

Phuket Gazette

July 25 - 31, 2015

Now inside **THE NATION** every Saturday

68 Pages / 20 Baht

'BOOZE BAN NOT AS SWEEPING AS FEARED'

■ New law only effects businesses 300m from technical colleges, universities



Establishments within 300 meters of universities will be prohibited from selling alcohol to combat underage drinking. Photo: Chutharat Plerin

Alcohol relief

By Kongleaphy Keam

A COLLECTIVE sigh of relief could be heard from Phuket officials as clarification of a national alcohol-sales ban officially arrived this week.

The ban, passed by the Cabinet and signed into law by Prime Minister Gen Prayut Chan-o-cha, forbids the sale of alcohol within 300 meters of an 'educational institution'. However, what qualifies as an educational institution was originally unclear, leaving Phuket Excise Office (PEO) Chief Pairuch Kulima prepared to strip

hundreds of tourism-related businesses of alcohol-sales licences due to their proximity to schools on the island.

"I am worried about the definition of 'educational institutions'. I hope it will be clarified exactly which types of schools fall under that definition," said Mr Pairuch ahead of the official announcement.

"My initial understanding is that the law will name only universities and technical colleges as 'educational institutions'. This is better, as many big businesses, such as Central Festival Phuket, would be affected by this if it applied to all schools."

In Phuket, there are 106 primary educational institutions, four technical colleges and two universities, as well as 122 private schools that are not included in the system, according to the Phuket Primary Educational Service Area Office.

The clarification made it official that only businesses within a 300m radius of the four technical colleges and two universities will be affected by the ban.

"Before this new law, the Department of Excise issued alcohol sales..."

Continued on Page 5

Mum of dead 7-year-old seeks justice

THE mother of the 7-year-old girl who was killed after their pick-up truck crashed into a Phuket sinkhole continues to demand justice, as well as 10 million baht in compensation for the tragic accident last year.

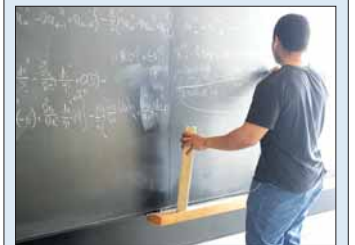
Full story Page 3

BUSINESS



Kata Group Resorts readies for listing on the Stock Exchange of Thailand.

PROPERTY



Mr Hughes says that there are other numbers than property value to crunch.

LIFE&STYLE



Thai-quality boats winning races in island's expanding marine industry.

www.kisphuket.ac.th

KIS
Kajonkiet International School Phuket

EXCELLENT FACILITIES

SCIENCE LAB
COMPUTER SUITE

ART STUDIO
DESIGN & TECH ROOM

DRAMA & MUSIC STUDIO
1st CLASS SPORTS FACILITIES

YEAR 10 IGCSE
NOW OFFERED

UNIVERSITY of CAMBRIDGE
International Examinations

edexcel
Approved Centre



Korean tourist drowns in sea at Bang Tao

A KOREAN tourist, who allegedly ignored hotel staff when warned about the dangerous waves, drowned on July 17.

Seunchei Yang, 20, was recovered by Outrigger Laguna Phuket Beach Resort employees. He was pronounced dead on arrival at Thalang Hospital.

Police confirmed that the beach was closed with red flags.

"There were warning signs written in five languages – including Korean – that said, 'Do not enter the water due to big waves'," said Lt Peerarit Nuhayan of Chermg Talay Police.

– **Kritsada Mueanhawong**

Crackdown on tour businesses continues on

TWELVE tour companies with foreign shareholders suspected of using Thai nominees to maintain control over their businesses were given five days to prove their legality.

"Only four companies were able to provide us with documents to prove that they are not using Thai nominees," said Mr Santi, declining to name any of the companies inspected.

"The other 12 were either closed or did not have adequate papers. They were given five days to submit documents.

"If they fail to do so, they will be charged 4,000 baht for the first day past the deadline. If they are two days late, we will take legal action against

Phuket Raceweek sees exciting finale



Many close races provided sailors and spectators alike with an exciting show for the grand finale of the multi-day event at this year's Cape Panwa Hotel Phuket Raceweek. For the full story, visit PhuketGazette.net. Photo: Guy Nowell

all residents on Phuket to conserve power to prevent outages from July 21 to July 25, as a major gas-field supply line in the Gulf of Thailand will be upgraded during this period.

"To assist people, the PEA has set up a help center for updates about power outages. If people have any issues about power supply, they can call 1129 at anytime of the day," said Phanumas Limsuwan, director of maintenance and operation section of the Provincial Electricity Authority Area 2 (South) Nakhon Si Thammarat.

– **Woranut Pechdee**

Park employee arrested with 2kg of grass

KHAO Lak-Lamru National Park employee Kathachai Panboonthong, 36, was snagged with more than two kilograms of marijuana on Monday.

Mr Kathachai confessed to police that he had been dealing drugs to international tourists and teens in the area for a 'long time', Takuapa District Chief Manit Pianthong explained.

Mr Kathachai was charged with possession of a Category 5 drug with intent to sell.

– **Kritsada Mueanhawong**

Krabi, Trang drug network cracked open

KRABI Police tapped into a prison drug network this week with the arrest of three dealers with 180,000 *ya bah* (methamphetamine) pills and more than 7 kilograms of *ya ice* (crystal methamphetamine).

Surasak Thangkam, 32, and Kullarat Wachariseawin, 35, caught with the drugs, named Ajchara Pawthong, 36, as their supplier. Ms Ajchara allegedly works with her husband, who is currently incarcerated at Khao Bin Central Prison in Ratchaburi, to order the drugs.

"All three suspects were charged with possession of a Category 1 drug with intent to sell. Mr Surasak and Ms Kullarat were also charged with possession of an illegal firearm and ammunition, said Krabi Vice Governor Narong Wonsiv.

"Ms Ajchara denied the charges, but Mr Surasak and Ms Kullarat accepted them."

– **Kritsada Mueanhawong**

LOCAL NEWS Briefly

them for concealing information." – **Kongleaphy Keam**

Gov leads 500 bikers on ride

IN ANTICIPATION of a nationwide Mother's Day 'Bike for Mom' event on August 16, a practice ride was held in Phuket on July 19 to determine what issues, if any, the

bikers will face on the day.

Governor Nisit Jansomwong led a brigade of 500 bikers through the 26-kilometer route.

"The participants should ride slow. This is not a race. We will boost safety along the route by arranging more police officers to supervise," he said.

"We will also make sure island residents are aware of the event so that they can avoid getting stuck in traffic jams during the ride."

– **Kongleaphy Keam**

Marine life feared hit by sunken ship

LOCAL officers have filed a preemptive notice to Chalong Police over the recovery of a wrecked 67.6 meter-long multi-purpose cargo vessel in fear that a significant amount of damage has been done to the coral reefs along Koh Hei.

"We are worried about the loss of marine life and have

already filed a notice with Chalong Police in case there is need to go to court to be compensated for the damages," Department of Marine and Coastal Resources Phuket office chief Thanet Munnoy said.

– **Kritsada Mueanhawong**

School robbed of B240k of electronics

POLICE are hunting for a criminal or criminals who swiped 240,000 baht worth of tablets from Satree Phuket School's science-math center.

"Forensic Police have been contacted to collect finger prints from the room. Meanwhile, we are reviewing CCTV footage to determine the number of suspects and possibly identify them," Phuket City Police Deputy Superintendent Chao Phomna told the *Gazette*.

– **Kritsada Mueanhawong**

Islanders told to conserve power usage

THE Energy Ministry alerted



American fugitive wanted for fraud arrested in Phuket

LOCAL police arrested an American fugitive on July 18 who was wanted for an estimated US\$2 million (about 68,995,000 baht) internet fraud case in New York.

Theodore Andrew Werner, 48, was presented in a press conference led by Maj Gen Charn Wimolsri, deputy commissioner of the Central Investigation Bureau (CIB), in Bangkok on Monday.

Mr Werner had allegedly been duping others to wire him money for business and stock market investments, *The Na-*

tion reported.

"A warrant for Mr Werner's arrest was issued by the New York State Supreme Court on May 12," Lt Col Teanchai Chompoo, Phuket Immigration Police inspector, told the *Gazette* on Tuesday.

"We were then contacted by the CIB to find Mr Werner. It had been discovered that he entered Thailand on a Non-B Education visa on September 11 last year. His current education visa was valid until September 3 this year."

Mr Werner was arrested in a rental room in Patong by Phuket Immigration Police and Phuket Tourist Police on July 18.

Police seized an Acer computer, an iPad, mobile phones, customer records and other devices.

"His passport has now been revoked by the US Department of State. He is being held in Bangkok and will be deported to the US soon to face justice in his home country," said Col Teanchai.

— Chutharat Plerin

Russians saved from island off Karon Beach



Mr Engle and Ms Eleena were rescued after a jet-ski accident.

TWO Russian tourists were safely rescued from an island off the coast of Karon Beach on Monday night after their rented jet-ski died mid-ride and was pulled out to sea.

"A rescue team was sent out after being notified by the jet-ski owner that two tourists had disappeared after an hour," said Itthiporn Sangkaew, deputy mayor of Karon.

"Rescuers took out two jet-skis in rough waves to look for them. Fortunately, they were safe on Koh Poo, about two nautical miles from Karon's shore."

The tourists, named by rescue workers as Engle, 29, and Eleena, 24, told rescuers that the engine of the jet-ski died while they were riding, and that the large waves and strong wind dragged them over to the island.

"They rented the jet-ski at about 5pm. It was about two hours before rescuers found them," said Mr Itthiporn.

Mr Engle and Ms Eleena, who sustained only minor cuts and scrapes during the accident, expressed their thanks to the officers.

— Thawit Bilabdullar

Mum calls for daughter's justice

By Chutharat Plerin

THE distraught mother of a 7-year-old girl who was killed after their pick-up truck crashed into a Phuket sinkhole continues to demand justice, as well as 10 million baht in compensation for the tragic accident last year.

Nitikarn Rotrattanachai, who previously went by the name Phakamon Duangchayatemcharat, arrived at Thalang Police Station on Tuesday to file a complaint of co-negligence causing death or serious injuries against those involved in the case.

Representing Srisoonthorn Municipality at the police station was Srisoonthorn Mayor Worawut Songyos.

"It is terrible to be negotiating this case. Money is nothing in comparison to my daughter's life," Ms Nitikarn said. "Hearing that the police have not dropped the case, but in fact are expecting to hand it over to the Public Prosecutor soon is very heartening."

The 10mn-baht compensation was determined from a calculation that took into account Molly's trajectory in life. It was estimated that she would earn 50,000 baht a month following her graduation from a university after finishing



Ms Nitikarn is fighting for justice and compensation over her 7-year-old daughter's death last year.

Kajonkiet International School Phuket and would then work from the age of 25 to 60, explained Ms Nitikarn.

"Molly's father gave up on finding justice for our daughter due to what seemed like a lack in progress. I am fighting this battle with only the support of my family and friends," Ms Nitikarn said.

"I've changed my name and even tried to kill myself many

times since the accident. I cry every night. I really don't want to live any more.

"Deep down inside I feel like I am the one who killed my own daughter, and it hurts so badly."

"I am deeply sorry for what happened and have advised Ms Nitikarn to file a complaint so that the case can go to court and a judge can decide how much the municipality has to pay,"

Mr Worawut told the *Gazette*. "We simply can't pay that much money to the victim. We only have the authority to pay a small amount."

Mr Worawut went on to emphasize that the municipality had not abandoned the case, and asked that both Ms Nitikarn and society at large understand that such compensation went beyond their responsibility.



Window Design & Awnings



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

OUR PRODUCT LINE INCLUDES WINDOW DESIGN AND AWNINGS

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

◆
 ☎ +66 (0) 89 724 6914
 ☎ +66 (0) 76 216 447
 ☎ +66 (0) 76 216 448



Phuket local first runner-up in Miss Universe Thailand pageant

PHUKET native Chavika 'Yim' Watsang became Miss Universe Thailand's first runner-up at the pageant on July 18.



Nong Yim

"I can't describe my feelings in words, I never thought an average girl like myself would have many fans with the audience at Royal Paragon Hall calling out my name. It was the greatest moment in my life," Nong Yim wrote on Facebook.

"I am very thankful to all the people involved in organizing the pageant, my makeup team and all the fans who supported me. Thank you for giving me such a wonderful opportunity," she added.

— *Thanaphon Phromthong*

Verdict date set for PhuketWan case

By Chutharat Plerin

ALAN Morison and Chutima Sidasathian of local news blog PhuketWan will hear the verdict on September 1 for charges of criminal defamation and violations of the Computer Crimes Act following the conclusion of the trial on July 16.

According to the hearing, the charges stem from a report published on July 17, 2013, which contained excerpts from a Reuters report alleging that some Thai naval security forces worked with human smugglers to profit from the exodus.

In April last year, Mr Morison and Ms Chutima were charged for the report and released on bail. Also charged was Big Island Media, the operators of PhuketWan.

The case was brought to court after numerous failed attempts to negotiate, confirmed Capt Pallop Komalodaka of the Royal Thai Navy, who was au-



Ms Chutima and Mr Morison at the court hearing last week.

thorized to file the complaint to police against the suspects.

"The suspects published [alleged] false information, which is against the Computer Crimes

Act Section 14," Cdr Thanom Lumzaie, deputy chief of the judge advocate division of the Third Naval Area Command, explained after the trial. "More-

over, the information published damaged the Navy's reputation."

Cdr Thanom also pointed out that such a case, which could even be derived from a Facebook post, is straight forward.

"It is the same as if you posted something on Facebook and ruined a person's reputation. If they want, they can sue you. It's that easy," Cdr Thanom said.

"We feel a great sense of relief that the Thai judges are being so open and transparent," Mr Morison said. "We are very keen to see what the verdict is on September 1, of course."

"To me, now that the allegations have been repeated in open court, an investigation should take place into the Reuters claims and see whether there's any truth in the claim or not."

Mr Morison praised the way the court had handled the case.

"I couldn't be more proud of the way Thailand handled this case," he said.

Thank you Phuket Fertility Center for fulfilling our family dream

"Yesterday, we felt a missing piece in life. Today, we have a dream come true thanks to cutting-edge IVF technology."



Dr. Sasiya Metatratiap
Obstetrician & Gynaecologist
Reproductive Medicine
Phuket Fertility Center

Mr. David Lawry and Ms. Prakhrong Donla, both Phuket residents, felt on top of the world when their baby boy, Samuel Somkit Lawry, was born on 24 February 2015 by virtue of Intracytoplasmic Sperm Injection (ICSI).



For more information, please contact us at Call Center 1719, or e-mail: info@phukethospital.com
BangkokPhuketFertilityCenter

Call. 1719
www.PhuketHospital.com



โรงพยาบาลกรุงเทพ
BANGKOK HOSPITAL
ภูเก็ต • PHUKET

Man paying off gambling debt caught as drug mule



Mr Paisarn and Mr Sophon were arrested in Phang Nga.

TWO men were caught in Phang Nga attempting to smuggle more than 25,000 ya bah (methamphetamine) pills into Surat Thani on July 15.

Sophon Suwannarat, 37, confessed to police that he had agreed to transport the drugs in order to pay off a 50,000-baht gambling debt, while Paisarn Ratmanee, 40, denied any knowledge of the drugs.

"Police were tipped off by an undercover investigator that the men would be picking up the drugs in Phang Nga Town before heading over to the drop-off point in Surat Thani," said Phang Nga Provincial Police Commander Chalit Kaewyarat in a press conference on July 15.

"A team of officers was waiting when the men arrived in Phang Nga Town. Police searched the car and found 25,816 ya bah pills hidden inside."

Police seized the pills, the

car used in the crime, 5,000 baht in cash and two mobile phones.

"During questioning, Mr Sophon explained to us that his debt would be remitted if he could successfully deliver the drugs to Surat Thani," said Gen Chalit.

"However, Mr Paisarn claims he is innocent and had nothing to do with the transaction. Mr Sophon corroborated this, explaining that he only called Mr Paisarn for company on the drive and had agreed to take Mr Paisarn gambling afterward."

Regardless, both men were charged with possession of a Category 1 drug with intent to sell, confirmed Gen Chalit to the *Phuket Gazette*.

"We are now working with Surat Thani Police to investigate the people who set up the drug transaction, both here and in Surat Thani," he added.

— *Thawit Bilabdullar*

Booze ban to have limited effect

From Page 1

...permits for all shops except for the ones located directly adjacent to academic institutions and temples," explained Mr Pairuch.

"After the new law is put into effect, we only have 30 days to revoke the permits. We will have to visit all bars, mini-marts, grocery stores and other businesses that sell alcohol in the prohibited areas. We are not sure how we will be able to tackle this efficiently."

Dr Prapa Nakara, director of the Non-communicable Diseases Division of the Phuket Provincial Health Office (PPHO) told the *Gazette* that it is her officers' duty to enforce the law.

"Although the draft law is yet to take effect, the PPHO has already prepared for it," Dr Prapa said.

Earlier last week, the Thai Alcohol Beverage Business Association released a statement

noting that the law covers sales of alcoholic beverages, but not consumption, thus failing to tackle the root of the underage drinking problem.

Calling the law a 'blanket measure' that will hurt businesses that are in full compliance with current laws and are not selling alcohol to underage customers, the statement mentioned the effects the new law would have on Thailand's economy.

"The declaration is a severe blow to the service sector and Thailand's employment situation with damages estimated at 115 billion baht, along with the possible loss of 125,000 jobs," read the statement.

"Sales of alcoholic beverages are not limited to just entertainment and service venues. Instead, they also take place via retailers, wholesalers, shopping malls, restaurants, food outlets, hotels and tourist attractions – all of which represent key components in Thailand's economy and



The ban was put in place to prevent underage drinking.

society."

The objective of the law is to prevent underage individuals from consuming alcohol. However, there are already laws in place that make it illegal to sell alcohol to anyone under the age of 20.

"The key is that it will come down to whether individuals will choose to obey the law or if they are willing to break the law when it comes to alcohol sales," said Provincial Police Commander Patchara Boonyasit.

Maj Gen Patchara declined

to comment on whether or not the law will be effective in preventing teenagers from drinking.

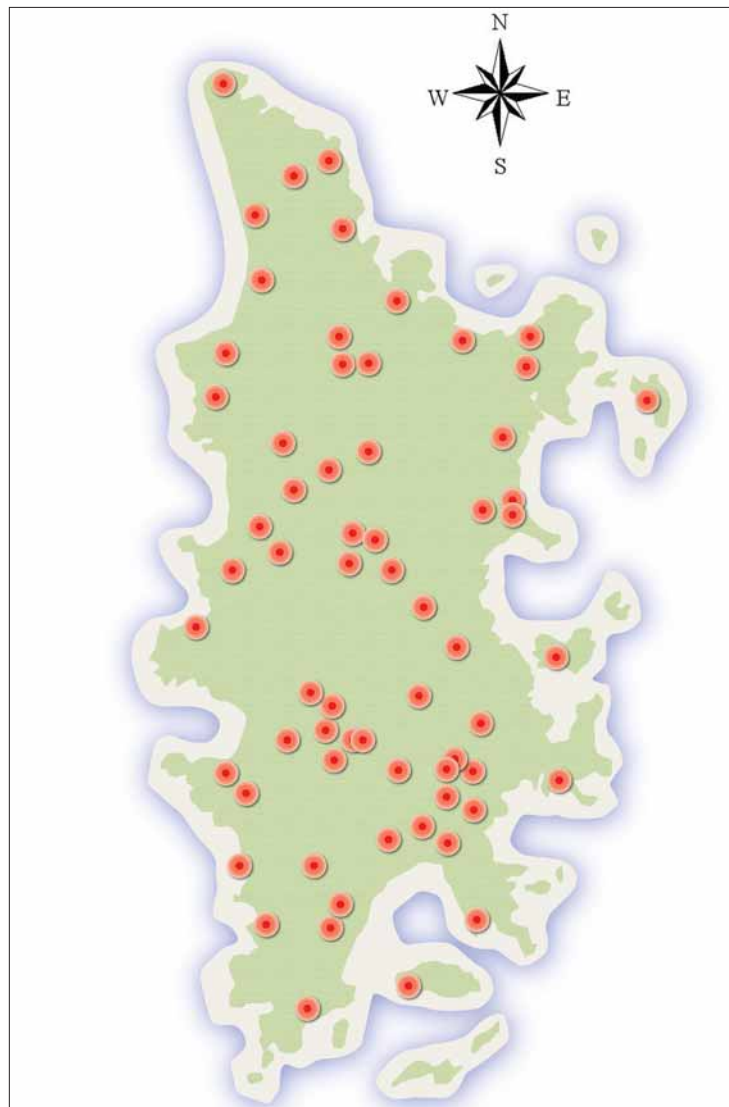
"Our duty will be to simply enforce the law," he said.

Though clarification of what is considered an educational institution comes as a great relief to most vendors and those involved in the tourism industry, it could be failing to protect those most at risk.

"It is logical that if there is no alcohol sales near schools, students will choose different activities to pursue after class, as there will be less accessibility to alcohol," explained Chalam Attatham, director of the Phuket Primary Educational Service Area Office.

"Normally, students, especially high school students, will loiter after class – if there is alcohol sold nearby, this could influence their decisions. We would be better off with ice cream parlors to attract their attention."

Officials originally feared ban would be in effect near all schools on the island



CHOU-CHOU

PHUKET

Chou-Chou represents the new generation of deli shop, blending authentic recipes to in-trend tastes and colors with signature Choux & Eclairs, freshly baked breads and pastries.

Opening hours: 07:00 - 21:00

GRAND MERCURE
PHUKET PATONG

1 Soi Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi 2, Patong, Kathu, Phuket

Tel: 076 231 999 Email: h8109@accor.com

www.grandmercurephuketpatong.com

[f grandmercurephuketpatong](#)

[g grandmercurephuketpatong](#)

[t grandmercureHKT](#)



The Phuket Gazette

June 12 Issue 30

News Desk - Tel: 076-236555

July 23 - 29, 2005

Daily news at www.phuketgazette.net

20

The Gazette is published in association with

The Nation

IN THIS ISSUE

Property tax break 'a idea'; Tsunami warning to be hooked up in just. Pages 2 & 3

IDE STORY: Property developers to blame for water issues? Pages 4 & 5

OUND THE ISLAND: Fibers longtail boats. Page 6

OUND THE REGION: Samui's problems. Page 8

IPLE: More than a hobby: volunteer cops. Page 10

STYLE: The write way with jealous fountain pens. Page 12

Work set to start on west-coast marina

By Anongnat Sartpisut

CHERNG TALAY: Construction of the first marina on the island's west coast, the 51-rai, 1.7-billion-baht Layan Marina and condominium development, at the northern end of Bang Tao Beach, is due to start in October.

Nathaphut Na Pathalung, Managing Director of developer Layan Marina, explained that, after consulting with local yacht-building company Latitude 8°, he had determined that the site, between the sea and the Sun Tua lighthouse, is one of the best locations for a marina on Phuket's west coast.

Due to the wind and southwest monsoon of the west coast, marinas for half the entrance to is sheltered by a canal. Klong Layan, used by local boats and out with klong is 25 meters deep, but only 10 meters wide.

Nathaphut said that he is currently in talks with local yacht-builders to gain it to six meters deep as the marina. The canal had deep enough for powerboats and for yachts up to 30 feet [nine meters] long," he said. Traveling along the klong, the project site is about 300 meters from the sea.

The marina will be built in three phases. Phase I includes berths for 75 boats and five condominium blocks, each seven stories tall, for a total of 70 units, each selling for 12.5 million baht upward.

K. Nathaphut said that Phase I, which will also include a clubhouse with a swimming pool, fitness center and spa, is scheduled for completion end of 2007.

Phase II, which will consist of 10 seven-story buildings with 10 units, will start a few months after Phase I. For these one- or two-bedroom units will start at 6.5 million baht, though the main target for phase will be the timeshare market.

This phase will also see the marina enlarged by another 10 berths – giving it roughly the number of berths as the Layan Marina and Choke Papan Marina.



Klong Layan, pictured here with Koh Tha in the background, will lead into the new Layan Marina.

Photo courtesy of Ocean Breeze Resort and Suites, Layan, Phuket

enough for powerboats and for yachts up to 30 feet [nine meters] long," he said. Traveling along the klong, the project site is about 300 meters from the sea.

The marina will be built in three phases. Phase I includes berths for 75 boats and five condominium blocks, each seven stories tall, for a total of 70 units, each selling for 12.5 million baht upward.

K. Nathaphut said that Phase I, which will also include a clubhouse with a swimming pool, fitness center and spa, is scheduled for completion end of 2007.

Phase II, which will consist of 10 seven-story buildings with 10 units, will start a few months after Phase I. For these one- or two-bedroom units will start at 6.5 million baht, though the main target for phase will be the timeshare market.

This phase will also see the marina enlarged by another 10 berths – giving it roughly the number of berths as the Layan Marina and Choke Papan Marina.

Phase II, which will consist of 10 seven-story buildings with 10 units, will start a few months after Phase I. For these one- or two-bedroom units will start at 6.5 million baht, though the main target for phase will be the timeshare market.

Phase II, which will consist of 10 seven-story buildings with 10 units, will start a few months after Phase I. For these one- or two-bedroom units will start at 6.5 million baht, though the main target for phase will be the timeshare market.

Phase II, which will consist of 10 seven-story buildings with 10 units, will start a few months after Phase I. For these one- or two-bedroom units will start at 6.5 million baht, though the main target for phase will be the timeshare market.

Phase II, which will consist of 10 seven-story buildings with 10 units, will start a few months after Phase I. For these one- or two-bedroom units will start at 6.5 million baht, though the main target for phase will be the timeshare market.

Phase II, which will consist of 10 seven-story buildings with 10 units, will start a few months after Phase I. For these one- or two-bedroom units will start at 6.5 million baht, though the main target for phase will be the timeshare market.

Phase II, which will consist of 10 seven-story buildings with 10 units, will start a few months after Phase I. For these one- or two-bedroom units will start at 6.5 million baht, though the main target for phase will be the timeshare market.

Phase II, which will consist of 10 seven-story buildings with 10 units, will start a few months after Phase I. For these one- or two-bedroom units will start at 6.5 million baht, though the main target for phase will be the timeshare market.

Phase II, which will consist of 10 seven-story buildings with 10 units, will start a few months after Phase I. For these one- or two-bedroom units will start at 6.5 million baht, though the main target for phase will be the timeshare market.

Phase II, which will consist of 10 seven-story buildings with 10 units, will start a few months after Phase I. For these one- or two-bedroom units will start at 6.5 million baht, though the main target for phase will be the timeshare market.

Phase II, which will consist of 10 seven-story buildings with 10 units, will start a few months after Phase I. For these one- or two-bedroom units will start at 6.5 million baht, though the main target for phase will be the timeshare market.

Phase II, which will consist of 10 seven-story buildings with 10 units, will start a few months after Phase I. For these one- or two-bedroom units will start at 6.5 million baht, though the main target for phase will be the timeshare market.

Phase II, which will consist of 10 seven-story buildings with 10 units, will start a few months after Phase I. For these one- or two-bedroom units will start at 6.5 million baht, though the main target for phase will be the timeshare market.

Queer News

Bosom buddies



Nit-picker: Jao Jor is feeling plucky with her pet chicken.



'You cannot single out real estate, but rather have to look at the development of the entire island, which has seen its unofficial population rise to over half a million people.'

— Bill Barnett of C9 Hotelworks.

Hitmen kill businesswoman

PHUKET: A 27-year-old woman, Nilasnuh's uncle carried her to her home. They are used all day, even in the shopping complex with a few we have so few of them," he said. The shortage is affecting the business.

Tsunami alarms to be hooked up next month

As the island's real estate boom continues, many questions are being raised as to the long-term effect that so many new projects will have on the environment.

WITH a 2-billion-baht investment, there would be 150 condo units, 45 villas, and a marina with a berth for 30 boats – not a terribly exciting point for a page one story... so was news slow coming into July 23, 2005? No.

The twist, and there was a twist, to the project that eventually represented the potential for the largest Korean investment on the island as of 2007 (before it was again sold out): a west-coast marina.

There is a reason that the east coast of Phuket has picked up speed over the last decade as marine industry appears to be at the tipping point of a boom with Boat Lagoon Marina, Royal Phuket Marina (RPM), Yacht Haven and Ao Po Grand Marina all situated on the leeward side of the island, even with the battering of the southwest monsoon season.

"Exposure to the wind and waves of the southwest monsoon makes much of the west coast unsuitable for marinas for half the year, but the entrance to Layan Marina [which remains unfinished] is sheltered by nearby Koh Tha," Anongnat Sartpisut of the *Gazette* reported a decade ago.

Two years later, then-Phuket Governor Niran Kalayanamit wooed investor Wang II Lee hoping to garner a major investment from the Korean firm Puvana Phuket.

What happened then? Well, that one requires a bit more research, but the marina found its way into the *Gazette* again in 2013 as property guru and long-time *Gazette* columnist Bill Barnett noted, "speculations that the plans for the Layan Marina project might be

The gift of hindsight

brought to the ground again, given the property traded hands some 18 months ago".

With Boat Lagoon Marina and RPM both ramping up their efforts to create a vibrant luxury-lifestyle scene on the east coast – see Lighthouse Weekend Market and #destinationRPM – the function of a small marina on the west coast of Phuket seems a bit off kilter.

To boost the east coast's claim, gang signs and all, to the marine industry, there have been serious developments by Yacht Haven to cater to what is expected to be a windfall of opportunity as legislation is pushed through to supply special regulations for superyachts and their crews.

Aside from page one, what else was happening on the island?

The police were hitting the public

up for donations – not resorting to extortion – to help the force buy 'badly-needed' police vehicles; the island's position in the world allegedly moved an entire 27 centimeters due to a December earthquake, so most hungover expats who were not quick to learn were walking into door frames and walls, as they moved through life like zombies; and it was also announced that the tsunami alarms would be connected via satellites to the Nonthaburi-based National Disaster Warning Center (NDWC) – high-tech stuff for ten years ago.

If you've been here long enough, you already know the disheartening issues that arose from the early days of the system. If you don't, well, stick around and we'll get there when we look back again in A Decade Ago.

— Isaac Stone Simonelli

Most long-term expatriates began to notice a significant... So the situation is serious... unit. It is the warm tropical air that makes heat pumps effi... problem, however, the cost. But what if oi

Drop criminal case against Hall, says HRW

THAI authorities should drop charges against a migrant worker-rights activist Andy Hall, as the charges violate his right to expression and undermine research into rights abuses by firms in Thailand, Human Rights Watch (HRW) said on Tuesday.

Following a final preliminary hearing on Tuesday, a Bangkok criminal court will decide whether to indict Mr Hall, an adviser to the Migrant Worker Rights Network, on charges of criminal defamation and violations of the Computer Crimes Act brought by the Natural Fruit Co and government prosecutors.

Natural Fruit sued Mr Hall in February 2013 in response to an investigative report by the organization FinnWatch, which included information about alleged labor rights violations at the company's factory in Prachuap Khiri Khan.

Mr Hall faces a maximum sentences of seven years in jail for the criminal charges.

Natural Fruit has also filed two civil defamation lawsuits against Mr Hall seeking damages of over 300 million baht.

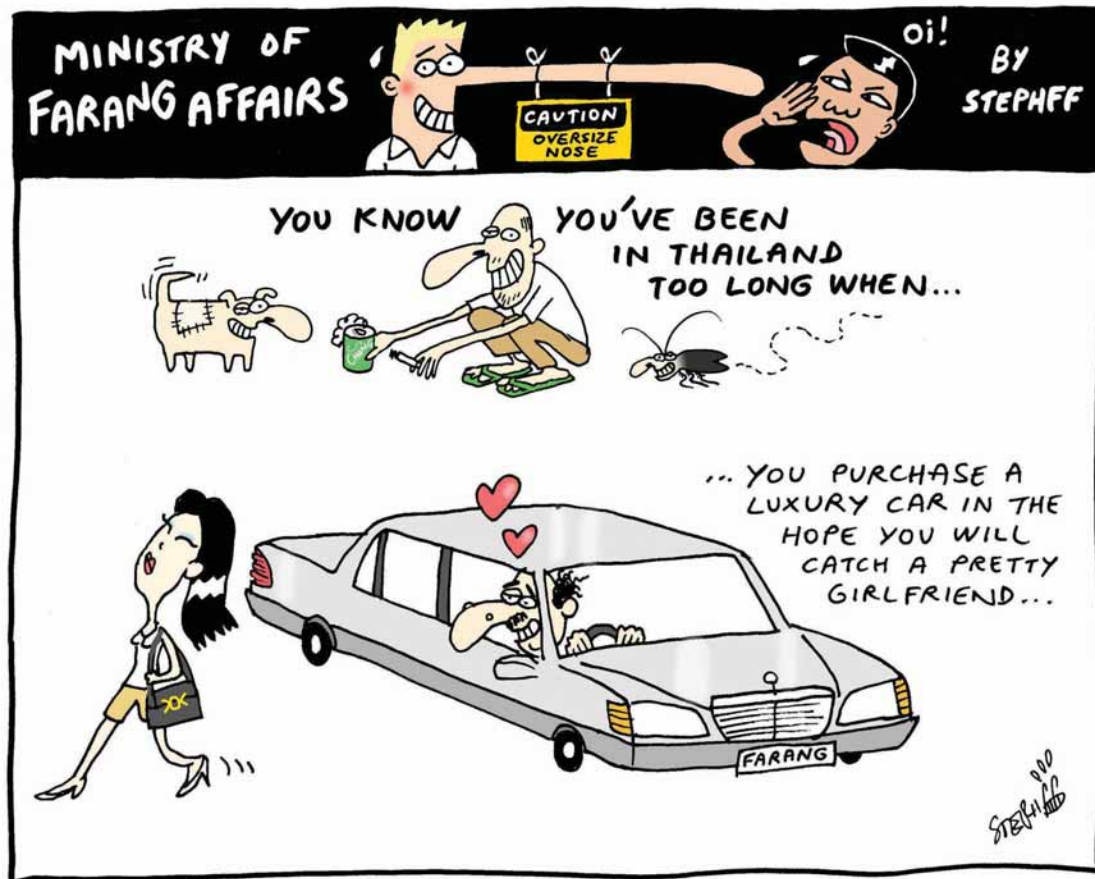
Trump camp tweets star spangled Nazis

REPUBLICAN presidential candidate Donald Trump's campaign on Tuesday inadvertently tweeted a promotional photo featuring what appeared to be Nazi German soldiers superimposed on the US flag alongside the controversial real estate magnate's face, reported Reuters.

The gaffe, which Trump's campaign blamed on an intern, was the latest setback for the television show host who lost business deals with Univision, NBC and NASCAR after making comments about Mexican rapists immigrating to the United States.

The tweeted picture also shows the White House and a \$100 bill and the slogan, "We need real leadership. We need results. Let's put the US back into business!"

The four soldiers pictured seemed to be actors wearing the uniforms of the notorious SS force, Twitter users said.



Excellent news rains down on farmers in need

THE Irrigation Department is preparing to release more water for rice farmers in irrigated areas of Ayutthaya, Lop Buri and Sing Buri provinces following heavy rainfall in the North and Northeast over the past several days that boosted water reserve levels in major dams.

Suthep Noipairote, deputy head of the Irrigation Department, said the initial water discharge was aimed at paddy fields in the three provinces to help crop survival.

Earlier, the government cut the volume released from dams for farming to conserve water for household use.

Two soldiers killed, anti-govt banners raised

TWO soldiers were shot dead and set on fire inside their pickup truck in Narathiwat's Rusoh District on July 16, while insurgency sympathizers put up banners attacking the government in four other districts, as well as in the neighboring province of Pattani.

Corporal Prasit Nakarareung and Private Yusob Tehlee of the Narathiwat 30th Special Task Force were returning to an outpost after completing an errand at around 11am when unknown gunmen

NATIONAL NEWS Briefly

ambushed them.

The attackers shot them, poured petrol on their bodies and set them on fire before fleeing.

AOT lifts new rule after chaos

AIRPORTS Of Thailand yesterday hastily called off its strict screening measures at Don Mueang International Airport, which it had just imposed on Friday, after they caused mayhem with passengers lan-

guishing behind long queues and many almost missing their flights.

The revised rules required not only checked-in luggage but also carry-ons to be X-rayed before entering the departure area.

The aim was to prevent 'unlawful interference action that may cause the delay of process' and to comply with the International Civil Aviation Organisation's demand for Thailand to tighten up safety regulations or face bans on international flights.

Police arrest elephant killer

POLICE arrested an employee of a local meditation center

after he reportedly confessed to erecting an electrified fence that killed three elephants close to a national park in Prachuap Khiri Khan.

Sompong Yapakdee, 46, confessed to putting an electrified fence around the pond to stop elephants from accessing the water. Sompong faces charges of killing protected animals, which is punishable by up to four years in prison, a 40,000 baht fine or both.

Judge: countries uncooperative in Khmer Rouge probe

A TOP judge at a UN-backed war crimes tribunal in Cambodia on Monday criticized Thailand and Vietnam for refusing to provide evidence in the trials of Khmer Rouge leaders accused of atrocities.

Mark Harmon, an international judge in the hybrid U.N.-Cambodian court, said he had written numerous letters to the governments of Thailand and Vietnam since 2013 asking for access to evidence that could 'determine the truth' but neither country had responded.

The tribunal has delivered verdicts against only three former Khmer Rouge since it was set up almost a decade ago and it has been fraught with problems ranging from funding shortages to allegations of political interference.

It was unclear what investigators are seeking to obtain from the Thai and Vietnamese authorities, and court spokesman Lars Olsen did not provide specific details.

ROMRAWIN

Lifting & Smoothing

Away your lines wrinkles and sags.

Ulthera / Thermage

*Results may vary by individual

Skin & Body Rejuvenation

Romrawin Central Festival Phuket 4th Flr.

076-307-098

Skin Tightening Botox & Filler Acne & Dark Spot
Fractional Restore Hair Removal Body Reshaping

Romrawin Jungceylon Patong Beach Phuket
Sense of Wellness Zone, 3rd Flr.

076-600-148

Sterilizing Phuket strays

FIRST PERSON

THE stray dog issue draws a number of comments from foreign residents, especially those who tend to compare Thailand with their own countries.

To understand the issue, it is first necessary to understand Thailand. Dogs here fall into four categories. The first group are owned dogs kept in the confines of the owner's property; the second are owned dogs who are allowed to roam free; the third are those classified as community dogs, who are accepted by locals and fed, but with nobody accepting outright ownership. It is the second and third categories that make up the majority of dogs in Phuket. The fourth is made up of true strays that are generally wild and avoid human contact.

The number of dogs living in an area is determined by the human population living in that area. Dogs, as we know them, are descendants of dogs who were domesticated thousands of years ago from the wolf.

Although still exhibiting many characteristics, dogs have lost the ability to hunt in packs as their ancestors did. Dogs rely on man for food, and when not fed directly, will rely on scavenging amongst food waste thrown out by humans.

There are only two ways to reduce the number of dogs on the streets. The first is euthanization of all dogs not confined to homes, but achiev-

John Dalley, originally from Leeds in the United Kingdom, is the president of the Soi Dog Foundation. John worked as a chemical plant manager for many years before retiring in 2002. In September 2003, he became involved with the Soi Foundation when it first started in Phuket.

Here, he talks about the soi dog problem in Phuket, and Thailand, the approaches the Soi Dog Foundation has taken to reduce the number of genuinely stray dogs on the streets and what needs to be done in the future.

ing this is controversial and has never been successful in developing countries. Thai society, being predominantly Buddhist, does not accept mass killing of dogs.

The second, a proven method, is mass sterilization. In the same way that vaccinating 70 per cent of dogs against rabies will eliminate the disease, sterilizing 70 per cent of dogs will stabilize the population. Once the figure of 70 per cent is passed, a reduction can be seen.

The Soi Dog Foundation has completed a three-year program, working in collaboration with local authorities, that has seen close to 30,000 dogs sterilized on Phuket.

It is now proving difficult for our teams to find unsterilized dogs on the street.

Over the past 10 years, the population of dogs on the island has decreased and will continue to do so. However, a maintenance program will be needed, as many owners do not agree with sterilization and resulting puppies are dumped.

Also, hundreds of unvaccinated puppies are imported each year from commercial puppy farms for sale at pet shops and markets. This can not only compromise the island's rabies-free status, but unsold puppies end up being dumped, and a significant number of purchased dogs are abandoned when health or behavioral issues arise.

Most people, including local authorities, are looking for a quick fix.

Removing dogs to underfunded dog pounds or other areas will not work long term and can have a detrimental effect when vaccinated, sterilized dogs are removed.

Left in place, these dogs not only have a built in herd immunity to rabies but they cannot breed.

Assuming a food source is there and existing dogs have been removed, other genuine stray dogs seeking a better source of food will move in, and if not sterilized, the problem starts again.

The number of stray dogs in Thailand can be reduced dramatically, but while owners continue to allow their pets to roam, the sight of dogs on the streets will always be a feature of Thailand.



Soi Dog continues to work hard to deal with the stray dog problems in Phuket.



Slot machines seized in a Phuket Town raid. Photo: Gazette file

Gambling in Thailand: Out with the old, in with the new

Island View

By Debbie Adams

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

THERE has been a lot in the news lately about gambling.

One recent *Gazette* article discussed the history Thailand had with the recreational activity and noted that it originally came here with Chinese immigrants.

As late 19th century western leaders found gambling to be crude and thought it synonymous with crime, King Rama V led the government to control all legal gambling in order to portray Siam as civilized, as well as to avoid social unrest at the time.

Now that we are in the 21st century, I feel that the rules and laws of gambling in Thailand should be changed in order to keep up with the times.

If the government could control casinos and other such areas of gambling, not only could they make lots of money from taxation, but they would cut down on unnecessary or over-the-top arrests, such as last week's arrest of four taxi drivers playing rummy with 170 baht.

A small group from the National Reform Council (NRC) continually pitches this idea, but is usually met with

strong domestic opposition.

One of the main reasons is that Thailand is a Buddhist country, and gambling is a sin.

However, neighboring countries have openly accepted new gambling establishments, Cambodia being one that is now on the verge of becoming a main hub for high-rollers.

Gambling, however, can become an addiction, and I understand Thailand wants to protect its people from gambling away all of their income.

One proposition that the NRC put forward is that the legalized casinos would be open to foreign tourists, however, Thai nationals must present an ID and financial statements.

I understand that regardless, today's laws are today's laws, and at this point the police are merely doing their job, but higher officials and opposition surely must see the need for improvement and upgrades.

Words from the Wise

"The Supreme Court of the United States has descended from the disciplined legal reasoning of John Marshall and Joseph Story to the mystical aphorisms of the fortune cookie."

– Antonin Scalia, United States Supreme Court Justice, in his dissent in the case of Obergefell v Hodges, which officially made marriage equality law in the United States

Issues & Answers

Can foreigners buy lottery tickets in Thailand?

I OFTEN hear my expat friends talk about buying lottery tickets or winning the lottery.

Where do you learn of the winning numbers? And if a foreigner wins, how and where do they collect the winnings? Do they have to pay taxes on their winnings?

Steven McIntyre
Kathu

Sangrawee Sankla, an officer from the Kathu Revenue Department, replies:

The winners are announced twice a month, normally on the 1st and the 16th, unless there is a public holiday that falls on the date. You can check the winning numbers on this website: http://www.glo.or.th/main.php?filename=glo_lotto_en.

If you purchased a government lottery ticket, the income tax is 0.5 per cent of the winnings. If you purchased a charity ticket, the tax is 1 per cent of the winnings. The taxes are taken out of the winnings.

If you win a small prize, such as those under 50,000 baht, and don't want to go to the Thai Government Lottery Office in Nonthaburi province to claim your money, you can sell your lottery ticket back to the vendor from whom you bought it. They will charge up to 5 per cent of the prize.

If you win a large prize, you must go to the Government Lottery Office in Nonthaburi province to collect your winnings. Bring identification.

War on drink

ENFORCEMENT of Thailand's Alcohol Beverage Control Act has been inconsistent since it was passed in 2008. Restricting it further will penalize those who play by the rules, while heaping more reward on those who do not.

Some of the more rational aspects of the act, such as banning the sale of alcohol at roadside service stations, have been fairly well enforced and, as a result, have most likely helped reduce deaths and injuries on our roads.

However, when it comes to keeping alcohol out of the hands of minors, the act is full of inconsistencies and confusing regulations that are difficult to remember, let alone enforce.

First and foremost, the sale of alcoholic beverages to minors (under 20) is already illegal. Nevertheless, since its inception, the act has imposed impractical restrictions on the times that alcohol can be sold by retail outlets: from 11am to 2pm; and again from 5pm until midnight.

The rationale was that it would keep schoolchildren from acquiring alcohol on the way home from school – even though the sale of alcoholic beverages to minors is already illegal.

The actual result is that many 'mom and pop' stores have benefited enormously by selling booze to anyone at any time.

Rather than revising existing law, the MoPH is now on the verge of passing unprecedented regulations that would forbid alcohol sales within 300m of an educational establishment. Luckily, clarifications have been made about what qualifies – universities and technical colleges. However, it was originally feared that the ban was for sales surrounding all schools.

It is unreasonable to expect that adding a spatial dimension of restrictions would have an effect on underage drinking.

A more likely result is that already-overburdened law enforcement officials will throw their hands in the air and the situation on the ground will revert to what it was some 20 years ago, when bars stayed open until the last customer left and booze was available for sale to anyone who could afford it, at almost any outlet, registered or otherwise.

Without the clarification of what an educational establishment is, the impact on tourism could have been devastating. Banning alcohol sales in a 300m radius of all schools would put hundreds of tourism-related companies out of business: consider the Ban Sai Nam Yen School in the heart of Patong. Many business owners should count their lucky stars that at least some reason has prevailed.



Time to rid Phuket's image of taxi blemish

Long-suffering tourists and residents of this beautiful island desperately need help with taxi-fare gouging that has been prevalent throughout the island for decades now.

Why do we have to pay such exorbitant fares to get around the island when taxis elsewhere, particularly in Bangkok, have meters and are well regulated?

Taxis are even more vital here because of the dismal state of public transportation.

The Bus Rapid Transit line in Bangkok is something which could, without a lot of difficulty, be adopted on the island if the authorities really want to resolve this problem.

Although reams have been written about this well-entrenched rip off, nothing has been done and this island's image remains blemished.

*Newcomer
Gazette forum*

Wet roads danger for all drivers

Re: Gazette online, Two injured in truck crash, July 20

It's not always about too much speed.

Some roads do get ridiculously slippery after and during rain, and even driving at a modest speed can land you in trouble.

I was heading into Tri Trang and hit a slippery spot a few weeks ago.

It was sheer luck that there was no one coming the other way, coupled with years of ex-

Letters to the Editor

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

perience driving on ice and snow that prevented a disaster.

*Stephen Morris
Facebook*

Healthy celebration

Re: Gazette online, Governor leads 500 bikers in 'Bike for Mom' practice ride, July 20

What a cool event to hold for Mother's Day!

I love how communities are starting to focus on health and physical activity as a way of celebrating a special day.

This can shape the minds of youngsters in a positive way and teach them that group bike rides or walks are a fun way to bring people together.

I hope the nation's leaders keep pushing to host events of this nature in the future.

*Lauren Taylor
Surin*

School thieves are the lowest of low

Re: Gazette online, School robbed of B240k worth of electronics, July 20

This is upsetting to read.

These students must be so disappointed to have lost such cool gadgets for learning – we certainly didn't have them

when I was growing up.

And how low is it of this thief, or thieves, to steal from kids to make some quick cash?

I hope the authorities are able to track down the culprit(s) and lay down the law.

*Judy Gayle
Kamala*

Crooks in our midst

Re: Gazette online, American fugitive arrested in Phuket, July 21

This is the one of many big-ticket fugitives that I've heard of being caught recently hiding from justice in Thailand. What is it about this place that either draws really amazing, or really terrible people to its shores?

These stories make me wonder how many criminals we have lurking around our island.

*Kenneth Green
Patong*

A happy ending

Re: Gazette online, Russian tourists rescued after jet-ski incident, July 21

I am relieved to hear that these tourists were found safe.

This could have had a much sadder ending.

I hope jet-ski renters take notice of the weather and refuse to rent them out during rough seas, as tourists might not know how dangerous the waves can be.

*Oliver Trummel
Karon*

Phuket Gazette

In association with The Nation Multimedia Group PCL

Managing Editor: Isaac Stone Simonelli

Managing Director: Oranee Hildebrand

General Manager: Natthira Susangrat

Publisher: The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

Contact us:

Editorial: news@phuketgazette.net

Advertising Sales: adsales@phuketgazette.net

Classified Advertising: classads@phuketgazette.net

Website services: anna@phuketgazette.net

Gazette Guide: guide@phuketgazette.net

Events Sponsorship: events@phuketgazette.net

General: info@phuketgazette.net

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

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

Volume 22 Issue 30

Copyright © 1994-2015 The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

Hoteliers predict Chinese tourist rush to continue in coming years

HOTELIERS predict that tourist arrivals from China will continue to increase by up to 25 per cent a year over the next three years, with a huge number of young Chinese travellers descending on the Kingdom.

According to the *Chinese International Travel Monitor 2015* report, 84.9 per cent of hoteliers revealed that they had seen an increase in Chinese travellers, with 30 per cent yielding an increase of between 26 and 50 per cent.

Hoteliers predict the trend will continue with an increase of 11 to 25 per cent a year until 2018. On top of the increasing numbers, hoteliers say Chinese travellers are getting younger.

The report found that 81.7 per cent of hoteliers had noticed more independent young Chinese travellers, or those aged between 18 and 35 (millennials).

China has been Thailand's clear, number one source market for a number of years.

Hotels.com found Chinese booking Thai destinations online increased by 32 per cent in 2014.

Abhiram Chowdhry, vice president and managing director of Asia Pacific for Hotels.com, said the top 10 Thai destinations for Chinese travellers were Phuket, Bangkok, Chiang Mai, Koh Samui, Krabi, Pattaya, Hua Hin, Koh Phi Phi, Koh Lanta and Koh Pha Ngan.

"Globally, Chinese travellers have grown financial muscle. An average traveller spends about 17,796 baht per day, including accommodation. The top 10 per cent of Chinese international travellers spend 73,771 baht per day including accommodation and spend an average of 14,556 baht per night on hotels alone," Mr Chowdhry said.

— *The Nation*

Funds providing best returns

Belmont gives access to some of the best in the business

Finance

By David Mayes

FOLLOWING on from my article about the Millennium fund, I am writing this week about some Wall Street legendary fund managers that you can now access with relatively small allocation in a portfolio.

Belmont has made its main business out of selecting the absolutely best managers in the world and offering access to them at reduced minimums.

While the fees may be slightly higher because of this, I don't mind paying up when they deliver the results they typically do. While not always true in life, sometimes you really do get what you pay for, and asset management is not an area where I will be cheap, assuming I understand what the managers are doing of course.

One such fund is managed by Abraham Trading Company, founded by Salem Abraham in 1988. (The Fund) attempts to profit from perceived opportunities in the global commodity and financial futures markets through a mix of trend-following, mean-reversion and short-term momentum strategies. All investing is done on a systematic basis.

Although these opportunities are taken in currencies, fixed-income and stock indices, the majority of the fund's exposure is to the global commodity markets, such as metals, energies, meats, grains and softs. The firm and its senior professionals have built one of the longest continuous track records of successful research and performance in the managed futures industry.



Grab the bull by the horns: access legendary fund managers with little portfolio allocation. Photo: Sam Valadi

The fund has produced almost 20% annualized returns since 1993, but obviously with a much higher volatility level that makes this one more geared to those out there with some tolerance for risk. It has a drawdown of almost 50% and standardized volatility is about 42.5%.

While this would be a lot as a stand-alone investment, a small holding in this fund, which is not correlated with the stock market, could thus actually bring down the overall volatility of a portfolio holding a lot of stocks. This fund has traditionally posted returns far above average in years when the markets crash.

Another Wall Street legend is William Eckhardt. He started his fund in 1991, and has also generated one of the best track records out there.

The fund seeks to profit from

short, medium and long-term trends in the global financial and commodity futures markets on an entirely systematic basis.

Opportunities are sought across a wide range of the most liquid currency, fixed-income, equity and commodity markets. The returns have averaged slightly less than Abraham's fund, about 16.5% per annum, but it came with much less volatility. The annualized volatility has only been about 28%, although worst drawdown was about the same.

The great thing about having funds like these with minimums at US\$10,000 is that even a portfolio of 100K could hold a 30% CTA allocation diversified across three high-class managers that you cannot invest with directly for less than 1 million dollars. That is a very big advantage pro-

vided by this range from Belmont and well worth looking into to help protect any stock holdings from the next inevitable crash.

Even against a portfolio that is mostly cash, a 15 to 25% allocation to these funds would have boosted your overall return these last years, up to something more reasonable while still maintaining the bulk of your cash in asset classes where your principal could be safely protected, which is the real name of the game in the long run.

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 or 085-335-8573. Faramond UK is regulated by the FCA and provides advice on pensions and taxation.

Kasikornbank chairman apologizes

BANTHOON Lamsam, chairman of Kasikornbank, said that the installation and execution of the new core banking system over the past weekend was successful.

On behalf of the bank, he also offered his sincerest apologies to customers who experienced any inconvenience and thanked all of them for their patience.

"The new core banking system will increase stability and ensure precision within KBank's customer database system, while also enhancing



Chairman of Kbank Bantoon Lamsam Photo: The Nation

greater connectivity across multiple consumer access platforms.

"These innovations should lead to the faster rollout of new products and services, especially when the bank is gearing

up towards the full-on digital business era, in which digital banking will become exponentially significant."

The new core banking system would further enhance digital banking businesses, poising the bank to be the leader in providing service innovations that enable instant connections through customers' cutting-edge technology gadgets.

"KBank is determined to develop the best services to assure customer satisfaction," Mr Bantoon said. — *The Nation*



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

Siam
International

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

Kata Group prepares to expand

By Phuket Gazette

HOSPITALITY company Kata Group Resorts is readying to embark on a major new phase of expansion following the appointment of renowned financial consultants Asset Pro Management (APM) Co Ltd.

APM will prepare Kata Group Resorts, owner and operator of six resorts in Southern Thailand, for a listing on the Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET) following a restructuring of the hospitality company's business plan and finances in accordance with SET requirements.

With a listing expected in 2017, Kata Group expects to embark on a period of significant growth fuelled by extra capital, including developing a hotel and community mall in Phuket called The Landmark Patong, as well as projects in established tourism areas in Pattaya and Hua Hin.

The move is a sign of intent from Kata Group, who have build a strong reputation in the four-star and five-star markets in Phuket, Koh Samui, Krabi and Khao Lak over 35 years, as they aim to leverage

Thailand's continuing high growth trajectory as Asia's leading tourism destination.

Kata Group Resorts President and Owner Pramookpisitt Achariyachai said he was encouraged by the growth of the Thailand's tourism sector and the increasing number of attractions, which was driving the growth of the hospitality industry.

"We feel we still have a lot of room to grow," Mr Pramookpisitt said. "We currently own and operate six hotels in absolute beachfront locations – with one a two-minute walk from the beach – featuring concepts in the four-star and five-star categories, appealing to a wide range of target groups and markets from around the world.

"Our strategy has always been to grow steadily and sustainably. This will not change. We have a strong project in The Landmark Patong and are seeking opportunities in Pattaya and Hua Hin, for which we need capital to fund the growth. This is why we have appointed financial experts in Asset Pro Management to achieve this goal."

Investment in the hotel business in Phuket continues to

A reception is here to provide all types of services required by short-stay guests, such as vehicle rentals and tours.



Mr Pramookpisitt is encouraged by the growth of Thailand's tourism sector.

increase. As of December 2014 there were a total of 46,803 rooms in registered tourism establishments for 750 hotels, according to the Tourism Authority of Thailand and *Gazette*

columnist Bill Barnett of C9 Hotelworks.

With the development of infrastructure and services, such as the expansion of the new airport, the ASEAN Economic

Community and Thailand's convenient geographical position between the three mega markets of India, China and Indonesia, growth is expected to continue.

Social media automation brings success on a platter



Business Buzz

Simon Wetherell

IS YOUR business taking advantage of social media automation?

These days, it is easy to get overwhelmed by the number of different applications and platforms that we can choose from on social media.

Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Google+, Pinterest, YouTube and Instagram are some of the most commonly known sites, but have you heard of SnapChat, Reddit, Quick-R, Flickr, Picasa, Plurk, Ning, Digg, Periscope? There are far too many more to list, but I think you get the idea.

With so many choices, it can be easy getting lost or side-tracked. This, in many cases, can lead to procrastination, and some may not even start at all, because they don't know where or how to begin.



Use all social media sites quickly and efficiently by automating your business' posts. Photo: mkhmarketing

Most people have also heard the motto 'it is better to do a few things well than a lot of things poorly'.

What these people do not know is that we now have a range of tools that can simplify everything for us, and in many cases do the work for us.

Imagine being able to do one action (for example, make a post on your website), and it instantly appears on an array of your other social media accounts per-

fectly formatted and set out, and linking your customers to the other important branding tools of your company?

Think of the benefits of this. Not only are you going to save a huge amount of time, but you are going to cover all of the types of media that your potential or existing customers use, without having to learn or even know much about them.

You will be branding your company, and the more people

coming across your brand the greater chance that they will get a positive view of your business and decide to choose it.

You also create a presence that gets the attention of the search engines, Google in particular. This leads to an increase in organic traffic, which places you above your competitors.

A word of warning though, just make sure the plug-in is trusted and compatible. While this can be very easy to set up and run, it is worth doing some research first.

If done properly, automation can bring you success on a platter.

Simon Wetherell is a social media expert, lawyer, best-selling author and international speaker. He now resides in Phuket where he trains businesses and individuals on how to profit from the social media industry. For information, go to PhuketOnlineMarketingSchool.com or call 095-085 3355.



Family Law/Custody /Divorce/Will

Child Adoption

Notary Public

Litigation (Civil & Criminal Cases)

Company Setup

Business Contracts
Property Law/Due Diligence

Visa & Work Permit

Tel : 091-078 9595

info@phuketinternationallaw.com
www.phuketinternationallaw.com

Seedlings Phuket swings open

There was fun galore when Laguna Phuket opened 'Seedlings Phuket', the resort's very first social enterprise restaurant, nine months after launching an initiative to provide training and job opportunities to marginalized youths.



Seen in a wild rice cutting ceremony when the restaurant opened its doors on July 16 are (from L to R) David Seet, Laguna Resorts & Hotels Plc's senior assistant vice president for resort operations; Claire Chiang, co-founder of Banyan Tree Hotels & Resorts and chairperson of Banyan Tree Global Foundation; and Sriram Kailasam, Banyan Tree Phuket's area general manager.



Alwa, one of Seedlings Phuket's first batch of students, is scheduled to complete his 18-month training program in April 2016.

Hawaiian night launch party

Splendid Condominium unveiled its new developments at a cool and colorful Hawaiian Night launch party on July 18.



George Khanal (2nd from right), Splendid Condominium managing director, warmly welcomes guests to the well-attended party.



Sonya Khanal (2nd from right), wife of Splendid Condominium's managing director George Khanal, gives the lucky prize draw winner, Patchanok Hananupong, a free night's stay at Kata Sea View Villa.

FOREIGN FREEHOLD CONDOMINIUM

Serenity by the sea

LUXURY SEA VIEW CONDOMINIUM

Splendid

Condominium

Start 4.85 MB.

KATA BEACH PHUKET

BY KATA SEAVIEW VILLA

Free ! Maintenance fee for 3 years

for first 3 unit *

Free ! Built - in and loose furniture package.

sales@splendidcondo.com
www.splendidcondo.com
+66(0)86 321 4999

ents in Paradise

New Ford Ranger debuts on the island



Excitement filled the air when Anuphas Ford Phuket launched the new Ford Ranger automobile at its showroom on July 18. Presiding over this greatly anticipated entry are (from L to R) Lt Phummisak Hongyok, director of Anuphas Motor Sales Co Ltd; Montri Hongyok, director of Anuphas Vividhkarn Co Ltd; Rawat Areerob, a former democrat member of Parliament from Phuket; Songdej Hongyok, managing director of Anuphas Motor Sales; and Chanwut Hongyok, general manager of Anuphas Pramaukit Co Ltd.

Amazing Sunday Brunch at Nikki Beach

Nikki Beach Phuket holds another Amazing Sunday Brunch ahead of the upcoming opening of Nikki Beach Resort & Spa Dubai.



(From L to R) Bernard Bilardello, president of CityGate; Alena Nikolaeva, Nikki Beach Phuket's marketing manager; Praewprawlin Inchomchuen; Roberto Abbagnale, Nikki Beach Phuket's general manager; and Peter Smith enjoy themselves at Nikki Beach Phuket.

All about good skin

Phuket International Hospital held a 'Talk to Expert' session on July 11 which focused on the topic of taking care of your skin in different stages of life, and new the technology which helps you do so.



Dr Passaratap Anurukpaiboon (left), Phuket International Hospital's director of dermatology, uses an Antera 3D camera to check the facial skin of Nongnaphat Phuteraphatkul, one of the guests at his interesting talk.

BROADCASTING PHUKET TO THE WORLD

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

Produced by PGTV, the show is designed to promote Phuket to tourists and the international community in Thailand.

| LOCAL COVERAGE | NATIONAL COVERAGE | INTERNATIONAL COVERAGE |
|--|---|--|
| <p>Phuket Cable Coverage: All of Phuket Channel: 1 Monday-Friday: 10.30am, 6pm, 9pm Saturday-Sunday: 10.30am, 9pm</p> <p>Rawai Cable Coverage: Rawai, Kata, Karon Channel: 1 Monday-Friday: 10am, 1pm, 7pm, 10pm</p> <p>KDTV Coverage: Phuket's West Coast from Patong to Cherng Talay Channel: 10 Daily: 8.30am, 2.30pm</p> | <p>MCOT World Tuesday: 6.10am, 12pm, 7.10pm Wednesday: 6.10pm Thursday: 1.10am Friday: 1.10am Saturday: 1.10am Sunday: 6.10am</p> <p>Truevisions Channel: 79 PSI Channel: 223, 320 Dynasat Channel: 106 Thaisat Channel: 185 Infosat Channel: 185 Sunbox Channel: 81 GMMZ Channel: 103</p> | <p>Broadcast to China, the Philippines, Southeast Asia, India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Turkey, UAE, and many other countries around Asia and beyond.</p> <p>Thaicom 5 Sat 3520H Tuesday: 6.10am, 12pm, 7.10pm Wednesday: 6.10pm Thursday: 1.10am Friday: 1.10am Saturday: 1.10am Sunday: 6.10am</p> |

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

Plus 4,600 hotel rooms around the island and all international hospitals.

NOW AVAILABLE ON
KHAO LAK CABLE Channel 50

And local cable networks across Thailand

Planting seeds to grow a community

By Katie P Arnold

LATE last year, Laguna Phuket Resort announced the launch of a new program under the slogan 'Plant A Seed, Change A Life' aimed at helping underprivileged youths.

The 'Seedlings Phuket' initiative includes a nine-month food and beverage training program specializing in career and personal development at Banyan Tree Phuket Resort, with an additional nine months of work experience at the newly opened Seedlings Restaurant at Laguna Phuket.

"To make a baby is nine months, but we made this baby [the restaurant] in eight," said Senior Vice President of Banyan Tree Holdings Claire Chiang.

It was clear at the Seedlings Restaurant opening this month that the 'seedlings' themselves were very proud, and prepared for their new internship.

"Seedlings is significant because it gives a chance to young people who may not have the opportunity to find the platform for their own development," Ms Chiang noted.

Seedlings Phuket is modeled after sister resort Laguna Lang



The first batch of 'Seedlings' are set to complete their 18-month program next April. Photo: Laguna Phuket

Co's cardinal Seedlings mentorship program, 'Seedlings Hoi An', in Hoi An, Vietnam.

The Phuket community played an essential role, not only in the development and success of Seedlings, but in Laguna Phuket itself.

Ms Chiang fell in love with Phuket nearly 20 years ago, stating, "When we first came here... there were no roads, no electricity. It was an abandoned tin mine. But we were so enamored by the sunset we thought, this is the place we would like to do something."

She was quick to add that it is not only the leaders and investors who have given Laguna Phuket its success. She attributes it also to the local community, whom Laguna have supported and nurtured, and in turn has given them their time and resources.

"We believe that business has an important role. One focus is about community building and talent development."

"That is why we are happy we have developed Laguna Phuket... It has given a lot of opportunities to people to work here, live here, play here and develop their potential here."

Ms Chiang made it clear that Laguna Resorts and Hotels Plc, under Banyan Tree's group-wide mentorship program, would not stop in Phuket with their community building initiative.

A third Seedlings is underway in China and there are talks underway of one opening in Mexico.

"The bigger picture for doing what we are doing is to build resilient communities. Businesses can not thrive in places where people are deprived," Ms Chiang said.

"We planted the seeds, we are going to help them grow, in order to change lives."

Seedlings Phuket restaurant is located at Laguna Holiday Club Phuket Resort and is open daily from 6:30am to 10pm, serving both western and Thai dishes.

Getting buggy with beverages

IF I found a bamboo grub in my *tom yum* rum and coke, I would either assume the health office hadn't been through this particular bar in Phuket in a long time, or that my bartender was adding some Isaan flare my cocktail.

As it turns out – health code concerns aside – it might just mean that the mixologist behind the counter is living life on the edge of the boozing world.

Enter World Class UK Bartender of the Year 2015 and Bar Manager of Hawksmoor Spitalfields Ali Reynolds, who is serving up 'Anty-Figmatic' at bartending competitions. The drink itself is vodka based with Cacao Blanc, a pinch of citric acid and 10ml of ants, infused with fig leaf syrup.

"I very much wanted to find an alternative source for acidity in drinks instead of using the classic lemon and lime," Mr Reynolds explains to the *Telegraph*. "The formic acid in the ants provided a wonderful sour and bitter orange flavor. As a whole, they open consumers minds to the fact that we can get very interesting flavors from more than just fruits, herbs and spices."



If you see a bug in your cocktail, best to make sure it's meant to be there. Photo: Alpha

It's easy to write Mr Reynolds off as being just a bit buggy in the head. However, he's joined by a number of other mixologists looking to bring new flavors and experiences to cocktails.

Since the 1940s, bugs have found their way into bottles of *mezcal* and scorpions can be found drowned in one form of alcohol or another in countries neighboring Thailand, but before taking a sip of your toddy, it might be best to double check with your bartender that the cockroach is supposed to be there.

– Isaac Stone Simonelli

WHAT'S ON in Phuket

July 30. Asahna Bucha Day

This full-moon day of the eighth lunar month commemorates the Buddha's first sermon to five disciples after he attained enlightenment more than 2,500 years ago. Evening candlelight processions will be staged in all Thai Buddhist temples throughout the island.

August 2. Flying Club Social

There will be 'up-close-and-personal' displays of different types of aircraft and, weather permitting, some flying to either participate in or to simply watch from the clubhouse. From 5pm to 6pm we'll be running a Q&A session for any information you might seek about private flying or other general aviation issues in Thailand.

A buffet will be on offer for 250 baht from 6pm onward. Live music until 10pm.

This is a great opportunity to network and meet new friends, whether you're a fan of flying or not. It will run from 4:30pm to 10pm.



Join the Phuket Aviation Club for a day of fun. Photo: Somchai Huasaikul

For more information about the event, contact Pat James at info@phuketaviationclub.com.

August 12. HM The Queen's Birthday

HM Queen Sirikit's birthday is also marked as Mother's Day in Thailand, with festivities taking place throughout the country. Keep checking the *Gazette* for local celebrations.

October 23. Chulalongkorn Memorial Day

Chulalongkorn Day commemorates the reign of Rama V, who is best remembered for introducing many progressive reforms and for the abolition of slavery.

December 5. HM King Bhumibol Adulyadej's Birthday

HM The King's birthday is also marked as Father's Day in Thailand, with festivities taking place throughout the country.

Cup of gold trumps angel's trumpet



Keep It Green

By Patrick Campbell

ONE of my all-time favorites is the *datura*, now fashionably known as the *brugmansia*. Its common moniker is angel's trumpet, but in Thailand is known as *lam pong*.

Although very tempting to do so, it is not going on the 'top twenty' list for one simple reason – it does not relish the climate in Phuket.

On the slopes of Doi Inthanon near Chang Mai, the angel's trumpet grows everywhere. And in Andalucia, I saw several four-meter specimens with both yellow and pale pink blooms.

Why? Both habitats have rarefied, mountain air.

Brugmansias do not like excess humidity, and in any case, Phuket is a little too hot for them.

This is a great pity, for the exotic, pendulous trumpets are truly spectacular.

Often six to eight inches long, the paper-thin blooms droop elegantly from arching branches.

One cultivar, *plena*, has wider flowers that may exceed a foot in length.

Maybe its best place in Phuket is in a pot. It is certainly grown in containers, both on patios as an accent plant, and



The chalice-like blooms have fluted edges and are scored inside with dark lines. Photo: Forest & Kim Starr

in Western living rooms where it always attracts attention.

Two provisos though: it is highly poisonous and needs to be handled with care since its branches are remarkably brittle.

So what is the closest alternative? This surely is *solandra grandiflora*, a member of the same family and also from the Americas. It is known to Thais as *tuay thong*.

Incidentally, this genus also includes the deadly nightshade we were taught to avoid as children.

Solandra, also known familiarly as the chalice vine or cup of gold, is a better garden choice than *brugmansia*, both because it is less fastidious and because it is usually a more prolific bloomer.

But be warned: it is also a vine, and for this reason will definitely require some support if you want it to climb rapidly. It is therefore best against a wall or arch where its aerial rootlets will attach themselves to anything in the vicinity.

As a consequence, it will

spread rapidly along a wall, extending over 20 or 30 feet.

Yours truly made the mistake of planting one in an open bed next to the swimming pool.

It blooms beautifully, but is too heavy and cumbersome for its situation.

However, the flowers are magnificent. The Latin epithet *grandiflora* is well deserved.

Like those of the *brugmansia*, the blooms are trumpet-shaped, but they are heavier, more fleshy and, if anything, more dramatic than

those of the angel's trumpet.

Usually a deep cream, the chalice-like blooms have fluted edges and are scored inside with dark lines.

Everything about this shrub is exotic, even carnal – from the massive, vase-like, sealed buds to the large, glossy evergreen leaves.

To counterbalance this fleshiness, the flowers exude a delicate, lemony fragrance.

Once established, the chalice vine is easy to cultivate. It can be propagated from heeled cuttings and has the merit of blooming several times a year. It will tolerate severe pruning, and will flower on new growth.

Its only problem is that it is a heavyweight and will need support. Apart from that, it has few drawbacks.

If you happen to see one around, it will indubitably be blowing its own trumpet.

Dr Patrick Campbell has written more than 300 gardening columns for the Gazette. In the newspaper's revised format, he will still contribute one monthly article on gardening and another on environmental issues. If you have questions, or a garden that you would like featured, email Patrick at drpaccampbell@gmail.com. Many of Patrick's past articles and his academic and creative publications can be accessed at patrickaccampbell.wordpress.com.

Tip of the Week

After the deluge

THE weather charts on television now show dark patches over most of Thailand, so we know the recent rains are here for the foreseeable future.

Time to fill those bare patches in your borders where plants have lost foliage or expired during the dry season.

The earth is now moist and workable, though I still regard the mattock and pickaxe as essential tools when making decent-sized holes for new arrivals.

I need a bushy, evergreen flowering shrub for my denuded borders and am considering *thunbergias* with their gorgeous deep blue-violet trumpets (an unusual color here). One of my local



This blue-violet color is rare in Thailand. Photo: Sarangib

nurseries has a good supply of year-old plants at 100 baht each. They will be positioned among the *tabernaemontanas* – which have taken a hammer-

ing, both from caterpillars and from parched root systems.

They look good together, the white and blue hues complement each other nicely.

THE CRAB HOUSE

LET'S CRACK SOME CRABS

The Crab House
Patong, Phuket

169/83 Phangmuang Rd., Patong, Phuket Thailand
Tel: 091 839 4953, 076 687065
Facebook: The Crab House - Patong, Phuket

Phrabaram Rd.
Patong Beach
Jungceylon
Rattana Uthit 200 Pong Rd.
Phangmuang Rd.
Phangmuang Rd.
Phangmuang Rd.

When only Thai quality will do



On Deck

By Duncan Worthington

BACK in the pre-iPhone days when you went shopping for clothes and the label said 'Made in China' you would have sighed and thought, 'What is the world coming to?'

Fast forward to the era of the iPhone, iPod, iPad not to mention self-driving Google cars, and nobody blinks an eye at the 'Made in China' tag anymore. Hey, it is almost expected.

In the boating industry – especially within this region – the 'Made in Thailand' tag is now a stamp of quality. In fact, 'Re-made in Thailand' would be more accurate as Thailand's refit and repair industry is the envy of our neighbors, and Phuket is very much at the core.

Whatever work needs doing to your boat, Phuket can do it. Whatever specialist craftsman you need, Phuket can supply it. Whatever the brand of marine gear needed, Phuket can deliver (or source) it.

Haul-out facilities and ample hardstand space at Phuket's marinas make it an ideal place for boats to undertake refit work. Phuket's collective facilities and marine infrastructure means no job is too small, or too large, for that matter.

Boats reaching 40m have been hauled out on Phuket, renovated, refitted and remodelled in some cases, and then re-launched. And with Yacht Haven's superyacht capabilities and recent addition of 100-meter plus berths, work alongside the largest of boats



Ichi Ban demonstrates the craftsmanship of Phuket as it races along. Photo: Guy Nowell

can be professionally undertaken on the island.

Phuket's central location regionally-speaking is one attraction for boats passing through, or boats based long-term in the area, to come and do some work. However, it is the quality of workmanship and cost-effectiveness that are Phuket's truest selling points.

Many a boat-owner have chosen Phuket to do some work, and as testament to the

island's refit and repair prowess, three years ago former Commodore of the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia and current Yachting Australia President, Matt Allen, chose Phuket to rebuild his latest acquisition.

After purchasing a 35-year-old Adams 10 in Australia, Allen shipped the boat to Phuket to undergo a full restoration job, overseen by his right hand man, Michael Spies.

Working round-the-clock, everything was done in Phuket to bring *Ichi Ban* back to life in time for the 2012 Phuket King's Cup Regatta.

"All the boat work was done in Phuket. We are always trying to support the local industry. We had been using the Latitude 8 factory and our friends at Royal Phuket Marina bent over backwards to help us fit the keel on time," said Spies.

"This local involvement is

part of Matt's ethos, to try and support not only the regattas but the local industry."

Allen, Spies and the crew went on to win the IRC 2 Class in the 2012 Phuket King's Cup Regatta in convincing fashion. *Ichi Ban* currently sits on the hardstand at Royal Phuket Marina.

Phuket's craftsmanship, however, extends beyond racers.

At the time, the renovation and rebuild of the 109-foot *Maid Marian II* was a precedent-setting refit job on Phuket.

Launched in 1931 in New York as *Cleopatra*, she was a patrol boat for the US Coast Guard during World War II. In the mid-1990s, new owners shipped *Maid Marian II* to Phuket and later she underwent a total rebuild and renovation from the timber frames up, bringing her back to her former Art Deco glory. Most of the work was undertaken here, in Phuket, with a primarily Thai team lead by veteran of the local sailing industry, Andy Dowden.

Maid Marian II today is available for luxury charter, chartering out upwards of 25,000 euros per week.

This old beauty's new lease on life – and that of many before and after her – is testament to Phuket's refit and repair capabilities.

Duncan Worthington is a long time Phuket resident and through Infinity Communications (www.infinitycomms.com) consults to leading consumer brands, hospitality and marine clients in Thailand. In his 'spare time' he runs the marine portal www.MarineScene.asia.

Simpson Marine lands exclusive distributor rights for Sanlorenzo

SIMPSON Marine is now the exclusive Asian distributor for Sanlorenzo, the rising star among Italian shipyards. Known for their outstanding 'made to measure' Italian design, Sanlorenzo is globally recognized as one of the leading shipyards in the world.

"We have also expanded our representation of Monte Carlo Yachts to cover mainland China and Taiwan, as well as Southeast Asia, and we are the exclusive distributor of Viking Yachts in mainland China, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Southeast Asia. Together with



A Sanlorenzo SL94 Yacht docks in Venice – the City of Bridges, the City of Water or the City of Light, have your pick. Photo: Abxbay

Lagoon, Monte Carlo and the full range of Beneteau Sail and Power, we are proud to offer our customers a range of the best yachts in the world," a press release stated.

The changes to Simpson Marine's

brand portfolio will see a parting of the ways with Azimut Yachts after a successful 28-year relationship. The break is said to be an 'amicable decision' based on different future strategies for

the companies.

Simpson Marine will, of course, continue to provide after-sale services to existing Azimut owners.

– *Phuket Gazette*

Falling in love with killer birds

Books

By James Eckardt

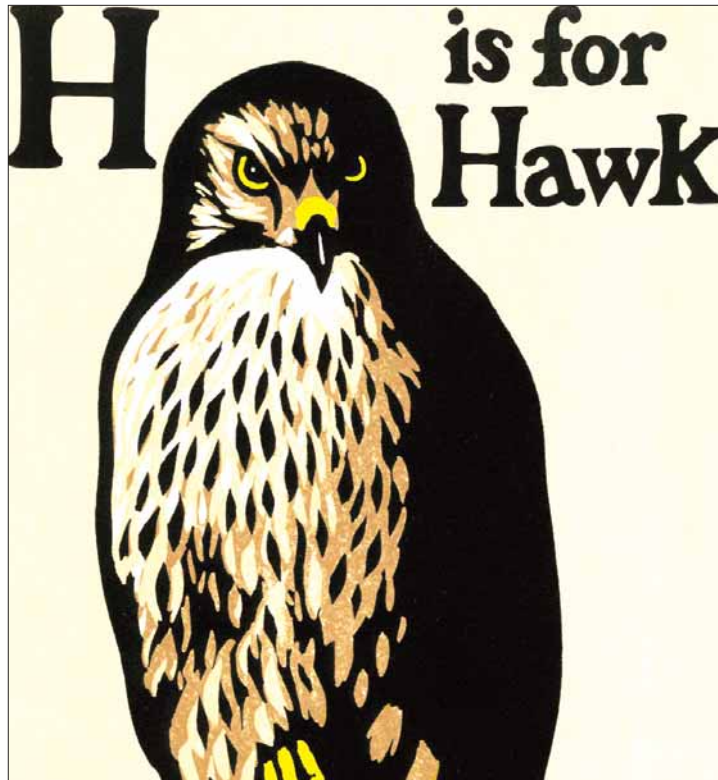
HELEN Macdonald writes prose of fearsome intensity. *H is for Hawk* (Grove Press, New York, 2015, 300pp) is her intimate account of training a goshawk named Mabel and then running after her through the hedges and fens of the British countryside to retrieve the many rabbits and pheasants she kills. Outwardly a mild-mannered academic from Cambridge University, the author has been fascinated by raptors since childhood. She translates this fascination into magnificent descriptive passages:

"Have you ever seen a hawk catch a bird in your back garden? I've not, but I know it's happened. Out on the patio flagstones, sometimes, a few fragments: a little, insect-like songbird leg, with a foot clenched tight where the sinews have pulled it; or – even more gruesomely – a disarticulated beak, a little conical head of blushed gunmetal, slightly translucent, with a few maxillary feathers adhering to it."

Mabel is a 20-inch, 2.1-pound bundle of ferocity. There is the special gear that goes with the art of hawking – the hoods and the foot traces – and the language: 'mutes' for hawk poop, 'bates' for a tethered hawk flying off your fist in terror and 'yarak' the murderous focus as the hawk zeros in for the kill. The hawk's power of sight is otherworldly: "Her eyes can follow the wingbeats of a bee as easily as ours follow the wingbeats of a bird..."

Goshawks are so tightly wired that they sometimes mistake mating for hunting and kill their mates. They are notoriously difficult to train since "they have jacked up nervous systems in which nerve pathways from the eyes and ears to the motor neurons that control their muscles have only minor links with associated neurons in the brain. Goshawks are nervous because they live life ten times faster than we do."

But Macdonald takes up the challenge after she becomes seriously unhinged by the sudden death of her much beloved father, a news-



Helen Macdonald seizes the reader with talons of a raptor.

paper photojournalist.

"The hawk was everything I wanted to be: solitary, self-possessed, free from grief, and numb to the hurts of human life."

She becomes intimate with her bird's every mood expressed

through the body language of her eyes and feathers and feet.

Besides the author and her bird, there is a third major character: TH White, the author of *The Once and Future King*. During the 1930s, he was a teacher

at the English public school Stowe and, despite being a sadistic homosexual, he kept his hands off his students. In battle with the inner demons, he wrote *Goshawk*, a book about his own attempt to train a predator. His ultimate failure is in contrast to Macdonald's success with Mabel who turns "tame as a kitten" and even plays a ball game with crumpled up pieces of paper.

But by this stage, two thirds through the book, the narrative loses some of its dramatic force. There are still thrilling stories of hunts as Macdonald comes upon Mabel eating a rabbit, whistles her up on to her fist and distracts her with a juicy dead chick while kicking grass to conceal the rabbit, which will be dinner that night.

In reviewing books, I dog-ear pages that contain particularly striking passages of prose. In Macdonald's case, I would have to dog-ear every page. The one fault I found is that she is so overwrought about the death of her father that she is constantly breaking down in tears. This becomes tiresome. But that is just me. I did indeed grieve at Mabel's inevitable end.

Little known cultural gem



The Southeast Asian Ceramics Museum exhibits 16,000 ancient ceramics from many countries that illustrate the prosperity of Asian countries. Photo: The Nation

THE historical parks of Ayutthaya and Sukhothai have long been attracting tourists, both Thai and foreign, yet the ancient Dvaravati resettlement of Sub Champa in Lop Buri province, itself a fascinating historical site, is barely known outside the area.

Located in the Lop Buri-Pasak valley and a mere two hours by car from Bangkok, Sub Champa is a moated site that was a thriving Dvaravati city more than a millennium ago as well as a major trading center in the central highlands.

Run today by the Sub-district Administrative Organization (*OrBorTor*), it is promoting itself as a prototype local learning center, one that

encapsulates the Sub Champa Historical Site, the Sub Champa Museum and the Sirindhorn White Champak Forest. The site was discovered by accident back in 1970 during a pest eradication inspection by the Ministry of Agriculture and Co-operatives. Excavation started soon afterward with an impressive collection of artifacts, skeletons and ruins unearthed over the years.

Surrounded by tropical forest and agricultural land, the ancient kingdom occupies 350 rai. All that can be seen today of this well-designed oval-shaped city are the ruins of double-layer earthen walls with a trench in between them.

– The Nation

NICE PEAK

Music Moving On

88

Phuket's Largest Radio network

Reach 245,000 Thais in English every day!

green^{FM}

life in nature

93

STUDIO LINE AGENCY CO LTD (Tel. 076-210624)

<https://www.studiolinemediaone.com>
<https://www.facebook.com/Studioline8893>

MEDIA ONE CREATION

Green on TV energy for life (KPP2 24hrs.)

Phuket today

Phuket Gazette

All about crunching numbers



Property Watch
Desmond Hughes

PART of the buzz of the property market in Phuket is that Phuketians, foreign and Thai, have land and property in their blood and love discussing values. However, there are other numbers and number-crunching functions involved in the property game.

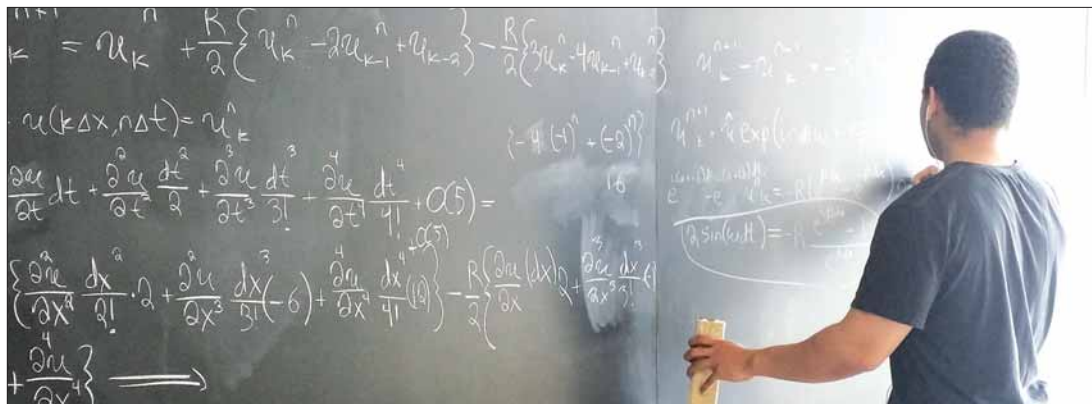
The functions of property have transformed radically over the last few decades and the basis on which people invest in property, or visit the island, has also radically changed.

Now important numbers include property comparables, common property fees, distances, heights and setbacks to name just a few examples.

When developers, real estate agents and private sellers present information on their properties, the way in which the information is presented must, in my opinion, be modernized to keep up with the times. Currently, many are using outdated techniques to communicate, and investors demand better.

THE ERA OF AIRBNB AND FAZWAZ

I thought of renting out my own property over the December high season while I take my family to Chiang Mai. I went through the



There are many number-crunching functions involved in the property game. Photo: Bryan Alexander

process of listing my property on Airbnb and I realized that I am obviously not alone in my thinking. In fact, I am quite late. The mechanics and simplicity of use of these types of products is highly competitive compared to the bureaucratic and burdensome procedures that traditional renting methods can involve.

After going through the listing process, a 'tips' button appeared recommending the price I should advertise my property for. This price was way lower than the price I was informed by some real estate professionals that I could get and lower than the price I think I can get. I will soon see.

However, the fact that a piece of software can analyze prices in the local vicinity and come up with a figure is impressive.

Similarly, a new program has been launched in Phuket called 'Faz Waz'. This is designed to

consolidate all information in Phuket on condominiums and produce a proper comparison tool for investors.

The engines for these tools are backed by substantive investment to make sure user experience is as friendly as possible. Everyone is familiar with the intuitive nature of Apple products although there are lots of people who prefer Windows / Android operating systems to iOS. However, both 'camps' now enjoy intuitiveness and there is a merger of what is important for a user.

WHICH NUMBERS ARE IMPORTANT?

In my humble opinion, the following criteria are important: internal space; external space; balcony space; garden and green space; swimming pool dimensions; price of property per

square meter [building and land]; price of land per square meter; price of building per square meter; distance to amenities and facilities in kilometers and in time; height of property; gradient of property; and distance and time to beach(es).

SIMPLIFIED PHUKET THEORY OF TIME

When investors look at property brochures and specifications, they will often see '10 minutes to the airport' and '15 minutes to Kata Beach'. Really? Is that as 'the crow flies,' 'as the private jet flies' or if all of a sudden all cement trucks, very slow and safely driven mini-vans, green plate taxis and tour buses just disappeared.

We have to be truthful to investors. Phuket is congested, and will become more congested. This is because it has

more people and more facilities and amenities.

MATH LESSONS FROM NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES

I rented a place in Hong Kong for three years to commute between there, Bangkok and Phuket. When I sought advice from my friends in Hong Kong, it was all about the numbers. Rental per square foot; how many minutes to the Mass Transit Railway (MTR); how many minutes to the Airport Express; and how many minutes to Welcome Supermarket.

Phuket is becoming more and more urban. I fail to remember a recent day when I have not seen or heard building activity of some sort. The math of Phuket will no longer be 'partial sea view,' meaning a 50 per cent price premium on a property. Admittedly, seaviews will, I think, always carry good values in Phuket. However, the math means that convenience shall play an increasingly important factor in the growth and type of investment in Phuket.

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

FOR ALL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENTS, HARDWARE & AIR CONDITIONERS GO TO KEEHIN

OUR SERVICES

- SALES
- MAINTENANCE
- DESIGN
- CONTRACT WORK

ON BYPASS ROAD, PHUKET

Sales tel: 076 261450 fax: 076 261456-7
Service tel: 076 261460 fax: 076 261464

Email: keehinphuket@gmail.com www.keehin.com

BAANSUKAPUN

108/18, Chalermprakiet Rd (By Pass), T. Rassada, A. Muang
Tel: 076- 261 470 Fax: 076- 261 477 Email: sales@baansukapun.com

CBRE sees strong expat market for Bangkok

THE market for single-ownership expatriate-standard apartments in Bangkok is performing well despite competition from rental units in condominiums, according to CBRE Consulting.

The number of expatriates with work permits in Bangkok grew by 9.5 per cent year on year to about 79,000, according to statistics from the Labor Ministry.

Most expatriates only want to live in a limited number of areas, namely Sukhumvit, Lumpini and Sathorn. They generally stay in Bangkok for only two or three years and want to rent, not purchase.

The most popular choice is to rent an apartment or condominium because there are few houses or townhouses to rent in most expatriate areas. There is limited competition from serviced apartments, but only for studio and one-bedroom units, not larger ones.

Tenants prefer to rent apart-



CBRE has seen a rise in expat property interest in popular Bangkok areas. Photo: EG Focus

ments rather than units from individual owners in a condominium because they know they can go directly to the building owner for repairs and requests.

In a condominium, the individual owner is responsible for the maintenance inside the unit, and the building's property manager is only responsible for the maintenance of the common areas, which means it can be difficult for tenants to get owners to repair items quickly.

Although many of the

apartment buildings are more than 20 years old, generally both the common areas and unit decoration have been well maintained and renovated and are in much better condition than many condominium buildings of the same age.

CBRE's research shows that there are only 415 apartment units in single-ownership buildings under construction in the most popular expatriate locations, but there are 27,000 condominium units under construction in these areas, 63 per cent of which will be one-bedroom units.

The prospects for single-ownership apartments are good, especially for two and three-bedroom units, because tenants prefer single-ownership buildings to condominiums and because few new two, three and four-bedroom apartment and condominium units are being built.

— The Nation

The Deck condo zooms ahead

Sansiri Plc's resort-style condos in the heart of Patong are sell quickly

By Phuket Gazette

MAJOR property developer Sansiri Plc's new condominium, The Deck, is attracting a lot of interest from both Thai and international buyers.

The draw is likely a result of the condo's prime location in the heart of Patong and that construction too is now a 100 per cent complete, with just the final stage of architectural and interior work left to be done.

Uthai Uthai-sangsuk, Sansiri's executive vice president, said recently that this project will likely be complete next month with unit transfers to take place from August 7 to 9.

Of the 270 units in two seven-storey buildings, 60 per cent have been sold to date with 35 per cent taken by Thais and the remaining 65 per cent going to foreigners, including those from Singapore, Hong Kong and Europe.

Sansiri also revealed that more than 95 per cent of the buyers have bought for investment.

There are three unit types, in-

cluding studio (29-38sqm), one-bedroom (40.5- 50.5sqm), and two-bedroom (63-75sqm).

The Deck fulfills the desires of niche buyers looking for investment and rental potential in a resort condominium in a prime location.

With this in mind, Sansiri created the concept of having a resort-style design with wider units and large balconies that offer good views and are suitable for sunbathing.

/ Sansiri created the concept of having a resort-style design with wider units and large balconies that offer good views and are suitable for sunbathing. /

Facilities include two swimming pools, one with a jacuzzi and the other on the rooftop, a fitness room, a common-area

garden, wireless internet in the pool area, 24-hour CCTV and parking.

What ensures that this condominium project will be popular with tourists is the location, with the five-rai plot being in the heart of Patong on Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Road and walking distance from Jungceylon shopping center and Patong Beach.

Buyers have the option of joining Sansiri's 'Rental for the Holidays' program, which in-



Sansiri's The Deck condominium's resort-style design appeals to both investors and renters alike.

cludes a free furniture package and 9-per-cent rental return guaranteed for two years with the company's 'Plus Concierge' scheme, offering some

hotel-standard services, Mr Uthai added.

This company expects to rake in 20,000-30,000 baht rent per month for studios, 30,000-

40,000 baht for one-bedrooms and 45,000-70,000 baht for two-bedrooms, with those eager to make their units available for the upcoming high season.

Singha Estate plans big investment

SINGHA Estate, the property arm of beverage firm Singha Corporation, plans to invest 16.5 billion baht to take over assets, for merger and acquisition (M&A) of three businesses and development of a condominium project in the remaining months of this year to boost 2015 revenue to 4bn baht.

This is a part of its business plan to acquire a major stake and assets in other property firms through M&A, and acquire land for developing residential projects worth 77.5bn baht in Thailand and overseas, especially in Asean countries, between now and 2017.

A budget of 4bn baht out of the total 16.5bn will be used this year to acquire assets from property firms. This deal will be reported to the Stock Exchange of Thailand. A total of 8bn baht will budgeted for M&A of two property firms, which will develop hotels in the fourth



Naris Cheykin, chief executive officer of Singha Estate. Photo: The Nation

quarter of this year.

The balance, 4.5bn baht, will be deployed to develop a luxury condominium project on Asoke Road in Bangkok, close to Singha Complex, which will be launched next month, chief executive officer Naris Cheykin said.

The company is planning investments of 60bn baht in 2016-17, with 20bn baht each year allocated for M&A of property businesses, and 10bn baht each year to develop an

average of four residential projects a year.

"They are a part of our strategy to boost our revenue to 20bn baht by 2019, with about 60 per cent of revenue coming from the sale of residential projects and 40 per cent from recurring income. Our gross profit margin will average 35 per cent in 2019," Mr Naris said.

He added that the company's investment plan would focus on the property business in Thailand, which would include hotel, office, retail, and residential projects, as well as overseas, where it will focus on hotels and offices once the Asean Economic Community becomes effective at the end of this year.

The funding for the investment will come from four sources – the company's cash flow, bank loans, increases in capital and issuing a real estate investment trust.

– The Nation



Ready For Help? We Listen.

Empowering Individuals, Families and Communities

Rita Dobson: Counsellor DipPsych, MA Counselling, MBPS, BACP Member
Email: info@balancegroup.asia | Phone: 076-390 614

www.balancegroup.asia

PROPERTY FOR SALE

URGENT SALE
BY OWNER

No agency Involved.

1 suite, 60sqm, 5th floor, 3.5 million baht. **1 apartment**, 2 bedrooms, 140 sqm, 6th floor, 7.5 million baht. **1 rooftop residence**, 2 bedrooms, 300sqm, 7th floor, 16 million baht.

For cash payment, prices are negotiable! Contact us to inspect the property. Contact Thierry. Tel: 081-618 7295.

5-BED VILLA
IN BOAT LAGOON

Beautiful 5-bedroom villa plus maids' quarters in top condition with a total area of 1,200sqm approx. Waterfront and an indoor area of 550sqm approx. The house is fully furnished and has high-quality equipment. 28 million baht. Tel: 081-891 6143 (English & Thai), 081-956 5576.

2-STOREY
SINGLE HOUSE
FOR SALE

Burasiri Village. Koh Kaew. Next to BIS. 3 bedrooms (master bed-room with ensuite and walk-in closet), 3 bathrooms. Fully furnished, 4 aircons, kitchen with separate pantry. Parking for 2 cars. Communal swimming pool, garden and fitness.



For sale: 6.6 million baht or sell down payment: 400,000 baht. Long-term rent: 45,000 baht per month or 520,000 baht per year.

Tel: 089-840 5290 (Thai),
094-579 5666 (Thai / Eng.)

2-BEDROOM HOUSE
CHALONG

Leafy, aircon, secure, recently painted, partly furnished, 152 sqm / 64sqm house. 2.3 million baht. Tel: +61- 0433-366 121 (English), 076-296189 (Thai). Email: nikpotter@web.de

PROPERTY
AND MOTOR
INSURANCELambert Brothers
Insurance Brokers

- Property Insurance
- Construction
- Public Liability
- Professional Indemnity, Director and Officers
- Group Health and Individual
- Personal Accident and Travel
- Motor insurance

Contact: Paew, Ton, Jane
Phuket Boat Lagoon
info@lambertbrothers.co.th
Tel: + 66 76 273 385

www.lambertbrothers.co.th

BEAUTIFUL POOL
VILLA RAWAI

Beautiful 4-bedroom & 4-bathroom pool villa on 800sqm land plot in Rawai/ Nai Harn area. Enclosed living area of 260sqm. Pool is 75sqm in lush tropical garden. Asking 12.75 million baht. Tel: 087-267 1282 (English). Email: davidrosa mond@outlook.com

PATONG BEST VALUE
FOR BAHT

Stunning property in Patong. Great for private usage and good for investment! 15% ROI possible. Extremely Interesting! Offered at bargain price for 66,667 baht a square meter. Chanote land and foreign freehold, stone building. 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Private pool. Top location in the best area of Patong city, Baan Suan Kam Nan at the south side of Patong bay. Close to the Amari Hotel. Finance available for serious buyer. Call Edwin. Tel: 086-786 6350 (English & Thai). Email: Edwinvan demosselaar@hotmail.com www.bahtsold.com/view/patong-blue-point-best-value-for-bahts-216506

GREAT TIME FOR
BUYER / RENTER

Big reduction on 3 bedrooms, waterfront house. Tel: 087-465 8883 (English & Thai). Email: mindproperties@gmail.com, www.mindproperties.net/Corner_Unit_Waterfront_House_PKE V0013-Property.htm

QUICK SALE HOUSE

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

TOWNHOUSE
SUPALAI CITY HILL

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

CONDO FOR SALE



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

Pls contact 086-4769612 | annanoi1@hotmail.com

KHAO LAK GUESTHOUSE
FOR SALE

Guesthouse at Khao Lak center for sale, 14 rooms, fully equipped. 3 storeys. 10 x 30m ground floor can make restaurant and bar, close to highway, opposite Khao Lak Laguna Resort. Near beach. Please call 076-485118, 081-894 1030 (English & Thai). Email: prasert3112@hotmail.com

LUXURY VILLA SALE

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

REAL SEAVIEW LAND

Yamu hills, 0.967 rai, 5.5 million baht, freehold, Chanote. Tel: 084-625 5090. Email: yamu.hills.sunrise@gmail.com

GENERAL CLASSIFIEDS

BULLETINS

BUSINESS PRODUCTS & SERVICES

Alcoholics
Anonymous

If you want to drink
that is your business

If you want
to stop
that is ours

Daily Meetings

Patong, Phuket Town,
Chalong, Surin, Karon

081-895 4763
084-307 7408

Email: phuketaa@yahoo.com

Google AA Phuket

Little Einstein

Preschool and Childcare Center

We are one of the newest child education facilities in Chalong, Phuket. Our lessons are conducted in both Thai and English, based on the Singapore thematic system. We offer fun and stimulating preschool activities, surrounded in a happy, safe environment.

Playgroup 1 - 18 months old up to 2 years old

Playgroup 2 - 2 years old up to 3 years old

Nursery - 3 years old up to 4 years old

Kindergarten 1 - 4 years old up to 5 years old

Kindergarten 2 - 5 years old up to leaving for primary school

9/11 Chaofa East Road, Phuket. Tel: 096-873 9372 (English), 093-257 0557 (Thai). Email: einstenian68@yahoo.com www.littleeinstein.webzmp.com

LEGAL SERVICES

Litigation, legal consulting and court interpreter. Tel: 089-873 6533. Fax: 076-273399. Email: phuketinterpreter@gmail.com

PLUMBING DOCTOR

We refix all plumbing issues. Contact Sumet. Facebook: Sumet Boonlorm. Tel: 081-396 5050 (English & Thai). Email: sumetphuket@gmail.com

CLUB
MEMBERSHIP
AVAILABLE

PCC MEMBERSHIP

Family membership including transfer fee 490,000 baht. Tel: 091-647 6216 (English). Email: jm.conasiam@gmail.com

PROPERTY FOR RENT

**THAI VILLA & POOL
NAI HARN**

2-bedroom villa in Soi Naya, 37,500 baht/month. Long term. Tel: 083-396 4007. Email: merwyn.crocker@yahoo.com, <http://sites.google.com/site/mervyncrocker/home>

**TOWNHOUSE
SUPALAI CITY HILL**

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

**2-BED & 1-BED
GOLF & LAKE VIEW**

Kathu. For rent on top of private hill over looking Loch Palm golf course. Big pool, 4km to BIS and Headstart International School, security, quiet, fully furnished, maid, fiber optic wifi. Long term: 35,000 & 30,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-269 8492.

**STUDIO ROOM
FOR RENT**

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

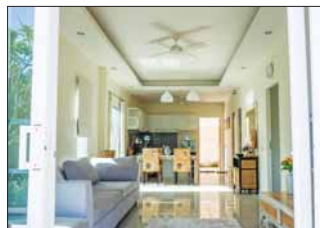
Royal Place condo, Phuket City, bypass road, opposite Tesco Lotus, 37 Sqm, 2 fl. Studio room, fully furnished.

AVAILABLE IN RAWAI

2-bedroom pool villa - July 1. 2-bedroom house till November 1. Low price. Please call 085-787 3046.

**NEW POOL VILLA
FOR RENT**

Apartment, 3 bedrooms, ensuite bathroom. Located at Layan. Tel: 081-787 4383.

LUXURY POOL VILLA

Chalong, new, 110sqm, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully-furnished, pool, aircons, security cameras, electric gate, high fences. Long-term rent: 35,000 baht / month by owner. Contact Nina. Tel: 089-729 6244. Email: ninaphuket@hotmail.com

CHALONG AREA HOUSE

1-3 bedrooms. Quiet area. Fully furnished. Tel: 081-892 4311. Visit websit at <http://palaigreen.weebly.com>

KATA BEACH - FOR RENT

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

APARTMENT PATONG

140sqm, modified, furnished, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, storage, spacious living room / dining room, kitchen, large balcony, aircons, free wifi, LCD / satellite. Long term. Tel: 084-185 8536.

CHALONG BEACH HOUSE

Furnished 3 bedrooms. 12,000 baht/month. Cable, wifi, quiet, secure. Tel: 089-470 6104.

ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

PATONG LUXURY APT.

Paradise Hotel Complex, 150m to beach, 1 large bedroom, kitchen, light, airy. Tel: 086-276 76 08.

7,000 BAHT / MONTH

Attached house, 2 bedrooms, big garden on sea canal, near Boat Lagoon. Contact Mee. Tel: 081-892 4311.

PROPERTY SERVICES

FIND YOUR DREAM PROPERTY
NOW ON

DDproperty.com

NO.1 PROPERTY WEBSITE IN THAILAND



Download Our
Mobile App!

LIST YOUR PROPERTY
FOR FREE
NO COMMISSION

Thailand's Leading Property Site
DDproperty.com

RECRUITMENT



**CLUB
WYNDHAM
ASIA**

Wyndham Vacation Ownership welcomes

CLUB WYNDHAM ASIA to Phuket in 2015!

This is your opportunity to join a world leader in Vacation Ownership as part of our brand new operations in Thailand!

We are currently seeking:

**Office Administration Manager
Field Marketing Manager**

A positive attitude, customer service focus and previous experience in a similar role in the region is essential.

Successful candidates will be rewarded with exceptional benefits, career advancement opportunities and recognition for a job well done. Join the team in Making Holiday Dreams Come True; apply now! Thai applications are encouraged.

Email your application to HR@wyn.com

LOOKING FOR WORK

Foreigner, non-drinker, non-smoker, serious, reliable, skilled. Tel: 098-727 7528.

MARKETING MANAGER

Marketing manager wanted for new product. Thai national. Basic English. Tel: 087-893 8747 (English). Email: info@platinumresidencepark.com

SALES REP. AND TO.

DVC looking for English Reps. and TO. Tel: 098-270 8099, 076-342794. Email: hr@davidvacationclub.com

MARINE ENGINEER

An experienced marine engineer required to work on 23m motor yacht. Send detailed CV to captain.sanook@yahoo.com or call 085-378 0498.

Phuket Gazette

The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following position:

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

- ▶ Thai national, 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 recognized 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

GENERAL AVIATION

1999 ROBIN 2160i

Selling Robin aircraft or trade it for a 4-seat Cessna or Piper (based in Hua Hin). The Robin: TT AF 300hrs. SMOH 60hrs. Well-equipped, two-seat aerobatic aircraft. Has the Christen inverted oil system. King KMA24 audio panel, KX155 nav/com, KI203 vor, KY197A comm, KN64A dme, KR87 adf, KT76A transponder, CS PA400 i-com, FP5 fuel computer, CHT, OAT, Pitot heat. 4 million baht. Email: thos_w@hotmail.com

AIRPLAY ALTIS MICROLIGHT

Superb trike with Konig radial engine. Great economical fun. Little used. For more information, please call 089-111 6457, 081-397 7598. Email: kajoda1954@yahoo.co.uk

YOUR HELICOPTER

Flying and owning your own helicopter has just become possible. Free complete flight instruction course with your purchase. For more details, please send email to pat@aeropromgr.com

TECNAM P-92

- Price: 1.5 million baht
- Registration: U-B08
- Year of Manufacture: 2002
- Equipment: Full standard equipment
- Engine: Rotax 912-80hp 350hrs. Tel: 081-840 8418.

HAVE A PASSION FOR AVIATION?

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

Unique development - 124 Rai

If you would like to:

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

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

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

**See Phuket from above
Book a trial!**

WHEELS & MOTORS

TOYOTA VIOS E

December 2008. Silver automatic. Farang owned, low mileage. Rawai area. For sale: 349,000 baht. Tel: 087-279 8286.

MITSUBISHI PAJERO FOR SALE

Two years old. Only 28,000km. Excellent condition and well maintained. 7 seats. Automatic. Full option. Selling because of relocation. Only 900,000 baht. Financing possible. Tel: 087-882 2856 (English). Email: lucmontens@hotmail.com

RENTALS

**HONDA CITY
10,000 BAHT / MONTH**

Cars for short or long-term rent with free delivery service. Tel: 081-607 8567. Email: suksavat@hotmail.com, www.phuket-carrent.net

TOYOTA FORTUNER SPORTIVO 2010 FOR SALE

For sale. 2010. Diesel. 3L. White color. Price: 790,000 baht. Tel: 080-878 7083.

CARS FOR RENT

New Jazz, Vios and City for rent. First-class insurance, special rate for long-term rental. Tel: 080-521 9888, 093-754 3311 (English & Thai).

**CAR RENT 11,000
BAHT / MONTH**

Short or long-term rent with first-class insurance. Delivery service. For more information, please call 081-607 8567. Email: suksavat@hotmail.com

3 CARS FOR SALE

Jazz 2005, auto, tax February 2016, insurance September. Toyota Soluna 2001, automatic. Toyota Vios 2009, manual, tax/insurance September. Prices: 185,000 baht, 95,000 baht, 265,000 baht. Tel: 089-831 4703 (English), 084-304 6723 (English & Thai). Email: colinminett@ya.hoo.co.uk

TOYOTA FORTUNER 2010

For sale. Diesel. 3L. Many extras. Price: 750,000 baht. Tel: 082-285 5877.

CARS FOR RENT

Short or long-term rent with first-class insurance. Delivery service. For more information, please call 086-690 0626. Email: bcarrent@hotmail.com

PICK-UPS

TOYOTA HILUX FOR SALE

Toyota Hilux Vigo Prerunner Champ. 650,000 baht. 3.0 G VN-Turbo. Manual transmission. 2-wheel drive (rear wheels). 4-door pickup. Registered: 2013. 37,xxxkm. Tel: 090-072 8034 (English), 090-072 8035 (English). Email: lilmisschatterbox@msn.com

Wild ride on hippocampus

By Isaac Stone Simonelli

ETYMOLOGICAL failures rarely redirect a person's life as drastically as a simple false assumption did for topflight seahorse expert and marine biologist Lindsay Aylesworth.

Lindsay was ushered into the upper echelons of seahorse research while working on her doctorate with her adviser Amanda Vincent – recognized as the leading expert in the field – and Project Seahorse at the University of British Columbia. Lindsay looks to finish her PhD by the end of the year. However, her fateful 'mistake' was made about 11 years prior, when she was studying abroad at James Cook University in Australia.

For a marine conservation course, students had to sign up to write a conservation status report about a marine animal. The options were listed on the professor's door by their scientific names. Enter *hippocampus*.

"So you had to go and sign up for this random Latin

name, and who knows the Latin names of fish as an undergraduate?" Lindsay says.

"There were some obvious ones, *Delphinus delphis* – oh, it's a dolphin. All those were taken, but I saw hippocampus. It kind of sounds like hippopotamus. I wondered if there were hippos that live in the ocean."

Lindsay can now confirm that hippos do not live in the ocean.

Who knows the Latin names of fish as an undergraduate?

However, Lindsay wasn't far off, at least when it comes to the scientific names. For both *hippopotamus* and *hippocampus*, 'hippos' means horse in Ancient Greek. However, 'potamos' means river, and 'kamos'? Well, that's 'sea monster'. Given her knack for marine adventures, it is probably more appropriate that Lindsay ended up with the sea monster.

Lindsay first came to Phuket after her friends survived the 2004 tsunami. They had been diving off Phi Phi when the wave washed over the island. She came with supplies and then became one of the first in a group of divers that were cer-

tified by PADI as instructors following the disaster.

Two years later, Lindsay made contact with Dr Vincent. However, she didn't join Project Seahorse until 2012. Then, in 2013, Project Seahorse was asked by International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources to form a specialist group to advise on seahorses. Lindsay made the cut.

Lindsay's most recent adventure brought her face to face with a man who has a sixth sense for seahorses – Paul Ferber.

"He kind of has this premonition of where to find seahorses. You jump in the water with him and literally within minutes find seahorses," Lindsay says.

"Paul runs a group called Marine Conservation Cambodia. They have been working in Cambodia for the last five or ten years monitoring seahorses at some of the coastal islands."

Lindsay was there last week to train Paul and his team on how to give seahorses fluorescent 'tattoos' in hopes of tracking their numbers and curbing illegal fishing.

However, it hasn't been all seahorses for Lindsay. She's

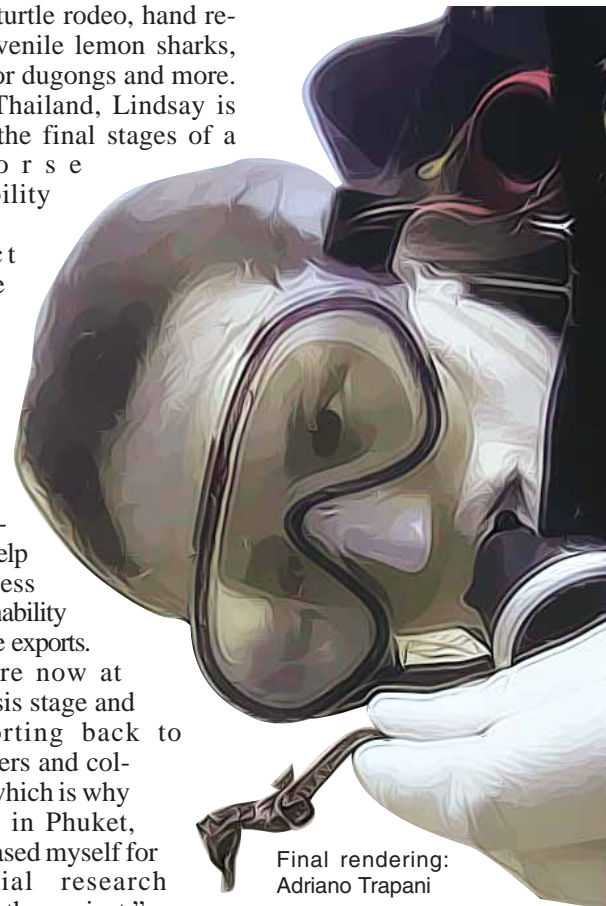
done the turtle rodeo, hand released juvenile lemon sharks, jumped for dugongs and more. Here in Thailand, Lindsay is entering the final stages of a seahorse sustainability project.

"Project Seahorse and I are wrapping up a project with the Fisheries Department to help them assess the sustainability of seahorse exports."

"We are now at the analysis stage and are reporting back to stakeholders and colleagues, which is why I'm back in Phuket, where I based myself for the initial research phases of the project."

Though this project is set to wrap up soon, Lindsay says the potential for further collaboration with researchers and

officials in Thailand is a real possibility that could bring about significant positive change to the region.



Final rendering: Adriano Trapani

Advertising is all about R-E-A-C-H

Reach out every Saturday morning with this!



* Now 30,000 Readers – NATIONwide!