

Phuket Gazette

September 12 - 18, 2015

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‘WE WILL REMOVE DISRUPTIVE BEACHGOERS’



Power to the Guards

■ Beach Police team up with lifeguards to prevent drownings

By Chutharat Plerin

FOLLOWING an effort to stomp out life-threatening recklessness on Phuket's beaches, lifeguards and Karon Police have joined forces to prevent beachgoers from entering dangerous waters.

A new initiative launched this month will see lifeguards contacting police if swimmers become unruly or disobedient – putting their lives and the lives of the guards at risk, explained Lt Col Pornarong Karnorachai of the Karon Police.

“If lifeguards can't stop tourists from entering the water, we are ready to step in,” Col Pornarong said.

Tourists are more likely to calmly listen to uniformed police officers, making it easier to keep the beachgoers from getting caught up in a dangerous current, Col Pornarong said.

“However, if a tourist becomes too disruptive, he or she will be taken to the police station to calm down. They may need to sign a report stating that they have been aggressive or drunk,” Col Pornarong said. “We will explain to them that if they are involved in an accident after being warned, the signed document will be attached to their file and, in some...

Continued on Page 4



Supreme court orders island ‘black plots’ to be returned

THE Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation (DNP) wins a landmark case in a 16-year battle to repossess a billion-baht property within Sirinath National Park.

Full story Page 3

BUSINESS



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Destitute expat takes own life

AN AUSTRIAN expat, allegedly suffering from gambling issues and a drinking problem, took his own life yesterday morning after failing to find enough money to extend his visa in Thailand, a voice message left by the man explained.

Walter Edhofer, 53, was found by neighbors at about 7am in a parking lot in Kathu, confirmed Lt Sawanya Eiadtrong of the Thung Thong Police.

According to his son, Mr Edhofer, who had been working in the tourism industry, became a heavy drinker and developed a gambling problem following his divorce.

– *Kritsada Mueanhawong*

Boy, 12, shot leaving school

A BOY, 12, is safe after getting shot in the leg at school on September 7.

'Daeng', a P6 student at Baan Manik School, and his friends were about to go home for the day when he felt something hit his leg.

"I felt pain and looked down and saw that I was bleeding. My friends called the teachers over to help," Daeng said.

There is no CCTV footage of the incident. Police are unclear if their was a motive behind the shooting or if it was a stray bullet.

– *Winai Sarot*

French national caught passing counterfeit cash

A FRENCH national was arrested while attempting to exchange a counterfeit 100 euro banknote on Soi Bangla on September 2.

Seized toothfish ship flees Phuket with illegal cargo



The illegal, unreported, unregulated (IUU) fishing vessel that was seized in Phuket after slipping through the hands of Australian and New Zealand navies earlier this year, escaped from Thai custody on September 8. The Kurlun has a long history of suspected fishing violations and is believed to have links to known Spanish crime syndicate, Vidal Armadores, explains global conservation organization Sea Shepherd, who had pursued the vessel to Phuket as part of Operation Icefish. For the full story, visit PhuketGazette.net. Photo: Sea Shepherd

Rene Louis Regrault, 59, was apprehended by Tourist Police after the bill he went to exchange at the Shino Money Exchange counter was flagged by an employee. Back in his rental room police found five more counterfeit notes.

Mr Regrault denied any knowledge of the counterfeit cash. He was charged with transporting counterfeit banknotes into Thailand, possession of counterfeit banknotes and intention to use counterfeit banknotes.

– *Winai Sarot*

NATIONAL NEWS Briefly

Thepkrasattri flyovers nixed by residents

LOCALS rejected two government approved 100-million-baht flyover plans that were designed to reduce traffic congestion on Thepkrasattri Road.

The flyovers were planned for the u-turn at the first set of traffic lights just north of Thalang Town and the Baan Koh Kaew Tha Ruea u-turn in front of Baan Jee Teng.

About 180 people joined the public hearing on August 10, with 65 percent of the 95 voters rejecting the plan, confirmed Samak Luedwonghad, director of the Phuket Highways Office. Most of those voting were local land owners who would be directly affected by the construction of the projects.

– *Kongleaphy Keam*

Booze belt gets wider for island pilot project

THE booze belt around academic institutes in Phuket is set to get significantly wider after it was announced on September 2 that the ban would be applied to all businesses within a kilometer of Phuket Rajabhat University.

The university is the province's pilot project for the national 'Campus Safety Zone' campaign, which will see security measures ramped up around 107 educational institutes nationally. The goal of the effort is to eliminate alcohol and drug use, as well as prostitution and gambling, in the areas.

Businesses will be called together to sign a Memorandum of Understanding this month.

A security team will patrol the area and conduct searches at least once a week for the first month. During this period, any business owners violating the MoU will receive a warning. However, afterward, the policy will be strictly enforced.

– *Nattha Thepbamrung*

Police on hunt for Srisoonthorn Temple raider

POLICE are hunting a man who was caught on CCTV stealing more than 10,000 baht worth of property from Srisoonthorn Temple on September 5.

Thalang Police were notified of the incident at about 2:30pm after the temple's Supervisor of Cultural Tourism, Somchai Saethan, discovered that his office had been broken into while he was attending morning meditation.

– *Winai Sarot*

Ministry steps in to prevent demolition

THE Ministry of Interior on September 2 blocked the demolition of a Phuket restaurant that is allegedly on public, beachfront land.

Lt Sompop Kamkana of the Royal Thai Navy Third Area Command explained that the owner of Tony Restaurant on Laypang Beach, Kanokpon 'Tony' Somrak, was using a *NorSor 3 Kor* that had been cancelled more than 30 years ago to justify his claim to the land. Additionally, Mr Kanokpon had built without a building permit.

However, an urgent letter from the Ministry of Interior put a hold on the demolition, as a provincial committee had been established to reevaluate the case after the defendant's lawyer presented new information.

Of the ten restaurants under investigation in the area, Tony Restaurant is the only one that neither appealed a court order to evict the premise nor moved out. Seven restaurant owners moved from their premises, while the two others appealed.

– *Nattha Thepbamrung*

Home sought for Nai Harn dog population

RAWAI Mayor Aroon Solos is continuing to search for a permanent home for the soi dogs populating Nai Harn Beach area, in an effort to improve beachgoers' experience. However, he pointed out that the dogs were well-behaved in general and he hadn't received any complaints about them being aggressive.

– *Nattha Thepbamrung*

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Court rules on landmark case

First plots of 'black property' in national park ruled illegal

By Nattha Thepbamrung

THE Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation (DNP) won a landmark case this year in a 16-year battle to repossess a billion-baht property within Sirinath National Park.

"This is our first Supreme Court win," DNP Chief Samak Donnapee said on Monday. "It is a momentous occasion and a victory for the people of Phuket and Thailand."

Thailand's Supreme Court made its first ruling on the Sirinath National Park scandal in May, which saw two plots of 266 pieces of 'black property' deemed as illegal, Mr Samak said.

"We categorized the 745 plots of land under investigation, which comprise about 3,900 rai, into three categories: black, gray and white.

"There are 266 plots covering 1,683 rai that are clearly illegal, making them 'black properties'. We expect to seize them in the near future, pending rulings from the court," said Mr Samak.

"There are 356 gray plots, comprising 2,081 rai, which are still under investigation and 93 white plots, comprising 136 rai, which are legally owned."

Five former Sirinath National Park chiefs are implicated in the investigation: Thanapong Apaiao, Somkiet Suntornpitakkul, Sukkee Khamnuansin, Jarouy Inchan and Nonthawit Jutrabadit.



DNP Chief Samak Donnapee expects to see more 'black property' returned to the park. Photo: Gazette file

Former Phuket Governor Wichai Phraisa-ngop, along with a former Phuket Land Office chief and several other officials, were named in a police complaint filed in 2014 over illegal land titles issued for 80 rai in Sirinath National Park.

DNP Director Nipon Chotiban has already approved a committee to begin an investigation into the actions of park officials. The committee is slated to meet in January.

The ruling against Sawanya

Siripong will see 12 of the almost 4,000 rai of land under investigation returned to the DNP.

The two plots owned by Ms Sawanya run adjacent to the land owned by Three Dolphins Company, which owns Trisara Resort, and is also under investigation for illegal encroachment.

"Three Dolphins originally submitted a *NorSor 3 Kor* of 37 rai for an upgrade to a *Chanote* title. However, when the land was issued a *Chanote*, it was for 99 rai – not 37 rai. This is why

we believe it was wrongfully issued," Mr Nipon Chotibal said in 2014.

A letter is to be filed with the DNP, which will allow officers to execute a demolition order for all structures on Ms Sawanya's property, confirmed Mr Samak.

"We will track down Ms Sawanya. She will have to pay a fine for the destruction of the forest," Mr Samak said.

Officers have not been able to find Ms Sawanya, who they suspect might have changed

her name.

"Sirinath National Park Chief Kittipat Tharapiban said he will use Ms Sawanya's ID card number to determine if she did indeed change her name," Mr Samak said.

Meanwhile, the director of the Department of Special Investigation's Bureau of Consumer Protection and Environment Crime (DSI), Prawut Wongseenin, told the *Gazette* that his team was working on a number of cases involving alleged land encroachment on Sirinath National Park land.

The DSI is working on cases against: Three Dolphins Co Ltd (Trisara); Three Dolphins Resort; Fair and Firm Co Ltd (Phuket Arcadia); Phuket Peninsula Co Ltd (Phuket Peninsula); Pinnacle Cape Co Ltd; and The Andaman White Beach Resort. Also under investigation are individual owners: Chomchanok Suthamma, Surachai Laochuasai and Anupap Vechwanichsanong, confirmed Lt Col Prawut.

The DSI and DNP investigation has allegedly been hampered by the Land Office repeatedly refusing to hand over land registration documents to DNP officers investigating the encroachment, said DSI Director Chatchawal Suksomjit last year.

"We are still gathering evidence in these cases. However, we expect to have two of them concluded by the end of November."

Governor Nisit transferred, beach chair ruling left adrift

THE Ministry of Interior has transferred Phuket Governor Nisit Jansomwong to Nonthaburi, effective next month.

As is standard, the transfer comes at the beginning of a new fiscal year for the government.

"I will make no further changes to the current situation with regards to beach management," Governor Nisit said.

The lack of a firm, marketable plan with high season quickly approaching continues to leave the tourism industry up in the air.



OUT: Nisit Jansomwong

Taking over for Governor Nisit is someone already familiar with the multitude of complex issues facing the island: former Phuket Vice Governor Chamroen Tipayapongtada.



IN: Chamroen Tipayapongtada

Mr Chamroen was transferred out of Phuket in December last year to take up the post of governor of Nakhon Pathom.

– Chutharat Plerin

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Police to back up lifeguards on beaches

From Page 1

...cases, may cause them or their family members difficulties when filing insurance claims.”

Even so, Col Pornarong explained that the police had no intention of pressing charges against angry tourists unless it was absolutely necessary.

However, Pitsanu Singhara of the Karon Police confirmed that the beach police do have the authority to remove tourists from the beaches if they are aggressive or drunk.

“If we think it is necessary to remove a person from the sands, we will do so,” Lt Col Pitsanu said. “Though those of us patrolling the beaches are there for only a few hours at a time, lifeguards will always be able to reach us if they need assistance.”

In the past, swimmers who disregarded lifeguards’ warnings would be met with a

barrage of whistles and commands, which far too often were ignored.

Kata-Karon Chief Lifeguard Uten Singsom explained that utilizing the power of police authority was necessary on the beaches.

“Sometimes fights can break out when a tourist doesn’t understand English and is ignoring our warnings. It’s good to know that the police will be available to help us now,” he said.

Col Pornarong noted that if someone is unable to communicate in English or Thai, the Beach Police force would have volunteer interpreters who would be able to speak several languages to help diffuse heated situations.

The initiative will be rolled out on the island’s deadliest beach first. Eight people drowned at Karon Beach between October 2012 and September 2013, including one of Thailand’s best-known



Col Pornarong is proud to bring lifeguards and beach police together.

graphic designers, Pharuephon ‘Tum’ Mukdasanit, said Karon Police Superintendent Weerawat Jantarawichit.

Last year, Kata and Karon were responsible for half of the island’s drowning deaths, confirmed Nararit Touyon, from

the Tourism Department of the Phuket Provincial Administration Organization (PPAO).

Col Pornarong told the *Gazette* that the Beach Police will be trained in life-saving skills.

Though police will be trained to assist in an emergency, Mr

Uten noted that it would not be their duty to jump in the water and save swimmers.

“We do not expect police to help rescue people from the water,” Mr Uten said.

“The fact that they are there to help us prevent people from swimming in dangerous areas is already a huge help. But if the day comes, they will be prepared.”

Col Pornarong admitted that there would initially be a few glitches to work out, but was confident that once the adjustment period was completed, everything would run smoothly.

The Beach Police initiative was first presented to the public by Phuket Provincial Police Commander Patchara Boonyasit last November, as he wanted to have officers on the beach to serve and protect tourists.

Gen Patchara has given his full support to the new lifeguard-police initiative, which was not part of the original plan.

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Shark bite confirmed

THE animal that bit a pregnant Australian at Karon Beach on September 1 is a shark, confirmed shark expert David Martin, who has more than 25 years of experience filming sharks for BBC, the National Geographic and a number of other publications.

“In this kind of case, it is very important to look at all the facts before making any conclusions, especially with the press, in order to avoid sending out the wrong information – not only for the safety of people, but also for the safety of the marine species involved,” Mr Martin said.

The key is to combine testimonial information from the victim and information garnered from the injury with an understanding of shark physiology and behavior.

“She [the bite victim] says it was a strong bite, and then a second strong bite with a bit more shaking. She said she felt the animal’s jaw closing on her foot from the bottom of the foot to the top, with teeth penetrating the flesh,” Mr Martin said.

Upon examining the wound, Mr Martin found clear teeth marks and incisions on the top and bottom of the foot, which would indicate that the mouth of the animal must be able to open between 10 and 15cm – ruling out the possibility of a



Expert confirms shark bite.

trigger fish or puffer fish, possible culprits floated by others taking part in the investigation.

“Also the animal must have had rows of triangularly shaped teeth side by side laterally, with a wide base because the clear teeth marks on the bottom of the foot were wide on the skin, deep and also side by side,” Mr Martin said.

The marks left by the teeth rule out barracuda and moray eels, which have pointed teeth with conic bases and spaces between each tooth. It also ruled out puffer fish and trigger fish, which have ‘beaks’.

“The only animal that could have caused this bite, given all the information, is a small shark,” Mr Martin said.

“The beaches of Thailand are still very, very, very safe from any shark attack. This is one case when there are millions of people swimming in Thai waters every month.”

– Isaac Stone Simonelli

Warning systems complete by the end of the year,

Many tsunami victims, suffering from PTSD,

Phuket Gazette

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D-Day looming for dog pound

All we have to do is raise the funds to lease one of the surplus planes from Phuket Air and we can FLY out of here.

Thailand to step up fight against 'ice'

Time to put the dog pound out of its misery

Woman jumps from Sarasin Bridge

Krabi cracks down on longtails

In defense of the Dog

Patong to host top level jet-ski race

lycoons from Britain assess tsunami ne

er of Britain's Prince representatives of the world's leading busi- IBLF, told the Gazette un

al Business Leaders nesses, including Abbot Laboratories a lot to do in the region

THE Mid Road Dog Shelter – which really hasn't gotten out of the dog house a decade later – was on the chopping block with the headline 'D-Day looming for dog pound' in the September 10-16, 2005 issue of the *Phuket Gazette*.

Just two months earlier, tough days for the dogs had made headlines with dwindling food supplies at the

shelter – dogs were down to eating cat food. Now, it appeared that things were about to come to a head.

There was no doubt that having a dog shelter on the island was important. However, letters and emails howling about the canines' quality of life had been pouring onto the Phuket governor's desk.

The decision on whether or not the facility should be closed

The gift of hindsight

was to be made by the end of the month.

Of course since 2005, the Soi Dog Foundation and Paws have both made real impact on the stray dog population in Phuket –

not quite Pied Pipers, but still, they developed sustainable, long-term and short-term programs.

Yet somehow, the dogs at Nai Harn Beach continue to cause waves – surf season and high season.

That being said, they are hardly causing the kind of Teahupo'o swell that the island's first shark bite incident did last week.

The stray dog issue is of a

far more serious concern than a bite from a small bull shark. Of course, the question is how many dog bites go unreported each year?

However, dogs simply don't seem to have the same resonance with international media. Perhaps someone needs to write *Jaws: Soi Dog Attack* just to keep the pot stirring up properly.

– Isaac Stone Simonelli

Chinese man accused of being bombing mastermind

A CHINESE national who was allegedly behind the plot to bomb the Erawan Shrine has already fled the country, one of the suspects in custody revealed on September 7.

Meanwhile, the Min Buri Court approved warrants for the arrest of two more suspects, bringing the total number issued in connection with Bangkok bombings to 11.

Blacklisted man set free

A BRITISH academic who was on a national security blacklist as a potential danger to society, said he had been freed after being held for four days at an airport in Bangkok.

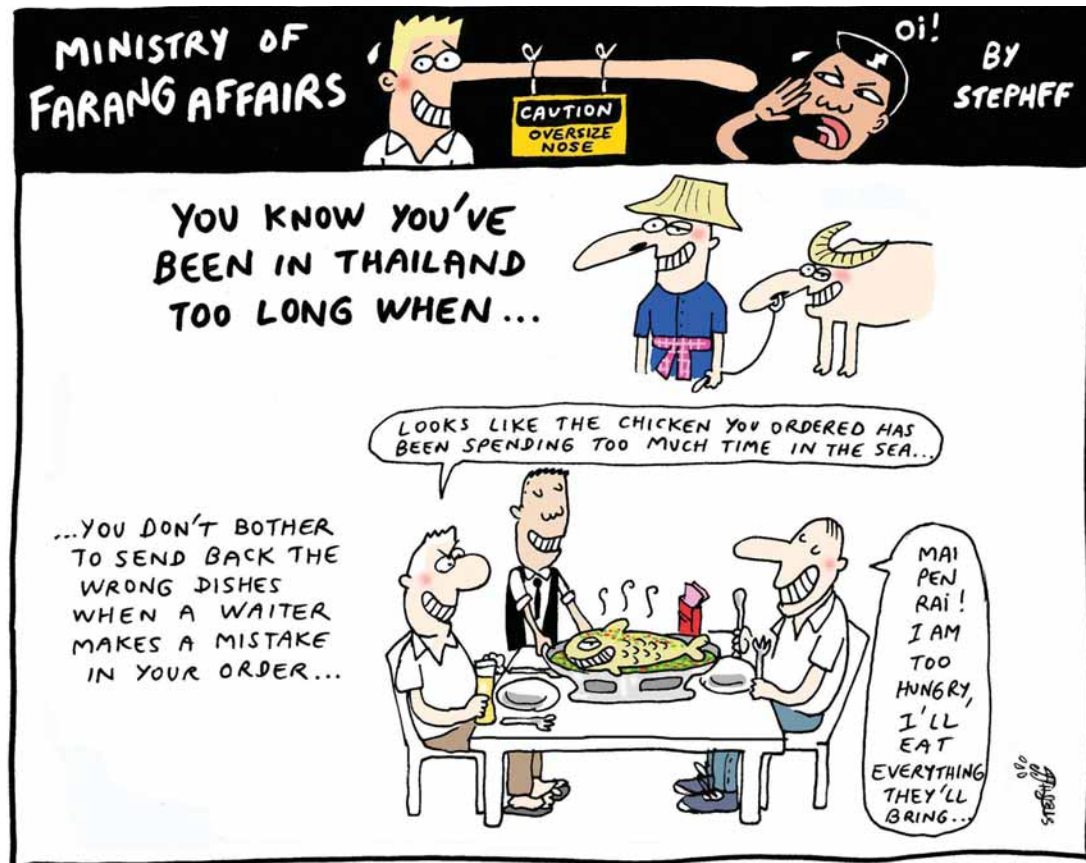
Wyn Ellis, a long-term resident of Thailand with British and Thai citizenship, was freed late on September 7.

Mr Ellis is working on a sustainable rice program for the United Nations in Thailand. He discovered just a few days ago he had been blacklisted, apparently because of a 2009 letter written by the man he had accused of copying his work.

Meteor lights up social media

A LARGE meteor lit up the daytime sky over Bangkok and nearby provinces before dramatically exploding on September 7.

The Thai Astronomical Society confirmed that it was a rare phenomenon called 'bolide' or exploding meteor. Scores of people from Chon Buri to Kanchanaburi and as far north as Phitsanulok witnessed the spectacle, with many post-



ing videos of the occurrence online.

Social media users speculated that the meteor might have been part of a satellite, a crippled aircraft or even a UFO.

New minister urged to scrap power plan

A NETWORK of local residents called on Energy Minister Gen Anantaporn Kanjanarat to scrap the national Power Development Plan.

Scheduled for implementation between 2015 and 2036, the plan aims to boost the electricity-generating capacity of the country by 57,459 megawatts over the next 20 years via the building of many more power plants in Thailand as well as purchasing electricity from neighboring countries. Representing the Network of People Affected by Thailand's Power Development Plan, Iscares Hayeeday showed up at the Energy Ministry to submit

NATIONAL NEWS Briefly

the network's demand.

Turkey awaits official answers

TURKEY is seeking clarification from Thailand over reports that linked Turkish nationals to the Bangkok bombings last month.

Turkey's embassy in Bangkok issued a statement in response to news reports that several Turkish nationals were wanted in connection with last month's bombing.

"Up to now, this Embassy has not received any official notification from the Thai authorities concerning the arrest warrants," the Turkish embassy in Bangkok said in its statement.

The Turkish embassy has re-

quested clarification by sending a verbal note to Thailand's Foreign Affairs Ministry, asking if the suspect arrested on August 29 is a Turkish citizen and requesting details about the Turkish passports televised in the news.

Thailand says sorry to Laos

TWENTY-FIVE Thai football fans were detained overnight in Laos following a crowd disturbance on terraces at the National Sports Complex stadium in Vientiane.

The incident marred the Thai side's 6-0 win over Vietnam in the final of the Asean Football Federation's U-19 Championship, taking the shine off the Thai team's imperious display against the Vietnamese, which capped a perfect run en route to the title.

The chaos occurred when the group of Thai supporters let off flares inside the venue as they celebrated the team's sec-

ond goal before the hour mark.

Laotian police stepped in to stop them.. However there was a clash on the stands, prompting the officials to fire shots in the air in an attempt to bring the situation under control.

Social media wildlife trader apprehended

POLICE arrested a man at Bangkok's Soi Charoen Nakhon 55 for allegedly selling protected wildlife via social media platforms.

The suspect, Wisanu Reungchai-anukul, 30, was apprehend in possession of a palm civet, two bank account books and a cell phone, following a one-month probe into online wildlife trading by Natural Resources and Environmental Crime Division police officers.

The suspect faces a charge of having protected wildlife in his possession with intent to sell, an offence that carries a fine of up to 40,000 baht, four years in prison or both.

Mr Wisanu told police that customers paid him in advance.

He said he delivered the animals, which he obtained from another online supplier, to customers by bus.

"I did the trading since March and would sell the animals at a starting price of 4,500 baht," Mr Wisanu said.

Farmers told to brace for future water scarcity

A WATER expert has warned that there will be a scarcity of water for irrigation in the upcoming dry season as the four key dams in the Chao Phraya River Basin are only 35 per cent full as of September 8.

Of that water, only 11 per cent is available for consumption.

Ninety-nine or more bottles of beer on the floor

THE overwhelming smell of beer caused neighbors to complain against the occupant of a room in Lam Luk Ka District, Pathum Thani, in central Thailand.

Facebook user 'Tong Suphan', who posted about the incident noted that a room on the fourth floor of his building contained an extraor-

dinary number of beer bottles, reported Sanook.com.

The room owner, an elderly woman, apparently had been taking bottles up to her room nearly every day for years without ever taking them back down to the bin.

"What I want to know is how she can live in her room with all of those bottles? Does she

sleep on them? How can she access the restroom? Crawling over the bottles?" Tong Suphan asked.

Building security was aware of the woman taking the beer up to her room, however, they never bothered to check on her until neighbors couldn't stand the smell and large number of cockroaches coming in and out

of her room.

"She has lived alone in her room for about four years," the building's security said.

After receiving numerous complaints, security managed to open the door to the studio-sized room and found piles of beer bottles reaching as high as the bed.

Facebook users were quick

to ask about the woman's health.

It's been reported that she is now under hospital treatment for diabetes. However, she insists that no one touch the bottles in her room.

Since the report, it has been unclear whether or not anyone has removed the bottles from the room.



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Phuket shark week

The *Gazette* sends its condolences to Australian tourist Jane Neame, whose recent visit to our island was marred by one of the unlikeliest of accidents: a shark bite.

We are equally impressed with the way that the Aussie, who is six months' pregnant, took the injury in stride. We hope island residents and visitors react in kind, not unduly panicking over what appears to be a very isolated incident – the first of its kind that we are aware of in over 20 years of reporting news on the island.

Soon after the incident, one of Phuket's most highly respected marine biologists said he would advise the Governor's Office to issue a warning to tourists 'in affected swimming zones' if the injury were confirmed to be the result of a shark bite. While the *Gazette* was the first to obtain such confirmation, we strongly advise against the issuance of such an advisory.

For a start, the statistical likelihood of sustaining a shark bite in local waters is indeed minuscule.

The irony of being bitten by a shark here in Phuket appears to have been fully appreciated by the stoic Ms Neame, who hails from the Australian state of Queensland, where just under 100 shark bites have been recorded since 1855 – about a quarter of which were fatal.

But even throughout the vast shorelines of Australia, the incidence of fatal shark bites amounts to about just one a year – yet this is still enough to make the country a world leader in this regard.

The sad reality is that more people probably die annually by ignoring red flags and drowning off Phuket beaches than are taken by sharks across the globe. Furthermore, the likelihood of Phuket beach swimmers being killed or injured by jet-skis or longtail boat propellers still greatly outweighs that of succumbing to all the combined threats local marine life might pose: from jellyfish stings to barracuda bites.

As humans, we are wired for worry. Going back countless eons, our ancestors faced daily threats so grave that we can hardly imagine them in this age of digital information and abundant, factory-produced food that has allowed even some economically destitute people in developed countries to become morbidly obese or crippled by diabetes.

The reality is that, for the vast majority of us, the danger of going into cardiac arrest while watching an installment of *Sharknado* is greater than that of actually being taken by a shark off a Phuket beach. The last thing we need is an official pronouncement that the actual situation might be otherwise.



A small annoyance could end your life

It is very scary to think that even the smallest thing can trigger a deadly attack.

Remember a few weeks ago some poor guy had his face smashed in with a concrete block for dancing funny? He was attacked by a group of guys and killed for nothing.

What is wrong with these young guys that they have so much incredible hostility just below the surface? Guns, knives, group attacks. Ready to kill for nothing.

Tim
Gazette forum

Letters

to the Editor

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

It is set by the Chinese government. They can do anything they want as long as it benefits them and not care about the rest of the world.

How many influential Chinese knew of the devaluation and made millions/billions off it? This has hurt a lot of countries, but China is not one of them.

Capealava
Gazette forum

Stopping coral fish from being trawled

Re: *Gazette online, Phuket police hunt illegal fisherman, August 31*

Surely it's illegal to catch coral fish?

They are catching them with trawl nets at Nai Yang beach, which is supposed to be protected, but no one seems to care.

There aren't that many fish as it is and soon there will be none. It's dreadful. How can we stop this?

george
Gazette forum

China's currency cannot be trusted

Re: *Gazette online, Chinese currency devaluation could shake Phuket, September 1*

China cannot be trusted. The Chinese currency yuan is not set by free market influence, such as the dollar or the euro.

Phuket Yacht Show a welcomed event

Re: *Gazette online, Phuket Yacht Show dates confirmed, September 4*

Phuket was sorely in need of a boat show that could elevate Thailand as a serious cruising destination, and now we may finally have it.

While it won't quite yet put Phuket on par with Nice, Cannes, Sydney or Antiqua, this show's only rivals in the whole of Asia will be Singapore and Shanghai.

Derek Patterson
Gazette forum

Alcohol zone may yield drunk driving

Re: *Gazette online, Phuket academic institute's booze ban*

gets wider, September 3

By making students in university accommodation travel further to buy alcohol, we will increase the numbers of potential drunk drivers on the road.

Even a ten or 20 meter exclusion zone will not have any effect – better for them to have availability on the doorstep rather than posing this threat to other road users.

Punishing all businesses in a 1km area is decidedly unfair and this idea has clearly not been thought through.

Mister Ree
Gazette forum

Excited about the airport expansion

Re: *Gazette online, Airport extension to finish on time, September 5*

I think it's long overdue and anyone seeing the immigration lines and so on would agree. The new building looks like it's coming along and is quite stylish. Yes, underpasses and what not are poorly built, but this looks pretty sweet.

Jason MacLean
Facebook

Lifting spirits high

Re: *Gazette online, Asian Weightlifting Championships start tomorrow, September 5*

I am so excited about the weightlifting championships. Phuket should hold more events like these.

Sara Goldberg
Kathu

Phuket Gazette

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Saving Thailand's sharks

FIRST PERSON

THE number of sharks sightings within the Thai waters of the Andaman Sea has greatly decreased in recent years. We have a moral obligation to protect sharks as they are one of the most important, advanced and amazing species of animal to have ever lived.

They are apex predators that have been in our oceans for over 400 million years. However, many shark species are now at risk of extinction due to human impact.

The devastating decline is from a combination of a number of different issues, including overfishing, trawling, targeted shark finning, unregulated shark fishing, fishing in marine parks and coastal development, as well as natural issues, such as water temperatures rising.

No matter what equipment is used, overfishing of any species is a serious problem for the entire ecosystem. When enormous numbers of the sharks' natural prey is removed from an area it forces them to migrate to new areas to find alternative food sources.

As can be seen by the European Union's concern with the fishing industry in Thailand, any unregulated fishing is problematic. We have the equipment and could leave entire regions without enough stock to repopulate. This is especially a problem for certain types of fish, such as sharks, that take a long time to reach a mature age and start reproducing.

Sharks should be landed with fins attached, to prevent wasteful shark finning; catch size regulations should be in place and enforced to prevent



Brendon Sing, hailing from South Africa, is a Director for Shark Guardian, a United Kingdom-based charity for shark and marine conservation projects worldwide and has been actively involved with shark research and conservation for more than 15 years.

Here he talks about the problems that sharks face in Thailand and throughout the world and what Shark Guardian does to help.

juvenile sharks from being landed; species that are protected through International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) Red List or other means should not be landed; all sharks landed should be logged by species, size, sex, and catch location to allow continued monitoring of sustainable fishing practices.

One major impact on sharks that the general public isn't aware of is coastal development. Run-off from developments cause sedimentation on coral reef sites, which ends up killing what is well-known as one of the most bio-diverse ecosystems in the world.

The most horrific practice that is more than decimating the shark populations of the world though is shark finning. Many shark species are vulnerable and threatened by extinction due to sharks being targeted for their fins fueled by the shark fin trade. It is estimated that between 70-80 per cent of the 100 million sharks killed each year is for the shark fin trade.

Sharks need protection as they are more vulnerable than

many other species of fish and take much longer to reproduce. Therefore, it is very important to educate the public about the importance of sharks and the role they play in the ecosystem.

We developed the Shark Guardian Thailand eShark project to provide data to the Thai Department of Fisheries (DoF) and IUCN in order to highlight falling shark populations or possible increases in areas where there is better enforcement of laws.

For two diving seasons this project has been pushed throughout Thailand and we have gathered almost 12,000 data entries. The data is so important when governments try to make and enforce laws. The project allows past data from scuba dives, snorkellers and beachgoers, as well as present data to be uploaded on to a global database. Everyone can take part in this research, that's what makes it exciting.

The DoF has been using this data to form their national plan of action for sharks. Our ultimate goal would be a shark sanctuary throughout Thai waters – you have to aim big!



'Shark attack' is a far from accurate term. Photo: Lwp Kommunikacia

Who said shark attack?

THERE is a great responsibility in the media to understand the impact and long-term effects of the language used in stories from 'Negro' to 'shark attack'.

The term Negro started to fall out of favor in the United States by 1966 and was completely taboo by the mid-1980s.

Given the politically correct nature that balanced, mainstream media take, it is no wonder, as experts were at their wits' end about its meaning. Some were saying it was as euphonious as 'black' or 'Afro-American' while others claimed it was an inaccurate epithet that perpetuated the master-slave mentality.

Not hard to get our heads around why a potentially harmful word loaded with disputed connotation was dropped from neutral reporting.

So what about 'shark attack'? Is that really what happened on Karon Beach?

Following the breakdown of evidence from shark expert David Martin, there is no doubt that the Australian woman was bitten by a shark, albeit a small one – but is that an 'attack'?

The American Elasmobranch Society, the world's largest professional organization of shark and ray scientists, recently issued a resolution calling for the *Associated Press* (AP) Stylebook and the *Reuters Style Guide* to retire

Island View

By Alex Stone

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

the phrase 'shark attack' in favor of a more accurate and less inflammatory wording that would represent the real risk and outcomes from a shark incident, explained David Shiffman in *Southern Fried Science*.

The scientific community argues that the following terminology would ensure more accurate reporting and ensure that the general public had a better understanding of the situation at hand: shark sighting, shark encounter, shark bite and fatal shark bite.

Accuracy in the terminology used would also mean that in the case of the Phuket shark bite, the government wouldn't have to weigh up the possibility of damage being done to the tourism industry by large media companies around the world, such as when *The Guardian* runs headlines like 'Australian woman 'attacked by shark' off Phuket'.

Sharks have enough problems in Thai waters without the media stirring up a feeding frenzy that puts even more of them on the ice trays of seafood restaurants in Kata and Karon.

Words from the Wise

"It takes considerable knowledge just to realize the extent of your own ignorance."
– Thomas Sowell

"It's amazing that the amount of news that happens in the world every day always just exactly fits the newspaper."
– Jerry Seinfeld

Issues & Answers

Where can I donate to special needs children?

I JUST arrived to work here in Phuket and was wondering if there are any places where I could go and help out or do-

nate things to special needs children?

Ms Kwanruedee Kitmek, administration official at Phuket Panyanukul School, replies:

You can always come to us and donate things such as food, clothing and stationary. You could also donate money for repairs or the construction of a new building.

You can also plan your own activities with the children, we

would love that.

We used to have some volunteers bring a barber in to give the children haircuts and it was really fun. Some of them even ordered pizza and ice cream for the children to eat and played games with them.

If you are interested in donating or organizing fun activities, please contact us at 081-732 1927 or 076-260 448 during office hours from 8:30am to 4pm.

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

Submit your issue at:

www.PuketGazette.net/IssuesAnswers

Yuan's potential impact on stocks



Finance

By Don Freeman

CHINA has fired a barrage in the ongoing global currency wars with its first devaluation in two decades in the hopes of propping up its export-driven economy and reducing its (politically dangerous) loss of manufacturing jobs. Despite the dramatic headlines, what's looking like a mere two per cent devaluation is unlikely to trigger a bear market in the global stock markets, or even a global economic downturn.

Nevertheless, investors need to be aware of the following potential impact on stocks in certain sectors, on certain countries, and on ETFs investing in these stocks or markets:

COMMODITY EXPORTERS

Bank of America's commodity team has estimated that a 1 per cent move in the Yuan is associated with a 0.5-0.6 per cent decline in USD commodity prices (Note: Commodities tend to be priced in USD). This will impact the commodity-driven economies of countries like Australia, Brazil and Chile, along with the top and bottom lines of commodity stocks who export to China.

OTHER VALUABLE ECONOMIES

The economies of Hong Kong, Taiwan, Malaysia and Thailand are also vulnerable as they depend to some degree on China's demand for their exports and services while also competing with China in other export markets. In addition, they are popular destinations for mass market Chinese tourists who could decide to stay home as a weaker Yuan makes foreign travel more expensive.

EMERGING MARKET CURRENCIES

The Yuan devaluation will likely trigger further currency devaluations elsewhere as other export-driven economies, or emerging markets, seek to remain competitive.

STEEL MAKERS

Chinese steel makers are keen to grab more market share in the global steel market which already suffers from a supply glut. Cheaper Chinese steel will hit South Korean and Japanese steel makers the most as their slower domestic economies means they are more dependent on exports than, for example, US steel makers.

SMARTPHONE MAKERS

Chinese smartphone brands like Xiaomi and Huawei could become cheaper and make further



China is a key market for luxury goods like Louis Vuitton, who could see an impact. Photo: Mike Mozart

inroads at the expense of Apple and Samsung among cost-conscious consumers, and especially consumers in emerging markets. Budget Chinese handset makers could also enter developed markets sooner than expected.

LUXURY GOODS AND CERTAIN CAR MAKERS

China is a key market for many Western luxury goods makers such as Burberry, Coach, Hermes and LVMH, along with German car makers like BMW and Volkswagen – all of whom could see an impact on their top and/or bottom lines.

Finally, China ultimately seeks to have the International Monetary Fund (IMF) endorse the Yuan as a reserve currency which will help boost Beijing's global clout. In the past, the IMF has cited the lack of market influence of the Yuan as a reason for not doing so, but China's Central Bank has pledged to give market forces a stronger role in setting the currency's value. (Note: The Yuan is only allowed to trade in a narrow band versus the USD, with the Central Bank setting the band).

Any currency liberalization will ultimately benefit China by

deepening its capital markets as well as attracting more foreign capital to help finance the enormous capital needs of the country's public and private sectors.

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

Baht hits new low, US data

US ECONOMIC data released last week and developments on the domestic political front sent the baht to a six-and-a-half year low at more than 36 per US dollar On September 7.

"The market now believes that the United States' central bank might have a greater probability of increasing its interest rate this month following the US' announcement that its unemployment rate has declined to 5.1 per

cent while average income per hour has also increased," Chirathep Senivongs Na Ayudhya, spokesman for the Bank of Thailand, said.

The baht has retreated in tandem with currencies in the region since the market has swung back to the expectation that the US Federal Reserve will hike the country's interest rates at its meeting this month.

– *The Nation*

Charter rejection boosts economy

THE rejection of the draft charter by the National Reform Council with a vote of 135-105 last Sunday, along with measures to spur the economy worth a combined 136 billion baht, should overall have a positive affect on consumption, investment, and tourism, while also boosting internal economic activity, Dr Anusorn Tamajai, dean of Rangsit University's Faculty of Economics.

The draft charter rejection will reduce the risk of conflicts between supporters and opponents of the new charter in the lead-up to the national referendum and shows that democracy in this country has reasonably deep social roots, he added.

At the same time, moves to resolve problems and boost security after the Erawan shrine bombing has reduced the impact on tourism with revenue



Revenue is likely to return to normal. Photo: AMISOM Public Information

likely to return to normal, and thus being positive for the economy.

Meanwhile, the latest economic stimulus package, worth 136 billion baht, will have a positive affect on the Thai economy going in to next year.

However, Dr Anusorn pointed out that this package will not substantially help the Thai economy during 2016 be-

cause the amount of money is less than 1% of the gross domestic product (GDP).

Regarding external factors, Dr Anusorn pointed out that the global financial markets face more turbulence through the sale of US Treasury bonds and other financial assets by China.

"These factors will push global interest rates higher and this is not good for the global economy, which is still weak."

Quoting Citi Research, he said every sale of US Treasuries amounting up to 1% of US GDP, increases interest rates on 10-year US Treasuries by .15% - .35% and if China sells more than 30% of the US Treasuries it holds in its reserves, this will very quickly push long-term interest rates higher and could trigger further turbulence in the global financial markets.

– *Nina Suebsukcharoen*

Making life easier with HeadsUp

Former British International student markets new smartphone app

By Lauren Smith

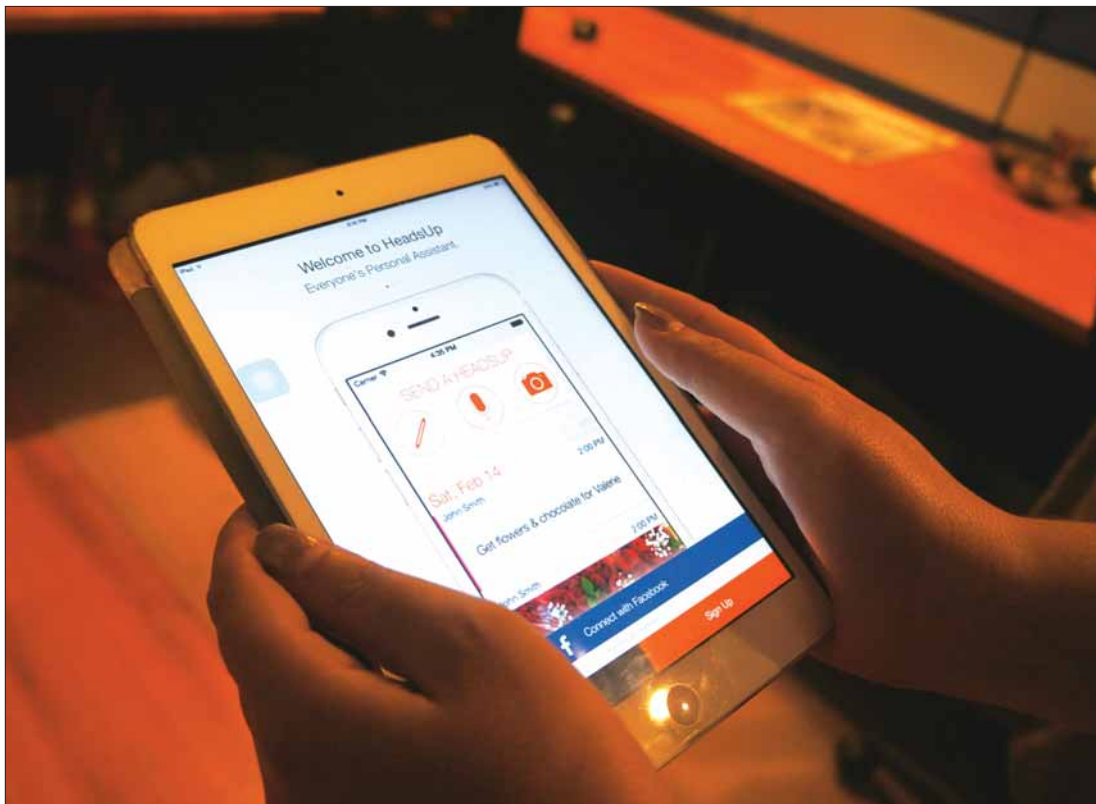
A YOUNG Phuket man is giving the world a 'HeadsUp' with a new application he helped to create, which is aimed at simplifying everyday life.

Robert Conner, who is a former British International School of Phuket student, helped to develop an app called Hey! HeadsUp, with his college friends Abhijay Bhatnagar and Arjun Bhatnagar.

The app allows you to schedule alerts, emails, phone calls and text messages to help people remind others of the things they need to do.

"The inspiration behind Hey! HeadsUp is to help simplify everyday life for people through the coordination of different peoples' calendars," Robert said.

"Despite the increased presence of technological aids, there is still a difficulty to keep priorities clear. With so many different calendars and to-do lists to keep track of, it's hard to focus on what actually needs to get done before it's too late. Hey! HeadsUp was created with such dilemmas in mind. For example, restaurants could alert users when their food is ready, or guests could even or-



The new app allows you to schedule alerts to remind others of their tasks. Photo: Chutharat Plerin

der their food with the app; or, doctors could remind patients when to take medicine.

"But, it does not stop there, as we can help simplify company systems that have complex schedules. HeadsUp is looking to work closely with business managers and come up with solutions specific to

that business."

While Abhijay, and his brother, Arjun, built the app successfully from scratch, Robert used his marketing skills to help make the app stand out from other similar reminder apps. His focus was set on the app's ability to share important information

without the need of a smart phone and increased security protection.

Hey! HeadsUp helps people find an easier solution to help manage their day-to-day schedules, as most current apps require people to put the task in by themselves or coordinate with other people constantly to

make changes.

"The app works without the need of confusing shared calendars and does not violate your privacy. You can send tasks to your friends, family and colleagues without having to expose your schedule," Robert said.

"By sending someone a 'HeadsUp', the user is essentially adding a task to another person's calendar without the need for any complex calendar sharing tools – and the privacy issues associated with that.

"Also, another thing that makes HeadsUp unique is that you can simply enter a phone number, email or a username to schedule a HeadsUp, or reminder, for someone else, but that person does not even need to have a smartphone. You can just write a text message, or you can record a voice memo; or even take a photograph and schedule it for yourself or someone else."

The app, which currently has more than 400 users – most of which are business people and college students can be purchased on iTunes.

For more information on Hey! HeadsUp, visit www.heyheadsapp.com

Facebook hits billion in one day



Business Buzz
Simon Wetherell

IF THERE was ever any doubt about the popularity and growing success of Facebook, on August 24 they answered their critics in the best way possible.

That is the first day that a reported one billion users logged into their Facebook accounts on the same day.

What makes this all the more interesting is that Facebook is banned in China, so this figure almost completely excludes a massive part of the world's population.

When you combine these kinds of numbers with the specific and accurate information that Facebook has about its users and the ease with which we can access them for advertising and marketing purposes, it becomes clear that any successful social media campaign should have a

strong Facebook presence.

There are of course do's and don'ts when it comes to Facebook marketing, it is not all just plain sailing, but if you observe these three simple rules, you will be well on the way to success:

1. Treat your followers with respect. Use the old rule, would you share your post with your grandmother? If in doubt, don't post it.
2. Always provide good quality and value.
3. Build relationships and interact with people. Do not sell.

It's clearly a great time to go and post on Facebook.

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



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Wooing the Brazilian market

Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) Los Angeles office held a '2015 in Thailand' seminar at Angsana Phuket Laguna for the Brazilian Tour Operators Association and tourism entrepreneurs in Phuket, Phang Nga and Krabi recently.



Seen at the seminar are (from L-R) Bhuritt Maswongsa, president of the Phuket Tourism Council; Anoma Vongyai, director of TAT Phuket office; Juthaporn Rerngronasa, TAT's deputy governor for international marketing; Roberto Nedelciu, a representative of the Brazilian Tour Operators Association; Phuket Governor Nisit Jansomwong; Sathitrapong Na Takuatung, president of the Phuket Tourist Association; and Sawai Sombat from the Thai Hotels Association Southern Chapter.

Amari Phuket backs football team

Giving Baan Kalim School's football team much needed support is Amari Phuket, which recently donated 10,000 baht and bottles of water for the team's upcoming match against Phuket's Primary Educational Service Office.



Happy with giving and receiving this donation are (from L-R) Porrawee Fongmool, a Baan Kalim School teacher; Pierre-Andre Pelletier, Amari Phuket's vice president and area GM for southern Thailand; Chawee Jitsamrouy, a director of this school; Rinrapat Puwanutchotchai, Amari Phuket's human resources director; Toharoh Dumluck and Thamarak Su-ngan, students at this school; and Niparat Kaewprada, a teacher.

Heroes have big fun at Saxophone Pub

Movenpick Resort & Spa Karon Beach Phuket held its annual staff party under the 'Hero Night' theme at Saxophone Pub Phuket. As expected, heroes of all shades and stripes turned up to celebrate a full year of hard work at the resort.



Having loads of fun are (from L-R) Hansruedi Frutiger, the hotel's former GM; Buppha Jitkhong, GM's personal assistant; and new GM Nick Porter.

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

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

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

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Pleasant beach party



Welcoming guests at Anda Focus' recent beach party at Ship Inn Bar and Restaurant are the company's chairman Chirapat Sookphuett (1st left) and managing director Natchanok Sucharikul (2nd from left) seen here with Sawit Ketroj, director of Emerald Development Group (3rd from left) and his family.

Mini Pet Fair 2015



DJ Man Thanarat Kittiyakarn (left) enjoys interviewing veterinarian Kornnarat Soonthornchumarnlert from Dr Mai vet clinic, about disease prevention vaccines for pets.

Pets and their doting owners turned up at Limelight Avenue Phuket's Mini Pet Fair 2015 during September 2-5. There was plenty to buy at a string of booths selling pet food, clothes and accessories with pet clubs, foundations and associations also present.

Hospital shines at games

Not only is Bangkok Hospital Phuket excellent at treating patients, it seems to also be excellent in sports with its female volleyball team winning the competition at the 4th Panwa Games held at the Republic Phuket Field recently. They also received an award of having the best cheer team.



Amornmas Suksirisamphan, Radisson Blu Plaza Resort Panwa Beach's human resources director (left), presents a trophy to the hospital's female volleyball team representative Julalak Tivaranusorn, a marketing officer.



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BISP student captures first gold for Malaysia



BISP student Wong FuKang

YEAR 12 British International School, Phuket (BISP) student Wong FuKang became the first Malaysian to ever win a gold medal at the Commonwealth Youth Games, currently being held in the Pacific nation of Samoa.

On September 8, as he raced to beat some tough competition from England and South Africa in the Mens 100m Breaststroke, Wong led from start to finish turning in at 29.7 seconds at the 50m mark and held on strong with his competitors close behind.

The time was not close to his personal best, however on September 9 he won an additional gold medal for the 50m Breaststroke with a time of 28.92 seconds.

Before this competition, Malaysia had never before won a medal at the Commonwealth Youth Games.

— *Phuket Gazette*

Yacht show sails for Phuket

Community

Phuket Gazette

DATES for the first edition of the Phuket Yacht Show, now known as the Thailand Yacht Show, have finally been confirmed by organizers Singapore Yacht Events Pte Ltd (SYE) following a partnership agreement signed recently with the Marine Department of Thailand's Ministry of Transport.

The event is destined to become the focal point of the luxury charter yacht business in Asia Pacific, and is set to take place on February 11 to 14, 2016 at Phuket's Ao Po Grand Marina.

Momentum and interest in Thailand's charter potential have been building in recent months after discussions between key players in the local yachting community and the country's Ministry of Transport resulted in last month's landmark announcement of a new licence for foreign-flagged superyachts to charter in Thai waters.

Government officials were quick to understand and accept the industry working group's proposal, which outlined the important economic impact from visiting luxury yachts.

"With superyacht charter now being legalized in Thailand, and with the Government and all the other stakeholders aligned, the time is right for us



Yachts and boats of all sizes will be on display at the Thailand Yacht Show. Photo: Ao Po Grand Marina

to launch the new Yacht Show with industry-wide support," said Andy Treadwell, founder and owner of SYE.

"Ao Po Grand Marina is a perfect location for the event and we look forward to providing this new, crucial platform to capitalize on Thailand's stated objective of becoming the principal yachting destination hub for Asia."

Already well known to superyacht owners for its superb cruising grounds, Phuket is strategically located for yachts coming from the Mediterranean to visit South East Asia and the Pacific beyond. It is considered the main infrastructural 'hub' for large yachts cruising the region, with over 100 superyacht berths

available between the Ao Po Grand Marina and Phuket Yacht Haven alone, as well as ample first class service companies.

"Recent years have already seen a significant upswing in the number of foreign flagged yachts visiting Phuket, usually on the way to and from the rest of South East Asia, even without the ability to charter," said Dr Chula Sukmanop, director general of the Thai Marine Department.

"This year already, over 75 superyachts have cruised through Phuket alone. We want to encourage these yachts to stay longer and use it as a base from which to charter, and we want more and more of them to come."

The Thailand Yacht Show aims to bring potential buyers,

as well as the charter brokerage community, to Ao Po Grand Marina, which has a capacity of 260 yachts.

Smaller yachts and boats, both new and pre-owned, will be on display for sale as well as for charter.

"We are proud to have been chosen by the government and the organizers to provide the backdrop to this most significant yachting event, which will offer visitors from all over Thailand and the wider region, as well as Phuket's many affluent residents, the chance to experience and explore the enormous potential for cruising in the region," said Kasem Chiarasomboon, managing director of Ao Po Grand Marina.

WHAT'S ON in Phuket

September 17 -20. Journey into Complete Wellbeing Workshop

JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa invites you to join a three-day wellness workshop.

Through the course of this inspirational program, internationally-renowned yoga practitioner Kim White, Reiki Master and meditation expert Nikorn Banjerdlt and Traditional Chinese Medicine and nutrition expert Ken Rosen will share their valuable insight and knowledge.

You will be led through a variety of yoga and meditation classes, informative seminars on nutrition and Traditional Chinese Medicine and massage treatments designed to invigorate and rejuvenate. For more information contact Linda Overman at 076-338 000 ext 3750.



September 18. China High-end Tourism Showcase

American Chamber of Commerce (AMCHAM) members and guests will have an opportunity to hear from David Johnson, managing director of leading public relations firm Delivering Asia Communications (DAC) and digital marketing specialist Vanessa

Zhu, the firm's Shanghai-based director of communications for China.

The session will offer solutions for Phuket's resorts and hotels on how they might better understand and navigate the China tourism landscape and influence the purchasing decisions of the new brand of wealthy inde-

pendent travellers.

There will be a question and answer session to follow.

Registration begins at 4:30pm and the session starts at 5pm. Admission is open to the public and is 500 baht for non-AMCHAM members.

September 28, Super Moon Super Blues

Black & Blue will be wailing into the night as they host a Super Blues Event at Bliss Beach Club during the Super Moon Monday night, from 7pm to 12.

This will be the musical event of the year for Phuket with notable guest artists such as Pjae Stanley, K PJ and Bobby Blues.

The food too will be a fabulous showcase of several chefs who will put out their finest soul food dishes to help Chef Garfield of Bliss.

The gala evening is a 'Fun-Raiser' for Rotary Club of Patong Beach (RCoPB) with proceeds going to the club's charity fund, which supports a number of projects for children.

Prepaid tickets are 2,000 baht, while tickets at the door are 2,500.

Ticket sales will begin on 10 September at the Gazette office, Bliss Beach Club and through RCoPB.

There will be auctions, raffles and door prizes.

Seeds of turmoil in Rakhine State

Looking Back

By Anand Singh

RAKHINE, formerly the Kingdom of Arakan, is a region in northwestern Myanmar. Today the region borders Bangladesh and is home to the heavily persecuted Rohingya Muslims.

Historically, the Arakan Kingdom was an independent state. In the year 1406, however, Minyekyawswa, the crown prince of Ava, led a Burmese army to invade Arakan.

Narameikhla Min Saw Mon, the Buddhist Arakan King, was forced to flee along with a large number of his subjects to Bengal. During that time, Sultan Gaisuddin Azam Shah ruled Bengal. The sultan welcomed King Narameikhla along with his followers.

Narameikhla entered the service of Sultan Jalaluddin Muhammad Shah of Bengal and proved to be a good military commander. Narameikhla and the Sultan of Bengal became close friends.

In the year 1430, after 24 years in exile, Sultan Jalaluddin Muhammad Shah sent his general, Wali Khan,



Some historians consider the 1784 Burmese invasion of Arakan, home to the Rohingya, as a genocide. Photo: Gazette file

with a large army to retake Arakan from the Burmese and restore King Narameikhla to his throne.

The attack was successful and the Burmese were driven out. Narameikhla returned to Arakan and resumed his reign as Sulaiman Shah.

Sulaiman Shah's reign, however, did not last long. In

the year 1431, General Wali Khan rebelled against the king and deposed him.

After that, General Wali Khan crowned himself king of an independent Arakan kingdom. As king, Wali Khan introduced Persian as the official language.

Once again, the deposed Sulaiman escaped to Bengal and

sought help from the Sultan of Bengal.

In 1433, Nadir Shah, the new Sultan of Bengal, sent General Sindhi Khan with a large army to invade Arakan and restore Sulaiman as king. Wali Khan put up a brave fight but was killed in the battle that followed. His short reign ended with Arakan being annexed as part of Bengal.

From this point on, Arakan became a province of Bengal. Sulaiman, restored as the kingdom's ruler, promised to pay annual tributes to the Sultan of Bengal. Persian continued to be used as the official state language.

It was during Sulaiman's reign that a large number of Rohingya Muslims began to resettle in Arakan Kingdom.

King Suleiman Shah died in the year 1433 after founding a new capital in the Arakan kingdom. His younger half-brother, Min Khayi succeeded him.

Min Khayi started his reign as a vassal of Bengal, but after Bengal began spiraling into political turmoil, Min Khayi declared the independence of Arakan Kingdom.

Although Buddhist, it was not uncommon for Arakan

kings to take on Muslim titles. Muslims also filled many prominent positions in the Arakan court.

The Kingdom of Arakan was able to maintain relative peace for several years after that.

In the year 1784, however, a power struggle ensued. A pretender to the throne requested that Burmese King Budawpaya invade the Arakan Kingdom.

In December of 1784, King Budawpaya of Burma attacked Arakan with 30,000 soldiers. The invading Burmese army destroyed whole cities, including temples, mosques, palaces and libraries.

Muslim Rohingyas were killed in the thousands during this invasion. The rest were forced to flee into neighboring Bengal, where the British ruled.

Some historians consider the Burmese invasion of Arakan in 1784 as a genocide because countless numbers of Arakanese, both Rohingya Muslims and Rakhine groups, were mercilessly massacred.

Pick up the next edition of Looking Back for more historical background of the plight of the Rohingya.



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Discovering pathways to better biking



Blazing Saddles

By Baz Daniel

THE Governor's recent announcement that work on bike lanes will start in October with an approved budget of over 50 million baht, is terrific news.

"Over 30 million baht from the 2016 fiscal year budget has been approved for the development of the Bang Wad Reservoir, which will include the installation of bike lanes and we have also set aside 20 million baht to build bike lanes on 10 km of Sakdidet Road, running along both sides," Governor Nisit Jansomwong said

This flurry of cycling-related endeavor follows the hugely successful 'Bike for Mom' event on Sunday, August 16th in honor of HM Queen Sirikit's 83rd birthday. The national cycling event broke the Guinness World Record for the largest number of cyclists riding at the same time and was a very welcome piece of positive Thailand and tourism-related news, prior to the appalling events at the Erawan Shrine in Bangkok.

While encouraging, the actual commencement of work at Bang Wad Dam is over a year away, and indeed when I was cycling around the dam's tree-covered loop road last week, it was difficult to see what purpose new



There is something special about cycling near waterways, explains Baz (left).

cycle lanes would actually serve.

The road itself is very nearly free of traffic and already offers some of the best cycling on the island, surrounded by beautiful hillsides and water vistas. Much of the road has been recently resurfaced, making for perfect cycling as long as you remain alert to occasional soi dogs sleeping on the road!

Certainly when they are built, Phuket's new cycle paths should be situated adjacent to water wherever possible, as there's a very calming mental effect of cycling by water, as I recently discovered when I was

back in England.

While there, I cycled two of that country's top ten listed cycle routes, as rated by the British Tourist Association, and both are adjacent to waterways.

My Phuket-based friend Steve Lawrence and I rode the 50-kilometer circuit around Rutland Water, one of Europe's largest artificial reservoirs in late June. The route begins and ends in the historic town of Oakham and circles around this delightful lake with its sailing and trout fishing clubs, abundant wildlife sanctuaries and of course a number of friendly country pubs for

food and 'rehydrating' pints.

I also cycled the famous Kennet and Avon canal ride, which has been voted England's single best overall bike ride in many polls. The ride starts at Reading and runs across the heart of central southern England through Devizes, Marlborough, Bath and finally down to the port city of Bristol. The riding is mainly on the towpaths of the ancient canal with sections adjacent to the beautiful Kennet and the Avon rivers as well.

The three-day ride was a stunningly beautiful meditation

on rural tranquility through quintessential English countryside that seemed to transport me back to a quieter, gentler time without iPhones, traffic snarls and frayed, sleep-deprived modern commuters.

In Phuket, a fine example of how calming cycling beside water can be can already be experienced if you cycle down Soi Palai off Chao Fah Road East past the Phuket Zoo. At the end of the soi you will come to a dead-end overlooking Chalong Bay and find a new pier being constructed next to the well-known Parlai Seafood Restaurant. Turn left onto the raised concrete path that runs for a couple of kilometers overlooking delightful vistas of Chalong Bay, Lon Island and Cape Panwa. You'll get a first class experience of what traffic-free waterside cycling in Phuket could be like, if paths like these were extended to run around many of our shores.

The concrete pathway is just two meters wide and is situated on land that serves no commercial purpose, so it would be easy, cheap and fast to construct, or extend, such walking and cycling pathways as these.

It makes one wonder why we have to wait over a year and spend millions of taxpayer's baht to build at Bang Wad Dam, where the cycling is already excellent and traffic-free.

Island serves 'Amazing Tastes of Thailand'

PHUKET will play host for the first ever 'Amazing Tastes of Thailand' food fair from September 19 to 20, confirmed Anoma Wongyai, director of the Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) Phuket.

Selected food from across the nation, as well as popular Phuket dishes, will be available for visitors to enjoy on Thalang Road in Phuket Town.

"There will also be workshops by famous TV chefs and culinary schools, along with singers and celebrities," Ms Anoma added.

Activities will include food competitions, a showcase with the Iron Chef Thailand, a mini concert by singers from The Voice Thailand and Academy Fantasia, as well as traditional Thai performances.

"This is the first time ever that the TAT is holding an 'Amazing Tastes of Thailand' event and we are holding it in collaboration with our 'Dis-



You can't go wrong with mango and sticky rice. Photo: Gazette file

cover Thainess' 2015 campaign," Ms Anoma said.

"I would like everyone to join and explore the amazing

tastes of Thai food and hope that this will become an annual event for Phuket."

- Chutharat Plerin

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Wipe that mustache off your face

Look at who's behind the push for two glasses of milk a day



Excuse Buster

By Craig Burton

I OFTEN say to clients that the more advertising a food product has behind it, the more skeptical we should be about its health benefits. Look at Coke and Nestle who spend roughly three billion dollars annually. These foods need a lot of help from the spin doctors to convince us to consume them.

But what about the big marketing push for consuming soy products as a great health food – are they any good? Well, I think some healthy skepticism is beneficial here too.

With a large percentage of soy being genetically modified and a significant proportion of people having soy intolerance, plus all the studies suggesting that soy

may even lead to hormonal dysfunction, including disruption of the sex hormone balance and the thyroid hormones... identifying healthy foods is not an easy job.

The United States Department of Agriculture is very influential, not only of what Americans eat, but with the rest of the world, as many governments follow their recommendations for food dietary guidelines.

Most governments recommend that everyone should get at least two to three servings of dairy every day. The food-based dietary guidelines for Thailand recommend one to two glasses of milk each day.

In the US, milk has over an annual advertising budget of over US\$180 million, a long way short of Coke's, but not too shabby either.



Put down the cookies and step away from the milk. Photo: Benjamin Horn

Actually, the US government spends more on advertising dairy than the combined advertising budget of vegetables, fruits, meat, poultry, fish, grains and legumes.

Is dairy that nutritionally important? More than fruits and vegetables?

Now, Thailand has a relatively short history of dairy farming, having only started in the 1960s, at which point the Thai government sought technical assistance from Denmark for the establishment of a fledgling Thai dairy industry.

Currently, the milk feeding

program receives funding of around US\$205mn annually from the Thai government.

Craig Burton is a Certified Sports Nutritionist (CISSN) with a Bachelor of Science degree (Sports Science) and a National Academy of Sports Medicine (PES) certification.

Got milk? Need milk?

'MILK is good for everyone' is a common statement from all government bodies around the world. However, most humans have never tasted fresh milk from any source other than their mothers for almost all of human history.

According to the United States National Institute of Health, more than 65 per cent of the human population has a reduced ability to digest lactose after infancy. Lactose intolerance in adulthood is most prevalent in Asians, affecting more than 90 per cent of adults in some of these communities.

Lactose intolerance is a condition in which a person lacks the enzyme to break down the sugar found in milk for proper digestion. Those with lactose intolerance (and also issues with the milk protein casein) often experience gastrointestinal problems like bloating, flatulence or diarrhea when consuming milk products.

Skin conditions like Eczema and Psoriasis are also common symptoms of intolerance. For clients who are suffering from gastro-intestinal and skin issues, I recommend eliminating dairy for one month then re-introducing it to them, in order to check for reactions.

So the norm population (outside those of European descent) is 'lactose intolerant' or 'lactase



What do you need that's in your milk? Photo: Melissa Wiese

deficient'. So why is there this big 'Got Milk' push for everyone when most of the world's population has some degree of lactose intolerance?

According to the Physician's Committee for Responsible Medicine, 'there is no reason for people with lactose intolerance to drink milk. Indeed, milk does not offer any nutrients that cannot be found in a healthier form in other foods. Surprisingly, milk-drinking does not even appear to prevent osteoporosis, its major selling point'.

In reality, the keys to bone strength are lifelong exercise, Vitamin D from sunshine and a low inflammatory diet – which mostly means plenty of vegetables; high in good fats; and moderate amounts of protein, like seafood, while reducing sugar, processed foods, refined grains and possibly dairy.

More good reasons to regularly eat fish, vegetables, seeds, nuts and fruits.

– Craig Burton

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Airport arrivals rise as room rates slide

C9 Hotelworks' Bill Barnett breaks down flip side of increased arrivals

WHILE it's encouraging that passenger arrivals at the island's airport jumped by 11% during the first half (H1) of this year, compared to the same period last year, the flip side shows that hotels in all tiers tumbled with average room rates plunging from US\$175 in H1 2014 to US\$154, Bill Barnett, managing director of C9 Hotelworks says in his latest research.

He also points out that it was budget and economy hotels that suffered most during the slide in this year's first half, and although occupancy only decreased slightly to 71%, the lower-average room rate led to revenue per available room dropping from US\$126 in H1 2014 to US\$109.

Even as passenger arrivals at Phuket International Airport jumped from 2.8 million in H1 2014 to 3.1 million in H1 2015, international passenger arrivals totaled 1,730,404 with 11,020 direct flights, which shows a 6% increase compared to H1 2014. China topped the list of lead-

ing geographic source markets with a 37% growth in this period, while the other four key markets, Russia, Australia, South Korea and the UK, all dipped with Russia plunging 41%.

"Despite concerns over China and Bangkok, it's likely that Phuket will continue to see a relatively high volume of redirected tourists visiting in the 2015-2016 high season.

"Unfortunately the ability of the market to drive rates upward remains the missing link," Mr Barnett said.

However, the dimmer outlook does not seem to have deterred investors who clearly have a long-term view, as research also

shows that there are as many as 27 new hotel projects coming on stream between 2015 and 2018.

The island currently has 752 licenced lodging establishments with a total of 47,475 keys. This will be increasing from the second half of 2015 to the beginning of 2018 with the expected addition of 4,400 keys. Of this, 173 keys, or just 3.9%, are existing hotel expansion projects.

Despite concerns over China and Bangkok, it's likely that Phuket will continue to see a relatively high volume of redirected tourists.



Despite room rates dropping, investors clearly have long-term views with nearly 27 new hotel projects and expansions in full swing for 2015-2018. Photo: Gazette file.


Additionally, Patong has the highest concentration with 1,613 keys entering the market, Mr Barnett said.

Among the upcoming new hotels are Baba Beach Club on Natai, Phang Nga, with

162 keys, opening in Q4 2017; Centra Bangtao Resort Phuket with 170 keys and opening in 2017; Patong Bay Hill Hotel & Resort with 336 keys and opening in December this year; X2 Vibe Phuket

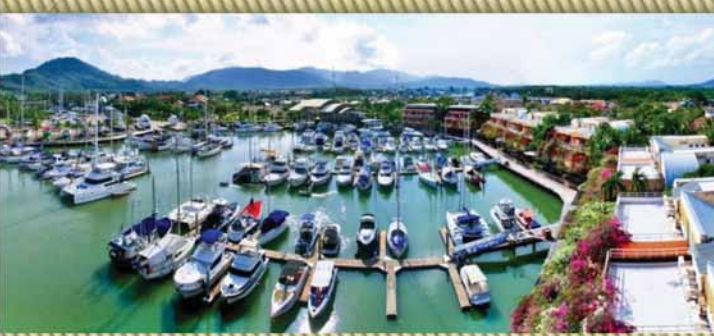
Patong with 116 keys, opening in the final quarter of this year; and Novotel Phuket Town with 180 keys and opening in the second quarter of 2016.

— *Phuket Gazette*





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Phuket Pads

By Patrick Lusted

KARON Beach is the third longest on Phuket Island and located on the west coast between Patong and Kata. Karon Beach is also the second favorite holiday destination in Phuket.

Recently, the Lonely Planet Guide named Karon Beach as one of the Top Ten Family Beach Holiday Destinations in the world. With its long beautiful beach and all the necessary facilities that visitors could need, there is no doubt that Karon is definitely a destination fit for everyone and it now boasts Karon Beach Square, situated within the Movenpick Resort & Spa with an abundance of restaurants, bars, cafes and entertainment rivaling Patong.

The Movenpick Resort & Spa Resort is now offering a minimum of six per cent guaranteed rental return before tax



Apartments offer a sea view.

for the first three years, for those who buy into their apartment rental program.

Apartments are two bedroom modern contemporary designed units of 130 square meters in five individual three storey buildings within 30 meters of the beach and with great sea views. Situated within a five star luxury resort, amenities include three swimming pools, a fitness center, tennis courts, a business center and room service.

Buyers have the option of being completely independent, or of entering the rental scheme which allows them use of the apartment for 60 days per year

at no additional cost.

There is also a kids' entertainment area called the Zone which caters for small children up to teenagers and is fully manned and supervised.

Apartments are fully furnished and include a flat screen TV, cable, sea views from the balconies and 24 hour butler service. There is also 24/7 security.

The location near famous Karon Beach is close to all amenities and has plenty of local activities and one of the longest and best beaches in Phuket.

Phuket town is 25 minutes away and Patong only 10 minutes.

Price: 14,000,000 baht. Offer terms: leasehold, huge reduction for quick sale. Similar Movenpick units on offer ranging from 17mn t 21.5 mn baht.

For more information, contact: Patrick Lusted at Siam Real Estate, quoting reference number: CSSV3325. T: 076-288908 www.siamrealestate.com

Supalai Lagoon a star performer

By Nina Suebsukcharoen

MAKING waves all the way to Bangkok is the recently launched Supalai Lagoon Condo because it has turned out to be one of this listed developer's best performing condominium project this year.

Supalai Plc's Chairman and CEO Prateep Tangmatitham said at an exclusive interview in the capital last week that it is this project's good location, not only fronting Thepkasattri Road, but also next to the sea, which appeals to people. They like it even more when they actually drive into the estate because they can feel the sea breeze as soon as they get out of the car.

"From the fourth floor upwards, you can see the sea and people living on the second and third floors can go up to the roof to enjoy the sea view."

The estate is divided into two parts with the condominium, valued at 570 million baht, covering 4 rai and comprising two eight-storey buildings housing a total of 406 units.

Meanwhile the housing



Supalai Plc's big boss Prateep Tangmatitham (right) says good location is driving sales at his company's latest condo on the island.



subdivision, called Supalai Lagoon Phuket and valued at 2 billion baht, covers 80 rai and has 482 homes including two-storey single houses on a 50-square-wah plot; a selection of new type houses on 36-square-wah plot, as well as 20-square-wah townhomes.

"Where price is concerned, the condos starts at a little over 1 million baht, going up to 3mn baht, while the housing subdivision starts from 2mn baht and reaches 11mn baht," Mr

Prateep said.

He explained that in Thailand a middle-income home is in the range of 2 to 5mn baht, while a high-income dwelling is from 6 to 11mn baht.

"Buyers are mainly Thai but some foreigners have also bought, foreigners married to Thais have bought housing subdivision units while others have opted for condos."

Although island regulations prevented Supalai from building anything higher than eight

storeys at this estate, it is currently building a 15-storey condominium called Supalai Vista Phuket in the Old Town.

"In Phuket we have already developed five condo projects, but there are only units for sale in the last two, plus a few left in the third one."

"We have also launched seven housing subdivisions on the island and four of them have sold out."

While there is no more land to develop additional phases at

the Supalai Lagoon estate, Mr Prateep firmly stated that his company will continue developing on the island and is already looking for new land plots.

"We buy new land every week," he said.

However the cost of developing projects on Phuket is approximately ten per cent higher than Bangkok because all major construction materials have to be transported from the capital.

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Large house, 7 air-conditioned rooms, private swimming pool with golf view. Center to all international schools and shopping malls. 73,000 baht per month. Kathu. Tel: 081-271 3228. Email: info@procarpentering.com

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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

APARTMENT FOR RENT

One-bedroom apartment, fully-equipped kitchen with balconies, overlooking the mountain and the sea. Patong Tower. Tel: 076-344922, 083-280 9433 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-341870. Email: kkiran23@hotmail.com

KATA SEAVIEW CONDO FOR RENT

Special promotion. From now to October 31: 23,000 baht per month + 1 free motorbike rental. Tel: 087-282 3724 (English). Email: keywest_aloha@hotmail.com

CHALONG BEACHFRONT COTTAGE



For short- and long-term rent. For more information, please call or send email. Tel: 089-649 9939 (English & Thai). Email: siri_phuket@changrunner.com

CONDO FOR RENT



Short or long-term rent at Kathu, fully furnished, swimming pool, fitness. 9,000 baht / month. Tel: 081-607 8567. Email: suksavat@hotmail.com, www.phuket-condo.net

SEA VIEW CONDO IN PATONG BEACH

Sea view condo Patong beach, 1 to 2 bedrooms, fully furnished 10 units available for sale/rent on daily/monthly/yearly basis. Reasonable price. Tel: 081-797 7199, 086-683 0786. Email: highstylecondominium@gmail.com

CHEAP RENT HOUSE

Fully furnished 1-3 bedrooms, aircons, WiFi, starts from 6,000 baht / month. Tel: 081-892 4311. http://panwagreen.weebly.com

NAI HARN PENTHOUSE FOR RENT

2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 118 sqm. Long term: 35,000 baht / month. 5min to beach, shopping and restaurant within walking distance. Tel: 087-882 9604. Email: artlpmj@yahoo.com

POOL PENTHOUSE

2-bedroom unit, rooftop pool, gazebo & sundeck, seaview. Holiday or long term. Karon Beach. Email: gmseasia@gmail.com

HILL & SKY POOL APT.

Opposite Bangkok Hospital, 40sqm, room with balcony, private car park, elevator. Tel: 076-254480, 093-640 5554, 081-797 1008. Email: idresidences@hotmail.com

FOR RENT RAWAI/NAI HARN



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

RECRUITMENT

TEACHER WANTED

Home schooling, native English, female, Monday-Friday, 9.00-2.00pm, 4 children, 7-9 years old. Salary: 40,000 baht. Tel: 081-343 0777. Email: montha_phuket@yahoo.com

PROPERTY LISTING

Siam Real Estate is looking for a new, part-time member to take property listings and photos around Phuket. Must have own transport. Good commission. Tel: 076-288908. Email: jobs@siamrealestate.com

BAR & LOUNGE MGR.

Patong. Experienced Thai female, 30 years old, English speaking, attractive personality. Excellent wage+profit share package. Tel: 062-830 7754. Email: pierre.zabbal@gmail.com

SALES MANAGER

DVC looking for experienced timeshare SM. Good package + WP for right candidate. Patong. Tel: 076-342794. Email: hr@davidvacationclub.com

Phuket Gazette

As part of its expansion into national markets, the Phuket Gazette seeks two advertising sales representatives.

Advertising Sales

- ▶ Thai, age at least 26, with an outgoing personality
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- ▶ Good command of spoken and written English
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- ▶ Alert, self motivated and goal driven

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

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CLXTHAI Co., Ltd. 44 Moo 3, Palai Soi 2, Chalong, Muang, Phuket 83130.
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Combined admin and secretarial role requiring: 1) Good English. 2) Office experience. 3) Assisting with invoices and petty cash records. 4) Teamwork attitude. 5) Ability to work under pressure. Monday to Friday. Salary: Subject to experience: 20,000 baht upwards. Tel: 082-889 7897 (English). Email: desmond@hugheskrupica.com, www.hugheskrupica.com

BOATWORKER

Cleaning, sanding, painting. Please call 099-013 4172 (English). Phuket Boat Lagoon. Email: boatcrewwanted@gmail.com

ATTRACTIVE FEMALE WANTED

25,000 baht++ for an enthusiastic, attractive Thai female to assist in running a restaurant in Phuket town. Must be fun & speak English fluently. Tel: 087-884 8271 (English & Thai). Email: simon@colonial-connection.com

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TOYOTA FORTUNER 2006

Year 2006, 7 seats, black. Petrol 2,982cc, Blue book, service history at Toyota Pearl. 165,000km. Price: 650,000 baht. Tel: 076-615827. Email: golfguru2005@yahoo.co.uk

TOYOTA FORTUNER 2009

Year 2009, 7 seats, silver, GPS + video. Diesel 2,694 cc, Blue book, service history at Toyota Pearl. 81,000 km. Price: 750,000 baht. Tel: 076-615827. Email: golfguru2005@yahoo.co.uk

HONDA CITY ZX

Honda City ZX 1.5L is for urgent sale in Kathu. Tel: 085-199 7201 (English). Email: hq@thailand-travels.info

BMW 320I SE M-SPORT

Model 2011. Hood carbon fiber. Body Motorsport. Wheels 18". Exhaust 4 pipes-M. Engine remapping and pedal box. Full options. 1.5 million baht. Tel: 087-466 8640 (English). Email: christophe.fischer71@wanadoo.fr

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RENTALS

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