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

# Phuket Gazette

## Jet-ski cowboys snatch sand



Patong jet-ski operators granted more beach

INSIDE TODAY

May 30 - June 5, 2015 PhuketGazette.Net In partnership with The Nation

20 Baht

# Beach raid



Lt Somphop Kamthana of the Royal Thai Navy Third Area Command led the raid on the small, secluded beach. Photo: Phuket PR

## Public urged to file complaints over mafia behavior at beaches

By **Kritsada Mueanhawong**

THE Damrongtham Center (ombudsman's office) has vowed to tackle any mafia-like behavior by local residents trying to distort the law as they attempt to illegally profit from any of the numerous small, secluded beaches

on Phuket.

"If anyone is aware of mafia-like tactics or beach encroachment on beaches like Nui Beach in Karon or elsewhere on the island, please file a complaint with us," said Prapan Kanprasang, chief of the Damrongtham center.

Mr Prapan's statement follows a military-backed raid of Nui Beach as investigators followed up on alleged beach encroachment and illegal land documents.

Navy officers led the raid on Nui Beach on May 21, following an investigation into allegations of 'mafia thugs' illegally claiming the land and extorting beachgoers.

In February, 46-year-old Chalothorn Chotianan, whose family claims ownership of the land, said that he was not aware of anyone trying to charge visitors for using the sands.

"Everything is fine. I am not mafia and the land around the beach is legally my property. I have all the documents to prove it," he told officers at the time.

Further investigation into the land documents for the 18 rai of property, which provides the only land access to Nui Beach, led government officers back...

Story Continued on Page 4

## Blast of anger leads to airport bomb threat

A WOMAN is facing charges after allegedly claiming that she had a bomb in her purse as she tried to board a flight at Phuket International Airport.

Police suspect that an altercation over a bottle of water not being allowed on board led to the baseless threat.

Full Story Page 3

## Swiss national dies in Patong elevator shaft

RESCUE workers were unable to remove a Swiss man from an elevator shaft in Patong before he suffocated to death.

Police are still investigating why the doors to the elevator shaft opened before the carriage arrived. They believe the man walked through the open doors before he realized that there was no carriage.

Full Story Page 2

## Three arrested for murder of Kalim resident

POLICE have arrested three men for the murder of a 72-year-old Kalim resident on April 24.

Police believe the killing may have been motivated a private dispute concerning a land rental agreement.

Full Story Page 6

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## This Week



### Business

See what the buzz is all about when it comes to social media. **Page 11**



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Post-workout foam rolling no longer a pro's secret. **Page 31**



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Thanyapura prepares to suit up for the 28<sup>th</sup> SEA games. **Page 32**

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Sunday



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Monday



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Tuesday



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# Rescuers helpless as Swiss man dies in elevator shaft

By Thawit Bilabdullar

RESCUERS helplessly watched a Swiss national who was stuck in an elevator shaft in a Patong hotel die on May 22.

"We think that the doors to the elevator opened up before the lift had arrived and that he stepped into the shaft, unaware that there wasn't actually an elevator there," said Maj Teerasak Boonsang of the Patong Police. "An employee heard the sound of him crashing onto the roof of the elevator."

When Baan Paradise Hotel employees arrived at the scene, they found the 54-year-old man, who police declined to name, upside down with his head wedged in between the elevator and the wall of the elevator shaft.

"I was on the fourth floor when I heard the sound. I ran to the elevator and saw that the man had fallen. I went to the third floor to try and open the doors, but I couldn't get them open," a hotel employee said.

Employees then called police and rescue workers.

"He was still alive, but was in a weak condition when police and rescue workers arrived. He was calling out for help," Maj Teerasak



Hotel employees struggled to open the doors after hearing the man fall.

said. "We tried to get him out, but the hole was too narrow – he was trapped for almost an hour."

Eventually, the hotel mechanic was able to lower the lift to the first floor, where there was more space for rescuers to free the man's body, explained police.

Police are continuing their investigation to establish why the elevator doors opened before the lift had arrived to the fourth floor.

The Swiss Embassy has been informed of the death. Police are withholding the man's name pending the notification of next of kin.

## Phang Nga newborn found dead in canal

POLICE are hunting for the mother of a newborn girl who was found dead in a canal in Phang Nga, north of Phuket, on May 21.

"When we arrived we found the baby's body inside a well-tied plastic bag," said Lt Sarawut Phanpan of the Thung Ka Ngok Police. "Inside the bag we also found an umbilical cord and three stones."

Though there was a cut across the baby's neck, police took the body to Phang Nga Hospital for doctors to determine the cause of death.

"We can't be sure what

happened, but it seems like whoever was associated with the birth tried to hide the evidence. However, the stones weren't heavy enough to keep the body from floating to the surface of the canal," Lt Sarawut said.

"We are now looking for women in the area who might have recently given birth. We will also be questioning villagers to see if any pregnant women have recently disappeared from the area."

If caught, the mother will face due legal process, confirmed Lt Sarawut.

– **Kritsada Mueanhawong**

TWO men on a motorbike were killed when they were hit and dragged by a tour bus on Thepkasattri Road early Monday morning.

The bodies of Thai national Somwang Chuaykamchu, 31, and Myanmar national Aung Myint, 32, were underneath the bus when police and Kusoldharm Foundation rescue workers arrived at the scene near the entrance of Thai Watsadu in Thalang at about 1:20am.

"The men were making a u-turn opposite Thai Watsadu when they were hit by the Pornsiwathep bus. They were dragged about 10 meters before the bus came to a stop," said Lt Col Sanit Nukong of the Thalang Police.

Police found a white Suzuki motorbike near the bus, but no helmets, confirmed Col Sanit.



The pair were dragged about 10 meters before the bus came to a stop.

The bus driver, Montree Posee, told the police that he was driving to work when the men suddenly cut in front of his bus, causing the collision.

"Police have, nonetheless, seized the bus and the motorbike

until the investigation is complete," said Col Sanit.

"Mr Montree was charged with reckless driving causing death."

The bodies were taken to Thalang Hospital.

– **Thawit Bilabdullar**



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## Well-known Phuket reporter dies in Surat Thani car crash

A LOCAL reporter for the *Phuket Daily News* and *Siengtai* newspaper was killed in a car crash in Surat Thani on May 19.

Amnuay Korbkum, 46, a well-known member of the Phuket Reporters Club, was travelling from Phuket to Surat Thani to visit his father in hospital when the accident occurred at about 9:50pm.

"Panupong Sukaoon, Mr Amnuay's brother-in-law, was driving. We believe he tried to overtake a van on the left and smashed into the back of an 18-wheeled truck," explained Maj Daecho Khongsuk of the Baan Na Doem Police.

Mr Amnuay had already been rushed to Baan Na Doem Hospital by the time police arrived.

"Mr Amnuay died upon arrival at the hospital due to the serious chest injuries he sustained in the crash," Maj Daecho said.

Mr Panupong is currently recovering at Baan Na Doem Hospital from head injuries sustained in the accident.

He has been charged with reckless driving causing death and will be questioned further by police once he has recovered, Maj Daecho confirmed.

"He was a very good man. He helped us

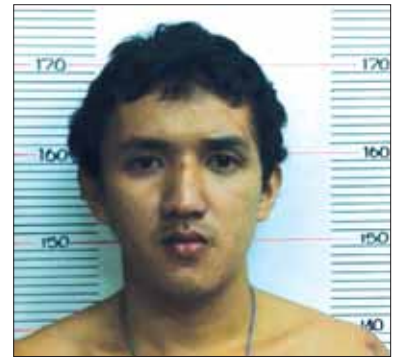
with everything, especially the news," Boonrat Apiwantanakorn, president of the Phuket Reporters Club, told the *Gazette*.

"He always supported events and never hesitated to help anyone who needed it."

"We were all very sad when he died."

Mr Amnuay

– Thawit Bilabdullar



Nattapol Kamjeen was tracked down to his home province of Nakhon Sri Thammarat.

## Men arrested for mistaken identity murder attempt

TWO men have been arrested for their roles in the attempted murder of a man in Thalang on May 13.

Kordetch Sinto, 38, was shot in the back while he was sitting in front of his house. Police originally thought that four suspects were involved but, during their investigation, they learned that only two men on one motorbike had participated in the crime.

Police found the driver, Natthakit Thongplaew, 22, at his rental room in Rassada on the same day as the shooting, said Phuket Provincial Police Deputy Commander Peerayut Karajedee.

"Mr Natthakit told us that he drove the shooter Nattapol Kamjeen, 23, to the house. Mr Nattapol jumped off, shot Mr Kordetch, got back on the bike and they fled the scene, he explained.

"He then revealed that Mr Nattapol had run away to his home province of Nakhon Sri Thammarat.

On May 19, Mr Nattapol was tracked down in Nakhon Sri Thammarat and police found the homemade handgun buried outside his home there.

"Mr Nattapol admitted that he shot Mr Kordetch because he looked like someone he had problems with who also lives in the same area, said Col Peerayut.

Mr Nattapol was charged with attempted murder and illegal possession of a firearm and corresponding ammunition and Mr Natthakit was charged for being an accomplice to attempted murder.

Mr Kordetch has since been discharged from hospital, confirmed a nurse at Thalang Hospital.

– Kritsada Mueanhawong

# Bomb threat diffused

## Passenger's enraged outburst after being told not to bring a water bottle onto a Phuket-Bangkok flight lands her with bomb threat charges

By Kritsada Mueanhawong

AN ANGRY passenger boarding a Thai Air Asia flight to Bangkok has been charged with causing a bomb scare after she told airline employees that her bag contained a bomb, in response to being forbidden from taking a water bottle on board on May 22.

"Phanarat Nopphakhun, 37, has been charged for the fake bomb scare at the airport. She faces a maximum fine of 200,000 baht, five years imprisonment or both," confirmed Lt Col Watcharin Jirattikarnwiwat of the Tah Chat Chai Police.

Ms Phanarat has denied the charges.

All passengers on flight FD 3002, which was preparing to fly from Phuket to Bangkok, were evacuated, and the plane was

moved to an emergency parking area for further inspection, confirmed Monrudee Gettuphan, director of Phuket International Airport.

"There were 141 passengers and six cabin crew on the flight, which was supposed to have departed by 8:40am," said Ms Monrudee.

Our initial understanding of the incident is that Ms Phanarat was upset with the employee at the boarding gate who wouldn't allow her to bring the water on board the plane.

– Gen Patchara Boonyasit, Commander Phuket Provincial Police

"We conducted a thorough search of the plane and found nothing that could have been used as a bomb."

Following the inspection, all passengers were ushered back on board and departed for Bangkok at

10:47am.

However, the woman and threatened airline employee were both taken to Tah Chat Chai Police station for further questioning.

"Our initial understanding of the



Experts inspect the plane after Ms Phanarat (top left) made her threat.

incident is that Ms Phanarat was upset with the employee at the boarding gate who wouldn't allow her to bring the water on board

the plane," Phuket Provincial Police Commander Patchara Boonyasit told the *Gazette* after the outburst.

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The turtle was taken to the PMBC.

## Locals discover headless turtle on Mai Khao

EXPERTS at the Phuket Marine Biological Center (PMBC) in Cape Panwa are investigating the cause of death of a headless turtle that washed up on Mai Khao Beach on Monday.

Kusoldham Foundation rescue workers arrived at about 10:20am after receiving a call from a local villager who found the turtle and initially tried to bury it.

"At this point, we think the turtle may have suffered a head or neck wound from a fishing net that became infected, causing it to die and the head to rot off," said Winai Sae-Ew of the Mai Khao Tambon Administration Organization.

The remains of the reptile were taken to the PMBC to determine the species of turtle and cause of death.

— **Thawit Bilabdullar**

# Tsunami drill hailed a success

By Woranut Pechdee

A TOTAL of about 200 emergency-response officers and locals joined a full-scale tsunami evacuation drill at Koh Sireh, off the east coast of Phuket, on Tuesday, May 19.

"Every department handled the rescue role-playing situations very well and acted appropriately. However, the locals seemed to be more uncomfortable, as this was their first time," said Phuket Governor Nisit Jansomwong.

The drill simulated a warning being issued through television, radio and SMS alerts to people in Phuket by the National Disaster Warning Center (NDWC) in Bangkok.

"The tsunami warning tower siren was also sounded, which issued the warning in five different languages: Thai, English, Chinese, Russian and Japanese," explained Governor Nisit.

Following the warning, people were evacuated to predetermined locations and a number of complications were simulated.

"The drill included additional realistic complications such as injured children, a pregnant woman and a motorbike crash. Addition-



Rescue workers practice tending to injured children during the drill.

ally, a rescue team had to be deployed to find and recover five people who were reported missing during the evacuation," Gov Nisit said.

The three-hour drill was designed to ensure that each de-

partment understood its responsibilities and had clear lines of communication, as well as to ensure locals had a chance to freshen up their evacuation skills.

"We also want to make sure tourists, not just locals, are confi-

dent that we are well prepared for such a disaster," Gov Nisit said.

Santhawat Riwleung, chief of the Phuket office of the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM), was also satisfied with the results of the drill.

"It went well. I was glad that we chose to conduct this one in Koh Sireh, as we have not had a full-scale tsunami drill here before and the residents need to be comfortable with how an evacuation is conducted," Mr Santhawat said.

Earlier this month, residents of Koh Sireh fled to high ground in fear of a tsunami, following an earthquake.

The full-scale tsunami drill was postponed from May 8, as it conflicted with the traditional sea gypsy festival, *Loy Reua*.

It was the second time the annual full-scale drill had been postponed.

The exercise was originally slated to be held on Christmas Day last year, but was later postponed due to sensitivities over the exercise being held one day before the 10-year anniversary of the disaster of 2004.

## Navy tackles troubles on secluded Phuket beach

From Page 1

...to the property. Mr Chalothorn's father, Thana Chotianan, attempted to present the same documents as proof of ownership.

"The *KorSor 1* provided by Thana Chotianan to obtain a *NorSor 3* for the 18 rai of property was for a completely different property, which voids the *NorSor 3*," explained Lt Somphop Kamthana of the Royal Thai Navy Third Area Command.

"We have collected enough evidence, and have now asked that the Phuket Agricultural Land Reform Office [ALRO] send the evidence to Karon Municipality, so

that they can present the owners with an eviction notice."

The *NorSor 3* was voided by the Supreme Court, confirmed Lt Somphop.

The evidence is to be handed over to the municipality in the next week. The municipality is then expected to issue a 30-day eviction notice.

During the raid, officers found five buildings used to provide services to customers on the beach, as well as tents, fitness equipment, tables, chairs and an unlicensed jet-ski, confirmed Lt Somphop.

"If they fail to remove the buildings, we will demolish them and charge them for land encroachment," he said.

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# Jet-skis wrangle more beach space in Patong

By Kritsada Mueanhawong

TWO jet-ski and parasailing zones and two swimming zones have been added to Patong Beach to fulfill the needs of tourists, Governor Nisit Jansomwong told the *Gazette* on May 21.

When the zones were first established last year, there were three swimming areas, each 500 meters wide and extending 150 meters offshore, and two jet-ski zones each about 300 meters wide, with jet-skis prohibited from venturing any more than one nautical mile offshore.

Now, there are five swimming zones and four jet-ski zones, all of which are 200 meters wide.

"We need to have options for tourists to choose from on a holiday destination like Phuket. When tourists spend money on activities such as jet-skiing, it gives a boost to the economy," Governor Nisit explained.

"We added the zones at the



Jet-ski and parasailing operators have gained more space on Patong Beach. Photo: Gazette file

request of operators, but also as a response to tourists' needs."

Jet-ski and parasailing operators must keep their vehicles parked inside their zones and in the water.

"The swimming zones will be

marked with buoys 200m apart and 120m into the sea. Even though these areas are marked for swimming, I urge all tourists to swim carefully," Gov Nisit said.

"All locals and tourists should

keep an eye out for any operators who break the rules. Please report any dangerous or suspicious activities to Patong Police, Patong Municipality, the Governor's Office or any other relevant officers."

## Pebbles scattered around skate park cause stir

The X-treme skate park in Phuket Town was sabotaged with pebbles – creating a dangerous situation for a variety of skate sports – on May 21.

Phuket resident Phakhawat Jret Na Nakon made the discovery when he and friends went to the Saphan Hin skate park that day, according to his Facebook post.

"There were pebbles all over the skate zone. We also found the plastic bag used to carry the pebbles. This is dangerous for children and everyone who plays in the park," Mr Phakhawat said on Facebook.

It is still unclear to many of the skaters

why the park was vandalized.

"It is not a good thing. I don't know why they scattered pebbles in the park, but we will buy our own CCTV to ensure our safety and so we can identify the suspects if it ever happens again," X-treme park member, Nattawut Paewgate, told the *Gazette*.

No complaint has been filed with police, confirmed Phuket City Police Superintendent Kraithong Chanthongbai.

"We can't send an officer to investigate until a complaint has been filed. If this is done, we will, of course, look into what happened," Col Kraithong said. – *Thanaphon Phromthong*



The pebbles could have endangered skaters. Photo: Nattawut Paewgate



The fire panicked tourists.

## Soi Bangla blaze guts rental room

TOURISTS on Soi Bangla panicked after a fourth-floor room along the popular party road burst into flames on May 20.

Three fire trucks spent about 20 minutes dousing the flames coming from the rental room above Rico's Restaurant.

No one was injured in the incident, confirmed police.

However, the blaze completely destroyed the room and its contents, causing an estimated 100,000 baht in damages.

The room was being rented out by Thai national Marisa Dermthamram, who was at work nearby when the fire broke out, explained Patong Police Superintendent Chaiwat Auikam.

"We believe that the fire started from an electrical short circuit. However, Ms Marisa was taken to the Patong Police Station for questioning in hopes that she might be able to shed more light on what might have caused the fire," said Col Chaiwat.

A similar situation is believed to be the cause of a fire that gutted ten shops on Phi Phi Don earlier this month.

– *Kritsada Mueanhawong*



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## Witness spots arson suspects

A WITNESS told police that he saw two people set fire to a Phuket restaurant on May 20.

"It was dark, so the witness wasn't able to give us any details to help identify the suspects. However, he saw two people park a car a good distance from the restaurant and then return with cans of flammable fluids after the fire was set," said Lt Suporn Muangkhai of the Thalang Police.

The owner of the Baan Tharua Garden Restaurant, Chantana Pongkhawlou, 33, was asleep inside with her husband when the flames began consuming the palm-frond roof and wooden furniture.

"Ms Chantana and her husband, with the help of others nearby, managed to control the fire and prevent it from completely destroying the restaurant," said Lt Suporn.

Police have collected evidence at the scene and are currently searching for leads to identify the suspects.

An estimated 30,000 baht of damage was caused by the attack, noted Lt Suporn.

— **Thawit Bilabdullar**

# Murder suspects arrested

By Woranut Pechdee

POLICE have arrested three men for the murder of a 72-year-old Kalim resident on April 24.

Eet Chaisit was shot multiple times while driving back from prayer at the local mosque to his home in Kalim, and later died in Patong Hospital.

Police first identified the driver of the motorcycle carrying Mr Eet's shooter from CCTV footage in the area, Phuket Provincial Police Commander Patchara Boonyasit told a press conference on May 22.

"On May 18, Phuket police and Trat police arrested Suthin Meenpran in Trat's Koh Chang district," said Maj Gen Patchara.

Mr Suthin confessed to the crime and told police the whereabouts of the other two suspects.

"On May 21, Phuket Provincial Police and Patong Police arrested Athit Sanlee, the gunman, at his rented room in Thalang," Gen Patchara said.

"Mr Athit has an extensive criminal record. He was a suspect in the murder of Jakkrit Nutad in 2012, but the case was dropped



Police seized a slew of weapons during their arrests of the men.

due to lack of evidence and Mr Athit was released.

"However, we will ensure we have enough evidence this time to bring Mr Eet's case to court."

Mr Jakkrit was riding home along the Kalim beach road when two men following him pulled alongside and opened fire on January 13, 2012.

Police believe the killing may have been motivated by a land dispute over alleged encroachment on

land in a street off Phra Baramee Road, the *Gazette* was told.

The residents of Phra Barami Road Soi 8, in the Kalim area of Patong, saw their homes destroyed in August 2010 after a development company ordered the demolition of the area.

Mr Jakkrit disputed the developer's claim to the land, saying he legally acquired the 13,600sqm plot in 1992. The long-disputed land case was taken to

court in 2010.

Also on May 21, Phuket police and police in Trang arrested Theab Noonueng, who is believed to have masterminded the murders of both Mr Eet last month and also Mr Jakkrit in 2012.

"Mr Theab was renting land in Kalim from Mr Eet. We suspect that they had a dispute over this land, which led to Mr Theab ordering Mr Eet's murder," said Gen Patchara.

Gen Patchara explained that Mr Theab was present on the day of Mr Eet's murder.

"He picked up Mr Athit and the guns after the shooting, and the three escaped Phuket separately shortly after," said Gen Patchara.

Mr Suthin and Mr Athit were charged with premeditated murder, illegal possession of a firearm and for carrying a firearm in public without permission. Mr Suthin accepted the charges, while Mr Athit denied them.

Mr Theab has been charged with conspiracy to murder, as well as the same charges that were brought against Mr Suthin and Mr Athit. He has also denied the charges.

## Fishing net catches blame for death of manatee in Krabi



The 300-kilogram manatee was found dead near Koh Kurong in Krabi province, east of Phuket.

FISHERY Department officers believe that a fishing net was to blame for the death of a 300-kilogram manatee found dead near Koh Kurong in Krabi on May 20.

"There were scratch marks on its body and a deep cut along its neck. We believe it died just hours before it was spotted by a local fisherman," said Prawet Awirutphanit, head of the fishery management section of the Krabi Provincial Fishery Office, said after the discovery.

During the last two or three

years, local fishermen have spotted a herd of the marine herbivores in the region, confirmed Mr Prawet, who believes this could be a sign of improving marine conditions in the Andaman.

The dead manatee was taken to the Phuket Marine Biological Center (PMBC) to confirm the cause of death.

Last month, a fishing net was blamed for the death of a 500-kilogram whale shark that was found near Koh Pu, off the coast of Krabi.

— **Kritsada Mueanhawong**

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# Tiger Temple abbot attacked by big cat

THE abbot of the 'Tiger Temple' is in the hospital with no visitors allowed after being bitten by one of the temple's tigers on May 23.

Temple followers said on May 24 that no serious injury was done to Phra Wisut Sarathane, the abbot of Kanchanaburi's Pa Luang Ta Bua Temple. The abbot was reportedly attacked by an adult male Bengal tiger while taking it to an exhibition area.

The tiger was said to have chomped on Phra Wisut's arm and scratched his face, *The Nation* reported.

Phra Wisut was sent to Thanakhan Hospital for an emergency operation and has been kept in the intensive care unit.

Suphap Korfuk, *kamnan* (sub-district chief) of Tambon Sing, said the abbot's condition was not



A Kanchanaburi abbot is in hospital after a tiger attack. Photo: Chutharat Plerin

as severe as depicted by some media.

The abbot could still walk, talk and eat. There were scratch wounds to his face, which had already been closed up

with stitches, he said.

"As far as I know, the abbot fell because of the steep and slippery walkway and his arm smashed on a rock, which caused his bone to break," Mr

Suphap said.

"The doctors do not allow visits to the abbot, as he has heart disease and needs close medical care," he said.

The temple was closed to tourists until further notice upon the advice of the National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation Department.

Nares Chombun, director of the Wild Animal Nurture Group, said the department would talk further about the fate of the tigers – whether they will remain at the temple or be moved to the department's breeding centers.

"Before the tiger attacked the abbot, the temple had asked the department to take care of all the tigers by opening a licenced zoo, but after the incident the department will discuss this matter with the temple," he said.

## AROUND THE nation

### Investigation into human trafficking to finish in June

THE investigation into the trafficking of Rohingya migrants is expected to be completed in June, assistant national police chief Gen Aek Angsanant said on Monday.

Of the 77 individuals believed to have been involved in trafficking in Thailand, 46 have been detained. The 31 others remain at large.

"Interrogation of the 46 detained suspects has already taken place. The police intend to treat the suspect's crimes as transnational... These are human trafficking, assisting aliens in entering Thailand illegally and unlawfully detaining others and kidnapping them for ransom," Gen Aek said.

He added that many suspects have already confessed, though key suspects continue to deny the charges.

## Fresh graduates hardest hit as unemployment rate rises

THAILAND's unemployment rate increased slightly in the first quarter amid low economic growth, the Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board (NESDB) reported on Monday.

NESDB Deputy Secretary-General Chutinart Wongsuban told a news conference that the unemployment rate increased from 0.89 per cent at the end of last year to 0.94 per cent in the first quarter, while the largest unemployed group was new graduates, *The Nation* reported.

"There are currently 361,297 people who are unemployed and 164,159 of them are newly graduated, a rise of 13.1 per cent from last year," Ms Chutinart said.

According to the statistics, 1.54 per cent of graduates with bachelor's degrees are out of work.

Commenting on the current employment trend, Ms Chutinart said the engineering field was the most desired area to work in because of the demand for professionals in the sector due to major infrastructure projects.

"The most unemployed field is journalism and communications, with 2.77 per cent of the bachelor's degree graduates still without a job," she said.

"A degree in arts is next on the list, with 2.76 per cent of the new graduates from this field unemployed, and 2.71 per cent of humanities-degree graduates are jobless."

In related news, the average salary in the private sector has



New graduates are by far the most unemployed group. Photo: Luftphilia

risen by 4.6 per cent to 11,678 baht per month from a year ago.

However, the average wage for laborers in the agriculture sector decreased by 0.3 per cent because of the drought.

"Most of the job vacancies these days require a vocational to high-vocational certificate, which the new graduates in such degrees [as bachelor's] still lack," Ms Chutinart said.

"This is because most people like to send their children to study at high school and then do an undergraduate degree rather than going to a vocational school because of the frequent news about violence among vocational students."

In a bid to boost the quality of vocational students, dual training was introduced to provide students with an opportunity to work in aligned businesses.

"The students who pass the training not only have knowledge about the job, but also have more of an opportunity to get a [permanent] job," she said.

ROYAL PHUKET MARINA

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# Ethics in today's social media world

FACEBOOK, Twitter, Instagram, LINE and an assortment of other social media platforms and blogs have transformed the way news is managed worldwide, enabling news outlets to be more in tune with their readership, while also allowing them to offload their ethics and other responsibilities toward their communities.

Social media tip-offs have become a foundation for community news, ranging from the public outrage of seeing Rihanna with a slow loris to boats being busted for dumping oil off Phi Phi.

The platforms allow the community to help focus news agencies on what is most important and most interesting to the community at large. They also help identify what is 'news'. Nails found in the cycling lanes at Saphin Hin and pebbles scattered in the Phuket Town skate park can become news stories through social media momentum.

If enough people in the community care, it will end up on an editor's desk. A simple piece of evidence, such as a picture captured on a mobile device, is all it takes to ignite change on the island.

However, social media can also cut deeply in a more negative way.

The pattern is familiar and the pitfalls dangerous: a single photograph or video goes viral locally, generating a buzz within our readership, and a story is produced. The story follows a pattern similar to that used by news giants like CNN and BBC: "Public outrage is mounting this evening after a video went viral on Facebook..."

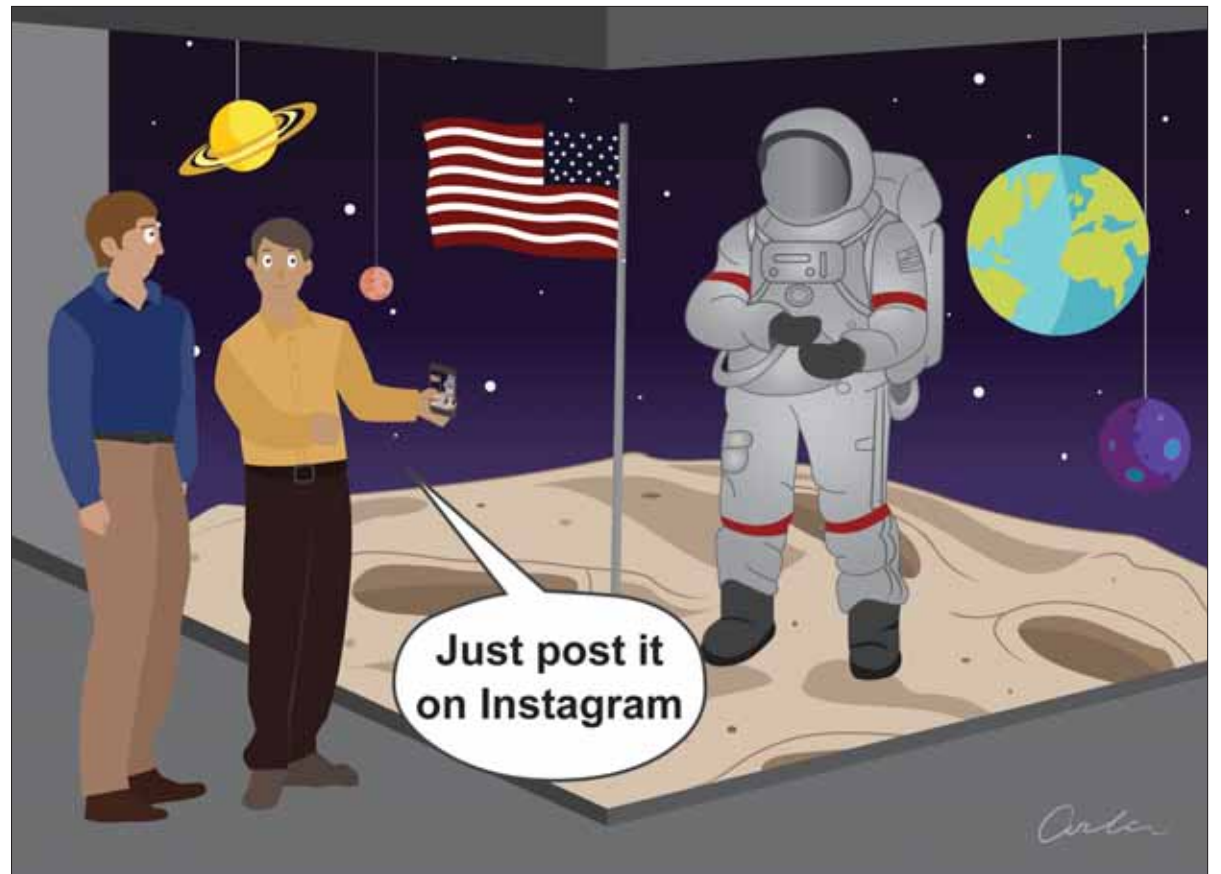
The pitfall is that the news item is in fact nothing more than public reaction to something, allowing media agencies to avoid verifying the validity of the catalyst. That verification process is what makes quality news expensive to groom for presentation. However, it is also the value added by a media company. Access to officials, and the ability to elicit responses from those in different levels of power, are the quid pro quo of any responsible purveyor of news.

As CNN noted earlier this year: "Intentionally or not, the latest round of misleading stories making viral waves has made it harder to tell truth from fiction." There are untold numbers of keyboard warriors creating bait-and-click scenarios to drive traffic to their websites, some doing it as a game to see how far they can string along the media – and the world.

The fact that Phuket officials had to step in just a few years ago to put down rumors on social media that the island was about to pull an Atlantis and sink into the Andaman is difficult to digest.

As *Gazette* columnist Simon Wetherell points out each week in 'Business Buzz', social media can be very easy to manipulate, allowing people with ulterior motives to work the public in a way that forces the hands of local media.

As we navigate this new world of media as readers, it becomes more and more necessary to draw lines between those sources we trust because they refuse to shrug off their ethical duties, and those that are simply cashing in on headlines more cunning than truthful.



## New zones not worth cheering over

*Re: Gazette online, Jet-skis wrangle more Patong sand space with new zones, May 22*

I went to the beach the other day. It's worse than before: jet-ski noise; the cords of the parasails flying dangerously close to people in all the zones; the operators speaking strongly to anyone who might be in the way.

Patong Beach is really suffering, and tourists will soon just vote with their absence.

David Weale  
Facebook

### Letters to the Editor

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

ing for Bangkok seems unnecessary and backside covering.

This is an essential service and to be without it for two months is a disgrace.

Mister Ree  
Gazette forum

them they are 120 baht or more? I ask this because I am an avid shopper at the fresh markets in Kathu and in town, so I know that the prices of vegetables are extremely cheap and the quality is excellent.

One might say that I should just eat salads at home then, but when you are out to dinner and want a garden salad as a side or main dish, it is the same price as ordering a full-on western meal.

Maxine Peletier  
Kathu

## Another beach thug clean up needed

*Re: Gazette online, Navy raids small, illegal Phuket beach operation, May 22*

Great news.

I tried to have a look at the beach a few years ago, with the intention of coming back another time if the beach was good, but I was chased off by a couple of thugs who became really aggressive.

They wanted 250 baht for me to look through the gate.

It would be great to clear them away and have access for the public.

Mike  
Gazette forum

## Go after gun suppliers

*Re: Gazette online, Two arrested for 'mistaken identity' attempted murder, May 23*

Yet another story about a youngster with a homemade gun let loose to roam the streets and carry out vengeance against someone.

This time though, the youngster shot at someone who 'looked like' an enemy. Luckily, the man pulled through.

Nonetheless, how can anyone feel safe in a place where people are getting shot just for looking like someone else?

Are police taking action to track down the people who are making and supplying these guns, or teaching teens and young adults how to make them?

This situation is simply preposterous.

I cannot understand how police are not being more proactive about what seems like a gun fad among immature, hormonal young men.

Sally Sue  
Surin

## Why can't these drivers be stopped?

*Re: Gazette online, Two men on motorbike killed in collision with Phuket tour bus, May 25*

These tour buses need to be stopped. I was almost wedged between three of them up the top of Patong Hill on Friday evening.

They seemed to enjoy trying to run everyone off the road, including a few young kids on bikes. We all dodged them as it appeared their breaks were failing.

Can't someone in charge do something to stop them? Their actions seem so senseless, and yet they are common knowledge for anyone on the roads here.

Nadine Oliver  
Facebook

## Save the turtles

*Re: Gazette online, Headless turtle found on Mai Khao Beach, May 27*

It is always so sad to hear about innocent animals dying at the hands of inconsiderate humans.

Officials need to stamp out illegal and irresponsible fishing practices before humans destroy the ocean for good.

Ursula Johnson  
Nai Harn

## Why wait? It's time to be proactive

*Re: Gazette online, No resolution on horizon for Phuket lifeguard conundrum, May 21*

It seems strange that the association has to pay the PPAO a deposit to operate the concession.

Very bizarre, and one wonders what the justification for it is.

One also wonders why the PPAO cannot be proactive – wait-

## Why can't I find any cheap, good salads?

Why is it that good salads are hard to find, and when you do find

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# Making everyday errands effortless

## FIRST PERSON

THE amount of companies and businesses in Phuket continues to increase. This means more and more employees are required to get social security.

There is also another group of people who apply for social security based on Section 40 of Social Security Act BE 2533 (1990). Therefore, the number of people who come to our office is always increasing.

On average, we see about 300 to 400 people in our office every day.

The number of officers and the size of the office, however, remains the same. When a large crowd comes in and a queue forms, the wait time becomes long.

Customers are often waiting for us to help them for a long time. The parking lot also becomes full. This makes many people unhappy with us.

About half of the people who come to our office are there to claim reimbursement from dental insurance.

Since there are so many of

these cases, we have launched a project to handle the large amount of people who come for dental reimbursement.

Employees who are working for a company (Section 33) and those who used to be employed by a company (Section 33) who continue their social security payments (Section 39) are eligible to join the project.

The insured people who are the employees (Section 33) do not have to come to the office anymore. They can now file their



**Rawi Racharuck** is an expert on labor. He is currently acting head of the head of Phuket Social Security Office.

The Phuket provincial Social Security Office is located at 15/4 Amphur Road, Taladyai, in Phuket Town.

claims with the human resources (HR) department at their company. The HR department can submit the document to us through the LINE messaging application or send it by mail. The insured will then receive the money via direct deposit into their bank account.

The insured people who file for social security on their own (Section 39) can also utilize this system.

The only documents required to complete this process are the application form for requesting

dental reimbursement (*SorPorSor* 2-16), a receipt and a copy of the recipient's bank book.

There are conditions under which an insured person can be reimbursed for dental work.

The insured cannot receive more than 300 baht per claim, or 600 baht per year, for tooth removal, fillings, cleanings and embedded tooth surgery.

In the case of artificial teeth (which can be removed one by one), the insured cannot reimburse more than 1,300 baht for one to five teeth in a five year period starting from the day they are implanted.

If there are more than five teeth, the reimbursement will be no more than 1,500.

In the case of artificial teeth that are implanted in sets, the insured can reimburse no more than 2,400 baht for one set of teeth (either top or bottom), or no more than 4,400 baht for two sets, in a five year period from the first day they are implanted.

We have promoted and used this method of working with HR with more than 100 companies.

They have carried out the procedure according to our conditions and regulations and most of them have been very satisfied with the service.

As a result, we are aiming to broaden our network.

This can reduce transportation expenses for insured people, and they will be able to use their days off to relax rather than coming into our office.

The insured will get the same reimbursement through this method as they would if they had showed up in person.

We as an office will be able to better service the people who come in to see us.

I believe that all HR departments in all businesses should offer their employees similar opportunities. The insured people, the company and the social security office will benefit from such a program.

For more information related to this project or our other services, please contact the Phuket Social Security Office in Phuket Town at 076-219950-2



Be careful what information you share on social media. Photo: Garry Knight

## Think, then click

IF YOU live on Phuket for long enough, or pay attention to the news coverage while you are here, it becomes quite apparent how fascinated islanders – both Thai and foreign – are by horrific road accidents.

The sheer number of road deaths that occur on Phuket put into sharp focus how dangerous the roads are and exactly how fragile life is. Yet, after the initial shock and sadness of hearing about another senseless road-death wears off and the stories have run their circuit around local news sites and social media, every one returns to their daily lives.

How about when the accident victim does not die?

In Phuket, if we see a photo of someone we know or someone our friends know being shared around social media, we immediately tune in to the news, and probably end up sharing the same information ourselves – without taking the time to question the validity of the content.

Many don't take into account the ramifications of sharing information – whether it's true or not – about accidents at the time; they don't consider the effects it can have as it rapidly spreads through the internet.

In our globally-connected world, it is very possible that a victim's family members overseas are getting skewed information about a suffering loved one from a stranger's Facebook post before they can be told by those closest to them.

When a foreigner is involved in a fatal accident in Phuket, the media often withholds the name of the victim until next of kin is notified. This is absolutely the

## Island View

By Rae Kelly

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

most ethical and sensitive choice to be made when in possession of such information.

I submit that the media acts in the same sensitive manner when dealing with those who are involved in serious accidents that could eventually result in death or life-altering injuries.

The damage caused by a serious road accident goes beyond the physical state of the victim; it also takes a massive toll on family and friends. This damage can be mitigated by thinking carefully about what is shared and published about such a horrific situation, before automatically reacting and publicly spreading fragmented information.

Sharing information is the nature of the internet beast, I suppose, but I worry that people are forgetting to think about what they are publishing through media outlets and self-publishing through personal social media outlets. I worry that they are forgetting the possible consequences and pain that could be caused by their actions, especially if the information is incomplete or, worse, incorrect.

Expats and frequent visitors can help change this frightening trend by being aware of the serious damage that can be done as they choose to disseminate information through social networks. It's hard not to be drawn to a road accident story, but try to think before you click 'share'.

## Issues & Answers...

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

### Rainy season and holey roads

I am particularly worried about the Tesco underpass intersection. The bypass road has many potholes.

When will this road be repaved – at least enough to get motorists through the monsoon season?

Also, what plans or measures are in place to deal with the flooding and the muddy water when the rain kicks up?

Concerned Commuter,  
Samkong

**Samak Luedwonghad, director of the Phuket Highways Office, replies:**

All of the potholes on the bypass road in front of Tesco Lotus

will be fixed within two weeks.

Do not worry about flooding. When the potholes are filled, the road will be safer. We also have pumps to remove the rainwater in case of a flood.

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

Submit your issue at  
[www.PhuketGazette.net/IssuesAnswers](http://www.PhuketGazette.net/IssuesAnswers)

### Tired of breathing in smoke

OFTEN while I am driving my motorbike, I get stuck behind a bus, delivery truck or old pick-up, which expels mass amounts of black exhaust in my face, which is not pleasant to breathe in.

I am curious as to how thoroughly vehicles are inspected. Do they receive an emissions check?

I can't imagine that these vehicles are up to standard, either that or they are severely overdue for an oil change.

Alex Wainwright  
Cherng Talay

**Jaturong Kaewkasi, the chief policy adviser at the Phuket**

**Land Transport Office, replies:**

Please note that we require private vehicles to undergo emissions checks before owners can renew their vehicle tax and insurance.

Public, or commercial, vehicles also have to undergo emissions checks every year, with tour buses and other big buses required to undergo checks every six months.

If the vehicles do not meet our standards after we run our tests, the driver will be prohibited from driving the vehicle and must get it fixed and checked again within 30 days. If the owner continues to drive the car, they will be fined no more than 1,000 baht.

### Correction

*Phuket Gazette, May 2-8, Issues and Answers: Can company directors have social security?*

Quotes attributed to Narida Bahe, a legal affairs officer at the Phuket Social Security Office, should have been attributed to an 'employee at the Phuket Social Security Office'. The error is regretted.

The *Phuket Gazette* notes that all issues revolving around Thailand's social security system are best to be approached with the understanding that they are handled case-by-case.



# One size does not fit all

There are many different ways to skin a cat, especially when it comes to finances

## Finance

By David Mayes

WHEN it comes to financial advice, my first words of caution to everyone are “never, ever, do anything yourself that you don’t understand 100%”.

If the markets seem too complex, there is no reason you can’t handle your financial affairs without using this tool.

Every asset class at the end of the day is just that: a tool. There are many ways to skin a cat, they say, and your financial plan is a perfect example of this.

Starting out with a time frame of when you will need cash flows in the future is extremely important when considering financial planning.

Children and their schooling and university funding tends to be one of life’s largest outlays, so setting something up to cover this is important for most.

The earlier you start saving, the less of a return you can get and still meet your needs. Many expats don’t know that there are many ways to get the costs down as well.

For instance, if you were to purchase a condo in a university town in a European country that allows foreign students to enroll for classes in English language without any entrance acceptance requirements, you have just taken a massive bite out of your overall university expense.

You probably didn’t even know these programs exist, but do a little research and you will find them in abundance. That’s right, free

tuition to study in programs at a high international standard for international students exists.

With a little thought and planning, you can save up for a down payment while your children are young, and rent the property out to the pay off most of the mortgage over the 18 years it takes your children to reach university age.

Then, all you have to pay for their higher education is their food and entertainment bills for four years. At the end of it, you will have an asset that can be sold, most likely at a nice profit.

This is just one example of a non-traditional plan for life that avoids the financial markets as the ‘go-to’ answer. Of course this means your child loses the choice of university, but as with everything in life there is

always a trade-off.

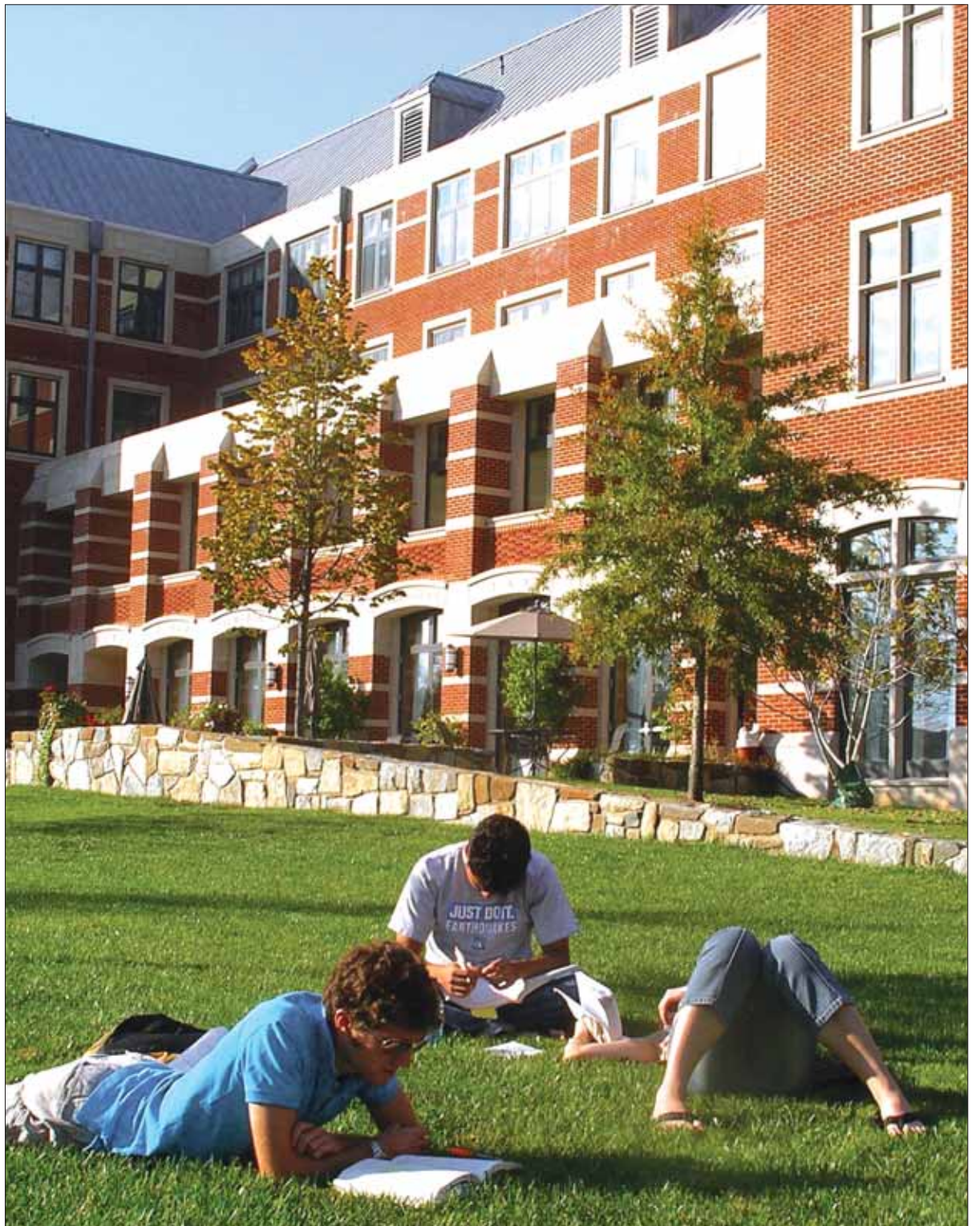
This might not be the best option for everyone.

Another way to save for retirement without putting your money into a traditional investment account is to become an expert at a niche and invest in that.

One of my friends was recently sharing with me the returns he made on certain collectibles.

Of course, you need to be passionate about what you are becoming an expert at for this to work, but my friend made returns of up to 1000% in a few years’ time by knowing which Star Wars figures were not produced in massive numbers and would therefore appreciate in value.

This is again just one example, and if you do not truly become an expert you will surely lose your



Save up for a down payment on a house in a college town while your children are young, and rent out the property to the pay off the mortgage over the years it takes the children to reach university age. Photo: Patrickneil

shirt in niche investment markets.

I am not suggesting specifically doing either of these things, but simply that financial planning should be a discussion rather than a sales pitch for a pre-manufactured strategy.

Too often, the financial services industry tries to fit square pegs into

round holes, and the advice you receive suffers as a result.

Make sure any adviser you sit down to talk with has a variety of solutions to offer you, otherwise he or she is likely to pursue a one-size-fits-all strategy, and you may not be happy with the end result.

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

## Finance minister offers debt-cut plan

FINANCE Minister Sommai Phasee on Monday clarified his plan to cut down on the public sector’s debts by divesting his ministry’s stake in state enterprises and private firms.

The ministry will consider selling its equity shares in non-listed firms, including stakes in state-owned enterprises’ subsidiaries that are not profitable, he said.

Also, the sale of the ministry’s shares in listed firms, especially large ones, will be considered carefully.

“We will first concentrate on



The Finance minister is tackling public debt. Photo: Alan Cleaver

selling shares that are not beneficial or worth investing in any more, before we look into shares

in larger firms. The consideration is in place to ensure the [stock] market is not affected by such measures,” Mr Sommai said.

Meanwhile, Mr Sommai said the Council of State is finalizing the inheritance tax bill, which has passed its third reading in the National Legislative Assembly.

Inheritance tax will go into effect six months after it is announced in the *Royal Gazette* in order to give the Revenue Department time to make preparations before collecting the levy.

– The Nation



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# Successfully harness social media power



**Business Buzz**  
**Simon Wetherell**

THERE is no doubting the power of social media marketing as a business tool. The question is, are you using it, and if so, are you doing so effectively?

Social media can be very overwhelming as there are so many options it can be difficult to know where to start. It can also be a case of 'you don't know what you don't know', so you need to do some quick research and planning before you get started.

The best way to get started is by keeping it simple.

Think about what it is you are trying to achieve and focus on one goal at a time to get one result.

To get started, decide what is it you are trying to achieve. Break it down into its simplest form. Maybe it is more likes on your Facebook page, more visits to your website, more people in your database, more people connecting with you or getting your picture or brand in front of more people.

The choices can be quite abundant, so just choose the main purpose. Then you need to consider which social media platform would suit your purpose best.

For some options it may involve multiple platforms that would complement each other well. For example, video would normally be matched with YouTube, but complements well with Facebook, Twitter, Blogging or Pinterest. Pictures go well on Pinterest or



Are you using social media outlets in a combination that produces results? Photo: Jason Howie

Instagram, and also Facebook. It is worth doing a little bit of research to find out what you don't know. Remember, Google is your friend and can provide information on any topic or question you may have.

Then you need to decide on a budget. The great benefit of social media is that it can be free, or increased to any budget you want. Those with limited budgets and new companies with limited cash flows can still get good results, it

just may take more time.

Now, knowing the answer to the aforementioned questions, you need to prepare a strategy.

I have found one of the best ways to do this is by drawing a flow chart or mind map. Create the flows that show each step of interaction, possible outcomes and options. You will then have a much better understanding of what you want to happen, how it should happen and can then monitor the progress and success of

your project.

Next week, we will discuss the simple steps to plan your strategy to get the best results possible.

*Simon Wetherell is a social media expert, lawyer, best selling author and international speaker. He now resides in Phuket where he conducts business seminars and trains individuals on how to profit from the use of social media. For more information go to PhuketOnline Marketing.com or call 095-085 3355.*



Kyoichi Tanada, president of Toyota Motor Thailand, poses with the all-new Hilux Revo pick-up truck at its global launch. Photo: The Nation

## New Toyota truck to haul up market

TOYOTA has finally pulled the wraps off its much-anticipated all-new one-tonne pick-up truck, which is hoped to help dramatically re-energize the stalled automobile market.

The Hilux's launch, which was also its global premier, was held at Bitec Bang Na on May 21.

The new model is priced from 569,000 baht to 1.139 million baht. It is available with a choice of diesel and gasoline engines and three body styles.

Kyoichi Tanada, president of Toyota Motor Thailand, said Thailand accounts for 70 per cent of Toyota's global pick-up truck production in six countries.

Toyota plans to sell 14,000 new Hiluxes per month, up from the 11,000-unit average during the first quarter of the year.

The pick-up truck market has been suffering from low prices of agricultural products and high household debt. Pure pick-up truck sales have dropped by 12.5 per cent to 84,830 units.

The total vehicle market could remain at the 900,000-unit level this year, he said without ruling out the chance of the market hitting 1mn units if things go well.

— The Nation



## YOUR Phuket

### Tri-sport support from Bangkok Hospital



Prapa Hemmin (R), director of sales-MICE and corporate events for Laguna Phuket, thanks Dr Narongrit Havarungsi (middle), director of Bangkok Hospital Phuket, and Niyompong Torwong (L), deputy marketing manager of Bangkok Hospital Phuket, for their unwavering support of the Laguna Phuket Triathlon and Laguna Phuket Challenge.

## Hospital: Observe and learn

Bangkok Hospital Phuket welcomed a group of teachers and students from Surat Thani Rajabhat University to the hospital on May 18, allowing them to observe and take notes on how everything is managed in the public relations department.



## Mercedes Trophy 2015

Red Mountain Golf Club, Phuket hosted the Mercedes Trophy 2015 on May 15. Joining the glitz event were more than 140 Mercedes-Benz customers.



## Amari gives you wings



The management team of ONYX Hospitality Group and Amari Phuket showcase the new 'Ocean Wing of Amari Phuket' to travel agencies in Bangkok.

## I'm not drunk, I'm 'leprechaun'



DRINKING BUDDIES: (L-R) Dalton Osborne, manager of Irish Pub; Liam Herrity, group operation manager of The Drunken Leprechaun Phuket, Samui and Bangkok; and Gordon Aeria, general manager of DusitD2 Phuket Resort.

## Business of going digital

Leaders gather to announce the 'Business Camp for Digital Studio 2015' project to be held on June 3-5.



STANDING UP FOR SOFTWARE PROMOTION: (L-R) Bhumikitti Ruktaengam, vice president of Phuket Tourist Association; Tanusak Puengdaj, president of Phuket Real Estate Association; Suphattra Jaruarayanon, committee member of Thai Hotel Association-Southern Chapter; Krisada Tansakul, president of Thai Hotel Association-Southern Chapter; Pracha Asawateera, manager at Software Industry Promotion Agency; Sathirapong Na Takuatoong, president of Phuket Tourist Association; Rangsiman Kingkeaw, president of Phuket Spa Association; and Kongsak Khoopongsakorn, committee member of Thai Hotel Association-Southern Chapter.



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

PROPERTY FOR SALE  
of the week



**SUNSHINE**  
PROPERTIES

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PROPERTY FOR RENT  
of the week



LAND & HOUSE PARK  
CHONLADA PROJECT

See page 18

WHEELS & MOTORS  
of the week



**STUNNING**  
**1997 GTO 3000**

See page 20

BOAT & MARINE  
of the week



See page 21

## HOT Promotion – Gazette **CLASSIFIEDS**

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Classifieds

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Phuket Gazette

**Questions?**  
[Anna@PhuketGazette.Net](mailto:Anna@PhuketGazette.Net)



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



## Properties For Sale

**LAND + HOUSE FOR SALE**

400sqm, seaview, Karon: 3.9 million baht. Also sell house with 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

**QUICK SALE HOUSE**

2 bedrooms. Near Laguna. Fully furnished. Only 2.2 million baht. Please call 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.

**CHERNG TALAY LAGUNA**

Landplots 400sqm till 1,000 sqm. Ask for more information at laplphuket@gmail.com

**CONDO KATHU FOR SALE**

30.15sqm. Fully furnished. 1 bedroom. Living room. Kitchen. Airon. Tel: 087-508 3516.

**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@phuketandamanrealstate.com

**NICE HOUSE CHALONG**

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

**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: ornholand@hotmail.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. Airon. Kitchen. Tel: 098-331 6449.

**FREEHOLD CONDO FOR SALE**

Patong Tower building. One bedroom with 270-degree view of Patong beach and town. 10<sup>th</sup> floor. 54.35sqm. 11 million baht or nearest offer. Genuine buyers only. No brokers please. Tel: 081-737 8662.

**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.

**PATONG 2-BEDROOM CONDO**

Large 98sqm 2-bedroom condo for sale. Freehold. Fully Furnished. 6.9 million baht. Tel: 080-052 8082 (English & Thai). Email: solitude001@aol.com

**LAND FOR HOTEL**

1.5 rai, 50m from beach, close to Amora Hotel. Plan for five-storey hotel with 108 rooms. For sale at 28 million baht. Please call 061-261 3486.

**3-BED HOUSE LARGE GARDEN**

Chuan Cheun Lagoon, close to British International School and the Boat Lagoon Marina. Chanote land title, 146sqm. (584sqm), 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. Please call 086-040 6866 (English), 081-979 6707 (Thai).

**FAMILY POOL VILLA IN RAWAI**

450sqm. Very peaceful and secure cul de sac. 3 bedrooms. 2 decks. 2-3 car park. 5 minutes to Rawai pier. Close to all amenities. Walk to beach. 9.9 million baht. For more information, please call 083-642 1300 (English & Thai). Email: adgareau@yahoo.com

**NAKA ISLAND**

Unique 4-bedroom beachfront house, panoramic views to the south, 10 mins to Ao Por pier. 240sqm on 2 floors, 750sqm plot, separate house for staff. Tel: 084-846 1270 (English).

**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. For more information, please call 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

**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

**ANDAMAN BEACH SUITE**

Spectacular seaview condo located on the 12<sup>th</sup> 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

**KATA HOUSE SALE**

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

**SPECIAL OFFER**

**SUNSHINE PROPERTIES**

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**095-415 1000**  
SunshinePropertiesPhuket.com

**MASSAGE SHOP FOR SALE**

Everything must go. Nai Harn Beach. 2 rooms. For only 800,000 baht. Include 5 massage beds, 3 foot massage chairs, 2 facial massage beds. 5-year lease. Tel: 089-592 6916.

**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

**CONDO FOR SALE**

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

**Pls contact 086-4769612 | annanoi@hotmail.com**

## Live in Patong?

### Place your **GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS** at Taurus Travel



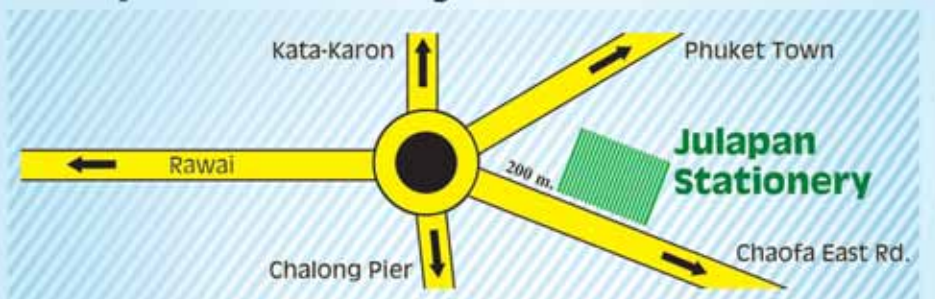
Simply write out your ad, pay and leave it with **Khun Kai: (076-344321-2)**

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

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

## Live in Chalong?

### Place your **GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS** at Julapan Stationery



Simply write out your ad, pay and leave it with **Khun Aoi: (076-282254)**

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## Properties For Rent



**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.

## APARTMENT FOR RENT

88sqm apartment with separate kitchen, living room, overlooking the beach and mountain, for long stay. For more information, please call 076-344922, 083-102 5928. Fax: 076-341870. Email: kkiran23@hotmail.com

## Accommodation Available

## FOR RENT: COSY HOME NEAR BIS



3-bedroom / 2-bathroom home, aircon, equipped kitchen, internet, garden. 10-minute drive to BIS. 22,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-803 1560 (English & Thai). Email: pak.lifestyle@gmail.com

## NAITHON BEACH PALACE



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

## LONGTERM RENTAL PATONG

Starting from 13,000 baht per month, including cleaning, utilities, Wifi, 24-hour security, gym/pool. Fixed rate. Tel: 081 083 1505 (English). Email: danex01@gmail.com

## TOWNHOUSE - SUPALAI CITY HILL



Townhouse for rent 12,000 baht / month) or sale (2.8mn baht) in Supalai City Hill estate, Phuket Town. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, quiet, convenient location, furnished, full kitchen, decor, garden, car park, 2 ACs. Good for family. Available from 6/2015. Tel: 089-874 0061, 086-291 4115. Email: stephenfein@gmail.com

## BEACH HOUSE AT KAMALA



Available now. Minimum 6-month lease. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Decks on 2 levels looking out over Kamala Bay. Furnished. Aircons and ceiling fans. European kitchen, open plan living areas. Fiber-optic internet available. 45,000 baht / month. Contact Sean. Tel: 081-086 7003. Email: beach\_house\_at\_kamala@yahoo.com

## FULLY FURNISHED HOUSE

3 bedrooms. 400sqm. Free WiFi and cable TV. 25,000 baht per month. Please call 081-892 4311. http://palaigreen.weebly.com

## LUXURY APARTMENT PATONG

1 bedroom, 50sqm, fully furnished, kitchen, balcony, big swimming pool. 15,000 baht per month. For more details call 081-080 8831 (English & Thai). For pictures please email to jstuder@loxinfo.co.th

## BEACH HOUSE CHALONG

Furnished, 2 bedrooms, cable TV, WiFi, garden, quiet, secure, from 12,000 baht / month. Please call 095-046 4039.

## House for Sale / Rent



Land&House Park Phuket - Chonlada Project  
2 bedrooms, 3 ensuite bathrooms, kitchen, fully furnished, 2 carparks, maid service.  
Sale: 10 million baht  
Rent: 55,000 baht / month  
Tel: 081-892 4997, 087-698 9431

## BOUTIQUE ROOM FOR RENT

Fully furnished, WiFi, Mae Luan Road. Tel: 089-668 3639 (English & Thai). Email: zhunaumann@gmail.com Please see our website at http://BoutiqueRoomPhuket.com

## 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

## Holiday Homes &amp; Villa Rentals

## HOUSE ON THE GOLF COURSE

Loch Palm. Small 2-bedroom/bathroom house for long-term rent. No pool. Great views. Fully furnished. Tel: 081-894 0339 (English). Email: hilltribe@poppiesamui.com

## Accommodation Wanted

## LOOK FOR RENTAL

3-bedroom house. Near Central / Kathu or NW Phuket Town, for 1 year. Maximum 20,000 baht / month. For more information, please call 081-797 1497.

## STUDIO &amp; 2-BED WITH POOL



2 bedroom & studio aircon apartments for rent in Chalong. Special rates now through August from only 8,000 baht for select studios and 18,000 baht for 2 bedrooms. Includes WiFi, maid service, full furnishings, balcony, kitchenette, shared pool. Tel: 086 - 282 6221 (English & Thai). Email: info@chalongapartment.com or http://chalongapartment.com

## ORCHID KATHU HEIGHTS

Serviced apartments. Free WiFi, 75sqm, studio. 1 bedroom 1 bathroom. 2 bedrooms 2 bathrooms. Plus duplex apartments overlooking the rooftop pool. Tel: 076-203208, 081-892 0038, www.orchidkathuheights-phuket.com

## THAI POOL VILLA NAI HARN

2 bedrooms villa in Soi Naya, available July 1. 37,500 baht / month, yearly rental. Tel: 081-270 5126, 083-396 40 07. Email: mervyn.crocker@yahoo.com or http://sites.google.com/site/mervyncrocker/home

## HOUSE BOAT LAGOON

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

## PATONG 1 &amp; 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

## SPA APT. KATA BEACH

500 baht / day, aircon, WiFi, kitchen, clean & safe. Tel: 086-595 8512. Email: nalumana2000@yahoo.com

## 1-BED BUNGALOW RAWAI

Large terrace, big kitchen, aircon, WiFi, quiet. 9,000 baht. Tel: 081-271 7092. Email: bricothailand@hotmail.com

## NEW MAI KHAO BEACH HOUSE

10,000 baht. New fully furnished and aircon. 500m to beach. For more information, please call 081-693 4463 (English & Thai). Email: 321orchidilla@gmail.com, www.orchidilla.com

## CHALONG AREA HOUSE

1-3 bedrooms. Quiet area. Fully furnished. For more details, please call 081-892 4311. Or visit our website: http://palaigreenweebly.com

## FAMILY HOUSE + POOL



Kathu - near schools, shops. Located at Baan Suan Loch Palm. This modern home has 3 bedrooms + maid room. Secure and safe in a patrolled gated community, major schools including BIS are only minutes away. Major shopping centers such as Central and Tesco Lotus are an easy 10-minute drive. House features an excellent all-weather outdoor area, swimming pool, nice gardens. Longer term rental preferred. Fully furnished. Contact Bea: 087-352 4114 (Thai), Justin: 083-551 1633 (English).

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# 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  
**Diao@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

### TIMESHARE / TELESALES PROS

\$\$\$ Exceptional opportunity \$\$\$ Work at our lakeside resort in Chiang Mai. Looking for a few top guns to work the phones into Australia. We supply full training, excellent leads, top commissions & great working environment. Tel: 081-020 4023. Please send resume to brad@spachiangmaiwaterside.com or go to our website at www.spachiangmaiwaterside.com

### BUSINESS CONSULTANT

Jus Laws & Consults Company Limited is looking for a Business Consultant. Native English speaking. Law education background. Please send CV to marina@juslaws.com or call 076-304353, 091-035 9191.

### EXECUTIVE SALES MANAGER

Male / female Thai, excellent in communication and presentation skill both Thai & English, self-managed, car fuel covered. 30,000 - 60,000 baht / month. Please call 098-331 6387. Email: info@phuke solar.com, www.phuket solar.com

### REAL ESTATE EXECUTIVE 70,000+

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

### JUNIOR WEB DEVELOPER

Salary: 20,000 - 30,000 baht / month+ bonus. Must be a female / male Thai national who is start-up minded, with clear thinking. We work with worldwide clientele and welcome any junior / beginner. Necessary experience with: Classic ASP or PHP. Some experience necessary with XML, JSON, Javascript, JQuery, HTML5At, ASP MV CA, SQL Server and IIS / Windows. For more details, please call 098-671 8466 (English). Email: marina@juslaws.com. See more details on www.sednasystem.com

### FRONT OFFICE MANAGER WANTED

Thai and English speaking. Salary negotiable. Please send CV or contact Anne. Tel: 084-845 0003. Email: admincontrol@bayshore projects.com

### COOKS AND MAIDS

Vacation villas in Patong looking for full-time and part-time Thai staff to work in holiday villas in Patong. For more information, please call 080-699 2436 (English), 081-133 6477 (English & Thai). Email: kokakat@gmail.com

### HOUSEKEEPER NEEDED

To manage and ensure the cleanliness of our operation. Must be a dynamic team worker with a pleasant personality. For more details, please call 081-893 5492 (English & Thai).

### JOB, CAREER AVAILABLE

Villa Manager, Guest Service Supervisor (Natai), Villa Technician, Accountant, Housekeeper, Therapist, Beautician. Please send CV or apply in person. Tel: 076-527 633. Email: hr@luxuryvilla sandhomes.com

### ENGLISH TEACHERS

Teachers from N.E.S / European countries to teach in schools: Phuket city, Chering Talay. TEFL / TESOL (+ Degree preferred but only essential for F/T). Must be good with YL. 1 x F/T. 2 x P/T. 30,000-35,000 baht / month. Contact head teacher ECC, Phuket. Tel: 076-307 0579, 089-139 8453 (English & Thai), 091-647 5465 (English). Email: Giles@ecc.ac.th

### TUTOR TEACHER

Tutor / Teacher wanted for 5-year-old Australian/Thai child, to teach K3 Math, Reading, as well as Thai language. Monday-Saturday, 4 hours per day. For more information, please call 093-418 9529. Email: Shayne.Michia@gmail.com

### ENGLISH TEACHER WANTED

Or native English speaker. Needed for private lessons for my 19-year-old Thai son. Tel: 081-797 1497.

### FITNESS PROGRAM INSTRUCTOR

Wanted. We are recruiting for our Weight-loss / Fitness Program Department. We are looking for qualified professionals to join our team. Fluent English speakers only! Rawai. Tel: 087-271 7447 (English & Thai). Email for job details at recruitment@phuketfit.com or www.phuketfit.com

### 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. Please send your resume to Email: jellinecastro@yahoo.com

### SALES REP. AND TO.

DVC looking for English Reps and TO. For more information, please contact 098-270 8099, 076-342794. Email: hr@davidvacation club.com

### SALES MANAGER

• Excellent communication, reading & written English skills.

• Ability to adapt quickly to new trends and new markets.

• Experience working in property markets.

• Must be hard working & dedicated.

• Co-ordinate and work with Management team as required.

• Thai national preferred.

Baan Yamu Residence. Tel: 076-310507. Email: info@baanyamu.com

### 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 email to rbv@royalperspective.com

### 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. Please call 076-288 908.

### SALES REPRESENTATIVE

Good communication skills and ready to work with business clients. Thai female or male. Good salary. Tel: 089-515 5288 (English). Email: timo.saarinen@swuid.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. Thai national only! Tel: 087-882 2856 (English). Email: luc@phuket-tropical-realestate.com

### 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.

### GUEST RELATIONS

Luxury villa in Nai Thon looking for an experienced Guest Relations Manager. Must have education, be reliable and flexible. Salary 20,000+ baht. For more details, please call 080-440 0772. Email: richard@ivanhoe.net

### CHINESE WEDDING PLANNER

Wanted Chinese wedding planner, good command of Mandarin, working online, work at home and earn extra money for side business, basic fee plus commission included. Please call 087-268 8159. Email: wedding@samer.com

### CHINESE PROPERTY AGENT

Phukets leading Real Estate agency is now looking for a Chinese Real Estate Agent to join our successful team. You need to be able to write and speak Chinese fluently. Main job description is to introduce Phuket properties to our Chinese investors and buyers. High earnings are expected for the right candidate. Please call 076-341 045, 081-459 0152. Please send your CV to info@proper tyinphuket.com

## 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



## Business Opportunities

**SACK YOUR BOSS**

An affordable home based business that has a 30-day trial + a 30-day money back guarantee. A must see. Please call +61-49-917 8152 (English) or send email to tracy\_j\_cooper@hotmail.com, <http://ipasdiscount.com/pre/?id=76298&tid=#sthash.xvBSLABQ.dpuf>

**HEALTH PRODUCT MARKETING**

Wheatgrass Powder Co (food supplements) from India are seeking an importer in Thailand. Can be done from home, office or shop. Starting cost 9,000 baht; income potential 20,000 baht per month. Tel: +91-0982-200 2042, +91-0772-190 4904 (English). Email: gwg.ceo@gmail.com, [www.girmewheatgrass.com](http://www.girmewheatgrass.com)

**BAR FOR SALE**

OTOP Markets, top location, 3 years old, complete trading figures showing profit increase every year. Tel: 084-185 8719 (English). Email: charlie@paddymalones.com.au

**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. Tel: 080-648 1987 (English), 085-575 3027 (Thai). Email: farrman1@gmail.com

**GUESTHOUSE / CAFE KARON**

Busy, well-known guesthouse. Top 10 of Trip Advisor. 22 rooms, cafe, very profitable. For sale: 4.5 million baht. For rent: 920,000 baht per year. Tel: 086-551 1227 (English), 093-135 5116 (Thai). Email: stevepineapplephuket.com

**RESORT FOR SALE**

9 apartments with Chanote, fully furnished, aircon, terraces, garden, easy to rent. Rawai / Sai Yuan. For more information, please call 086-274 3060. Email: asiayaching@yahoo.com

**GUESTHOUSE FOR SALE**

Bar and Guesthouse for sale in busy area near Centara Karon. 9-year lease, fully equipped. Price: 1.4 million baht. Tel: 081-797 7282 (English & Thai). Email: jack\_filtech@hotmail.com

**RESTAURANT IN CHALONG**

For sale. Chalong. Good location. Fully furnished. Woodfire pizza. New 3 + 3 year lease. Cheap rent. For price call 084-845 4743. Email: attivitaphuket@yahoo.co.uk

**OFFICE SPACE LAGUNA**

Plaza del Mar. 4-fully-furnished offices. Suite plus boardroom. Rent entire unit or individual office. Tel: 080-045 4474. Email: nicole.morze@gmail.com

## Business Products &amp; Services

**LEGAL SERVICES**

Legal services. Court interpreter. Translation & Notarial services ATT. Please call 089-873 6533. Email: phuketinterpreter@gmail.com, info@suwatchana-law-office.com

**FISHING GEAR: 15,000 BAHT**

3x 'Lamiglas' 4'6" deep sea jigging rods never used. 50-100lbs, 2x Penn No.49 deep sea fishing reels with braid line, excellent condition. 1x Penn No.113 Senator fishing reel, 1x Penn Long Beach No.66 fishing reel, 1x Berkley SW Drop Shot 6' 15-37kg fishing rod. 1x Mitchel Boat Rod + Saltfest reel with braid line. Assorted spools of monofilament and braided lines. Email: r.felton65@gmail.com

**SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT**

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Luc Bovet Custom 52  
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(2011) | 6,900,000 THBPershing 92  
(2011) | 4,250,000 euroBeneteau First 44.7  
(2004) | USD\$135,000Sunseeker Manhattan 73  
(2013) | GBP 1,699,000Princess 366  
(1996) | 4,250,000 THBCranchi Endurance 41  
(2012) | USD\$250,000Beneteau Oceanis 423  
(2004) | USD\$190,000YACHT GULFCRAFT  
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THE SOLUTION TO  
THIS WEEK'S

## Cryptic Crossword



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

**Normal spelling: lower case.**

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

**Letters left out: underlined.**

## Across:

9. COMPUTER: C-putmore 10. TOT: add 11. REPORT: detailed statement 12. SCHEME: seem(Ch.) 13. NEXTONE: tenoxen 14. RITE: tier 15. INTERACTED: triedcant(E) 17. PIPELINE: nipplei(E) 18. ORDERED: tidy 19. ACHE: each 21. INCHEd: inch-Ed. 24. CONFRONTATIONALLY: clanintofraynolot 27. HEARTS: trash(E) 29. EARN: Ea.-R.N. 30. CAREENS: cranes(E) 33. SCHOLARS: S-chorals 35. SALAMANDER: alas[rev]-redman 36. TOLL: ring 37. REAPPLY: playrep 38. TAORAI: toaira 40. REMAIN: marine 41. ELM: el-M 42. FIREDAMP: F-maderip

## Down:

1. CONCENTRIC: C-inconcert 2. EPEE: E.P.-E-E 3. STEERAGE: seegreat 4. GRANITE: tearing 5. ATMOSPHERIC: somechirpat 6. PREEMPTION: P-merepoint 7. SPIRAL: pairs-L 8. PRETENSE: sentpeer 10. TAXED: T-axed 16. ELEANOR: E-noreal 20. CHAIR: Ch.-air 22. COLLEEN: Col.-L-e'en 23. UNDERSTATED: standtrue-Ed. 25. RESTAURANT: trustanear 26. YANKEEARMY: yank-E-E-soldiery 28. ENCLOSED: en-close-d 31. ARMATURE: arm-a-true 32. PLAYOFF: p-L-ay-away 34. UNLOAD: U-N-delivery 35. SAPAM: sap-a-M 39. ODDS: 0-D.D.-S

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**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  
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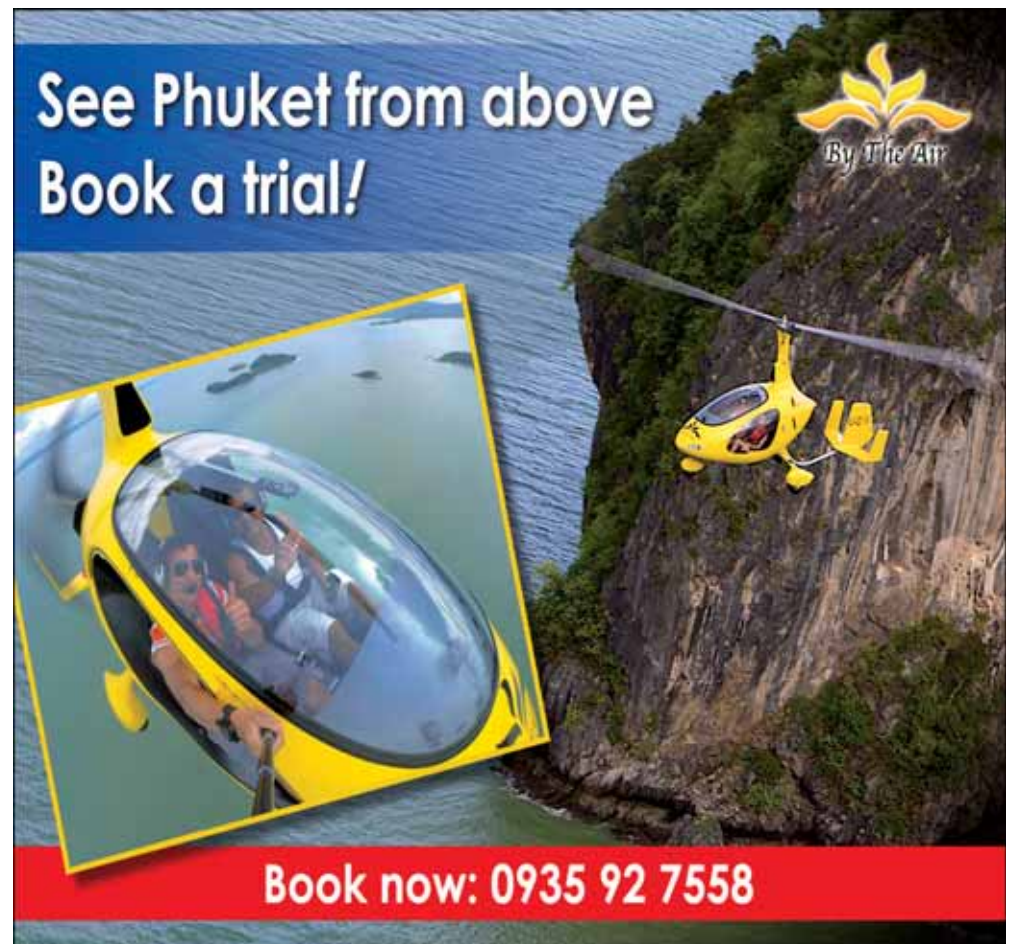
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## In case of an emergency



Central Festival Phuket hosted a full-scale fire drill on May 15. More than 1,000 mall employees were joined by police, firefighters and ambulance crews for the drill.

## Build me up with a few stories

World Champion female bodybuilder 2012 Wilaiporn Wannaklang launches her book at Limelight Avenue Phuket telling the stories behind her achievements.



Peerapit Ongcharoen (L), deputy managing director of Seng Ho Phuket Co Ltd, and Thanat Chotirat (R), managing editor of I-Fah Paradise, congratulate Wilaiporn Wannaklang, world champion female bodybuilder 2012, at her book launch.

## Phuket ladies go lunching

Mövenpick Resort & Spa Karon Beach welcomed members of the Phuket International Women's Club (PIWC) for their monthly luncheon on May 21.



**WOMAN POWER:** (L) Sue Arnulphy, Dianne Buerger, Carole Dux, Wipa Tanmanatragul and Nampetch Tipaxsorn.

## Young stars perform



Budding young musicians from local international schools and students at the Phuket Academy of Performing Arts and Siobhan's Music Studio put on a recital on May 16 at the Royal Phuket Marina Exhibition Centre. Fourteen solo artists and five bands performed a variety of popular hits for the crowd.

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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.

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### Words from the wise

"Things don't have to change the world to be important."

– Steve Jobs

#### Medium

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

#### Hard

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

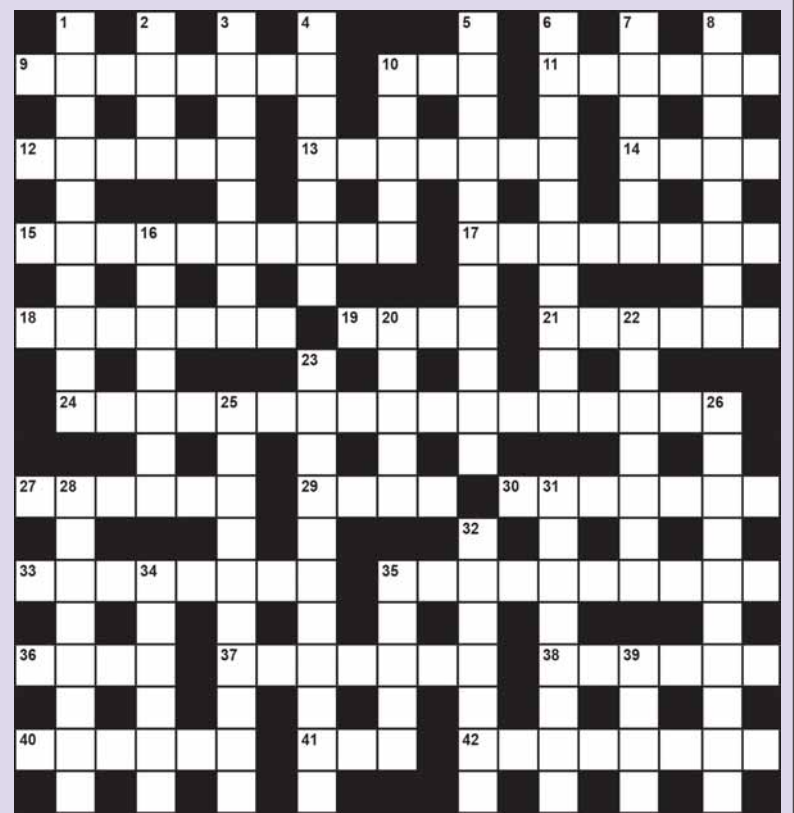
**SUDOKU:** Each row, column and 3x3 sub-grid must contain the number 1-9 once only. © Kevin Stone (brainbashers.com)

## COFFEE break

### Cryptic Crossword

#### Across

9. Almost put more rubbish in the electronic device (8)  
 10. Add a small drink (3)  
 11. Detailed statement about wine (6)  
 12. Seem disturbed about church system (6)  
 13. Following ten oxen out (4,3)  
 14. Tier reconstructed for ceremony (4)  
 15. Communicated with each other, tried, can't move out East (10)  
 17. Nipple I arranged, note, for long tube (8)  
 18. Commanded to be tidy (7)  
 19. Each cut hurt (4)  
 21. Moved slowly in small measure, Editor! (6)  
 24. Clan into fray, no lot moving provocatively! (17)  
 27. Suit could be trash out East (6)  
 29. In each British service make money (4)  
 30. Dismantles cranes out East, beaches craft to clean bottom (7)  
 33. Second chorals arranged for pupils (8)  
 35. Return, alas, red man upset the lizard (10)  
 36. Ring the charge (4)  
 37. Put oneself forward again to play rep perhaps (7)  
 38. How much in Thailand to air a difference (6)  
 40. Stay a wild marine (6)  
 41. The Spanish male tree (3)  
 42. Dangerous mine gas, note made rip exploding (8)



#### Down

1. One hundred in concert, possibly around the same center (10)  
 2. Foil old record, note echo (4)  
 3. See great move to cheapest passage on old ship (8)  
 4. Tearing around a solid rock (7)  
 5. Maybe some chirp at creating a distinctive mood (11)  
 6. Taking precedence over Papa changes mere point (10)  
 7. New pairs large rapid rise! (6)  
 8. Sent peer out play-acting (8)  
 10. Made heavy demands on time, cancelled (5)  
 16. Note no real change to woman's name (7)  
 20. Preside over church appearance (5)

22. Colonel left poetic even by Irish lass (7)  
 23. Stand true, possibly editor played it down (11)  
 25. Perhaps trust a near eating place (10)  
 26. Pull East, echo soldiery in the Union forces (6,4)  
 28. Surrounded, end about near! (8)  
 31. Make ready a new true electric motor rotor (8)  
 32. Pay about a pound, not on for a game to resolve tie (4,3)  
 34. Turn new shipment and remove goods (6)  
 35. Take vitality from a male in a Phuket community (5)  
 39. Probability nil, Doctor of Divinity saint (4)

#### Gemini (May 22-June 21)



New faces and places can help engage your interest, arousing your curiosity and leaving you keen to know more. As a result, any new information gleaned could be positively inspiring. Success with romantic meetings, sales, deals and negotiations looks promising from Friday, giving you a boost and the chance to forge ahead.

#### Cancer (June 22-July 23)



You may need a little extra leeway on Tuesday, as the full moon can bring unexpected elements into play. Money-wise though, there are chances to generate extra cash – if you're willing to be bold and try new things. Furthermore, a weekend purchase might prove a great investment. Give yourself time for good food and company too.

#### Leo (July 24-Aug 23)



The early part of the week could be both fun and a tad unsettling, a bit like taking a walk on the wild side. There's a lively spirit

around, so you may feel like kicking up your heels and making the most of it. Wonderfully, as Venus dances into your sign, your social and romantic options look far perkier, and soon can show great promise.

#### Virgo (Aug 24-Sept 23)



Watch that a relatively minor issue isn't blown out of proportion, particularly around the time of the full moon on Tuesday. Should matters come to a head, hold back from making important judgments for a few days, until you can come to a more informed decision. Even so, it will pay to aim high, whether in love or in business.

#### Libra (Sept 24-Oct 23)



There's plenty of opportunity on the astral cards with new ideas and adventures encouraging a bold move. However, don't get too carried away, Libra, as it will be best to research your options before you commit. On Saturday, as Venus glides into Leo, extra sparkle can light up your social sector and give you a chance to enjoy the spotlight.

## YOUR horoscope

By Patrick Arundell

#### Scorpio (Oct 24-Nov 22)



Though you may be tempted by an idea or offer, be sure to look at similar deals to make sure it really is as good as it seems. You might benefit from asking around, as something much more to your liking could show up in a week or so. By the weekend, a solid Venus-Saturn trine can coincide with an exciting, yet practical opportunity.

#### Sagittarius (Nov 23-Dec 21)



Tuesday's full moon in your sign adds energy to a situation that may have lacked passion, acting as a catalyst to action and self-expression. By connecting with your feelings at this time, you'll feel more energized. There's also the chance for a fun and upbeat vibe to emerge this week, one that can help crystallize new ideas into more workable plans.

#### Capricorn (Dec 22-Jan 20)



An idea may take on a life of its own, so consider looking into it in more detail, or get advice before you take firm action. However, if it really fires you up, you may be onto something that could change aspects of your life for the better. It's certainly a good time to research your options and explore any intriguing avenues.

#### Aquarius (Jan 21-Feb 19)



The early part of the week may be best for holding a party or celebration, as the Sagittarian full moon encourages plenty of lively action. And, as Venus moves into Leo by the weekend, it can add a truly congenial note to relationships of all kinds – encouraging fair dealings, enhanced romantic opportunity and plenty of fun.

#### Pisces (Feb 20-Mar 20)



Try not to over-react on Tuesday as a powerful influence could encourage you to do or say more than you mean to. A more mea-

sured approach to resolving problems or getting ahead may produce superior results. Even so, you look set to gain from Friday when a combination of hard work and friendly persuasion might really take you places.

#### Aries (Mar 21-Apr 20)



Far horizons call, which can entice you out of your comfort zone and potentially into new places and experiences. And if you do head off, there's much to look forward to, despite any potential delays. Venus sashays into Leo, and your romantic options look better than ever, with one relationship seeming to deepen appreciably.

#### Taurus (Apr 21-May 21)



The full moon on Tuesday could coincide with a desire to be financially adventurous. However, it would be unwise to buy that big-ticket item unless you've really researched your options. Later in the week a positive focus on family affairs can see you keen to make one or two lifestyle changes that might work for the benefit of all.



## WHAT'S ON in Phuket

### May 30. King and Queen of Pop Night @ Two Chefs

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Cyclists and spectators alike are encouraged to join the fun at the Southern Criterium Night Race at Saphan Hin on May 30. Photo: Ethan Lofton

is 2km: 12 laps for men and five for women, a VIP race and 15 laps for the men's elite race.

Savor the ultimate DJ experience, exclusively played by local artists. For more information and to register, please visit [www.bangkokcriterium.com](http://www.bangkokcriterium.com) and keep following the *Gazette* for the latest information.

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### May 30. Stand-up Comedy

Tom Rhodes hails from Philadelphia and is a world-travelling comedian touring Los Angeles, China, Malaysia, Bangkok, Phuket, Las Vegas and onward. *The New York Times* describes him as 'A mostly natural intellect with a knack for reporting the harsh realities of life with a dark and absurdly optimistic cynicism.' 'Brash, abrasive, but exceptionally funny! He's not to be missed' – Edinburgh Festival. 'Highly recommended, if you

want a fast thinking razor sharp and above all, irreverently funny show' – *Evening News*, The Edinburgh Paper. May 30 @ SpiceBox, Boat Avenue, near Laguna. 09-13260276

### June 1. Visakha Bucha Day

Visakha Bucha Day is observed on the day of the full moon during the sixth lunar month.

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







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# Property market gap narrows

## Southern Asian, Arabic visitors start to make up for Russian losses

By Nina Suebsukcharoen

ALTHOUGH a plunge in the number of Russian visitors hit Phuket's rental market hard this high season, the unsettling gap narrowed slightly through a small increase in Southern Asian and Arabic travellers, said Dexter Norville, Jones Lang LaSalle Thailand's national director.

This rental market is made up of the usual crowd of Europeans, Australians and Russians, but

now more Indian and Arabic holidaymakers are renting condominiums, apartments and villas on the island. Meanwhile, Chinese tourists continue to prefer staying in hotels.

"The Chinese market is definitely getting more adventurous. I

mean, they still come on package tours, but you see a lot more independent travellers now," said Mr Norville.

Latest research by JLL Hotels & Hospitality Group notes that while international arrivals to Phuket grew by 25.8% to 3.2 million and domestic arrivals rose by 10.8% to 2.5 million in 2013 compared to the previous year, visitor arrivals at Phuket International Airport dropped by 0.6% during the first 11 months of 2014 as a result of the military coup in May that year.

However, a very bright future

lies ahead, as the research states that once the airport expansion is completed, passenger capacity will jump to 12.5 million a year from the current total of 6.5 million.

Mr Norville cautiously advised those considering investing in a Phuket property for rental return, that demand remains on the beaches, not in the center of town. Among the beaches he recommends is Bang Tao.

"Surin runs into Bang Tao, so the Bang Tao and the Laguna areas are a good bet [now]. I

believe it's a good bet for the future as well," he said.

"Karon and Kata are very well established, but there are definitely hotels occupying the prime space in those areas. That sets the actual achieved rent for such

properties in those locations.

"Patong is the party town of Phuket and is basically dominated by hotels."

Looking across the bridge to Phang Nga's Na Tai and Khao Lak beaches, Mr Norville says that they are hotel-dominated areas, and because of the infrastructure, should remain so for a long time.

"Will stand-alone [villas] or a group of villa developments have demand for rent? Not when you have got JW Marriott and things like that close by," he said.

Mr Norville added that while good villas can be rented out in

**This rental market is made up of the usual crowd of Europeans, Australians and Russians, but now more Indian and Arabic holidaymakers are renting condominiums, apartments and villas on the island. Meanwhile, Chinese tourists continue to prefer staying in hotels.**



Mr Norville recommends Bang Tao Beach for those looking to invest in Phuket beach property. Photo: Gazette file

Phuket and surrounding areas, the market is thin and the majority of properties are owner used.

"In the years to come, things might change, you never know," he said.

While location is accepted as being the most important factor

in investing in a property, another important aspect is having a good perspective of the market.

Unfortunately, this is not usually the case for most investors, and Mr Norville knows all too well that property owners often do not understand where the supply for

the rental properties is coming from, what the actual requirements are and how to hit a sensible pricing point.

"If you own a property and you want to entrust somebody to do the rental, you have got to appoint one of the big boys," he said.

## CBRE sees demand, success in luxury market

WHILE 2015 is viewed as a challenging year for condominium sales across all grades, underpinned by weak economic growth, CBRE has experienced a promising start to the year with several successful launches of luxury and super-luxury residential projects.

In the first quarter, CBRE represented projects including Parc Priva, Nimit Langsuan, The Diplomat 39 and Four Seasons Private Residences.

The 'CBRE Elite Living' exhibition is running at the Fashion Hall in Bangkok's Siam Paragon from now until May 31. This year, CBRE has hand-picked 13 projects in the best locations to showcase at the exhibition, ranging from prime housing and condominium projects in Bangkok, to luxury resort homes in Phuket, Pattaya and Hua Hin, with a combined value of more than 15 billion baht.

Five new projects are being unveiled for the first time at the event: Klass Sarasin-Rajdamri, Klass Siam, Quarter 39, Tela



Baba Beach Club by Sri Panwa is coming to Phuket. Photo: Gazette file

Thonglor and Baba Beach Club Phuket by Sri Panwa.

"With an active top-end market in the first quarter and a positive momentum, we believe the CBRE Elite Living exhibition is well timed and will allow us to penetrate the luxury market further and bring to potential buyers and investors new products in prime locations that are launching or have recently launched in this segment," said Aliwassa Pathnadabutr, managing


director of CBRE Thailand.

Because of rising land prices in downtown Bangkok, developers now must ensure their product is differentiated and has the ability to draw interest from rich buyers. As a result, CBRE now is seeing new projects that are better not only in terms of concept, design and aesthetics but also in terms of layouts, functionality, finish and specifications.

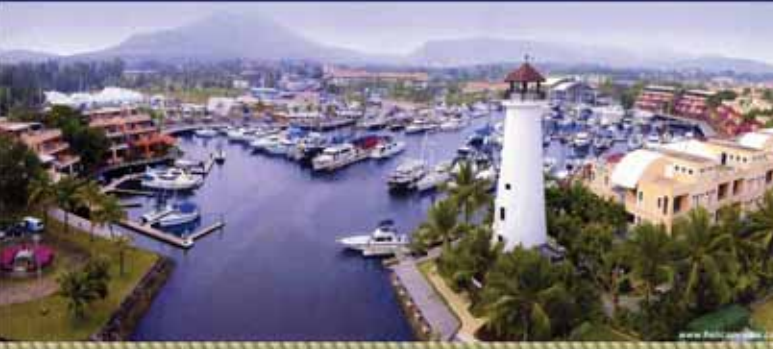
The superiority and variety of the projects on offer in the luxury market with affordable prices by international standards, particularly in Bangkok, now puts Thailand on the investment map for many foreigners in the region.

In addition, the current stable political climate has been a key factor in drawing back foreigners who are considering buying in Bangkok for investment purposes. CBRE has received more inquiries from individual buyers and foreign developers looking to develop in Thailand, and fund investors.



— The Nation



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PROPERTIES ASIA



# Make change, not war



**Property Watch**

**Desmond Hughes**

WE ALL may very well remember a court case involving a hot cup of coffee and a customer who sued the coffee shop for serving hot coffee. What a preposterous case, we may cry. How do people inhabit this earth and go about their daily lives, and yet still manage to create issues out of nothing by simply complaining about normal incidents?

In the property market in Phuket, although some people are innocently wringers, we have a more than fair share of 'vexatious litigants': people who seem to love suing other people and companies; the cut and thrust or one year hearing delays at the courthouses; or shouting 'I will not settle' and the classic 'It's not fair' as loudly as they can.

In school, there was always an argumentative, belligerent, verbose and perhaps slightly bright, but not smart, bully. We have this person – a litigation monster – in every step of life.

Amazingly, these legal hotheads often get sucked in to starting proceedings when they don't have a grasp of evidence, what the legal process actually involves and how or on what basis judgments are made.

I have now seen such wonders emanate from these brave warriors of court complaints and notices which will assist me in writing my memoirs – and



Sometimes when you sue certain entities, you are in fact 'suing yourself'. Photo: KOMUnews

hopefully the online sales of such will generate enough money for a pint of real ale per week in my dotage.

## WHO ARE THE PARTIES?

If you are an owner in an estate which has a 'committee', a 'juristic person' or a Thai company which owns assets, common area and facilities, and have an issue with management, tread carefully. Be cautious before you rush ahead and sharpen your litigation knife.

If you sue such entities, you are in fact 'suing yourself'. You,

together with other owners, are normally jointly responsible for the well-being of such an entity. The better the entity is managed and run, the smoother the meetings are, the better chances of successful re-sales in a development.

If you serve a 'writ' (court complaint) on such an entity, until that case is withdrawn, settled or produces a judgment, there is a blight on that entity visible to all those who check or deal with it.

Amazingly, in the heat of rage, many owners ignore this incontrovertible fact.

## WHAT ARE THE ALTERNATIVES TO SUING YOURSELF?

If you have a problem with the accounts of a management company, demand an audit. Change the auditor. Become a director or committee member and ensure the accounts are handled properly. Reserve litigation for 'fraud'. By fraud I mean stealing money, not spending it unwisely.

If you believe management is poor, change the management. Change the management agreement, scope of services and duties of the manager. Avoid the sun-blazed

entrance to the courthouse followed by the phones-out-of-the-pocket security check before entering the halls of justice.

If you and a large group of individuals feel the same way, avoid creating your own 'class action' John Grisham novel based action group. Such groups are adept at destroying the value of projects they believe they were set up to 'protect'.

Use the energy you have to go sailing, play golf, eat at nice restaurants, set up businesses to employ Thais and apply it to reforming that which you are displeased with. Surely, if you all feel the same way and what you are asking for is reasonable, there is a path of compromise which can be found.

Listen to your advisers. I don't just mean legal advisers, although they are important too. Listen to voices of reason around you, and don't let your own inner voice drown out people trying to shake you out of your litigation rage. Settle, settle, settle.

Property is here to be enjoyed, used and shared in the same way this beautiful island is for those who keep their eyes open, and close them when they see the Phantom Menace speedway drivers along Thekprasattri Road. Try to avoid the courthouse, and suing yourself.

*Desmond Hughes has been an owner and operator of his law firm in Thailand for 12 years, and is a Senior Partner at Hughes Krupica law firm [www.hugheskrupica.com](http://www.hugheskrupica.com)*



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# Failed search for next giant

## Books

By James Eckardt

I'VE long sought for the successors to the twentieth century giants of Brazilian literature, Jorge Amado and Erico Verissimo. So far, I've failed.

Daniel Galera's novel *Blood-Drenched Beard* (The Penguin Press, New York, 2014, 374pp) is the latest disappointment. The prose is pedestrian, the pace leaden and the plot improbable, shading into preposterous. The entire mess limps along in a wild overabundance of unnecessary detail. The kindest word to apply to the novel is mediocre.

Like Erico Verissimo, Daniel Galera is from Porto Alegre, capital of Brazil's southernmost state of Rio Grande Do Sul. Descendants of Azorean Portuguese, Germans, Italians and Poles, the people here are called *gauchos* and speak a Spanish-inflected Portuguese influenced by Argentina and Uruguay. Galera's novel does have a strong sense of place: he brings to life the coastal villages and densely forested hinterlands of Santa Catarina, just north of Rio Grande do Sul.

For some reason, Galera insists on leaving his protagonist unnamed, referring to him simply as 'he' which causes all manner of confusion when other characters enter the picture and it's unclear to whom the pronoun refers.

The novel opens with the protagonist meeting his father in a remote town in Santa Catarina. The father tells him that he is dying and intends to commit suicide. His only request is that his son take his old dog Beta to be put to sleep by a vet.



Our hero goes to live on a beach in Garopaba, hoping to learn of his grandfather's fate. Photo: Juliana Dacoregio

He also tells his son the strange story of the death of his own father who had come to live in a small fishing village called Garopaba. His temper and knife-fighting skills had made him unpopular among the menfolk and one night at a dance, they turned off the lights and plunged a great many knives into his body. The year was 1969.

Our hero looks like his grandfather, especially when he grows a beard. So after his father's funeral, where he refuses to meet his older brother Dante, who has stolen his girlfriend Vivienne, he goes to live on the beach in Garopaba too, hoping to learn more about his grandfather's fate. Like many towns in Thailand, Garopaba

is in the process of transforming from a fishing village to a tourist resort. The 2008 tourist season has just ended with the onset of the antipodean winter.

Our hero brings along the dog Beta and gets a job as a swimming instructor at a health club. A physical education teacher, he is also a triathlete, having competed in

Hawaii's Iron Man contest. He soon lands a girlfriend, Dalia, a tall, pretty, curly-haired single mother who works as a waitress in a pizzeria. Here's the culmination of their romance, told in typically clumsy prose:

"He kneels next to the sofa Dalia is sitting on and kisses her. The bitter coffee tastes nice in her saliva. They shoo away the dog, close the living room shutters, take off their clothes, and are soon in the bedroom."

This is on page 82. There are 300 more pages to go, mostly wheel-spinning. The hero attends a folk music concert, a county fair, a travelling circus, a whale-watching voyage. He dumps Dalia, falls in love with a beautiful black graduate student, and is dumped by her in a wildly improbable series of events involving buried treasure and dreams which predict a fatal future. He makes a few friends, but the locals evade his questions about his grandfather: "Everyone he has tried to talk to about his grandfather's death now ignores him. Some watch him with hostile looks as he walks through the village center, while others greet him with exaggerated friendliness. At times he worries that he is being paranoid."

Halfway through the book, he receives a tip from a journalist friend that the policeman who investigated the murder is now retired in a nearby town. He learns that his grandfather actually rose from the blood-soaked dance floor and ran out to disappear in the ocean. Then he gets even more improbable news from his grandfather's old girlfriend, who is now dying of cancer. I don't want to spoil the climax, but it was a long, slow, torturous way coming. And not worth the trip.

## The sublime and the spiritual

BACK in Cannes to present a film for the first time since winning the Palme d'Or in 2010, Thai director Apichatpong Weerasethakul premiered his latest oeuvre *Cemetery of Splendour* (Rak Ti Khon Kaen) to a standing ovation that lasted a full 10 minutes.

Instead of playing in the main competition, which is the norm for films whose directors have won the much-coveted top prize, *Cemetery of Splendour* was screened in the Un Certain Regard category alongside other titles from acknowledged Asian masters like Naomi Kawase's *An* and Brillante Mendoza's *Taklub*.

Mr Apichatpong, though, was unperturbed.

"*Cemetery of Splendour* is another step forward for me, but I understand why the film was chosen for Un Certain Regard. As I said on the stage, Un Certain Regard is the section for real discovery and excitement, and I am happy that the film is being shown with other titles from new direc-



Apichatpong Weerasethakul

tors who will be the future of cinema," he told XP.

Mr Apichatpong came to Cannes for the first time in 2002 with French producer Charles de Meaux for the screening of his second feature, *Blissfully Yours*, which went home with the top prize from Un Certain Regard and became an Asian classic.

"I've had this idea about sleeping as a form of escapism since I worked on the exhibition *Primitive*. My films are always about time and crossing frontiers between reality and fantasy, or life

and death," says Mr Apichatpong, adding that he had been toying with the idea for the film even before starting work on his Palme d'Or winner, *Uncle Boonmee Who Can Recall His Past Lives*.

A Khon Kaen native, Mr Apichatpong decided to film *Cemetery of Splendour* entirely in the city and many of its attractions, including Kaen Nakhon Lake, make their big-screen debuts.

"I wanted to make a simple work. I went back to Khon Kaen and have tried to show the spirit and rhythm of the city in the film. I wanted to observe rather than make the audience feel the presence of the filmmaker in this work," he says.

*Cemetery of Splendour* is slated to travel to festivals around the world, but right now it seems unlikely that it will be seen in Thailand.

"Of course, I want to show this film in Thailand but it depends. I may lose money if I release this film at home," Mr Apichatpong laments.

— *The Nation*

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# Head to hotcake heaven

By Sylvia Joy

EVER wonder what life would be like if all of your favorite foods were made with pancakes? Well, wonder no more.

With the moto 'If there is no pancakes in heaven, I am not going', the Pancake Corner is making flapjack fantasies a reality with their inventive and creative menu of pancake-themed delights that are available all day, and not just for the ambitious breakfast folk.

The menu is divided between savory and sweet pancakes with each category featuring either a classic pancake or a Dutch baby pancake, also known as a German pancake, which consists of a less sweet, cast-iron skillet full of goodness.

The most notable dish made with classic pancakes is the golden dollars, which is comprised of smoked salmon and cream cheese atop golden, fluffy hotcakes, sprinkled with capers and drizzled with maple syrup.

It is definitely a combination a person might feel hesitant about at first, but once they try it, it becomes obvious that these flavors meld together excellently.

The same goes for the savory Dutch baby pancake: Thai chicken massaman with cheese.

The moment it arrives at the table, sizzling in its oven-hot skillet of glory, you forget all of your hesitations and dive right in without looking back.

The massaman is incredibly flavorful and the cheese adds a new kind of texture and saltiness that balances wonderfully with the sweet, coconut flavor.

And now, what pancake-studded menu is complete without dessert?

With choices ranging from



With so many different combinations and creative ideas, Pancake Corner will make it so you never think of pancakes the same way again.

apple, caramel, cinnamon with cranberry to Dutch baby strawberry crumble, the winning combination is the Royal Nutella.

Featuring two massive pancakes sandwiching a generous amount of Nutella, surrounded by banana, strawberries, ice cream and whipped cream, this dish is definitely something to satisfy

your sweet tooth.

And should there be a need for additional syrup or toppings on any of these pancake desires, Pancake Corner offers several kinds from amber and light syrup to honey or jam.

One might think that pancakes with every dish would become redundant, but that's not the case.

With so many innovative ideas, such as eggs Benedict, pizza parma ham with olives and the chicken burger with smoked cheddar, all featuring different types of this breakfast favorite, it is never daunting to try new dishes because although the flavors are familiar, they are also very different.

Pair any of these dishes with fresh, made-to-order juice or quality coffee and bask in the happiness that only happens when culinary dreams come true.

Pancake Corner is located at the intersection of Phuket Road and Rassada Road in Phuket Town and is open every day from 10am to 10pm.

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# Friar fights way to Siam

## Looking Back

By Anand Singh

THROUGHOUT his life, King Naresuan fought many wars with the Burmese in order to liberate Siam from their control. Toward the end of his reign, in the year 1600, Siam had recovered its independence and peace was restored. During this time, the king worked to restore foreign trade for the Kingdom.

Due to ongoing wars between Burma and Cambodia, the Portuguese – the only western traders that frequented the Kingdom during that period – had left Ayutthaya. Around the year 1600, King Naresuan sent a letter to the captain of Malacca, Dom Fernao de Albuquerque, inviting the Portuguese to renew their trading activities in Siam.

The king wanted the Portuguese captain to send Franciscan priests to his capital, promising ‘honors and favors’ on any Catholic priests who came to live in Siam. The reason King Naresuan specifically asked for Franciscan priests was because he had heard of their order from Portuguese residents living in Ayutthaya.

The Portuguese had much to gain from reviving trade with Siam. Because Siam traded extensively with China, both the Spanish and Portuguese traders wanted to maintain good relations with the Kingdom as a means of trading indirectly with the far east.

The friar chosen to undertake this role was Frei Andre Do Espirito Santo, who prior to his journey to Siam had been in Macau. According to Portuguese historical records, the friar was ‘very praise worthy’ and led an exemplary life. Although he was virtuous, Frei Andre was old and weak. Many years spent fasting in penance had left him looking like nothing but skin and bones.

Albuquerque named Frei Andre as the secretary of the Portuguese embassy that was to travel from Malacca to Ayutthaya. He was instructed to conduct any business with the king that would be ‘of service to God, the welfare of the Estado da India and the profit of Malacca’. Albuquerque also instructed the friar to obtain a commitment from King Naresuan that he would not form a pact with the Dutch, a western power who was becoming increasingly active in its business dealings.

Frei Andre then left Macau for Ayutthaya. A journey that should have only taken eight days became



A statue of King Naresuan remains at the ruins of Ayutthaya. Photo: Norbert Nagel, Mörfelden-Walldorf, Germany

a journey that took seven months. Due to bad weather and incompetent navigation, the vessel hit a rocky shore and was damaged. The passengers and crew had to disembark onto a nearby beach.

The Portuguese were stranded on the beach for a fortnight and could not decide what to do next.

They were on the verge of abandoning their damaged ship and continuing on foot when they noticed ships sailing toward them.

When Frei Andre landed in Ayutthaya, all the Portuguese then living in the city gathered to welcome him. They took him directly to their church, which was made of bamboo and straw-thatch.

Later it was discovered that the fleet was sent by the King of Siam and was sailing toward Cambodia to put down a rebellion. A Muslim captain commanded the fleet. When he learned that the

Portuguese were sailing up to Ayutthaya to fulfill a request from King Naresuan, he gave the crew some rice and raw materials to fix their ship. He also offered to take Frei Andre and a few others to Ayutthaya.

The seven vessels sailed slowly for another four days. Unfortunately for the fleet, on the fifth day, a great storm broke out and six of the seven ships were sunk in the storm. Luckily Frei Andre was on board the only surviving ship. The surviving ship sailed to a small island near the coast, where the passengers and crew once again disembarked. After several days on the island, subsisting entirely on crabs, Frei Andre had enough of sailing and decided to continue the rest of his journey on land.

Travelling on land was equally dangerous. Much of Siam was covered in dense forest that was home to dangerous wild animals, including tigers, rhinoceroses, elephants and buffaloes. At night, the travellers had to sleep in trees, securing themselves by tying their bodies to tree branches with vines.

After four nights spent in this

dangerous and uncomfortable environment, they came to a village where the headman was a Muslim. Frei Andre explained to him in Malay that he was on the way to Siam in response to King Naresuan's request for priests. The friar explained that his vessel

had been shipwrecked off the coast of Cambodia and now his party was in need of food and a cart to take him and his sick companions to Ayutthaya.

At first, the headman refused and said that he did not know Frei Andre and could not believe that

he was telling the truth. So Frei Andre, who at this point was suffering severely from swelling in his legs and groin, decided to stay at the village, where he began to compose a letter to the Portuguese in Ayutthaya, asking them to inform the king of his plight.

When the village headman heard of this, he relented and provided food and a cart to carry Frei Andre and three of his sick companions. From then on, Frei Andre was able to travel without much hindrance. Every village he came across, he was given food, water and shelter. Finally, the party arrived at the Chao Phraya River, where a boat was arranged for them to travel up-river to the city of Ayutthaya.

At last, after seven months, the party arrived in the capital city. All the Portuguese then living in the city gathered to welcome Frei Andre. They took him directly to their church, which was made of bamboo and straw-thatch. He rested there for a few days before going into the city to have an audience with King Naresuan.



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# Topping charter charts

Spectacular boating holidays with 'Best Asia-based Charter Company'

By Jenny Lie

NORTHROP & Johnson Asia won the distinguished 'Best Asia-based Charter Company' award at the 2015 Asia Boating Awards in Hong Kong earlier this month.

Created by Asia-Pacific Boating and China Boating magazines in 2005, the annual Asia Boating Awards recognizes the best in the Asia maritime industry and beyond. The awards serve as a benchmark for the industry in the Asia-Pacific region.

"We are absolutely delighted with this recognition of the public and our peers in the industry," said Sytske Kimman, Northrop & Johnson Charter broker. "Since we started our charter division about a year ago, we have set out to deliver the best service to charter clients, making their unique dream holiday come true. Winning this award is an important milestone toward further growth."

Lies Sol, Northrop & Johnson Asia Charter manager based in Phuket, pointed out that there has been an increase in the interest in luxury superyacht charter holidays in Asia.

"Many people have 'done' the Caribbean and Mediterranean for many years and now want something a little different: more adventure and 'unusual' destinations," Ms Sol says.

Asia is well placed to cater to such individuals. There are plenty of wild and wonderful places to discover in exotic destinations such as Thailand, Myanmar, Indonesia, the Andaman Islands and Malaysia.

Although there are not yet as many superyachts available for charter in Asia as in the Mediter-



Explore the Andaman aboard 51-meter superyacht Northern Sun.

anean, numbers are on the rise.

The recent public hearing in Phuket regarding temporary yacht charter licences in Thailand, indicates chartering in Thailand for foreign-flagged yachts of 30 meters or more might become legal soon. This will attract more superyachts to Thailand, leading to enormous financial benefits for the local marine industry and

local economy. Besides contributing significantly to tax revenue, large yachts spend a lot of money with local companies for services from transport to yacht repairs and maintenance, provisioning for guests and crew, marina fees, refueling and so on.

Thailand's neighbor, Myanmar, already reaps the benefits of its temporary charter licence regula-

tions, as more yachts, private and for charter, visit the area. The gorgeous islands of the Mergui Archipelago, in the remote southern part of Myanmar, are largely inaccessible unless you take to the seas and explore the area by boat.

One such yacht, S/Y *Meta IV*, recently topped the eclectic 'Best Unusual Holidays' Top 14, drawn up by a major player in off-the-

beaten-track holidays, Responsible Travel. Responsible Travel's idea is quite simple: treat local people and places well, and they'll often offer you experiences and insights into their ways of life you wouldn't otherwise get. You enjoy a more authentic experience and they benefit from jobs, income and ways to preserve their culture, environment and heritage.

S/Y *Meta IV* offers a truly unique Burmese experience during an unforgettable cruise through the Mergui Archipelago visiting some of the remote, often uninhabited 800-plus islands. Guests travel in comfort and style and can enjoy beach barbecues, jungle walks, turquoise seas, untouched reefs and getting to know the lifestyle and culture of Moken sea nomads.

Second on the diverse 'Best Unusual Holidays' Top 14, is a journey through the spectacular Tatra Mountains in Slovakia and third is a solar eclipse holiday in the United States in August 2017.

Travellers to Indonesia, however, do not have to wait that long to be able to view a solar eclipse. At Raja Ampat, located right on the 'red line' near the Equator, on March 9, 2016, a total eclipse of the sun will be visible at its best. The region is unspoiled, undeveloped and far away from noise, pollution and city lights. A solar eclipse cruise lets you discover and feel the universe that surrounds us, one of the most thrilling events on Earth.

For more information about your celestial trip of a lifetime and other spectacular charter holidays contact [charter@NorthropandJohnson-Asia.com](mailto:charter@NorthropandJohnson-Asia.com)



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# Right kind of pressure



## Excuse Buster

By Krix Luther

THE word is out about self myofascial release – foam rolling – and, no, Phuket people, this doesn't have to do with a 'soapy' or 'happy-ending release'. Foam rolling was once a secretive technique used by professional coaches and therapists, but has become a regular practice for people across the spectrum of fitness levels.

Self myofascial release is in fact just a fancy term for a technique of self-massage that helps deal with muscle tightness and trigger points.

With a massage parlor in Phuket never being farther than a kilometer away, and decent one-hour massage costing you less than 500 baht, it might be difficult to see the point of learning the technique – which would explain the bunch of rarely used foam rollers at Nai Harn Gym.

Nonetheless, the understanding of your body and muscle structures that comes with practicing the technique has a great



Soldiers massage their legs with foam rollers to reduce lactic acid buildup. Photo: Fort Carson

deal of benefits.

The practice can be done with a foam roller, lacrosse ball, Theracane or your own hands by simply applying pressure to specific points on your body, aiding in the

recovery of muscles and assisting in returning them to normal function. We can think of 'normal function' as when your muscles are elastic, healthy and ready to perform at a moment's notice.

Foam rolling after a workout will provide deep compression that will help relax tight muscles and adhesions (fibrous bands) formed between muscle layers and their surroundings. The number of benefits is outstanding, outside of increasing blood flow, which will speed up muscle recovery. Foam rolling can be used for a variety of corrective bodywork.

It can loosen muscles to re-balance posture, re-establish proper movement patterns, enhance performance and help create pain-free movement.

Stretching alone is not always enough when it comes to releasing the tightness, which makes the technique very helpful. Additionally, you are able to feel exactly what is happening and adjust the pressure so that it is uncomfortable, but not unbearable – not always the case when it comes to the toes of your Thai masseuse digging into your back.

Krix Luther is a fully qualified personal trainer with nearly a decade of experience specializing in strength and conditioning. For more information about Krix and his services, visit [krixluther.com](http://krixluther.com).

## Build muscle mass for healthier life

IN RECENT years, as more Thais have moved from the rural hinterland to towns and cities, gyms and fitness centers have enjoyed a surge in membership.

These are places for socializing, as well as for urban people to spend more time on indoor exercise and body training courses. Thai men are increasingly participating in weight training programs to build muscle mass in their quest for the perfect masculine body as well as to perform better in sport.

Building muscle mass is not only about looking better. It also brings significant health benefits. As a sports physician, I have learned that while professional athletes have at least some awareness of how to effectively build muscle mass, more casual athletes often need guidance in muscular development, including proper nutrition.

If muscle building is done correctly, the targeted exercise leads to muscle cells growth, boosting metabolism. Athletic endurance and ability increase. With enhanced muscles, your energy consumption levels are higher, you have more stamina and you sleep better too.

Bigger muscles mean you become stronger, and your strength reserves are growing. This does not simply mean you can lift heavier weights, but helps when you are stressed – with your body and mind functioning for longer periods, coupled with release of endorphins that combat stress and improve your mood. Physical strains are also easier to cope with,



Get fit. Photo: Jide Obi

and stronger muscles reduce risks of injury due to overexertion. Stronger muscles can improve your posture.

With more trained muscle mass comes a range of health benefits. Glucose and insulin levels are optimized, reducing risks of diabetes, coronary heart disease, high blood pressure and stroke. Ingested nutrients are also handled better by the body, and therefore fat accumulation decreases. The gain in health benefits may lead to lasting health benefits as you age, with stronger bones and joints.

While it's easy to read and think about the wonders of muscle building, in practice it takes hard work – and a lot of it. Fitness regimes with a strong emphasis on weight training are of course essential. However, these must be coupled with sound nutrition.

– Dr Jonathan Yarom /  
The Nation

Dr Jonathan Yarom is a sports physician, the medical director for Medix.

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# Suit up for SEA Games

By Lauren Wafer-Kiddle

THANYAPURA'S top swimming stars are hoping to bring home a bounty of medals when they dive into the pool and compete at the Southeast Asian Games (SEA) next week.

Swimming sensations Peerapat 'Garfield' Loessathapornsuk, 18, Patarawadee 'Ploy' Kittiya, 21, Kornkanjana 'Golf' Sapianchai, 17, and Tanakrit 'Nok' Kittiya, 19, will come up against the best in the region at the SEA Games from June 6 to 11.

Between the four of them, they will compete in ten races over a seven-day period, while representing both Thailand and Thanyapura on the international stage.

More than 4,700 athletes from 11 countries will travel to compete at the 28<sup>th</sup> SEA Games, which are held every two years. Athletes from 35 different sports will participate in the games.

"It's going to be a very intense week where a lot of exciting things will happen. I expect to come back with a handful of medals. The best outcome would be to return with two individual gold medals, a gold medal for the relay and a couple of bronze medals," said Miguel



Lopez, head of aquatics at Thanyapura.

"I wish our athletes the best of luck at the Southeast Asian Games in Singapore next week. They have all worked very hard to get to this point and I know they will do Thanyapura proud," added Thanyapura President and Chief Executive Officer Philipp Graf von Hardenberg.

Garfield will be competing in the 1500 freestyle, while Ploy will race in the 100m, 200m butterfly and 4x200m freestyle relay. During the week, Ploy can also qualify to compete in an additional race – the 4x100m independent medley.

Golf will come up against some of the best in the 4x100m freestyle, the 50m butterfly and 4x200m freestyle. Nok, who has already gained a qualifying time for the 2016 Rio Olympics, will swim in the 400m and 1500m freestyle.

The swimmers also have their eyes on Olympic glory and are hoping to gain qualifying times at the SEA Games. Garfield has received a wildcard to the Olympics from Federation Internationale de Natation (FINA) – the aquatics governing international body – but Ploy and Golf will both have to fight for their places.



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