and Caesar salad. The carbonara was creamy and cheesy and tasted like a fancier home-baked mac and cheese. The bacon inside maintained its crispness, and the parmesan its flavor, giving the dish a little bite. The portion size was substantial, but so good it left you wanting more. The Caesar salad was fantastic with tender grilled chicken, fresh romaine lettuce, more crisp bacon and, wait for it... actual anchovies.

For our final entree, we tried the grilled salmon fillet with cucumber, dill, mint and cream. It was phenomenal. The salmon was flaky and moist, while the cucumber – which resembled linguine – was full of flavor from the dill and mint. The freshness from the herbs and cucumber married beautifully with the salmon and it was decided that this was the winner of the already champion line-up of entrees.

But what is an exquisite dinner without an equally exquisite desert? It was a tough decision, with choices such as chocolate orange lava cake served with amaretto ice cream, strawberry and apple crumble, and fresh-baked banana cake served with coconut custard, but you can never go wrong with the tiramisu. Covered with the perfect amount of chocolate, this desert was just the right amount of mascarpone, and coffee and liquor-soaked sponge cake. I recommend pairing it with a nice cup of one of their coffees or teas.

Chef Langdon is definitely doing things right. Whether it is breakfast, lunch or dinner, head on over to Phuket Town and stop by The Food Gallery, open every day from 8am until 11pm. It will be your first of many visits, I'm sure.

Happy Songkran (Thai New Year 2015)

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Aristocratic aquatics



Gardening

By Patrick Campbell

HYDROPHYTES are plants that can grow only in water or in soil that is permanently saturated. Some simple souls merely float on the surface and dangle their roots below, but the majority are rooted to the bottom or to the muddy margins of lakes, marshes or rivers.

A few can actually survive in brackish or saline conditions, but for most, salty water prevents the natural process of osmosis and is a recipe for disaster.

Some are edible, for example, wild rice, watercress, morning glory, lotus and water chestnut, and all are extremely useful in filtering out impurities and toxins that plague both our visible and invisible supplies of water. Since they consume the same nutrients as algae, hydrophytes help to control algae's damaging presence, while most absorb various metallic compounds – for instance tin in Phuket – and help stabilize acidity-alkalinity levels in the water system. Furthermore, blooming water dwellers, such as lilies and lotuses, consume huge amounts of nitrates, an inevitable result of having fish in your pond or fertilizer in your garden soil.

But despite all these unheralded benefits, we grow water plants primarily for their visual presence. As the painter Claude Monet knew, few flowers can rival the beauty of *nymphaeas* or water lilies, and every Thai enthuses over the virtues of its equally splendid cousin, the lotus or *nelumba nucifera*, a sacred symbol for both Buddhists and Hindus.

Let's begin with the water lily, if only because it is a universal horticultural presence, even in cool climates. While most tropical vari-



Thais enthuse over the virtues of the splendid lotus, a sacred symbol for Buddhists and Hindus. Photo: Peripitus

eties will bloom profusely only if they are placed in a sunny position, water lilies will survive in less favorable conditions, even, as I recall, in my London garden.

There are stunning hybrids, mostly derived from *capensis* or Mexicana stock, in a range of colors few flowering plants can

emulate: scarlet, magenta, violet, white, yellow, orange and even blue. The large and dramatic star-shaped blooms come in double and single forms. Even the single flowers have a minimum of eight dramatic petals. Go to your local nursery and you will probably discover rows of water lilies of every

hue, rooted in the rich mud at the bottom of black, watertight, plastic pots. Most of them will be day-blooming tropical varieties, but there are also hardy and night-blooming forms. The most commonly grown cultivars include the orange *escarboucle*, the double-white blooming

gladstoniana and pale-yellow *marliacaea*.

To grow a lily, take a potted specimen, complete with its own roots encased in mud and already in bloom, so you know which color you are getting, and simply drop the container into a pond or wide ceramic bowl. A vigorous feeder, all your *nymphaea* will need is the occasional fertilizer tablet or two (available everywhere) and if the roots (actually rhizomes) become too large, a supplement of the sticky mud on sale in garden centers. Alternatively, you can divide up the clump if the plant gets too big for its boots.

Lilies do best in still or very slow-moving water and they need plenty of room. The large, rounded leaves – called pads – float on top, but pots with small surface areas will soon become overcrowded, resulting in the leaves bunching up or hanging untidily over the side. Also remember that in favorable conditions, the flowers, which are borne at the end of stiff, but fleshy stems, may rise several inches above their surrounding mat of greenery.

Not only humans who love lilies. Fish enjoy the superior water quality that *nymphaeas* provide and the cool, shady areas beneath the pads, while dragon flies and frogs appreciate the gentle resting place above. Low-maintenance perennials, lilies are both a utilitarian and aristocratic aquatic plant no garden should be without.

If you have a question or a garden that you would like featured, e-mail: drpaccampbell@gmail.com. Further information about this gardening series and Patrick's other work can be viewed at: patrickaccampbell.wordpress.com

Tip of the Week

Plant migration

MANY of the plants in your Thai garden are native to Asia, but many more are not.

Although they are now available in your local garden center, they originally arrived from far-flung corners of the globe: from Central America and South America, Africa, Australia and even remote islands, such as Madagascar.

Every Phuket garden displays evidence of this great botanical migration, evidenced by such now-common species as the acacia and allamanda, the flame tree, the bougainvillea, the canna lily and the heliconia.

With few exceptions, they



Bougainvilleas are popular in Phuket. Photo: Hedwig Storch

have quickly adapted to their new surroundings.

The process continues: visit any plant nursery and you will find specimens that have yet to acquire local cultural associations, some-

times they even lack local names. The fact that they are doing so well is a tribute to a local climate that may replicate or even improve on conditions in their native habitats.



Morning glory is an edible hydrophyte. Photo: Takeaway

Under the covers

Ban on 'underboob selfies' will do little to deter youth culture

On Your Mind

By Patrick Mattimore

BY NOW you've probably heard that the government has warned women against posting online 'underboob selfies' – selfie photos of the lower half of their breasts – saying their actions could violate the country's computer crime laws. Offenders could face up to five years in jail.

Internet responses have been predictable, generally suggesting that the government might better involve itself in other matters and wondering how the officials will identify culprits anyway.

Rather than pile on, I would suggest that the government might be onto something here.

I don't think identification will be so tough. After all, we have face recognition on many of the

most basic photo imaging software freely available today. I am sure the government could initiate a mammary gland archive. There would likely be lots of volunteers to do initial research.

But I have some more basic concerns. There has always been a double standard when it comes to breasts. No, not hers, but his and hers. And while posting of "her" underboobs might be considered as violating obscenity laws, the postings of "his" underboobs that I have seen were just plain obscene. Those are the pictures the government should be going after.

There is also a definitional problem. What area constitutes an underboob and does it vary with the individual?

We can probably agree that nipples are out, but might we not have an ageist problem here where one's sagging bosoms obscure a woman's right to post

Although selfies are reflective of the current generation enamored with their own images, adolescent ego-centrism is hardly unique to this group of young people



SELF-PERCEPTION: Not everyone sees two people dancing with arms raised when they look at the image above.

a picture of her navel online? Then again, maybe that should come under the same heading as the prohibition against the "his" postings.

Another problem I foresee is the natural underboob expansion. What if "he" wants to start posting pictures of an underpenis. Just imagine if sacks of jewels start

popping up all over the Internet.

About a year ago *China Daily*, for whom I used to write an online column, asked me to write about the selfie phenomenon and what, if anything, it revealed about modern day culture.

One of the things I concluded after researching the topic of

selfies, was that although selfies are reflective of the current generation enamored with their own images, adolescent ego-centrism is hardly unique to this group of young people.

I suppose the same could be said for boobs and the desire to publicize them.



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* Channels and schedules: See page 13, this issue of the Gazette.

Phuket Gazette

Songkran 2015

Celebrate A Little – Get Wet



Phuket Governor Nisit Jansomwong

A Word from the Governor:

"I hope everyone enjoys their Songkran holidays in Phuket, and of course do not drink and drive and please follow the rules. Police will keep an eye on public safety, especially in the play zones."

Summary:

ALREADY world renowned for its playful spirit and watery antics, Songkran is here again! For centuries the Thai New Year has been observed as a symbol of hospitality, love and the importance of maintaining strong relationships within families, communities and society as a whole. Those celebrating, and even those not, are bound to get wet as they attempt to move through the streets of Phuket – so put on a smile, relax and enjoy the experience.



Rules: X



No sexy outfits

No sexy dancing



No booze in water-play zones



No rolling water-fight trucks



No powder

No ice



No foam



No high-pressure guns



Water Play Zones:

- Saphan Hin Park | • Soi Ta-iad, Chalongs | • Kata and Karon beachfront
- Bangla Road and Loma Park on the Patong beach road | • Kamala Park | • Sirinath National Park
- Surin Beach | • Limelight Avenue in Phuket Town, where the alcohol-free 'Songkran No Al' party will be held on April 13

Weapons of Choice



The 1500 can go the distance, but shouldn't be so powerful that the police take you down.



Pump-action squirter with ample water supply – dozens of uber cute models, making it a big seller to younger kids, and adults young at heart



Keeping it a little more traditional. It's harder to have a bigger impact than a bucket of water. However, it is necessary to station yourself near your water supply.



Best offense is a good defense... though not necessarily true at Songkran, keeping your phone, money and camera dry should be a priority.

Phuket FC whale on Dolphins at Surakul

PHUKET FC's 2-0 victory over the Pattaya Dolphins at Surakul Stadium in Phuket Town last Saturday elevated the home side move from 10th to sixth place on the Yamaha League One table.

Phuket FC striker Andre Louis Rodrigues Lopez of Brazil opened the scoring in the 59th minute, with fellow forward Berlin Nlome Ndebi sealing the match with a stylish solo goal nine minutes before the final whistle.

Pattaya United came to Phuket with a full squad, looking to hold up play with defense and score on the counter attack. The plan almost worked.

After nine minutes, Pattaya striker Milan Bubalo of Serbia broke into space on the far right corner and sent in a cross that teammate Chairat Buran fired just over the crossbar.

The Ronins responded strongly two minutes later. Suriya Prawarana sent in a long ball cross from the right wing to Berlin Nlome Ndebi who had his shot cleared off the line by defenders.

Phuket FC had better control of the game in the second half, and home-side fans finally roared with delight in the 59th minute, when midfielder Wasan Samansin slotted the ball into the box for Lopez, who directed his shot inside the far post, past a helpless Pattaya keeper Pat Piyaphatkiti.

Phuket FC Head Coach Songyot 'Dang' Klinsrisuk praised his squad.

"This result was earned through hard work by the team and working together," he said. "We faced a big team. We had a little pressure in the first half, but the boys handled them very well."

— Saroj Kueprasertkij



The Ronins (in green) outclassed Pattaya. Photo: Phuket FC.

Adrenaline rush set for club racing

MARK Horwood and his crew on *Adrenaline* will be looking to continue their winning ways in the Ao Chalong Yacht Club (ACYC) Keelboat and Multihull Race Series on April 12.

Adrenaline opened their campaign in the Multihull division with a win in the first race on March 22, while Kirill Stashevskiy's *Stealth Cat Galeforce* placed second.

In the Monohulls Division, Patinyakorn 'Ging' Buranrom on *Sansiri Windstar* will be looking to defend his title against visiting boat *Rusalka* skippered by Kevan Perrins.

All are welcome to join the Sunday racing series.

"Anyone wishing to sail but doesn't have a boat are advised to turn up before 8:30am and we will do our best to get you on a vessel," said ACYC Commodore Mick Kealy.

The series is open to all keel yachts and multihulls with a length overall of greater than six meters. There is no entry fee for boats. Crew fees are 150 baht for members, 300 baht for non-members.

Race briefing is at 9:05am, ahead of the 11am signal for a 11:05am race start.

— Chris Husted

Kids reign at tri fest

By Phuket Gazette

MORE than 180 youngsters from around the world took part in the Thanyapura Superkidz Triathlon 2015 event on April 4, as many of them prepare for the International Junior Challenge slated for later this year.

The event drew young athletes from Sweden, New Zealand, the Netherlands, the US, Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Bangkok, Australia, UK, and Germany.

"We have held Superkidz events for the third year in a row and have received great response over the years with an increased number of participants and growing interest in the triathlon sports," said Thanyapura Executive Chairman Chris McCormack.

"The children did great today and hope they continuously keep on training and come back for the Junior Challenge race in November."

The kids' triathlon last weekend was held in six age groups.

In the Junior event, comprising a 50m swim, 3km bike and a 500m run, Smirnov Aleksandr placed first in the 6-year-old boys division, followed by Lapassapon Heras Gomez second and Thanayot Chaikasetsin third.

Thanwarat Phramthong won the girls' 6-years competition, with



Caleb Sadler crosses the finish line to win his age division at the fest.

Yulia Shevchuk placing second and Anna Dermina third.

Racing the same course in the 7-8 years old boys division was Victor Ake Viktorsson, Winthakorn Chaic and Tama Williamson placing first through third, respectively.

Sasha Simkallova won the 7-8 years old girls division on the jun-

ior course, followed by Sienna McCormack and Daria Kudrina.

Competing on the Intermediate course (150m swim, 6km bike, 1,500m run) were Siam Yapp, Tamino Lokenberg and Jack Breit, placing first through third in the 9-10 years old boys division. Natalie Hunter, Iseli Rawa, and Bliss Wang took the top three



Youngsters swam like champs.



Teens peddled for glory.

places, respectively, in the 9-10 years old girls competition.

Also on the intermediate course, Ben McMillan outpaced Matthew Trott and Prin Oapirat in the 11-12 years old division, while Chloe Schrijnemaekers won the girls race, followed by Maxime Schrijnemaekers and Rin Chawaladit.

Thalang stump ICC in cricket league face-off

THE Thalang Cricket Team defeated Island Cricket Club in baking 35°C conditions at the Alan Cooke Ground in Thalang last weekend.

Thalang entered the match without their captain Bill Stahmer and key run scorer Justin Thomatos, while the ICC were without medium pace bowler Pir Sami.

TCT's stand-in captain Andrew McMillan won the toss and chose to field first.

In the second over of the day, Deepak Mehra became the second ICC player this season to top-edge a ball onto their own head, and he went off to the casualty ward with a nasty gash above his eye.



In the fourth over, ICC's main run scorer Junaid Mohammad (9 runs) picked out Thai cricketer Pao in the deep and was caught.

Runs were difficult to come by and ICC could only manage 38/1 at the 10-over break. The second session was all TCT's, as ICC lost regular wickets to be 76/5 after 20 overs.

Neill Culpan was back to his destructive best with the ball, picking up two wickets from his first four overs. On both occasions the ICC batsman stood their ground out in the middle, and left the decision up to ACC level 1 umpire John King.

Darshan Vaigankar and Balesh Desai (33)

led a recovery for ICC in the next 10 overs as they worked the ball around off the Thalang medium pace bowlers and spinners to reach 135/6 from 30 overs.

In the last session, Vaigankar became another victim of Culpan's speed, out leg-before wicket for 64 runs, as TCT tied down and dismissed the ICC playmakers.

Even with the return to the crease of Mehra, ICC were all out for 174 runs in the 40th and final over.

After the lunch break, Thalang began their innings in terrible fashion. Simon Wetherell was caught at slip, Pao was ruled LBW and then Jean Matthee was caught at slip. All three wickets were off the bowling of Arun Virdikar in the fourth over.

Then Culpan and McMillan hit a 48-run partnership from the next five overs.

The 10th over of the innings saw Virdikar strike again with Culpan (25) caught by Ventrapatt at slip and Paan caught behind.

At drinks Arun Virdikar had the tremendous figures of 5/28 and had bowled ICC into a very strong position in the match.

TCT were 7/102 in the 18th over when Craig Murphy joined Garry Lane carried their side through to the 25th over before Lane (28) had his stumps knocked over by Ravi Naik.

Runhaar and Murphy showed that cricket is still a game for batsmen as they worked the ball into the gaps for 10 overs before Murphy sent the last ball of the 35th to the fence to seal a victory for Thalang.

This weekend the ACG will play host to the Phuket Sixes Cricket tournament.

— Andrew McMillan

Not-so Snowy Mountains

Why Vail branches out to buy an Australian ski resort

By Swati Pandey

WHEN self-confessed snowboarding addict Risma Utami planned ski trips from her adopted hometown of Sydney, conspicuously absent from the wishlist of destinations were the fields in the nearby Snowy Mountains.

"Europe, Japan and New Zealand are cheaper, you have better quality snow there, more challenging slopes, great accommodation, less waiting time at the lift and more skiing," the 29-year-old said.

With climate change threatening Australia's already meager alpine skiing resources, the Snowy Mountains might not seem an obvious choice for the first international foray by United States ski giant Vail Resorts Inc, which last week agreed to pay US\$136 million for Perisher Ski Resort.

Perisher is Australia's largest and most popular ski resort, but in a country better known for deserts and beaches, it faces some significant natural hurdles.

The summit of Mt Perisher, at just above 2,000 meters, is nearly 900m below the base of Vail's Breckenridge, one of the near-dozen US resorts it owns.

Perisher's annual snowfall has varied between a healthy 384 centimeters and a woeful 7cm over the past five years, according to snow sports website OnTheSnow.com, forcing the resort to increasingly rely on artificial snowmaking.

But for Vail, the deal was as much about attracting more well-travelled and well-heeled skiers from Down Under to its US resorts as getting its hands on Perisher's limited, albeit profitable, assets – particularly as climate change bites.

"Mountains in the northern hemisphere are generally more luxurious, bigger, better mountains than those in the southern hemisphere," Vail chairman Rob Katz told Reuters after the deal, which will offer Perisher season-pass holders access to Vail's North



The chairlift to New South Wales's Mount Kosciuszko, part of Australia's Snowy Mountains. Photo: Andrea Schaffer

American resorts.

"In Australia, for somebody looking at Perisher and saying 'should I buy a pass?' on worries maybe the season won't be that good this year, they now know they can also ski in the United States for free."

The challenge facing the Australian ski industry are only expected to rise as the climate becomes hotter and drier. Since the 1950s, the Snowy Mountains' snowpack has fallen by about a third and is expected to decrease by half or more before the end of this century, according to top Australian science body CSIRO.

With uncertain snow conditions, smaller mountains and hefty

lift prices, many Australians already choose to ski in places such as Niseko in Japan, New Zealand's Queenstown or Whistler in Canada. Colorado, Vail's home state, is also popular.

Australians love their adventure sports and rank among the top 10 wealthiest countries in the world per capita, making them a small, but important market for global ski resorts that target international visitors, who stay longer and spend more than locals.

Some North American resorts credited Australian skiers with helping them weather the recent recession, said Ben Cardenas, marketing manager at Travelplan Ski, based in Sydney.

About 900,000 Australians ski or snowboard, and in 2011 and 2012, when the Australian dollar was trading around parity with the US dollar, almost half of the Australians who did snowsports on their last holiday went overseas, according to Roy Morgan Research.

With a weakening yen, some of the world's best powder snow and facilities, Japan has become a key competitor to US resorts, especially as the US dollar rises.

"We've definitely noticed a big surge in bookings to Japan and we think this has a lot to do with affordable ski options," said Kellie Carty, an executive at Flight Centre Travel Group, highlighting an

82-per cent rise in flights to Tokyo over the past three years.

Peter Murphy, a Sydney-raised surfer-cum-snowboarder and skier who runs tour operator SkiJapan, said he did not believe Vail's move would threaten the "preeminent" position of resorts such as Niseko among travelling Australian skiers due to Japan's shorter flight times, easier time zone and reliable snow.

But analysts were largely positive on Vail's move, expecting cash-flows from Perisher to prop up off-season earnings, while some speculated it could spark a similar response from other international ski groups.

– Reuters

Rugby-Singapore grows sports portfolio by adding Sevens leg

SINGAPORE added to its growing portfolio of sporting events by confirming on Tuesday that it will stage a leg of the rugby sevens World Series next year at its National Stadium.

The wealthy Southeast Asian city-state joins Canada's Vancouver as the new stops for the burgeoning 10-leg series that, this year, acts as a qualifier for rugby's Olympic return at the Rio de Janeiro Games next year.

The awarding by governing body World Rugby is a boost for Singapore after they missed out to Japan last year in the race to become the 18th franchise in

the southern hemisphere Super Rugby tournament.

"We truly believe that our event at the iconic National Stadium has the potential to match the excitement surrounding current tournaments in the series," Singapore Rugby Union President Low Teo Ping said, after 23 other locations were edged out for the four-year contract.

Singapore's inclusion is likely to spell the end for the Tokyo Sevens, held last weekend, but lacking the pizzazz associated with the long established Hong Kong leg, which celebrated its 40th edition the week before.

– Reuters

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Oilers tee up for charity



By Chris Husted

THE Phuket Oilfield Classic gets underway this weekend with about 115 golfers joining the annual charity-driven tournament.

This year dubbed the 7th annual Arco Phuket Oilfield Classic, the tournament will see players lining up to tee off at the Red Mountain and Loch Palm golf courses over two days.

The competition will begin with the traditional Texas Scramble at Red Mountain on April 10 with an 18-hole shotgun start at 12:30pm.

On April 11, players will tee off for the Stableford Pairs Competition at Loch

Palm with an 18-hole shotgun start at 12:30pm.

The gala dinner and prize-giving ceremony will be held at the Novotel Vintage Park in Patong.

Hundreds of golfers turn out each year for the tourney, which traces back to an informal golfing tour to Phuket by oil and gas workers in 2008.

"This year will be played under a new format," event organizer Mark Cameron, an avid golfer who has lived in Phuket since 2006, told the *Gazette*.

"There will be no 'champion of champions', so to speak. Instead of a singles tournament, this year we are playing a 'two-ball, better ball pairs'

format... Last year's champion, James Stevenson, will be returning to play in this year's tournament, but he will be paired up with a partner."

The annual event has raised millions of baht for charity over the years.

Money raised from this year's event will be combined with the funds raised by the world-record drive in a golf cart from Pattaya to Phuket set by Cameron and fellow Phuket golfer Graham Haslam (see page 27).

"So far, both events have raised about 2 million baht, Cameron told the *Gazette* on Tuesday. "We will combine the amounts raised and announce a single figure after the tournament."

The money raised will go to a local charity: the Phuket Has Been Good To Us Foundation.

Spectators are welcome to watch the match play over the two days.

For more information, visit AsianGolfEvents.com

The Oilfield Golf Classics are proudly sponsored by the Phuket Gazette and the 'Phuket Today' show, the island's only nationally broadcast television program (aired daily on True Visions and all other major Thai cable and satellite networks).



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