

# Phuket Gazette

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# Tsunami buoy to be launched

By Sompratch Saowakhon

PHUKET CITY: Thailand's tsunami early-warning system will take a big step forward this month, when a high-tech monitoring buoy able to directly detect tsunami waves will be deployed about 1,100 kilometers off the Andaman Coast, near the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

The DART-2 buoy will be launched from a research vessel that will leave the Phuket Marine Biological Center pier at Cape Panwa on November 28.

The buoy, the first of its kind in the Andaman Sea, will be linked via satellite to the existing network of some 80 tsunami warning towers already built in the six tsunami-hit provinces. It is expected to provide valuable lead time in warning coastal residents of an approaching tsunami.

It will use US-made Deep Sea Tsunami Detection Equipment-2 (DART-2) technology. Similar technology has long been used as part of the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Pacific Tsunami Warning Center.

The buoy is the first of two to be provided by the US government as part of its two-year, US\$16.6-million contribution of equipment and expertise. They will eventually join a network of buoys forming part of an Indian Ocean tsunami early-warning system by NOAA.

Currently, the warning towers can be activated only following orders from the National Disaster Warning Center (NDWC) headquarters in Nonthaburi.

Researchers at the center must first obtain seismic data



**OH BUOY!** A second generation Deep Sea Tsunami Detection Equipment (DART-2) buoy, similar to the one that will be deployed in the Indian Ocean near the Andaman & Nicobar islands.

The key to the technology is a highly-sensitive air pressure sensor that sits on the seabed, detecting slight changes in the depth of the water column above.

Information is sent to the buoy at the ocean's surface and then relayed to a geostationary satellite in the sky above.

-Photo courtesy of NOAA

from earthquake activity in the region, then make an educated guess about the likelihood of a tsunami.

The last time the NDWC issued a tsunami warning was on March 28, 2005, following an 8.3-magnitude earthquake in Sumatra. The warning, which caused panic in Patong and other parts of Phuket, turned out to be a false alarm.

NDWC Director Dr Smith Thammasaroj said that the buoy will be donated by the US government, but it will cost the Thai government about 36 million baht in maintenance costs over the buoy's two-year life span.

Once the buoy is operational, he said, it will be handed

over to the Meteorological Department because the NDWC faces staff and funding shortages following the change in national government.

He criticized the government for suspending the NDWC's 300-million-baht plan to install 144 more disaster-warning towers in the North, North-east and Central region.

Smith had earlier vowed to quit his post if the self-appointed Council for National Security continues to ignore the nationwide warning tower project.

The NDWC would be able to maintain the buoy only if its status were changed to that of an independent public agency, he added.

**Island CCTV to be operational by January**

By Janyaporn Morel

PHUKET CITY: Forty-eight closed circuit TV (CCTV) cameras will be installed as part of a pilot video monitoring and surveillance project that is expected to be fully operational in Phuket in January, about one month ahead of schedule.

Phuket Provincial Police Commander Pol Maj Gen Decha Budnampetch said that project contractor CAT Telecom Public Company has until the end of February to complete the work.

However, he added that he wants it up and running as soon as possible to boost tourist safety in parts of Phuket City, Patong and Karon during the peak of the high season.

The 16-million-baht "Security Control and Command Center Project", as it is officially named, was launched with a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed on August 7 between CAT Telecom and the Phuket Provincial Police.

CAT Telecom's Phuket Office Manager Worawit Worawiboonpong said the equipment needed to complete the project was sourced from Bosch, Germany, and has already been sent to a dealer in Bangkok.

The equipment is expected to arrive and be installed in Phuket soon, he said.

Phuket City, Patong and Karon will each have 16 surveillance points as part of the project's first phase.

A second phase is expected to follow to expand coverage of the island and link with private sector security cameras.

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## New mobile phone numbers to start December 1

THAILAND: The National Telecommunication Commission (NTC) in Thailand announced that beginning December 1 all mobile phone numbers in Thailand must be changed from nine digits to 10.

"If any user doesn't change their number to 10 digits, or if any user calls a number without pressing 10 digits, the call will not be connected," an NTC press release said.

The responsibility of changing the phone number is up to the mobile phone customer. To have a number changed, customers must take their phone into their provider's store to have their account updated. The transition began September 1.

## Prostitution comes second in latest crime statistics

PHUKET: Statistics released by Phuket Provincial Police show that prostitution-related crime resulted in the second-highest number of arrests, 91, in October, knocking drug offenses from its usual number two position and trailing only the perennial leader, gambling.

Of the 214 people arrested for gambling-related offenses, 23 cases involved the sale of illegal underground lottery tickets.

Seventy-four people were arrested for drug-related offenses, a 32% fall from those in September.

Two murders were reported and remain under investigation, and six cases of attempted murder were reported, with five arrests made.

There were three reports of rape leading to three arrests and 23 cases of assault were reported, resulting in 16 arrests.

# Man dies in drunken mass brawl

By Sompratch Saowakhon

PHUKET CITY: A young man was killed and another critically injured after being stabbed during a drunken melee that broke out in a children's playground at Saphan Hin early on November 14.

Phuket City Police Investigating Inspector Pol Lt Col Somkid Boonrat identified the dead man as Sompob Chumpan, 24, who died of a single three-inch-deep stab wound to the abdomen.

The other victim, 23-year-old Jarun Dejtim, was rushed to Vachira Phuket Hospital after suffering two stab wounds to the chest and a third to the right side of his mid-section, he said.

At the time of going to press, Jarun was still in the surgery ward at the hospital.

Col Somkid said that at about 1 am the two men were sitting as part of a six- or seven-member drinking circle near one of the sports gymnasiums in the area.

Sompob began arguing with his girlfriend and became furious, smashing a beer bottle against the ground.

This drew the ire of another, similarly-sized drinking circle nearby, whose members began to curse Sompob's group before mounting their motorcycles to leave.

As they were leaving, Sompob hurled his beer bottle at them, but it missed and hit a member of a third, much larger drinking circle further away.

Some 20 members of that group, some armed with knives, set upon Sompob's group. When it was all over Sompob's lifeless body was found about 400 meters away.

Near him was a bloody sword with a blade almost a meter long.

Police said it was the weapon used to stab Jarun, not Sompob.

Col Somkid told the *Gazette* that police have arrested a teenager nicknamed "Jo" in connection with the murder and have witnesses from Sompob's group willing to identify him as the one who stabbed Sompob.

Jo has now confessed to the crime and is being held at Phuket Provincial Court detention cells charged with murder, said police.

Jo has already served time in a juvenile detention center for possession of an illegal weapon, Col Somkid added.

Police are now in the process of requesting arrest warrants for other people involved in the attack, Col Somkid said.

# Blaze guts Patong beachfront stalls

By Sompratch Saowakhon

PATONG: A fire broke out on Thaweewong Rd about 4 am November 15, destroying eight vendors' stalls and causing an estimated 10 million baht in damages.

Firefighters took two hours to extinguish the blaze.

The fire broke out in a row of shops at near the Holiday Inn Resort. After being notified of the blaze by Kathu Police, 10 trucks from Patong Municipality Fire Department rushed to the scene, where stalls were engulfed by flames several meters high.

Despite the late hour, many local residents and tourists looked on as firemen struggled to put out the fire, which was fueled by garments stored by vendors.

Kathu Police Investigator Pol Capt Pratuang Pholmana, responsible for the investigation into the cause of the blaze, said that the combined value of the damage was about 10 million baht, with about 20 different vendors suffering losses.



Live power wires between firefighters and the blaze hampered their efforts to extinguish the fire.

Firefighters were hampered in their efforts to put out the fire by live electrical wires strung from power poles between the shops and the road, he added.

The presence of so many dangling cables along the beach road has long been a source of

complaints from tourists and local shop owners alike. Patong Municipality had requested that the cables be installed underground as part of the Tourism Authority of Thailand's post-tsunami redevelopment plan for the area, but the request was denied.



Georgie Fame is just one of the greats who will perform at the Jazz Royale Festival.

## Big names to headline Jazz Festival

KARON: The Jazz Royale Festival will be held at Karon Park on December 16 and 17.

Among the big names to perform in the show are Kenny G, The Dizzy Gillespie All Star Band, and jazz great Ahmad Jamal.

Tickets cost 1,500 baht for each day of the festival and are available from the Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) office on Thalang Rd, Phuket, and Thaiticketmaster at 02-2623456. For more information, call the TAT at 076-211036.

For the program of scheduled performances see [www.phuketgazette.net/bulletins](http://www.phuketgazette.net/bulletins).

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# Aids Day campaign targets karaoke kids

Tanisa Bunyasiwa

PHUKET CITY: As part of the preparations for World Aids Day on December 1, the Phuket Provincial Public Health Office (PPHO) has called for a close watch to be kept on private karaoke rooms because of "unsuitable behavior" by some youths using the rooms.

In particular, the PPHO has called on department stores to crack down on teenagers using karaoke rooms for sexual encounters.

The PPHO will also launch an education campaign to be held in all local schools and many public buildings to mark the annual event. The same theme as last year - "Stop AIDS, Keep the

Promise" - will be used to promote the campaign.

Phuket Vice-Governor Worapoj Rattasima said, "At every local school, university, department store, as well as the boxing stadiums at Sapan Hin and Patong, we will distribute leaflets about how to have safe sex."

According to PPHO figures, about 40.3 million people infected with HIV/Aids around the world, with 1.2 million in Thailand.

Phuket has the second-highest incidence of Aids per capita in the South, and the fourth-highest in Thailand, following Ranong, Phayao and Trat.

The PPHO reports that 4,146 people in Phuket have HIV/Aids. Of those, 2,799 are male and 1,347 are female.

# Couple injured in acid attack

PHUKET: A woman was left seriously injured after having acid thrown in her face on November 17. The woman's boyfriend suffered burns to his chest and right hand in the attack.

Pol Sub Lt Thada Sodarak, of Phuket City Police Station, told the *Gazette* that Pissanu Praduppet told police that his wife committed the attack after he had asked her for a divorce.

The couple had lived apart for two months after Nirat left their house in Saphan Hin to live with his new girlfriend, who police identified only as "Ya", a woman he met in a karaoke lounge in Phuket City, Lt Thada said.

After Pissanu had told Nirat that he wanted a divorce, she followed him to Ya's home, where an argument broke out.

Nirat then pulled out a can of acid she had been hiding and splashed it on her husband and his girlfriend before fleeing the scene.

The victims were taken to Vachira Hospital.

# B50,000 reward for drive-by shooter

PHUKET CITY: Phuket City Police officers have announced a 50,000-baht reward for information relating to a drive-by shooting on November 12.

During the attack, on Chao Fa East Rd at 8:30 pm, gunmen in a black pickup pulled alongside a silver-colored sports utility vehicle and opened fire, hitting the car at least six times.

The victim managed to drive away unharmed.

At least one eyewitness identified the attackers' vehicle as

a black pickup, police said.

The reward will go to anyone who can provide information leading to the arrest of the gunman. Police said the victim is putting up the reward, but the victim disputed that when contacted by the *Gazette*, saying that police will provide the money.

Anyone with relevant information is urged to call Pol Lt Col Somkin Boonrat at Tel: 089-7248490.

Police said the identity of callers will remain confidential.



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# Patong to test one-way traffic

By Supanun Supawong

PATONG: In the hope of bringing some order to Patong's traffic chaos, on January 15 the town will adopt a one-way road system on a three-month trial basis.

Rat U-Thit 200 Pi Rd will become one-way southbound and Thaweewong Rd (the beach road) one-way northbound from Prachanukhro Rd to Phra Barami Rd.

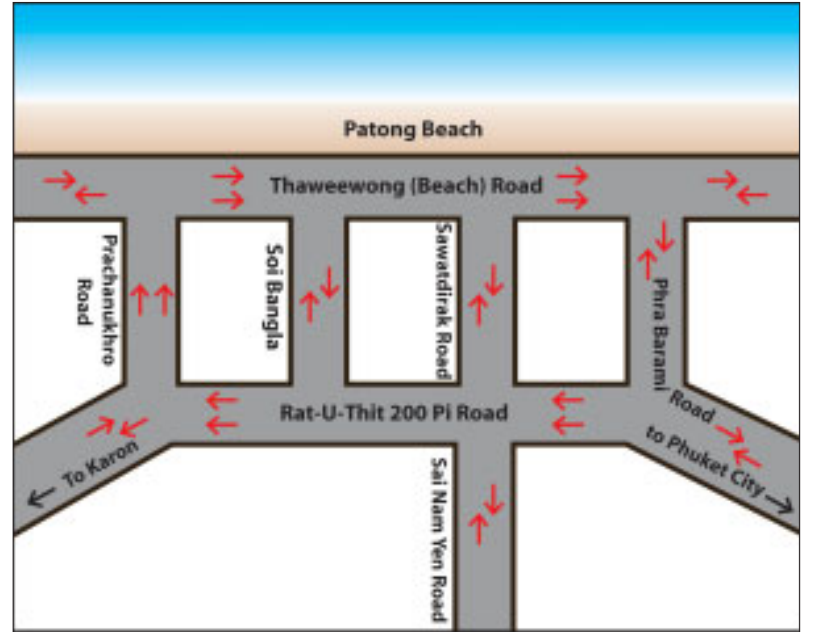
Prachanukhro Rd will become one-way from Rat U-Thit 200 Pi Rd to Thaweewong Rd, toward the beach.

All other roads in the municipality will remain two-way, including Soi Bangla, which will remain closed to traffic at night.

Pol Capt Parinya Rattana, who is in charge of traffic in Patong, said the one-way system will run until April 15, 2007, after which its effectiveness will be reviewed.

"I am 80% to 90% sure there won't be any problems. This project can reduce traffic problems, and it will be much easier to control traffic when we have a fair or special activity on the beach road," he said.

When the new system goes into effect, arrows indicating one-way traffic flow will be painted on the streets and roads signs



**FROM CHAOS TO ORDER?** Starting January 15, Patong will introduce a one-way traffic system in its main tourist area, with southbound traffic using Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd and northbound traffic using Thaweewong Rd (the beach road).

erected to inform motorists of the change, he added.

The route was chosen after a November 10 public hearing to elicit input from tuk-tuk and motorcycle taxi drivers, hotel owners, entertainment business owners and other members of the public, Capt Parinya said.

However, there are no plans to introduce a hop-on, hop-off "baht bus" similar to the cheap, popular service in Pattaya.

Phuket Deputy Mayor Chairat Sukkaban said that he has put the idea before the Municipality, but that there has been no progress on the issue.

Tourists in Patong are currently charged a 100-baht minimum fare by tuk-tuk drivers, regardless of the distance - contributing to Patong's reputation as having one of the most expensive public transport systems in Thailand.

# Wichit Songkhram roadwork to cause tailbacks

KATHU: Motorists traveling between Kathu and Phuket City can expect traffic delays over the next year, as the narrow, hilly stretch of Wichit Songkhram Rd west of Makro is now being widened into a four-lane divided highway with sidewalks on both sides.

The roadworks start at Soi Thida and end about a kilometer

away in front of Moo Baan Irawadee Ketho housing estate.

The project is intended to match in width and appearance the road widening work on the same road near the Darasamut/Central Festival Intersection.

Project contractor Noppawong Kosarng Company began work on the 45.9-million-baht project on October 7, and has one

year to complete the work.

In the meantime, he suggested that motorists traveling between Kathu and Patong use Phra Phuket Kaew Rd, which starts at the Samkong Intersection near Tesco-Lotus, as an alternative, said Charoonlerk Logooottara, Head of Kathu Municipality's Civil Engineering Department.

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# Sparkling

Barely a hotel or resort in Phuket worth its salt does not boast a spa, and new day spas are popping up everywhere – sometimes where you least expect them. Phuket, already touted as a “medical hub” and “IT technology hub”, is now said to be emerging as a spa industry “hub” as well. But how realistic is this tag? *Gazette* staff report.

Spas, for anyone who has lived in a cave for the past 10 years or so, are two-a-penny these days. They are being aggressively pushed by destination marketers, the Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) and the spa operators themselves. Spas are the latest in a series of sales pitches, all starting with the letter “s”, being used to tout the island: sun, sea, sand and sailing – and perhaps one more that is seldom mentioned in polite society.

The “Andaman Spa Invitation 2006”, from November 16-19 at Central Festival Phuket, promoted the delights of spa treatments to a multitude of shoppers, tourists and residents alike.

Almost 50 companies and organizations took part in the exhibition. The event was the first organized to promote Phuket’s spas, according to event organizers Mirage Organizer Co Ltd, which brought together the Phuket Spa Association, the Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT), the Phuket Provincial Administra-

tion Organization (*OrBorJor*) and the Phuket Provincial Health Office to make it all happen.

Thai Spa Federation (TSF) Chairman Dr Pailboon Pilun-owad told the *Gazette* that it is important to dispel the mistaken notion that “massage” somehow equates with “sex”.

“Massage in Thailand is a long-established therapy and has been part of Thai culture for many, many years. The sexual connotations became attached to it only recently,” he argued.

The adoption of the word “spa” by businesses involved with health or tourism raises those companies’ profile and adds an impression of luxury to customers’ perceptions of it, he added.

“Obviously, spas are more than just a place where one receives a massage,” he began. “One can have a perfectly good massage that relaxes the body. But with a spa, the surroundings are designed to be beautiful so that the mind, too, can relax.”

“Then there are the scents of the oils, the gentle, therapeutic



These therapists didn’t have to travel far to attend “Andaman Spa Invitation 2006”. The host venue, Central Festival, is located right across the street from where they work at the Cheraim Spa complex.



Phuket Spa Association President Pakin Raktae-Ngam said that Phuket, despite its tiny size, boasts more spas than any other province beside Bangkok.

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# performance?

music, all of which combines to make the customers calm down, to feel as if they are in heaven," said Dr Paiboon.

The number of spas in Thailand has soared in recent years, he said. "Plot the growth on a graph, and the curve rises at 60 degrees at one point," he noted.

Phuket has more than its fair share. Pakin Raktae-Ngam, President of Phuket Spa Association, said that there are currently 971 spas registered with the Thai Spa Association. Of these, approximately 34% are in the Phuket-Krabi-Phang Nga area.

"Looking at the country as a whole," he said, "Phuket is second after Bangkok in terms of how many spas there are. Third is Chiang Mai."

Dr Paiboon said that the TSF has played a vital role in the development of the spa industry here.

"The TSF has a duty to maintain certain standards and to ensure that all therapists have undergone at least eight hours of training to be certified as a spa therapist. It also regulates the skills of the spa manager – not just the therapeutic skills, but the managerial and marketing skills as well."

Education remains an essential requirement for the continued healthy growth of the spa industry, Dr Paiboon maintains.

"Thai governmental policies have supported the development of the industry. The Ministries of Education and of Public Health, as well as the Department of Vocational Training, work hand-in-hand with spa businesses to provide a ready source of new staff to work in this growing sector.

"Well-trained staff are essential, not just to provide physical therapeutic treatments, but also to understand the importance of Thai culture – of decoration, of how to create a relaxing ambiance," he commented.

"Until recently, the infrastructure needed to train the therapists with all the requisite skills just wasn't there. Sure they



Getting a spa treatment in the main concourse of Central Festival may not be as private an affair as at the Andaman Spa, but it's better than a poke in the eye with a sharp stick.

could massage, but the uniquely Thai qualities of grace and compassion were often absent from the massage. The tenderness, the gentleness, were not present."

"That has, thankfully, now changed," said Dr Paiboon.

Ajarn Matavee Wongvairoj, Chief of the Tourism Department of Phuket Vocational College, said that there is a paucity of well-qualified therapists in the spa business, which is obviously very labor-intensive with one-on-one treatments and even two-on-one treatments common."

"The *OrBorJor* recognizes the value of the spa industry and gave us a budget to run a full-time, one-month course for therapists.

"It was well attended," he said, with some 77 people taking and passing the course, which was taught by specialists from Thai Traditional Medicine Development Foundation (TTMDF), Patong Hospital and Sukko Spa.

"Of the 77, fifteen are now working in Thai spas in other countries," he said.

The college also runs a part-time, two-year course for those who already have at least two years' work experience as a masseuse, but do not yet hold a certificate from the TTMDF.

"We will offer more courses

in the spa business because it is such a burgeoning industry. Graduates will have trained for a good career, either at home or abroad," said Ajarn Matavee.

Spas in Phuket run the gamut from budget-priced to the seriously expensive.

One major difference – aside from the general distinction of day spas versus resort spas – is that some spas rely heavily on groups of foreign tourists, often from South Korea, Taiwan and mainland China – including some "zero dollar" tour groups that come on fully pre-paid tours.

"The difference," said Dr Paiboon, "is that they cater for different types of customers. Although all offer luxury and effective treatment, they offer different levels of service. I see no reason why the two cannot happily coexist here; neither is better than the other. They have different strengths and different weaknesses; some customers are quite happy with the 'walk-in' atmosphere of some of the larger day spas, while others want the delight of being able to relax at the resort afterwards."

Supanida Wadtaisong, Manager of Mom Tri's Spa Royale, in Kata, suggested that there might be too many spas on the island, however.

"There is an oversupply of spas, with the knock-on effect that, in an effort to garner more customers, some spas may lower their prices and look at ways of reducing overhead.

"Employing cheaper labor, perhaps therapists who are not as skilled or trained as others, is one way to reduce costs. This could lead to a dilution in quality," said K. Supanida.

"But it doesn't need to be this way. Standards can be maintained and the industry shouldn't be so desperate to have quantity at the expense of quality.

"My spa, for example, has around 12 customers per day. All of them, whether walk-in customers or guests, receive the very highest levels of care and therapy; there is none of the 'production-line' attitude that can occur with larger, volume-oriented spas."

Is it really true that, if left unchecked, the high-volume, low-profit attitude of some operators may result in the sensuous pleasure of a spa treatment amounting to little more than the therapeutic equivalent of fast food – unsatisfying and quickly forgettable?

At what might be considered the polar extreme of the Spa Royale is Cheraim Spa Village,

near Central Festival Phuket.

While the building may be pleasantly luxurious, the spa is close to a major intersection and a restaurant popular with tour groups and large wedding receptions. No gentle sounds of the sea here – except in the muzak.

"Our luxury spa is located on 10 rai, and yes, our main market is tour groups, especially from East Asia. I'd say about 70% are South Korean honeymooners – although we have a sizable number of Westerners who come alone or in couples," said Spa Manager Chatayodom Martmuang.

"But a luxurious spa need not be expensive; we offer, for example, use of our sauna for just 150 baht," he said.

Cheraim Spa Village also ensures that walk-in guests are kept separate from large East Asian tour groups, which can be quite noisy.

K. Pakin was keen to look into the future of the spa industry in Phuket and speculate about ways it might diversify to ensure profits for years to come.

"It has been the trend so far for Thai spas to be purely a place to relax. I feel that the Phuket industry should change and better embrace the medical spa concept.

"At a medical spa, the emphasis is split between relaxing the customer and curing them through various therapies and approaches, such as medical examinations by doctors, nutritional advice from dietitians and cosmetic advice from experts in that field," he explained.

Phuket, which already bills itself as a medical hub, will not enjoy a spa monopoly, he warned.

"This is not a trend unique to Phuket, or even Thailand, and therefore we are in competition with many other countries.

"Spa treatments are a popular adjunct to many tourists' holidays. Indeed, they are the main reason some tourists come here. They are also a popular choice for expat residents keen to pamper themselves," he said.



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## Queer News

## Full-house fiasco

Three unlucky vacationers from the Islamic Republic of Iran were taught a lesson on November 15, when they learned the hard way that pleasures of the flesh rarely come cheap – even in the steamy sois off south Pattaya's infamous Walking Street.

The three men, Sedaghat Heiydari, 30, Saber Mobanazade, 31, and Nohsen Nadsill, 32, came to the seaside resort town on a package tour.

The men were presumably keen to take full advantage of being freed from the fetters of their conservative home country.

At the same time, they were keeping a careful eye on the holiday finances. It was for these dual purposes, perhaps, that the three decided to "bar fine" two young women from one of Pattaya's many beer bars to share between themselves.

On the way back to their hotel – the suitably-anonymous Ambassador City Jomtien, the world's largest resort hotel – the now five-strong group stopped for supplies: two bottles of wine – one white and one red – and two packs of Love brand condoms.

What happened next is still murky, but by the following afternoon, the wine had been drunk, five of the six condoms had been used – and not one of the three Middle Easterners could stand up.

Mr Mobanazade said that the last thing he could remember was drinking the two bottles of wine. He had no recollection of events until about noon the following day, when he woke up.

Mr Mobanazade then tried to rouse his friends. Mr Heiydari, however, could not be awoken.

Mr Nadsill and Mr Mobanazade, although conscious, were unable to stand and were reduced to falling around on the floor. All three men had also suffered bladder control problems during the night.

Mr Heiydari, who still could not be roused to his senses, was sent to hospital. The other two victims were also later taken to hospital after first checking their belongings. The two Thai tempresses had apparently made off with US\$1,200 and 3,000 baht in cash, and three mobile phones. Police are acting on the theory that the women spiked their victims' wine with tranquillizers.

The two young women may not have had such a successful night as the above haul of swag suggests, however. In their hurry to flee the scene, one of the girls forgot to pick up her government ID card, which was left with the hotel receptionist – as is standard procedure in reputable Pattaya hotels when a guest brings back unexpected company late at night.

An intrepid reporter from Thai-language daily newspaper *Kom Chad Luek* wrote that reporters were denied access to the crime scene and that hotel staff asked them not to run the story.

The woozy Iranians were smuggled out of a side entrance to evade the attention of the waiting press pack, the reporter added.

Sources: *Kom Chad Luek*, *Daily News*



Driving southwest up the hill from Patong beach to Tritrang beach, about 500 meters from the foot of the hill on the right side, one comes upon this delightful sight.

It stinks, too. Most of the garbage seems to be waste food in black bags or polystyrene food boxes, rotting in the November sun.

There is a garbage bin (on the right of the picture) but it seems that the agency responsible for clearing it out has forgotten about it, or possibly it's another sad case of "no budget".

TRASHING  
Phuket



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*When the taste is perfect,  
it can be the start of a friendship.*





# Foreign husbands bring changes to Isarn

Cross-cultural marriages between Western men and Thai women have caused major social changes in Northeastern Thailand (Isarn), a recent survey by Khon Kaen University concluded.

The head of the study, Asst Prof Supawatanakorn Wongthanasu of the university's Faculty of Nursing, said many Thai women in Isarn who have married foreigners are now keener on eating pizzas and hamburgers than *somtam*. They also prefer celebrating Western holidays such as Christmas and Valentine's Day to traditional Thai holidays.

Cross-cultural couples had less interaction with neighbors because foreign husbands faced language and cultural barriers, while the wives tried to adjust by becoming "farang", rather than helping their husbands to be more "Thai".

Thai culture in these families was thus overshadowed by Western culture, with the families' own consent, due to the pride of having foreign sons-in-law, she said.

The study found that most Isarn Thai women married to foreigners were over 30, with an average age of 35, and had education below secondary level.

More than 70% had previously wed and divorced Thai husbands and most had a child from the first marriage. The average age of farang husbands was 50, and most came from Germany, Britain and Scandinavia.

With the obvious increase in wealth of wives married to Westerners, due to their husbands' financial support, some 90% of residents surveyed said they wanted their daughters to marry foreigners, she added.

**Highway horror:** Eighteen people died and 20 were left seriously



**SITTING PRETTY:** A mannequin is used as a visual aid at World Toilet Expo and Forum 2006, held recently at Muang Thong Thani's Impact Arena in Nonthaburi Province.

injured after a company bus plunged into a gorge in Kanchanaburi's Sai Yok District on November 11. The bus, found wedged against a tree two meters below road level, narrowly escaped plummeting the entire 100-meter depth of the gorge.

The bus was carrying 45 employees of Phetchaburi-based bed-manufacturer World Bedding to their annual meeting at the Sai Yok View Hotel in Kanchanaburi.

Nine people, including the

driver, were pronounced dead at the scene; another nine died on the way to hospital. The 20 injured passengers were sent for treatment at a number of hospitals in the province.

Company-owner Vimolrat Padungphan, who was traveling separately to the meeting, expressed sorrow at the deaths of her workers. The company would cover hospital expenses and provide compensation for victims and their families, she said.

Lt Col Supparek Chai-phumsakul of the Sai Yok District Police said brake failure was the suspected cause of the accident.

**Cold case files:** The Office of the Attorney General (OAG) Deputy Spokesman Poramet Intharachumnum suggested police should re-examine alleged extrajudicial drug killings because they had more information.

Poramet also revealed police-related statistics from 2003 to November 13, 2006, when the former government was conducting its "war on drugs".

In 2003, there were 161 cases of suspects dying while in police custody or from extrajudicial killings, with two of the cases being taken to court, 140 dismissed and 19 returned to police investigators.

In 2004, there were 196 cases, of which two went to court, 157 were dismissed and 37 returned to investigators.

In 2005, 132 cases were reported. One case reached the court, 107 were dismissed and 24 returned for investigation.

In 2006, there have been 90 cases, two of which were taken to court, 44 dismissed and 10 returned to investigators because of incomplete evidence.

The other 34 cases were still to be considered by the OAG, Poramet said.

**Troubled teens:** Police charged three teenagers, including a second-year high school girl, in connection with the rape of an 11-year-old girl. The trio allegedly filmed the rape, which occurred in Bangkok's Chom Thong District.

Following a complaint filed by the victim's parents, police arrested the two boys, aged 17 and 14, and a girl at whose home the alleged rape took place.

All three denied the charges, but police used a video clip as evidence and charged them with the rape of a minor, illegal detention of a minor for lewd acts and distribution of an obscene video.

The suspects were later transferred to the Juvenile Court while police continued to hunt for two other suspects, both 14.

The victim told police she turned down one of the boy's requests for sex, but was pushed by the other boy into a bedroom where the first boy raped her. She said she was threatened by the boys not to tell anyone.

A relative of the girl found the video clip on sale at a shop in Bangkok's Sampheng Market and told the girl's parents, who took her, along with the two boys, to the police station.

*Around the Nation news roundup is sourced from the pages of The Nation and Kom Chad Luek newspapers.*

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# Bangkok Airways backs down

At a meeting with local business leaders on Koh Samui, Bangkok Airways, the island's only carrier, agreed to cancel recent fare increases on its flights from Bangkok to Samui.

The airline implemented a 20% increase on selected flights at the end of October, but local groups – including the Tourism Association of Koh Samui – objected to the hike, which they claimed would damage tourism business during the high season.

Even before the hike, Bangkok Airways' flights to Samui were already among the most expensive domestic flights in Thailand. The increase meant full-fare return tickets would cost over 10,000 baht, including taxes and surcharges.

Seni Phuwasetthaworn, President of the Tourism Association of Koh Samui, accused the company of using the high Samui fares to compensate for losses on its other, more competitive domestic routes.

Other local figures voiced their objections, claiming the airline failed to support its largest source of revenue.

With the threat of a public demonstration looming, Bangkok Airways' CEO Prasert Prasartong-Osoth flew to Samui to discuss the issue. Thirteen representatives from the island's public



## FROM THE GULF OF THAILAND

By Barry Singleton

and commercial sectors later signed an agreement that stated that the fares for Samui flights would revert to previous prices.

Bangkok Airways also agreed to provide 60 days' notice for any future fare increases, during which time Samui residents could voice their opinions.

In return, the Samui representatives agreed that any official objections to price changes would be raised within 15 days



The business community meets to denounce the airline's fare hike.

of a formal price hike announcement.

**Samui plans second incinerator:** In response to concerns that Samui can no longer deal with the amount of waste being generated on the island, Mayor Warakorn Ratanarak recently

commissioned a study into the possibility of building a new incinerator.

Warakorn says the existing Japanese-built incinerator is out of date and in desperate need of repair. He hopes to replace it with a more efficient system designed to convert combustible material into energy that could supplement the local power supply.

Modern, high-tech incinerators can cope with large amounts of waste, and of many different types.

The National Innovation Agency and The Ministry of Science and Technology have already expressed support for the installation of such a facility on Samui. International consultants will first be contracted to conduct an impact study. Then the Municipality will apply for a budget based on their findings.

The cost of the project is likely to be as high as 2 billion baht, but Warakorn says the central

government now recognizes the financial contribution Samui makes to the country as a whole, generating over 10 billion baht a year in revenue from tourism.

**Samui Rescue Service lacks support:** The Samui Rescue Service has called for government assistance to supplement its donation-based funding.

The service is a voluntary first-response team that provides medical assistance at road accidents and crime scenes, as well as transferring injured people to the island's hospitals and is currently entirely supported by donations.

With accidents and crime rates increasing rapidly on the island, the organization's Director Thawan Detyortying feels government support is now needed.

"A four-wheel-drive vehicle is essential to reach victims on steep roads or those injured in mountainous areas," he said.

"Also, with more accidents involving cars on the island, we also need special equipment to remove victims from inside crushed vehicles. Government assistance would help us improve the service."

The service recently held a training workshop to set guidelines for volunteers on how to provide the best and fastest possible service during the coming high season. Celebrations such as Christmas and New Year's always cause a sharp increase in accident rates and injuries.

Recent reports suggest that conmen masquerading as rescue volunteers sometimes help foreigners involved in accidents, later asking them for money. K. Thawan warned the Samui Rescue team to keep an eye out for such tricksters and report them to the police.



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# Trang bird deaths prompt bird 'flu tests

Forensic scientists have been called in to try and establish the cause of death of over 100 seabirds found on a beach in Trang Province.

Villagers, who have now been warned not to fish in the area, called in the experts after fearing that the birds may have succumbed to the H5N1 bird 'flu virus.

On November 15, villagers in Tambon Hua Hin, Sikao District, notified the authorities that the beach was awash with corpses of seagulls and black-winged stilts.

When officers arrived at the scene they ordered samples to be sent off for examination at the Forensic Medicine Center in Thung Song, Nakhon Sri Thammarat, and the remaining corpses to be taken away and buried.

Dr Phaisan Keua-arun, Director of Sikao District Hospital, said, "I think it is likely to be a natural phenomenon as they all died in one place and we have not heard of any more deaths after the first group. I really don't think they died of bird 'flu."

Three villagers who handled the corpses without protective equipment were placed under observation for 14 days.

**Big Banana gunned down:** Well-known former Songkhla Provincial Administration Organization council member Narin Sukjan, 44, better known as Sor Jor Kluay, or "Councilman Banana", was shot dead on the morning of November 14 while he was decorating an unnumbered godown in Haad Yai City. A friend was also shot in the attack, sustaining an injury to his right arm.

The Duty Inspector from Haad Yai District Police Station who received the report of the



Officials examine the carcass of a black-winged stilt, one of more than 100 seabirds found dead on a beach in Trang on November 15.

crime, Lt Col Prademchai Phraison, said that Narin had gone to work on the godown with four or five followers.

As they were working, three men pulled up on a Honda Wave motorbike with no registration plate. The two pillion passengers got off the bike and walked up to Narin. They then drew pistols and opened fire on him.

Despite being hit, Narin tried to run away but the men chased after him, firing until he collapsed on the ground.

The men then rushed back to the motorcycle and were driven away at high speed, Col Prademchai said.

One of Narin's younger followers, Jarun Chuchai, 25, was also hit in the attack, taking a bullet in his right arm. When police arrived at the scene, both victims had been taken to Haad Yai Hos-

pital, where Narin was pronounced dead.

Police found the walls of the godown peppered with bullet holes and collected several .357 bullet casings as evidence.

Police said that they were investigating three possible motives for the hit: a business dispute, gambling debts and adultery.

On November 15, however, Investigating Inspector Lt Col Sakda Jaroenkul said that after questioning friends and relatives of Narin, he had come to the conclusion that adultery was the likely motive for the killing.

Col Sakda explained that police had been told by many sources that Narin had been having an affair with the wife of a prisoner. Last year, when the prisoner was released, he had launched an attempt on Narin's life, but it had been unsuccessful.

This attack was likely to have been carried out by the same man, Col Sakda said.

"We are now fairly certain that the killing of Narin has the same motive as the attack on him his 2005. We think the same man was behind both attacks. We cannot yet release the suspect's name, but we have fairly clear evidence connecting him to the crime.

"We are now preparing evidence and witnesses in order to request an arrest warrant from Songkhla Provincial Court," Col Sakda added.

**Jelly bonanza:** Many fisherman on Koh Sarai, Satun, have abandoned their traditional catches and turned to collecting jellyfish as the number of the invertebrates in the waters in the area has grown rapidly following the 2004 tsunami.

Anan Hemna, Chairman of the local fisherman's association, said that about 200 boats in the area had begun to fish for jellyfish as they can make up to 3,000 baht a day, considerably more than from catching fish.

Traders from Bangkok would buy directly from the fishermen, paying 3.25 to 5 baht per kilogram, then take the jellyfish to Bangkok for export to Japan, K. Anan added.

"The places where we find the most jellyfish are those that were greatly affected by the tsunami. Before then [the tsunami], we didn't find nearly so many jellyfish," K. Anan explained.

"Jellyfish have become a considerable source of income for the local fisherman, especially now that fuel is expensive and fish are becoming harder to find, forcing the boats to go farther offshore," he added.

**Healthy profit:** Police in Nakhon Sri Thammarat are hunting for a former Provincial Public Health Officer known as "Mrs J", thought to be the head of a gang of smugglers and fraudsters who obtain cars and motorcycles on finance and then sell them in Cambodia.

Police said that they had arrested four of the gang members, whose names were used on the finance applications. The applications were always accepted without problems as one of Mrs J's sons worked for the finance company, police said.

The gang are believed to have fraudulently obtained at least five cars and 10 motorcycles by the time their actions were discovered.

*Around The South news roundup is sourced from the pages of The Nation and Kom Chad Luek newspapers.*





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# Nice place to visit, but...

By Noolek Karaket  
& Sangkhae Leelanaporn

If you have read any of the books written about the infamous Bangkok "Bangkok Hilton" Prison in Nonthaburi, then you would never want find yourself confined in a Thai jail.

But for those interested in what conditions are really like inside "the big house", there is some good news: you no longer have to be convicted of a crime to see for yourself. Phuket Provincial Prison is now conducting daily tours for the public to catch a first-hand glimpse of what it is like living behind bars in Thailand.

Phuket Provincial Prison Governor Paisarn Suwunnaraksa said that the tour is part of a progressive new Department of Corrections (DoC) policy that encourages the public to take part in helping prisoners prepare for their eventual return to society.

Rather than take the "lock 'em up and throw away the key" approach, the DoC now aims to improve its inmates' views toward society so that they can build healthy, normal lives with a positive mental outlook and job skills.

By now the cynical reader is probably asking himself: where else but Phuket could a working penal institution be used as a tourist attraction?

At 104 years old, however, Phuket jail has certainly earned its place as an island landmark. Covering an area of six rai, the prison currently holds a total of about 1,100 men and women.

Most of the Thai prisoners are serving time for drug-related offenses. The second most common offense is theft, followed by assault. There are also about 25 foreigners doing time there, most from Asia and Europe.

Phuket Prison has 65 officers, which means, at any time, a ratio of one officer to about 50 prisoners.

"We have very few wardens for the number of inmates, but we have no choice - we have to accept all prisoners once they have been convicted. Our standards may not be as good as in Europe or many other countries



**NO WAY OUT:** The wall and wire surround the entire prison. Below: Visitors' bell.

that have five-to-one prisoner-to-warden ratios, but I am sure that our jail compares favorably to those found in our neighboring countries," said K. Paisarn.

A prisoner's day starts early. They have to get up at 6 am and eat breakfast at 7 am. They sing the national anthem at 8 am before going to either work or a class, depending on what the prisoner is assigned. Lunch is served at noon and the last meal of the day is served at 3 pm. After that, prisoners bathe and return to their cell at 4:30 pm. Then it is their time to relax, by watching TV or reading. The inmates never lack for company, as each cell holds about 60 prisoners. Facilities include a toilet, cable TV, fans and beds.

Life for foreign prisoners it is a little bit different, because they are assumed to be incapable of eating the regular prison food. Instead, they can order *farang* staples like cheese and bread from the prison store. To prevent theft, foreign prisoners first deposit money into an account, a warden withdrawing the money when the food is ordered. The prisoner is given a receipt that shows how much he or she has spent, what it was spent on and the amount of money left in

the account: not much different from the food court at Tesco-Lotus, when you think about it.

Each prisoner is assigned work depending on his or her particular skills. Woodworking is one option, with inmates making furniture such as beds and coffee tables. These are sold, with 50% of net profits given to the prisoners.

"We would also like Phuket Prison to be more than just a jail. We want to help prisoners to improve themselves while doing their time here. I believe that the improvement should begin with their education," said K. Paisarn.

Courses offered at the prison include hairdressing, construction, religion and English, with three levels offered. They also listen to weekly talks by special guest speakers, who focus on vocational issues to give prisoners an idea of what they can do for work after their release.

Inmates can study through mail as well; the Thai prison system has a contract with Sukhothai Thammathirat Open University (STOU) that allows student-prisoners to take exams inside the jails under the watchful eyes of wardens serving as proctors. The exams are set at the same time in all the jails in Thailand. So suc-



cessful is the program that many graduates find work right after release. There are currently 20 prisoners enrolled in STOU courses at Phuket Prison.

Recidivism rates are low, K. Paisarn said.

"Only 3% of prisoners came back to prison a second time after being released - and so far there have been no reports of prisoners trying to escape from the jail," he added.

So what is it like "on the inside"?

As we stepped through the imposing prison door, we first felt a bit insecure. Although we should have expected it, the pres-

ence of so many guards, bars and locks is overwhelming at first. Shouted orders come fast down the line. On the way in, metallic noises are everywhere: keys clinking, locks snapping open. Doors open quickly to admit us, then are slammed shut and relocked as soon as we pass through.

Once inside, we feel as if we are the attraction - rather than the ones on a tour. We are taken to a courtyard where the prisoners, all women, stare long and hard at us as if they have never seen people before.

"Who are they?" their expressions seem to say.

Dressed in their *pha-tung*, a wrap-around cloth, they are squatting, waiting for their turn to use an outdoor shower. The atmosphere was strict, the feeling mechanical and structured - like a factory operation. Despite there being so many inmates in such a small area, it was very quiet. But despite the presence of so many "criminals" I didn't feel threatened at all. It was all very human - very human indeed - with so many bodies crammed into such a small area, it felt more like a refugee camp than a prison.

To deal with the overcrowding, a new prison is now being built on 100 rai at Baan Bangjo in Thalang. The low-walled facility will have a small farm, where inmates will be able to learn agriculture by growing fruits and vegetables and also about animal husbandry by raising fish, chickens and ducks. Only soon-to-be-released inmates and those with good disciplinary records will be transferred to the new prison. Who knows? It might not be long before that facility, too, becomes a tourist attraction.

Tours are available Monday to Friday after the prisoners are back in their cells, at 4:30 pm. Duration is 30 to 60 minutes and group size is limited to 30 people. Those interested should contact the prison one week in advance to confirm the date, time and the number of people. Foreigners must present passports. For more information contact Phuket Provincial Prison at Tel: 076-212104; Fax: 076-214689.

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By Jungceylon

Jungceylon the new International Shopping & Leisure destination, the largest and most exciting shopping and entertainment complex on Phuket's famous Patong Beach, is gearing up for a grand debut this December.

**Prawit Janyasittikul**, Deputy Chief Executive Officer of Phuket Square Company Limited, said, "Jungceylon International Shopping & Leisure destination is in a terrific location on Patong Beach, the prettiest beach in Phuket and one that is well known around the world. It is right on the corner of Bangla Road and Rat-uthit 200 Years Roads (also known as Patong 2 Road). It covers 75,000 square metres, divided into four zones. First, **Silang Boulevard** is the building in front on Patong 2 Road, connected to the hotel. It is decorated in tropical resort style. Inside are international res-



JUNGCEYLON SHOPPING & LEISURE DESTINATION

all regions of the country with over 200 boutiques inside. The



taurants such as Indochine from Singapore, a sports complex, fashion boutiques and a Thai products centre named **That's Siam**. "That's Siam" is a magnificent shopping gallery of arts and crafts from all over Thailand. The famous Dr. Doonpichai Komolvani, a well-known artist has been hired to design the space, best known for designing the set of Siam Niramit. That's Siam will be a superb location for both Thai and international shoppers to select from the finest ob-



jects d'art and handicrafts the kingdom has to offer.

"That's Siam," a centre for souvenirs and gifts that reflect Thai culture and civilization from

atmosphere of this chic new shopping zone will be a smooth combination of eastern and western spirit. **Bangkok 27 October 2006: Prawit Janyasittikul, Deputy CEO of Jungceylon Phuket**, said "Jungceylon Phuket, the largest shopping and entertainment complex on Patong Beach, is preparing to open its doors in December. **That's Siam** shopping zone, which covers 10,000 square metres. We have designed it as an arts and crafts town with the best handicrafts, art objects, gifts and souvenirs from all over Thailand. Half of the space will be devoted to shops selling local handicrafts from Phuket and nearby provinces, 40 per cent to shops with arts and crafts from other parts of the country and ten per cent imported items like carpets, cashmere, metal work and stylish household goods."

The arts and crafts boutiques within That's Siam are divided into five sections: **Thai fabrics** with fine textiles, woven items and apparel; **Thai art and handicrafts** with every kind of ancient art like weaving, sculpture, and

ceramics; **Beauty and spa** with Thai herbal spa products and services like Thai massage; **Thai food**, where you can buy tasty comestibles from Phuket and other parts of Thailand to take back home for yourself and your friends; and the other 600 square metres is the **art exhibition and craft demonstration area** where revolving exhibitions will be held along with various events and activities to promote Thai products. There, visitors can learn more about the Thai arts heritage and the work that goes into fine Thai handicraft products. During the Christmas and New Years shopping season we have planned many extra promotions and performances to thrill our guests like the **Santa Treasures activity, through which we'll be giving away special souvenirs from the Jungceylon Col-**



**lection from the beginning of December to 15 January.**

For the grand opening of That's Siam there will be extra art performances and arts and crafts demonstrations.

To welcome the large number of visitors Jungceylon has, there is a parking lot that accommodates 2,000 cars and 120 buses, the largest on Patong Beach. The shopping and entertainment complex has everything

vacationers are looking for, such as a wide range of imported and local brand name products, the famous Indochine theme restaurants from Singapore, Super Sport, Sport World, Robinson Department Store, Carrefour Hypermarket, SF City Cinema, bowling and karaoke, and much more." **If you are interested in setting up a boutique or service within the**

**That's Siam zone, please ask for more information on the available space at Abacus Management Company Lim-**



**ited, tel. 02-954-2514. Get ready to discover a unique new leisure time experience with something for everyone when Jungceylon Phuket, the largest shopping and entertainment complex on Patong**

**Beach, opens this December 2006.** Next, is **The Port** zone, an outdoor courtyard with plenty of shade trees and a big pond. The main focal point is an exquisite reproduction of an ancient Chinese junk boat. We have installed a modern light and sound system for all kinds of events. There is also a musical fountain with a splendid light and sound show that will be held free nightly. The

fountain is a great meeting place. The third zone is called the **Sino Phuket** zone. It is a showcase of local culture, made up of shops in Sino-Portuguese style buildings just like a street in downtown Phuket in the old days. Inside will be many unique and trendy restaurants and entertainment venues with something going on all the time. Our fourth zone is called **Phuket Square**, along Patong 3 Road, which will be a main thoroughfare of the Patong area in the near future. Phuket Square links to the other sections and the hotel. That is where the Robinson Department Store, Carrefour Hypermarket and SF Entertainment Complex are located, along with many other shops." "What makes Jungceylon Lifestyle & Shopping Centre so unique is that it gives you a true flavour of Phuket lifestyle. The Sino-Portuguese buildings and modern oriental décor give you a feel for the history of the place, while the broad walking avenues inside (20 metres wide) and the great abundance of green plants along with the big pond (covering 40 per cent of the total area) help visitors fully enjoy the tropical beach resort atmosphere that Phuket is so famous for. We are sure that all our Thai and foreign visitors will be impressed with the experience they get here."

Phuket is one of the major tourist destinations in Southeast Asia. Besides the beautiful beaches Phuket has many interesting sights to see. Jungceylon International Shopping & Leisure Destination was developed as a leading shopping and entertainment destination to promote Thailand's beautiful nature and modern lifestyle.

This December get ready to take a reminiscent trip down memory lane, back in time to an era of happiness and laughter in yesteryear Phuket. Touch contemporary Eastern civilization and the beauty of the seaside at Phuket's largest and grandest entertainment and shopping complex. It is an experience you will never forget.

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# Go-go girls learn to flamenco

By Peter Janssen, dpa

**G**o-go dancing, the not-so-refined art of gyrating in a bikini, or less, in bars, has been a staple of Thailand's booming night entertainment industry for decades. According to sleaze historians, the dance style first kicked off at the Grand Prix bar on Patpong Rd, Bangkok, during the Vietnam war, when the American owner had the bright idea of getting his girls to dance, minimally dressed, on a small stage.

Since then, Bangkok go-go dancing has not developed much as an art form, but things may be changing.

Empower, a non-governmental organization established in 1985 to promote women's rights in the entertainment industry, has now added instruction in classical dance to its curriculum of non-formal education for sex workers on Patpong, where an estimated 5,000 women are employed in bars.

The first dance class, attracting about 20 students, was held this month at Empower's office on Patpong, two floors above the Super Pussy Bar.

"The Non-Formal Education Department has agreed that dancing is a profession that could qualify for a certificate," said Empower director and founder Chantawipa Apisuk.

Empower, which stands for Education Means Protection of Women Engaged in Recreation, has been providing non-formal courses to sex workers in Bangkok for the past 13 years at its so-called Empower University on Patpong, which offers high school graduation certificates from the Ministry of Education.

"Many of our graduates



**FLAMENCO FLING.** "It was a lot of fun. The girls said they wanted me to come back next week, so I will," said instructor Malu Boix.

have gone on to attend university," said K. Chantawipa. "They are ex-sex workers, but also lawyers, psychologists, accountants and journalists."

Offering basic dance courses to Patpong sex workers was in response to popular demand.

"Here the teachers are students, and the students are teachers. If people want to study dance we provide it," said K. Chantawipa.

The dance lessons are in keeping with Empower's philosophy of instilling self-confidence and self-respect among sex workers, who are among Thailand's most vulnerable laborers.

"In teaching dance we're promoting their profession to let them know that what they are doing is not bad or criminal. It could be professional," said K. Chantawipa.

While prostitution is illegal in Thailand, go-go dancing is not.

Empower's first dance class for about 15 Patpong go-go girls, and five go-go guys, provided instruction in Spanish classics – flamenco and jota.

Malu Boix, a Spanish social worker and amateur dancer, provided the instruction. "It was a lot of fun. The girls said they wanted

me to come back next week so I will," said Boix, who heard of Empower in Spain at a seminar attended by K. Chantawipa.

Boix admitted that while the Thai students were quick to pick up the hand movements of Spanish dance – not too different from the delicate hand pirouettes of

Thai classical dance – it might take longer to instill the flamenco spirit into them.

"I don't think I can make the girls dance with Spanish passion, but I think if they understand Spanish music and dance they may better understand their Spanish customers," said Boix.

Go-go dancing is, ultimately, a customer-driven dance form.

"It's up to the personality of each student whether they can really learn to dance Spanish style," said Sai Chon, 32, one of Boix's more gifted pupils.

Sai, a receptionist, said she was interested in learning how to flamenco because she had already studied other classical dance forms such as ballroom and tango and wanted to expand her repertoire.

"For me, I just like dance, but I think customers also like girls who can dance well," said Sai.

As for Boix, who has yet to visit one of Patpong's go-go bars, her Empower dance classes may soon prove a learning experience as well.

"I want to learn go-go dancing while I'm here. It will be good for my sex life," she laughed.

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# INCOGNITO INVITATION

Masks were de rigueur at this year's Phuket International Women's Club charity ball, themed on Venice's famed Carnivale.

The ball, held at the Hilton Phuket Arcadia Resort & Spa, was, as always, held to raise funds for the education of Thai children from poor families in Phuket.

It drew some 400 revelers – most of them in masks.

*All photos by Tina Ball.*



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# This week



**STUDENT SUPPORT:** David Arell (center), President of the Rotary Club of Patong Beach, and fellow Rotarian Godfrey Kent (2<sup>nd</sup> from right) donate student supplies to Phuket Special School, represented by its School Director, Wirach Klaharn (left).



**HIGH-PROFILE PILAI:** Celebrating the November 6 grand opening of the Ranyatavi Resort, at Pilai Beach in Khok Kloy, Phang Nga, are (from left) Privy Councillor Sawad Wattanayagorn; His Majesty's Principal Private Secretary Arsa Sarasin, Ranyatavi Executive Director Sukanya Tulyayon and Managing Director Rattana Ngam-meessri, and Dr Pracha Guna-Kasem, former Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand.



**THEIR WAY:** Resident Manager Mark Bowen (2<sup>nd</sup> from left) and Managing Director Hans De Beer (2<sup>nd</sup> from right) of Baan Yin Dee in Patong celebrate the November 11 launch of the resort's My Way Cabaret Saturday night performances at Fusion Restaurant.



**BOARD BUDDIES:** More than 50 students learned to use a rescue board during Le Meridien Phuket Beach Resort's annual lifesaver-training program, conducted by David Field (right) of the New South Wales Surf Life Saving Association.



**SEC IN THE CITY:** Phaibul Suksuthamwong (left), Managing Director of SEC Group Auto Sales and Service Co Ltd (Public), and Piriya Tantipiriyakij, Managing Director of Life Style Auto Co Ltd, shake hands after inking a deal to have Volvo and Land-Rover cars available at the SEC dealership to open in Phuket in December.



**ALEXANDER THE GRAPE:** Linda Wetzel (center) and daughter Margaret of Alexander Valley Vineyards in California enjoy a wine tasting of their wines at Dusit Laguna Resort on November 6. With them are (from left) Chales Huang of The California Wine Co Ltd, exclusive Alexander Valley agent in the Asia-Pacific region; and Robert Wigman and Trond Indseth, Senior Partners and Directors of Wine & Taste.

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# BEHIND THE WHEEL

By Jeff Heselwood

The fourth-generation BMW 3-series convertible is to be officially launched at January's North American International Auto Show (NAIAS), but, as is increasingly the case with the world's automakers, BMW has given the press a teaser in advance of 2007's NAIAS.

The BMW 3-series soft-top was the first to realistically accommodate four adults in comfort; most rivals suffered from the folding mechanism of the roof intruding into the rear passenger compartment. Now BMW has gone one better. Emulating Peugeot, Renault and Volkswagen, among others, it has produced a full four-seat convertible, but with a folding metal roof.

Made of lightweight steel, the three-piece roof opens in just 22 seconds, and takes just as long to retract into a rear compartment of the car. The manufacturer claims the new roof structure ensures low noise levels, even at high speeds, while also contributing to the torsional rigidity of the vehicle, guaranteeing



The new BMW 3-series convertible, set to be unveiled in January, boasts high-tech improvements over its predecessor and the option of a blisteringly-fast 300bhp, twin-turbo in-line six engine.

reliable handling and freedom from rattles.

Two versions will be available in the US next year: a 335i featuring twin turbochargers producing 300 bhp, or the 328i with a 3-liter in-line six delivering a more relaxed 230 bhp.

The 335i uses a new engine that, says its makers, is the world's first in-line six with twin turbos and high-precision direct injection. This unit gives out 400 Nm between 1,400 and 5,000 rpm. Moreover, its lightweight materials enables BMW to almost achieve a perfect 50:50

front-to-rear weight distribution.

Performance is pretty exciting, reaching 100 kmh from a standstill in under six seconds. Maximum speed is electronically controlled to 210 kmh. Figures for the less-potent version are seven seconds for the 0-100 kmh sprint and an identical top speed.

A six-speed automatic transmission, complete with paddle-operated shift levers on the steering wheel, is optional.

The standard 17-inch alloy wheels are equipped with 225/45-17 tires with runflat technology. Even with a complete loss of

pressure in one tire, the car can continue to be driven for up to 250 kilometers at 80 kmh. The vehicle is fitted with tire pressure monitors on all wheels to warn the driver as soon as the pressure drops more than 25% below the optimum level.

There is a new, enhanced dynamic stability control that takes care of brake functions and vehicle stability in slippery conditions by applying individual braking to selected wheels and reducing power output.

Other features include brake-drying by gently applying

the pads in wet weather to ensure constant stopping power, cornering brake control that counteracts excessive oversteer by applying the brakes to an appropriate wheel, and a start-assist application that holds the car when pulling away on an incline.

A convertible is of a different construction to its sedan counterparts. Consequently, deformation in any kind of impact will react differently.

The front bulkhead of the new 3-series is made of high-strength steel with longitudinal profile bars and reinforcements. In the event of a side impact, forces acting on the car will be diverted to the opposite side through the reinforced floorpan.

Rear-end shunts are resisted by an extra-strong trunk floor and side panels. In addition, there is a permanent roll-over sensor that activates rear roll-bars located in the rear headrests.

It is not common for a major European automaker to launch such a significant product at NAIAS, yet as the States is likely to be the dominant market for this exciting new convertible, it somehow makes a great deal of sense.

No prices have been announced, but expect it to be considerably above the outgoing model, thanks to the increased technology.

Jeff Heselwood can be contacted at [jhc@netvigat.com](mailto:jhc@netvigat.com)



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# HOW TO WRITE LOVE LETTERS

## Handwritten ones are classic, but digital missives will do.

Love letters from Johann Wolfgang von Goethe to the married Charlotte von Stein, or Franz Kafka's exchange of letters with his fiancée Felice Bauer are so classic and lovely that they are accepted as literature throughout the world.

But love letters have entered the digital age, bringing emails and text messages into the array of communications between couples in love. The classic handwritten letter remains the gold standard in the art of sending love letters, whether to mark a birthday, Valentine's Day or another special occasion, but there are other, equally acceptable ways to send them in the new digital age.

"Just as in the past, a classic, handwritten love letter has a special meaning, even more so now because it has become so rare in modern communications," said Joachim Hoeflich, professor of communications at the University of Erfurt.

Writing takes such effort that the receiver usually interprets a handwritten note as a sign of how special he or she is to the sender.

The physical quality of the letter can reinforce its importance.

"A letter written with a pencil has the look of an outline or draft, while a letter written in ball point pen can smear," said Imme Vogelsang, an etiquette specialist in Hamburg. Fine-tipped marker or ink pens create a nicer look.

A classic handwritten love letter can take on different forms. Parchment paper is not a must, but stationery or fancy paper can make it more special, Imme said.

However, normal copy paper can be used. The sender might want to give the paper the scent of roses, violets or the re-



Handwritten love letters, such as these written by movie star Marlene Dietrich when she was a student, are rare in these digital days.

ceivers' favorite perfume, but that's a matter of taste. If the writer sprays on the scent, he or she should make sure the fine drops of perfume do not smear the writing.

The envelope also can hold symbolism. It can be decorated with rose petals, little drawings or even include a restaurant review clipped from the newspaper with

an invitation to dinner or a special location cut out of a map. The visual impact of such small details says a lot, Prof Hoeflich said.

The love letter's aesthetics are lost, or course, if the sender chooses to send it by fax, but the individuality of the handwriting is not. The same is true for a handwritten love letter that's scanned

into a computer file and then sent as an email attachment.

A message that's typed in directly to the computer or sent as a short text message to a cell phone or other mobile device is better if it's spiced up with photos, graphics or videos. "This type of communication opens up new avenues of creativity," said Heliane Schnelle, a family therapist and a member of the board of directors of the German Society for Systemic Therapy and Family Therapy in Cologne.

The biggest advantage of emails and short messages is they are instantaneous. They can be written just about anywhere and received just about anywhere.

In addition to the text, they also say, "I'm thinking about you right now, in the middle of the day." This helps to close the distance between couples that spend a lot of time apart, said Prof Hoeflich.

Whatever form the love message takes – classic letter, fax, email or text message – Heliane said any communication of affection has a special meaning.

"When someone takes the time to write a loving message, a combination of things is ideal, and the value of well-thought out, handwritten letters is raised by the shorter electronic ones," Heliane said.

All love letters have one thing in common: they can be saved. While paper messages can easily be kept, emails and text messages also are frequently stored on electronic devices, said Renate Stauf, professor of recent

German literature at the Technical University in Braunschweig. Feelings that are expressed in words can be reread and relived.

"In times of crisis it can help to remind couples what their love is all about," said Heliane.

Given that the messages can and probably will be kept, it's wise to choose words carefully, the experts say.

"The word 'but' should not be used," Heliane advises. "It immediately devalues the loving part of the message that precedes it."

The words also must be directed at the partner. Personal pet names, flirtations and innuendo fit right in.

"It's also good to put in concrete pronouncements, such as 'I love you because...' followed by any and all reasons," Heliane advised.

When it comes to formulating the messages, men have more of a problem than women. But in no case should the sender have someone else write his or her message or turn to templates found on the Internet, the family therapist warned.

If the partners know each other well, the woman will notice when her lover is the one communicating. If he borrows the words from someone else, he risks having the entire communication backfire.

If it's too hard to come up with original thoughts, it's OK to refer to or describe a scene from a movie, Heliane noted. But when borrowing a quote from a famous author, it's best to preface it with a mention of the writer's name.

You can't beat Goethe, for example, when he says:

"Though you're a whole world, Rome, still, without Love,

"The world isn't the world, and Rome can't be Rome."

– Eva Neumann, *dpa*

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Who could deny that appearance is important? Women and men alike are constantly trying to find any method to be, or at least appear, more youthful and healthier – and for as long as possible.

Many people can't guess how old Thai actress Chalita "Nan" Fuang-arom is. K. Nan is now sharing her health and beauty tips with her legion of fans by starting her own business to coordinate spa and medical trips.

During her recent trip to Phuket, K. Nan, who is in her 30s but looks like a fresh-faced 20-year-old, talked exclusively to the *Gazette* about how to keep a firm, healthy and youthful body.

"Everyone in my family likes to take care of their health, especially my mother, who is very keen on exercising. I have been taking serious care of my health since I was 20 years old, an age when some think it's too early to be overly healthy," she said.

K. Nan suggested some easy beauty and health tips on how to maintain a fresh, youthful face, body and mind. She sees that it's necessary to reward the body after we use it, so good food and proper exercise are important.

"Just remember that it's never too late to start to exercise. Find a sport you like, such as swimming, playing tennis or anything..." she advised

"I like 'hot yoga', which is yoga in a room where the temperature is about 35°C. Hot yoga helps the muscles extend and is good for detoxing, because when we sweat, we excrete toxins from our bodies. We should also drink a lot of water to help the body with this."

"I have been practicing yoga for more than 10 years; yoga teaches us to exercise along with breathing," she said.

"I can see that it's working; many people say that I look younger than my age. I exercise



Chalita "Nan" Fuang-arom, in her 30s but looking like a fresh-faced twenty-something, is now sharing her beauty tips with the world.

## Health tips from a beauty

four to five days a week, and I do not to eat a heavy meal in evening. I eat unpolished rice, fresh-pressed juice and drink a lot of water. My skin and my body look and feel younger...

"But not only does this help us to look good, we will also have good health. With good exercise and good eating, you do not need to pay expensive clinic prices to have nice skin," she said.

K. Nan is now taking advantage of all the health and beauty knowledge she has acquired to develop her business.

"My acting career will be finite; most actors' careers are. I realized this and decided to de-

velop a business for myself that links in to something meaningful in my life, because I'm interested in taking care of myself.

"I'm in Phuket to negotiate organizing medical spa trips. I have a company with a website that Thai hotels, spas and hospitals can join, with my company as the interface, the liaison the intermediary between them and the thousands of potential customers worldwide.

"Spas in Thailand are very nice because Thai people know a lot about spas. That is why more spas in Thailand should be run by Thais," she said.

- Janyaporn Morel

Cocktail

By Suganya Semacote

# Sunset sublime

It's 5 o'clock. The sun is almost over the yardarm and it is the perfect time to find a comfy seat, a cool cocktail and enjoy the sunset.

For a great view and original cocktails – all at 205 baht – head to Baan Yin Dee Boutique Resort at Patong Beach.

Marco Osterwalder, Food and Beverage Manager of Baan Yin with 16 years' experience in hospitality, recommends the Yin Dee cocktail and Patong Delight.

He starts with the Yin Dee by laying strawberries on the bottom of the daiquiri glass, following with Bombay Sapphire Gin, Galliano and Cointreau.

The drink is garnished with an slice of orange and a red cherry. The cream on top makes the cocktail taste like ice cream, the sour and sweet of the berries give a fresh taste.

**Yin Dee Cocktail recipe:**

- 50g strawberries
- 60ml Bombay Sapphire Gin
- 60ml Galliano
- 60ml Cointreau
- 100mg cream

Marco also recommends the Patong Delight. Bacardi rum, vermouth, triple sec, mango juice, orange juice and lemon juice are added to a cocktail shaker filled with ice, shaken – not stirred – then poured into a high ball glass and finished with a splash of grenadine, making



The Yin Dee cocktail, pictured here, with its strawberries and cream is the perfect companion for a Patong sunset.

the cocktail look reminiscent of the sunset.

It is garnished with a slice of pineapple, and its taste is similar to a Mai Tai, but the mango juice gives the Patong Delight its own flavor.

**Patong Delight recipe:**

- 50g light rum
- 30ml vermouth
- 30ml triple sec
- 180ml mango juice
- 18ml orange juice
- 60ml lemon juice
- 60ml Grenadine

Baan Yin Dee Restaurant & Grand Piano Bar, 7/5 Muean Ngen Rd, Patong Beach, Kathu. Tel: 076-294104, Email: info@baanyindee.com or visit www.baanyindee.com

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## On the menu

WITH

Andy Johnstone

### Voyage One World

In his 1846 *Paris à table*, Eugene Briffault waxes lyrically with the memorable quote, "The two-pronged fork is used in northern Europe. The English are armed with steel tridents with ivory handles – three pronged forks – but in France, we have the four-pronged fork, the height of civilization."

Patsy Pflapz-Kitzoff of *Gazette* Guest Chef shame, I mean fame joins me tonight in search of civilization – not the grand tour of old, but a dashed fast trip in the locomotive north to Kamala to Voyage One World. Jazz blares in the Jazz.

Voyage One World is the creation of Orlando Laurino, from Lille, the birthplace of Madeleine Damerment, Emile Bernard and, of course, General de Gaulle.

This new Old World restaurant where the food, ambiance, hospitality and wine – one must, to be frank, leave it to the French to understand wine – stuns one so genteelly, lulls one so forcefully that I could hardly give a fig whether the forks have two, three or four tines.

Before we fork out, in fact, as soon as we walk into the Indochine-style restaurant, with its aged, sepia photographs of proud officers with swagger sticks and revolvers, the bold men with cigarettes and Lebel rifles, Orlando offers us a drink.

"Kir Royale?" he asks us nonchalantly. My quick glance towards Countess P is unnecessary, who looks at me askance – if askance is how she is looking at me querying why anyone would one turn down a glass of Champers.

Orlando then whistles up a bowl of homemade tapenade.



The succulent steak tartare is one of Chef Samuel's signature dishes.

# Bon Voyage and tartare

Orlando has enjoyed a pleasant few years working his way around the world, including a few years at the Chelsea Harbour Club – a fave of the late HRH Princess Diana – before arriving in Phuket from San Francisco.

The air of refinement, the scent of tropical wood, the comfortable lounge seats within hailing distance of the bar and cigars, the superb selection of music – Brel and Piaf, even Hallyday sounds good – and cordial chit-chat has us gliding gracefully and gratefully toward a deserved sense of satisfaction.

Orlando reports that he and

the very talented Chef Samuel Surmont, from Le Mans, cooked some 125 dishes to test how well French fine dining migrates to Phuket.

"From the 125 dishes, we found that about 20 can have justice done to them here, so these are what we concentrate on," says Orlando, who has a hint of Alain Delon about him.

Shown to our seats – high backed and comfortable, ideal for a long, relaxed and sybaritic meal – Orlando points out that their policy is to have one sitting per night.

"Why should people feel they must rush when eating? Here, diners can sit and relax all evening, even if they come for our 'early-bird menu' at 5:30 pm, they can stay here until we close at around 10:30 pm. No one will ever feel rushed here," he smiles.

We make appreciative noises about the menu and begin to make our selections when Orlando glides up and informs us that Chef Samuel has prepared a

degustation menu for us.

We are amused with – what else? – but an amuse-bouches of melted leek and curry white butter atop a sliver of Phuket lobster itself atop artichoke mousse.

A souffle de Auvergne aux deux fromages, the two cheeses being Danish Blue and Roquefort, with rocket salad and green apple with walnut dressing (245 baht). A marvel of chemistry and physics, and culinary flair, the souffle holds its shape until the last few traces of it remain, which is not very long at all.

A quick look at a timepiece indicates that we have been at Voyage for almost two hours, suggesting that going back in time to a restaurant devoted to a gentler age also extends time. Why rush, indeed.

Between courses – Noix de st Jacques poele es au pistou (marinated pan-fried scallops served over roasted peppers with pesto sauce) for 390 baht is next – Orlando explains that Voyage has both a special menu and a

special area for children.

"By 8 or 9 o'clock, most children are feeling tired. If they have to sit down to eat with their parents, then the children can feel frustrated, which can in turn cause the parents to finish too quickly," he begins.

"So, our solution is to let the children eat in a creche out by the pool, cared for by a nanny. The children are happy; the parents are happy; and I am happy, too," he nods.

Orlando deserves an entire article on wine to himself. His knowledge is encyclopedic without being stuffy or pretentious. He guides us through each course with a different glass from the cellar.

We range from a Sherwood Estate Sauv Blanc at 315 baht a glass to a Belleruche, Cotes du Rhone, Chapoutier, France at 290 baht a glass to a Chateau du Pin, Bordeaux, Cab Sauv and Merlot at 290 baht a glass, as well as a Pinot Griggio at 270 baht a glass.

As for the prices, Orlando says, "We are not pricing the wine to make massive profits; we're pricing the wine for people to enjoy drinking it." Wise words; wise policy.

While I am inspecting the photographs once more, Orlando asks Countess P if I like steak tartare. One might as well ask if I like breathing. It is one of Chef Samuel's signature dishes – and one of Orlando's favorites. Their version is now mine. I think, no, believe, that the photo says it all.

We have other dishes – Bremer de mer grille a l'olive verte (grilled sea bream with fennel confit and green olive sauce for 420 baht), Medaillon de boeuf vieillit aux cepes et chanterelles arros a la sauce Drambuie (Dry aged Australian Angus beef served with cepes and chanterelles mushrooms in a Drambuie sauce with gratin dauphinois and vegetables, 650 baht) that is so tender we almost cry and crepes Suzette so light we laugh – before a healthy shot of chilled Poire William eau de vie sees us sybarites safely on the road and into the night.

Six dishes of unparalleled taste and four pleasant hours have languidly slipped by in this refined fine-dining restaurant which replicates – not as pastiche, but homage – a time when decency and manners mattered.

*Voyage One World. 10/33 Moo 6, Kamala. Tel: 076-279297, 085-7876516. Email: info@voyage-restaurant.com. Website: www.voyage-restaurant.com. Expect to pay around 1,500-2,000 baht per person, excluding wine.*



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# The Art of Seduction

## AFTER Seduction DARK

By Zach Fridell

**B**ig, flashy, classy... and soon to be a little pricey. Seduction, Patong's newest disco, located just east of Tiger Entertainment Complex on Soi Bangla, appears set to become the high-end entertainment hotspot of Patong this high season.

With two levels of floor space, Seduction is everything you would expect from a disco. Just walking up the red-carpeted stairs to the entrance makes one feel like a VIP. The walls are lined with plush velvety couches, while the dance floor is encircled with small mirrors reflecting the spinning lights. Upstairs allows a lighter lounge feel, with pristine barstools. Behind the bar, screens display random imagery along to the music.

Opened by a Finnish company that operates a total of 42 clubs in Finland and Estonia, the club had many parts of its unique lighting system imported from overseas as they could not be sourced in Thailand.

Avoiding the image of a typical Patong club packed with bar girls, Seduction employs only six uniformed dancers who strut their stuff on a circular stage in the middle of the dance floor, illuminated from above by a one-meter-wide disco ball.

The club cost a total of 150 million baht, with the sound-and-light system alone worth 5 million. Seduction's management hopes to recoup that investment through a 300-baht cover charge and 180-baht bottles of Heineken – but not quite yet.

The cover charge has been delayed to allow tourists to get a feel for the place. Manager Santeri Nurmi, from Finland, said he does not know when the cover charge will go into effect.

On its opening night, Seduction showed real potential with a surprise performance by Da, the famous Thai singer from Thai pop-rock group Endorphine. Al-



Photos by Tina Ball.

though employees were standing outside, luring would-be partiers to the club's front door with vouchers for free drinks, the massive size of the club (1,300-person capacity) made it seem half-full even at the most crowded point in the evening.

The tables on the top level, though, were packed. Conve-

niently positioned between two bars, these offer great views of the dance floor below. The dance floor had only a few brave, exhibitionist tourists, however.

Seduction excels in many basic details – ones apparently too simple for many Patong nightspot owners to notice. Aside from not being hounded by bar girls, guests

are also blissfully free to use the restrooms in peace. There are no offers of neck massages at the urinals and real paper towels await at the exit.

The DJs are a step above any other in Phuket, playing the entire song they intend, instead of a hackneyed attempt at a popular remix as is standard in many

Thai clubs. Their varied selection is also spot on, with playlists effortlessly jumping from Outkast to a salsa without losing a clubber from the dance floor.

Take advantage while the free entry lasts. It's worth it – and you may even be seduced into paying the cover charge when it does come into effect.



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# PUZZLES

# The Cryptic Crossword

## Spot the Difference



Can you find the seven differences between the two cartoons below? And can you find them faster than the rest of the family?

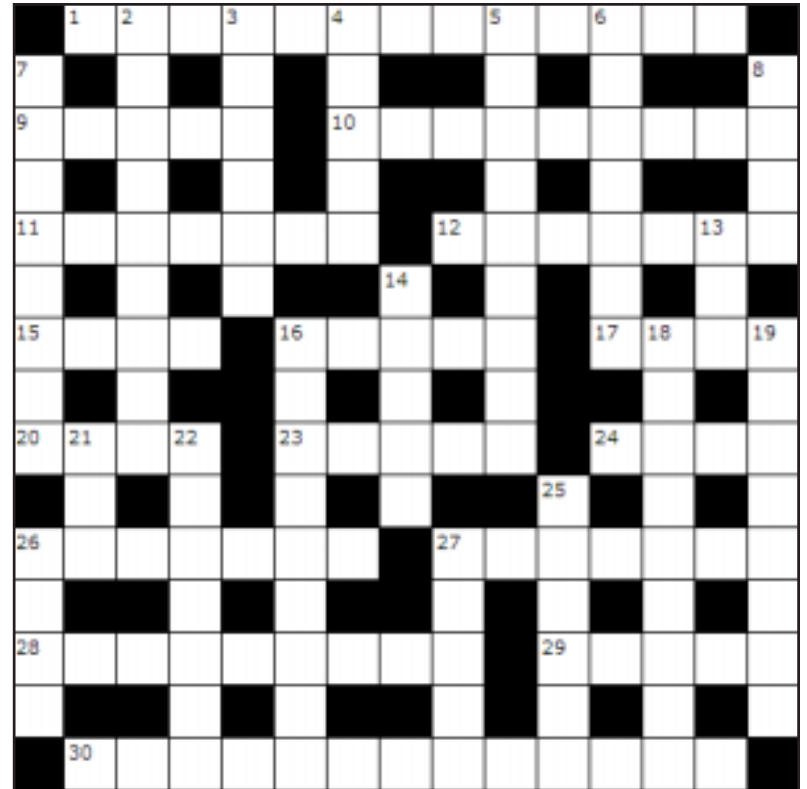


### ACROSS

1. Joint rag weapon. (7,6)
9. Argued and powered four. (5)
10. Point to laboratory and consumed complex. (9)
11. Push down record in clothing. (7)
12. Changed a lieutenant and point to communist. (7)
15. Local region for a nearby airline. (4)
16. Pass in charge of abdominal pain. (5)
17. River smell, it's said. (4)
20. Teas swapped for food. (4)
23. The Spanish follow laboratory to sticker. (5)
24. Play parts? Does! (4)
26. Platforms in which I falter about pea holders. (7)
27. Clipped balance medication. (7)
28. Behold! Sin to investigates. (5,4)
29. Note brown-and-white horse react to bad joke. (5)
30. Confusing Bengal Port tip: It soaks up ink. (8,5)

### Down

2. Fresh run of *New York Times* essential. (9)
3. Club cow mouthful with hair goop. (6)
4. Discloses, it's said, Welsh symbols. (5)



Compiled by Tortuus. © 2006

5. Er, Bill mostly in charge of AI and connecting tube. (9)
6. Thug's underwater weapon. (7)
7. Get degree in Hoffman movie. (8)
8. Angry about point of honey product. (4)
13. Look at typhoon center. (3)
14. Cardinal follows soft mass to Shakespeare theater. (5)
16. Writer's support is initially tiny. (9)
18. What Beethoven did after death? (9)
19. Resolution: I cause depression in occupant. (8)
21. A turn in the past. (3)
22. Bit of tree to adhere to. (5,2)
25. Vocalize with hotel, a beer. (6)
26. Pallid picket. (4)
27. After tea, Phang Nga Bay feature strip. (5)

Solution on next page

## Scribble Space



## Rhyme Time

The words or phrases described below all rhyme with "star". What are they?

1. Automobile.
2. Mark on the skin.
3. Feature of Soi Bangla.
4. Sticky black stuff.
5. Musical instrument.
6. Practice fighting.
7. Neighboring country.
8. Market.
9. Average.
10. Slaughterhouse.

Answers on next page

## EZ Trivia Quiz

1. What is the capital of Germany?
2. Who wrote *The Tempest*?
3. In which US city is the White House?
4. Which space shuttle is due to launch in December?
5. Which three countries meet at the Golden Triangle?
6. In which year was Britain last successfully invaded?
7. What are the colors of the Swiss flag?
8. How many angles does a triangle have?
9. In which book do Mole, Ratty and Toad appear?
10. Where in your body is the bone called the ulna?

Answers on next page

## su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

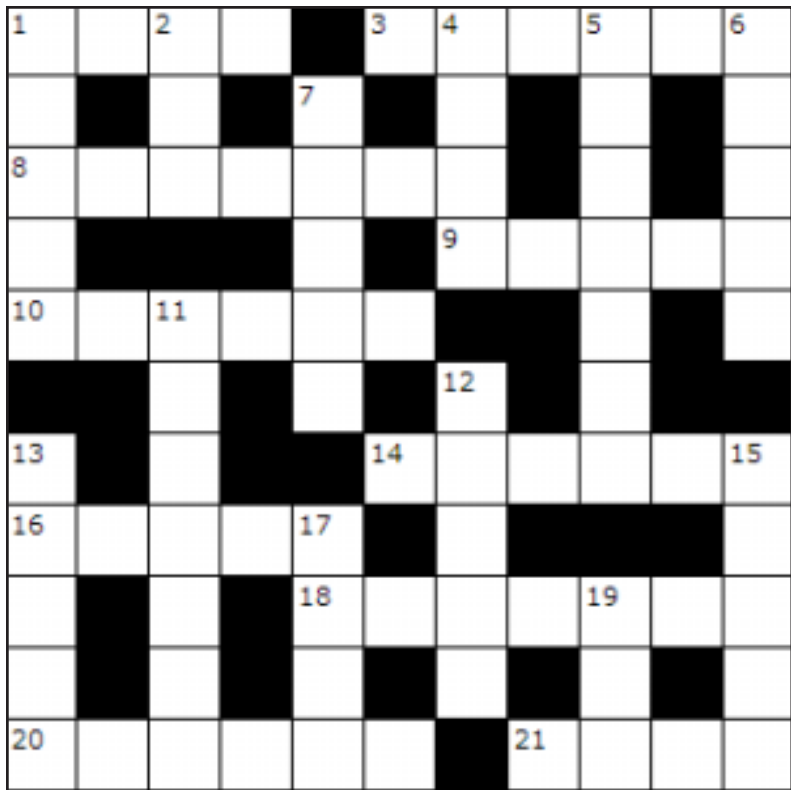
Solution, tips and computer program at [www.sudoku.com](http://www.sudoku.com)

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

MEDIUM

The principle of Sudoku is very simple: each row, each column and each "box" of nine squares within the puzzle must contain all the numbers from 1 to 9 with, naturally, no repetitions. Guess if you will, but each Sudoku puzzle can be solved using logic alone. Beware: this puzzle has only one solution, which is on the next page.





### Quick Crossword

- |                             |                            |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>ACROSS</b>               | <b>Down</b>                |
| 1. Whirl.                   | 1. In music, not flat.     |
| 3. Goes off like a volcano. | 2. Statement of existence. |
| 8. Cleaning chemical.       | 4. Use a book.             |
| 9. The same again.          | 5. Chonburi tourist town.  |
| 10. Character on strings.   | 6. Use a gun.              |
| 14. Assault.                | 7. Catalog.                |
| 16. Thai province.          | 11. Rooftop wall.          |
| 18. Based on carbon.        | 12. Put on a play.         |
| 20. Approve treaty.         | 13. Say.                   |
| 21. Monster loch.           | 15. Hits with the foot.    |
|                             | 17. Blue Canyon game.      |
|                             | 19. Opposite of SSW.       |

Solution below, right

## Get your brain in gear with The Monster Quiz



Kids! Ask Mum and Dad to help you find the answers to these questions. They're not easy but, if you do some research, you should be able to find the answers to all of them.

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| 1. Which Russian Christian sect required true believers to undergo sexual mutilation?  | 7. What is a cilice?                                     | 15. Name the famed illegitimate daughter of Pope Alexander VI.                             |
| 2. In 1833 the Molokan sect split in two: the Constants and ...?                       | 8. Who is the head of the Nizari Ismaili sect of Islam?  | 16. In which year was the first of the Dead Sea Scrolls discovered?                        |
| 3. Bektashism is a breakaway sect from which mainstream religion?                      | 9. In which direction do Whirling Dervishes whirl?       | 17. By what name were the Zadokite priests better known?                                   |
| 4. Who said, "A faith is something you die for, a doctrine is something you kill for"? | 10. Why do they whirl?                                   | 18. How many candles are there on a Menorah?   |
| 5. Which Pope succeeded John XXIII?  | 11. In which year was the Hare Krishna movement founded? | 19. Which Christian denomination may punish transgressors by "calling them to the carpet"? |
| 6. Who founded Opus Dei?   | 12. Which foods are barred to Hare Krishna adherents?    | 20. In which religion is God known as Ahura Mazda?   |
|  | 13. Who led the Branch Davidians?                        |  |
|  | 14. What was the name of their ranch?                    |  |

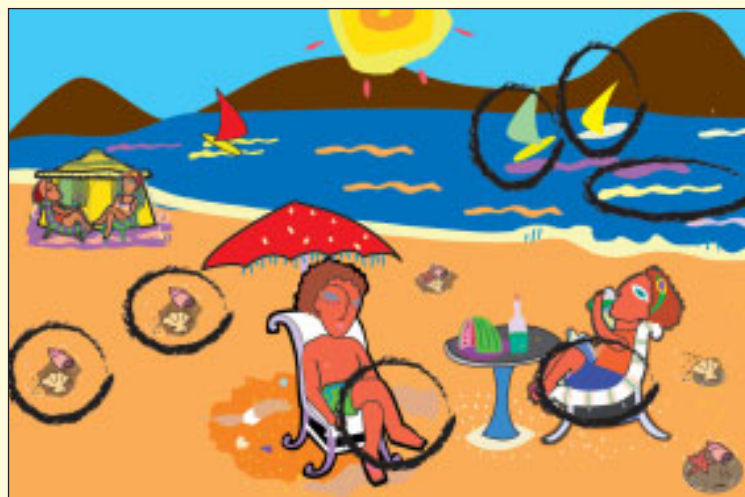
Answers below, left

# Puzzle Solutions

### Monster Quiz Answers

1. Skoptzy; 2. The Jumpers and Leapers; 3. Shia Islam; 4. British politician Tony Benn; 5. Paul VI; 6. St Josemaría Escrivá; 7. A spiked chain worn on the thigh by members of Opus Dei; 8. The Aga Khan; 9. Anti-clockwise; 10. As a form of *Dhikr*, or remembrance of Allah; 11. 1966; 12. Meat, fish and eggs; 13. David Koresh; 14. Mount Carmel. 15. Lucrezia Borgia; 16. 1947; 17. Sadducees; 18. Seven; 19. The Amish; 20. Zoroastrianism.

### Solution to Cartoon Puzzle



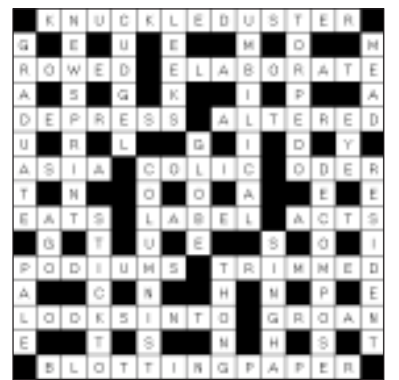
#### EZ Trivia Answers:

1. Berlin; 2. William Shakespeare; 3. Washington DC; 4. Discovery; 5. Thailand, Laos and Myanmar; 6. 1066; 7. Red and white; 8. Three; 9. *The Wind in the Willows*; 10. Arm.

#### Rhyme Time Answers:

1. Car; 2. Scar; 3. Bar; 4. Tar; 5. Guitar; 6. Spar; 7. Myanmar; 8. Bazaar; 9. Par; 10. Abattoir.

### Cryptic Crossword Solution



### Quick Crossword Solution



### Sudoku solution





# Bryson goes back in time

**B**ill Bryson made his name by writing a series of amiable light-hearted travel books about the US, the UK, Australia and Africa.

But he is capable of flights of scholarship. His *Mother Tongue* is a classic in the field, comparing the development of American and British English. *A Short History of Nearly Everything* starts at the creation of the universe and ambles onward through the earth's beginnings, the rise of life, early man and the development of civilization to what the future holds – all in a bemused, conversational tone of voice.

Reportedly, this last book was so much work that Bryson turned to something that he could write off the top of his head: the story of his childhood in Des Moines, Iowa, during the 1950s. *The Life and Times of the Thunderbolt Kid* (Doubleday, London, 2006, 309pp) is both funny personal history and insightful social commentary.

"Growing up was easy," he writes in his preface. "It required no thought or effort on my part. It was going to happen anyway. So what follows is not terribly eventful, I'm afraid. And yet it was by a very large margin the most fearful, thrilling, interesting, instructive, eye-popping,

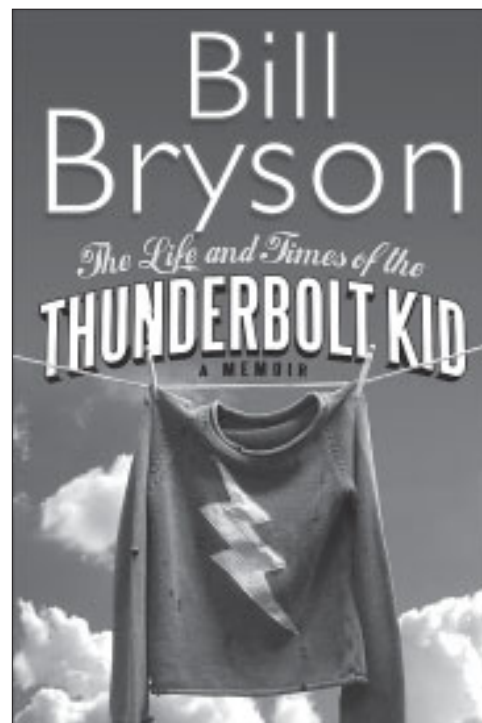
lustful, eager, troubled, untroubled, confused, serene and unnerving time of my life. Coincidentally, it was all those things for America too."

On the grand scale of things, atomic bombs were exploding merrily all over the world before gleeful spectators covered in radioactive ash while Communists were everywhere – the movies, TV, rock radio, the State Department – a mortal treat to God and country.

On a smaller scale was Kidsworld, the world of little Billy Bryson and his gang: paper routes, Little League, treehouses and blowing things up. His memory for kid trivia is phenomenal. Recall just the footwear of the time: high-topped black Keds sneakers.

"The makers of sneakers thoughtfully poked the soles with numberless crevices, craters, chevrons, mazes, crop circles and other rubbery hieroglyphs, so that when you stepped in a moist pile of dog shit, as you most assuredly did within three bounds of leaving the house, they provided additional absorbing hours of pastime while you cleaned them out with a stick, gagging quietly, but oddly content."

His father was sportswriter and his mother woman's page editor of the Des Moines Register, which means, as reputable journalists, neither was rolling in



"No, honey," she replied. "Has Dad got leukemia?"

He also evokes fond memories of assembling plastic model warplanes. A gentle squeeze on the glue tube "would burp out a pint or so of clear viscous goo whose one instinct was to attach itself to some foreign object – a human finger, the living room drapes, the fur of a passing animal – and become an infinitely long string... The upshot was that after about 40 minutes of intensive but troubled endeavor you and your immediate surroundings were covered in a glistening spider's web of glue at the heart of which was a gray fuselage with one wing on upside down and a pilot accidentally but irremediably attached by his flying cap to the cockpit ceiling. Happily by this point you were so high on the glue that you didn't give a shit about the pilot, the model or anything else."

In time Billy Bryson and his friend put aside such childish things and advanced into high school and the avid pursuits of girls, beer and cigarettes.

The story of his friend Stephen Katz's theft of not one, but three boxcars full of beer is a triumph of the human will.

His 1950s world of family farms and little downtown shops and cafés is long gone now, replaced by strip malls and fast food franchises.

He ends his story on an appropriately elegiac note.

## PHUKET DIARY

### Until December 31: Test-drive Windows Vista and Office 2007.

If you're curious about Windows Vista and Office 2007 – both due out in January – you can take final beta test versions for a whirl until the end of December.

Drop by any time: Sandwich Shoppe in Aroonsom Plaza, opposite the CAT office and Patong Language School, near Andaman Beach Suites.

For more information contact Woody Leonhard at Tel: 076-290468 or email woody@KhunWoody.com

### Until November 30: The Abstract: an exhibition by Christopher Swift.

Chris Swift's work is the beauty of decay in the built world: boats, cars and architectural forms in a state of disrepair or erosion or dilapidation. Only after time and elemental abuse does an object's "personality" surface. These themes run through everything he shoots.

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## Off the SHELF

By James Eckardt

## Upcoming events on the island

They are the things he sees, capturing the beauty and personality in the architecture of the built world and highlighting its relationship with erosion and the time in which we live and work.

### November 25-26: 4th Phuket International Soccer 7s.

The Phuket International Soccer 7s will celebrate its 4th anniversary this year.

This tournament has developed into one of the largest sevens tournaments in Asia and we expect that the response will be such that we will again need to run two tournaments.

With both open and veterans categories, there is something for everyone.

To register a team, see the website at [www.thai7s.com](http://www.thai7s.com) or send email to: [info@thai7s.com](mailto:info@thai7s.com)

### December 2-9: Phuket King's Cup Regatta.

Asia's largest and most prestigious regatta, the Phuket King's Cup, is held the first week of December every year, at Kata Beach, to celebrate His Majesty the King of Thailand's birthday.

This year is the regatta's 20th anniversary, and the 60th an-

niversary of His Majesty's accession to the throne.

Great racing and lively parties are signatures of this world-class event.

For more information contact Kae Wattana at Tel: 076-273380, or send email to: [info@kingscup.com](mailto:info@kingscup.com), or see the website at [www.kingscup.com](http://www.kingscup.com).

### December 3: Thai Airways International Laguna Phuket Triathlon.

South East Asia's premier triathlon event is now in its 13th year. The 1.8km swim, 55km bike and 12km run offers a US\$20,000

pro prize purse and 25 guaranteed entries into the 2007 Ironman Australia to the highest-placed finishers in each age group.

The event expects to attract 800 athletes from some 30 countries competing in both the individual triathlon and the Herbalife corporate team relay.

A 6km fun run for 500 participants will also be conducted during the event.

For more information call Tel: 076-324060, send an email to [triathlonb@lagunaphuket.com](mailto:triathlonb@lagunaphuket.com) or see the website at [www.lagunaphukettriathlon.com](http://www.lagunaphukettriathlon.com)

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**Phuket Gazette**  
- Since 1994 -

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## Patong road planning should include tourists' needs too

Patong Municipality's plan to introduce a one-way traffic system in its central tourist area [see news pages] is sensible and almost certain to improve traffic flow and passenger safety in Patong. The long-overdue plan, set to begin from January 15, stands to bring immediate benefits to all Patong residents.

However, and as always seems to be the case in the municipality's planning decisions, the needs of visiting tourists are paid no attention, as is evidenced by the continuing lack of any public transport for them.

Surveys of tourists visiting Phuket consistently reveal the collusive public transport rackets that dominate the island, and the resulting overpriced fares, to be among the most common complaints. With the possible exception of Phuket International Airport, where a state enterprise got in on the act, the situation in Patong is worse than anywhere else on the island – perhaps anywhere else in Thailand.

Compare the tuk-tuk situation in Patong, where there is a minimum 100-baht fare, with that of Haad Yai. Although Songkhla's commercial and tourism center is much larger than Patong, it is still possible to get just about anywhere in the downtown area by tuk-tuk for 20 to 30 baht.

The launch of a circular, one-way road system in Patong would be the perfect time to introduce the long-talked-about plan to bring a "baht-bus" to the resort town. Such a service has long existed in Pattaya, notorious for its "influential figures" but still able to recognize tourism for the cash cow that it is.

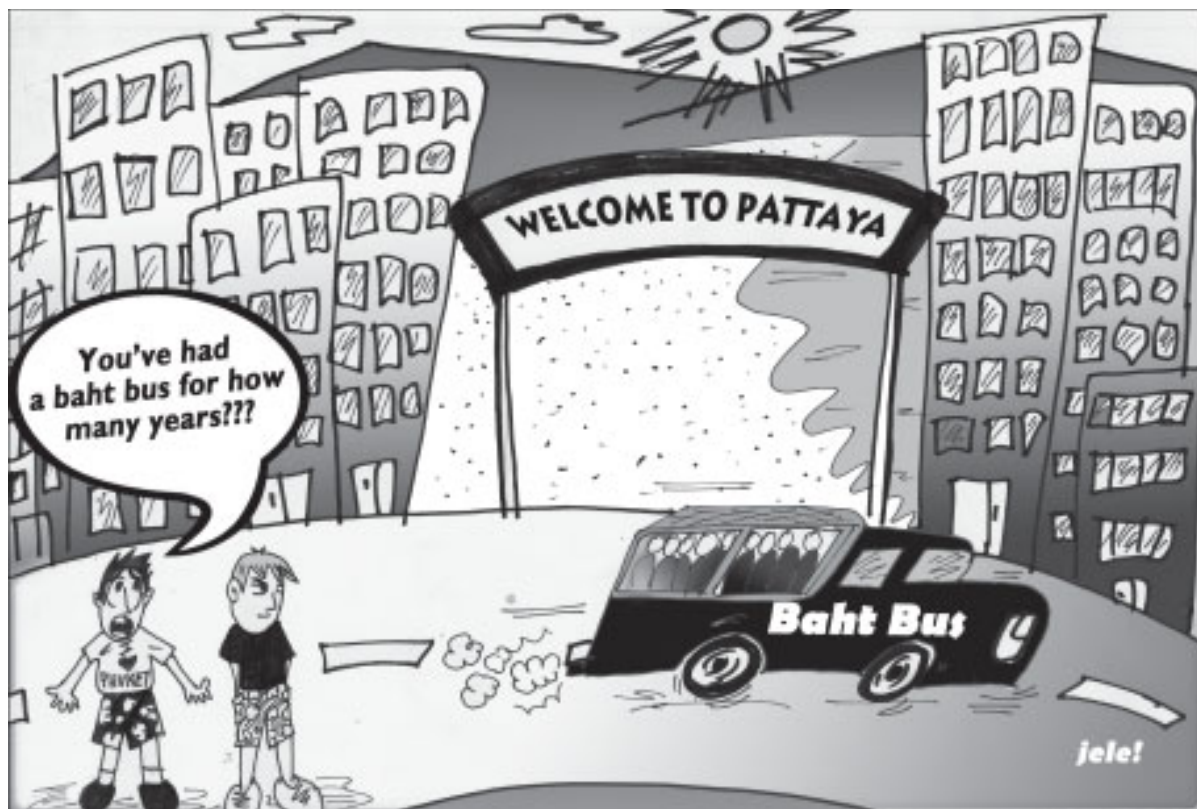
A simple public transport system would immediately multiply the benefits of the new one-way road system. Overnight, traffic congestion would ease, the number of traffic accidents would fall and air quality and tourist safety would improve.

With a little more foresight, fares from the new service could go to build a parking lot somewhere in central Patong. The service could also be used in conjunction with a park-and-ride system, the kind of which is common in well-planned tourism areas throughout the world – but noticeably absent from Patong, which, instead of parking, has at its center an illegal garbage dump.

Why Patong Municipality seems so unwilling to introduce better, cheaper public transport is anyone's guess – and most people do have an idea.

Unless those who benefit from the status quo put their children's needs ahead of their own, Patong's future for tourism remains bleak indeed.

– The Editor



## Letters

The *Gazette* is pleased to receive mail from readers. Please write to us at 367/2 Yaowarat Rd, Amphur Muang, Phuket 83000, fax to 076-213971 or send an email to editor@phuketgazette.net

with your views for publication in our next issue. We reserve the right to edit all letters. Pseudonyms are acceptable only if your full name and address are supplied.

### Keep the dames off the dunes, please

The FIVB Beach Volleyball tournament held in Karon on the weekend of November 5 and 6 was well-organized and entertaining. I certainly hope it is held in Phuket again next year. However, I couldn't help but notice that the temporary stadium and the promotional stalls outside it were erected directly on sand dunes, killing off much of the *pak boong talay* (beach morning glory) that grows there.

*Pak boong talay* (Scientific designation *Ipomoea pes-caprae Sweet*) is an indigenous creeping plant that helps stabilize sand dunes, in this case the very same sand dunes that protected Karon from the force of the tsunami, sparing it from excessive damage.

By way of comparison, refer back to post-tsunami pictures of Patong Beach, where there is little or no *pak boong talay* or natural dunes remaining. The area was smashed hard, and all the beach chairs, tailor shops, trinket stands and other paraphernalia there did nothing to stop the waves.

Apart from protecting inland areas from inundation, dunes also play numerous other important roles in maintaining healthy tidal and inter-tidal zones and the environment.

This vine's ability to keep the dunes in place was cited by the Pollution Control Department as the reason Karon received 4.5 stars on their recent survey – higher than either Patong, Kata or Bang Tao. To ruin the vines and dunes is to ruin the beach.

As a sponsor of the FIVB Beach Volleyball tournament, I

hope the *Gazette* will play a more active role in ensuring that this and any other events it chooses to support will be organized in a more environmentally-friendly fashion.

Nerd Ovule  
Karon

### Slow down the Patong speedway

I applaud the decision to make Patong's main roads one-way. The move should go a long way toward improving congestion in the central part of the city.

I wonder if any thought has been given to the problem of speeding, especially along the beach road, particularly in the morning. Some idiots insist on driving 80 kph or faster along straight sections of that road. Not long ago, one idiot crashed into the side of my car. Another idiot smacked into the side of my motorbike at high speed. Several more have tried to convert me into a wet, red spot on the pavement. Not a pretty sight.

With beach road turning into a one-way street, I fear the IQ (Idiot Quotient) will only increase.

Has any thought been given to slowing these cowboys down – especially in the morning, when Beach Road looks like a Formula 1 track?

Name withheld by request

### Where have all the letters gone?

I have lived in Chalong for several years now and I have serious complaints about the post office. Seven or eight years ago, when I lived in Choktip Villa, all the letters sent to me from Bel-

gium came in within seven or eight days. Of course, there were some exceptions, such as a New Year's card that made a 35-day trip before reaching my house.

Now, several years later, the service is more than deplorable. A letter that is not registered has no chance of arriving at my home. The address I give to senders is the same as the address on my telephone bills. How is it that all my telephone bills reach their destination; not one has gone missing.

I conducted a test some years ago. Friends sent four letters to me from Belgium, and the address was well written in Thai, with the same address that the telephone company uses with no problems. Once again, the only letter that arrived was the one that was registered. The three others, sent by normal post, never arrived.

Where have all the letters I have never received gone?

Richard Market  
Chalong

### Just what could they be thinking?

I would like to know what kind of wisdom is implanted in the minds of the authorities when it comes to making life so difficult for a fully-qualified English teacher to gain a work permit.

Phuket government is particularly difficult and seems very reluctant to enable the necessary steps when in other countries it's fairly easy to obtain such documents.

Does the Phuket Minister of Education really want potential teachers to leave?

Pete Winters  
Phuket City

## Phuket Gazette

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## Letters

### A Beautiful place for disabled tourists

The article and editorial in last week's *Gazette* highlighted the lack of accessible facilities for disabled and elderly tourists who come to Phuket.

As an able-bodied British businessman living in Thailand, I recognized this problem several years ago and was determined to do something about it.

A few weeks ago, my wife and I opened The Beautiful Sand Resort, a bungalow hotel located 600 meters from Phuket International Airport.

We built this resort using the detailed guidelines from the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The result is a hotel that is suitable for all visitors, whether they are in wheelchairs or not.

Building a hotel that provides access for wheelchair users is certainly a challenge. With no steps at the bungalow entrances it was difficult to stop the monsoon rains from flooding the rooms, but we have overcome this and many other construction issues.

Making Phuket accessible to disabled visitors is a difficult task. But much more can – and should – be done to ensure easy access. Achieving this goal will only benefit hotels and other businesses in Phuket.

Simon Luttrell  
Saku, Thalang

### Patong parking problems

As a regular winter visitor to Phuket and Patong I read with delight about the coming one-way project for Patong's main streets. I only hope the police will be firm on the motorbikes that are going the wrong way on the one-way streets.

However, my question is: Why do car and bike rental people have a "right" to fill most parking places by Patong's beach road. If by luck I find an empty space someone will come up and say, "You can not park here, I work here."

Ralf Lofstrom  
Finland

### Pollution woes

The almost permanent "fog" that is hanging over Phuket these days, which is being attributed to the weather, is more likely due to the black smoke that pours out of the rear of 30% of the vehicles on the island.

Until something is done to stop this problem, Phuket will continue to be shrouded in gray. The smog is descending earlier and earlier each day, blocking out the late afternoon sun.

Soon Phuket will be no different from Bangkok, which is gray most of the day. It's called pollution.

Liz Smith  
Rawai

'A fish trap about two meters by three meters costs about 4,000 baht to make, and we have to borrow money to buy the equipment to make them.

'When a trap has been cut open, we can't repair it because it simply costs too much – it's simply better, and cheaper to make a new one.'

– Jan Bangjag, pictured with a sea gypsy fish trap.



# Stop cutting off our way of life

I have been a fisherman all my life. I used to fish the traditional sea gypsy way – by diving into the water and catching fish with my bare hands, without using any equipment. These days I use a snorkel when searching for fish, squid or prawns, but when I see them I still dive down, holding my breath and catching them by hand.

Before the tsunami, we went out in groups of four to six people in one boat. Each day we would land about 15 kilograms of fish, about 10kg of prawns and some shells, which we ate or sold.

We could make up to about 6,000 baht a day. After we paid all our expenses and divided it among us, each person got about 800 baht a day. But now we can catch only about 10kg a day; that's up to about 500 baht a person after we share the expenses.

And we can't earn that much each day all year round, because we can't go out when there's a storm or big waves. The only areas where we can safely fish when the weather is rough are from Laem Phromthep up to the north of the island.

If there are no storms we sometimes go fish near the Phi Phi Islands and Koh Hei.

But since the tsunami, we have been banned from fishing in many areas off Phuket. People in areas such as Kata, Patong, Kamala, Bang Tao, Nai Thon and Surin forbid us to fish there. They say they want to keep the sea for the tourists, and some villagers keep areas for fishing themselves.

I'd like the government to understand that we don't have good instruments and cannot go far out into deep waters to catch fish. The government reserves shallow sites for diving and now we have to fish in deeper waters, and because of the way we catch

## FIRST PERSON

While Phuket prospers from its booming tourism industry, 30-year-old sea gypsy Jan Bangjag says his village in Rawai is suffering.

Villagers are threatened away from traditional fishing sites for the sake of tourists, and people are sabotaging their fishing traps.

Here he tells the *Gazette* how Phuket's burgeoning tourism industry is affecting the sea gypsies' traditional way of making a living.



fish, this means that we catch a lot less. The big commercial boats should fish further out than us.

Many years ago, before the tourism boom, we could fish in every area around the island. We could even stay overnight with the local people in Patong. But now we don't have enough places to fish, and the people in Patong, Kata and Karon work in tourism – they don't fish for a living, as they did before.

Sometimes when we fish at other sites, we are threatened by other villagers or tourists, saying that they will tell the police or the Fishery Department. So now it seems that we are allowed to fish freely only along the Rawai beach front.

We're not always threatened by tourists, though. Some tourists understand that we are sea gypsies and that we need to catch the fish so we can sell them. Sometimes when tourists see that I've caught a big fish with

just my hands, they admire me and say, 'Okay, take the fish back and sell it.' Some tourists buy fish directly from us to cook for their dinners, and others even buy a fish from us just so they can release it later.

However, the number of tourists are another problem. Sometimes we can't catch enough fish because there are many divers who disturb them, so we have to fish at night, which means we catch less.

Another problem that has been occurring since 2004 is that we often find that our fish traps have been cut open or even destroyed, probably by divers wanting to set the fish free or by commercial fishing boats.

I'd also like tour guides to help tourists to understand that fish traps are critical to us. Don't pity the fish, pity us – because many lives depend on them.

We set the traps and then return to collect the fish about 15

days later. Each time we catch about 100kg-200kg of fish.

The fish traps are our village's hope. We expect to sell the fish from the traps to support our families. Each trip to clear the traps costs up to about 3,000 baht for fuel and other expenses, but when we return without any fish because the traps have been cut open, we have nothing to support our families with.

About 100 traps have been destroyed, some of them by commercial fishing boats. Each time a person cuts open a trap, that person should think about the poor sea gypsies. More than 100 families – at least 500 lives – depend on the fish from the traps. So, if they cut open the traps, about 500 people will have nothing to eat and no means of making money.

A fish trap about two meters by three meters costs about 4,000 baht to make, and we have to borrow money to buy the equipment to make them. When a trap has been cut open, we can't repair it because it simply costs too much – it's better, and cheaper to make a new one.

We know that we are not allowed to catch protected fish because Fishery Department officers and people who have bought fish from us have told us that it's illegal and that those fish are protected. So if we catch protected fish, we release them.

We have also been blamed for destroying coral because we put traps on it. We know that it's stupid to put traps on coral because – we will never catch fish that way. We put traps only on the seabed.

Our village has only 30 boats, and when we go fishing, about three people from each boat dive to catch fish. They can't destroy a lot of coral compared with the vast amount of tourists that come to dive off Phuket.



# No baggage

I managed to avoid Suvarnabhumi, Bangkok's new airport, for the first month or so. Fortunately, my trips were taking me south of Phuket, where I always enjoy the comforts of Changi Airport in Singapore, by far the world's best airport terminal in terms of passenger comfort and convenience.

It's wise to avoid new airports for their first few weeks.

Things invariably go wrong, as with almost any new project. But this is especially true when the opening of the new project has been pushed forward to suit a political agenda.

However, during the past two weeks I have been through domestic and international arrivals and departures at Suvarnabhumi and everything seemed to be working fine.

Immigration was quick. Customs was painless, almost unnoticeable. This is a definite improvement on the old airport, where you would scurry through the little tunnel to the lights of freedom, feeling the ghosts of smugglers and drug couriers who had not made it through; those carted off to rot – and possibly die – in the dungeons of the "Bangkok Hilton".

The security checks and x-ray machines at Suvarnabhumi work fine, though I guess they should if reports and rumors regarding their cost are true.

Public transport outside is fine. There are plenty of taxis, you go downstairs from the arrival level and all the taxis are there, in spite of what the odd hustler will tell you when he's trying to get you into an overpriced limousine.

Fares to Silom and Sukhumvit are about the same as from Don Muang, so all the horror stories of outrageous costs are a load of old cobbles.

Suvarnabhumi Airport, the

largest airport terminal in the world under a single roof, looks fantastic at night from the outside. Even in daylight it is impressive, resembling a science fiction settlement from Star Trek.

Inside it's a different story. It is gray, forbidding and soulless.

There is nothing there to encourage the traveler to turn up a bit early and perhaps relax in the bar, watch a movie in the

lounge or browse around the shops.

While in the domestic departure lounge, I needed a drink, just a juice or something. No way. For that, one has to trundle off far, far away to the one food and beverage outlet in the whole place – a gigantic, sterile food hall, similar to those in modern shopping centers, where you settle your bill with a pre-paid card.

"I only want a drink," I told the girl at the entrance. "A can of Coke or something." "Give me a hundred baht and I'll get it for you," came her reply.

She came back with no change. That was it, 100 baht for a can of diet Pepsi. Sorry, in any person's terms, that's a rip-off, big time.

But Suvarnabhumi is just a terminal, a place to wait before boarding a flight and to leave as quickly as possible after disembarking from one. It will never be anything else without some major interior surgery. Perhaps cooperation and advice might be sought from actual travelers, people who have no vested interest in the project.

One wonders what inspires architects today to create these monstrous caverns, with glass and steel walkways. Do they think that working elements of science fiction into the design will somehow comfort of tired travelers or make them feel at home? It is totally beyond my comprehension.

## LARGER THAN LIFE

By Graham Doven

## In The Stars

by Isla Star

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 23-December 21): Cloud land is a pleasant place to be, but Sagittarians will have to return to reality before November finishes. Aries definitely isn't going to wait much longer for you to get your act together, and will make their position painfully clear. Those celebrating a birthday this week will enjoy an easier year, particularly once 2007 starts. The number nine can bring good fortune next Wednesday.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22-January 20): The career area of your life is starting to look more positive. As the temperature heats up, you are advised to put some effort into creating a more harmonious atmosphere amongst your colleagues. Allow Pisces to receive all the praise for a job well done, even if your input enabled the project to succeed. Clear the decks at home on Saturday so that Sunday can be completely devoted to relaxation.

**AQUARIUS** (January 21-February 19): Aquarians are forecast to prosper between now and the end of this year. With astral support you should manage to reach a satisfactory agreement with an ex-partner. The best day for having final discussions relating to this sticky matter is Tuesday. After Wednesday you are likely to say something you will regret. Inspiration you receive this weekend could give rise to an interesting money-making idea. The color hot pink enhances your attraction.

**PISCES** (February 20-March 20): Pisceans don't usually rate material possessions as being the most important thing in life, but this week you will feel the need to own something that is probably beyond your reach. There should be a way to make it happen, but you will need to work out a more stringent budget. A tedious appointment on Thursday shouldn't be cancelled just because you don't feel up to it. Meditate on a lotus flower to encourage purity of thought.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 20): Someone's contradictory behavior is sending your head spinning. Trying to pin them down will be challenging, but Monday should be a relatively easy day to do so. A romantic question is answered this weekend, but many Arians will not be too pleased with the outcome. Wish upon the first star you see in the sky on Sunday night, and your desire could be granted.

**TAURUS** (April 21-May 21): More good news on the financial front should perk you up midweek and a romantic liaison appears to be on firmer ground now. Those born under the sign of Taurus who are suffering from flagging energy levels are advised to boost their intake of fresh fruit and decline social invitations this weekend, no matter how tempting they may be. December promises to be a hectic month, and you will want to enjoy every exciting moment.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21): Sweeping problems under the mat can only be a temporary solution. Many Geminis appear to have convinced themselves that there is nothing to be done about certain issues at the moment. The stars will show you a clear path toward closure next week and you are advised to act immediately. Affairs of the heart will progress more smoothly as November gives way to December. Start planning the holiday season with focus on quality family time.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 23): Cancerians who can't have things all their own way will be subject to unsettled moods this week. Those close to you are more used to your calm outlook on life and will be taken aback by your irritated reactions to minor hiccups. Break out of your usual shell and explain how you feel; everyone will benefit from having the air cleared. The scent of lavender oil will encourage relaxation.

**LEO** (July 24-August 22): Letting your mane down with friends this weekend works as good medicine for those born under the sign of Leo who have been feeling down in the dumps recently. A meeting with an attractive Arian gives good reason to forget a romantic disappointment, and new work connections will be made during one social outing. The only downside in the coming week seems to be that you will have a tendency to be forgetful on Wednesday.

**VIRGO** (August 23-September 23): Time out from the usual grind of daily routine should benefit Virgoans. Your ability to switch off from thoughts that are less than pleasant stands you in good stead. Changes regarding work are forecast for early in the New Year and you are about to receive indication of how this is going to work out. The stars add extra sparkle to a hot date this Saturday. Number five comes alive next Wednesday.

**LIBRA** (September 24-October 23): You should already be facing up to the fact that one of your goals for this year will not come to fruition in time. Librans can rest assured that this will happen early in the New Year and that there was nothing they could have done to meet the original deadline. A modest windfall is forecast to cheer you up at the beginning of December. Wear the color lime green to sharpen your mind.

**SCORPIO** (October 24-November 22): Scorpios should start making some New Year's resolutions so there is time for last minute tweaking. If you haven't accomplished everything you wanted to this year, the stars are poised to provide positive support to your hopes and dreams in 2007. In the meantime, Cupid would like to add some spice to your life by encouraging a romantic introduction to a Piscean.

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Some 2,000 years ago, the world's human population numbered about 200 million. Population grew, but thanks to the natural and social mechanisms explained in Thomas Malthus' Principle of Population, things remained in check until the Medical Revolution.

By Pasteur's time, population rose from 1.2 to 1.6 billion people – just about right for Planet Earth.

Along with modern medicine came the internal combustion engine and electricity, all less than 150 years ago. Lives changed and industries spawned. Air pollution became prevalent.

I was born nine months before atomic bombs were detonated in anger. In theory, world wars became history, and humanity could enjoy Industrial Age conveniences.

Ten years later, I was choking in the schoolyard during a Los Angeles smog alert, unable to take a deep breath, wondering if this foul air was my lifelong future.

At age 20, I could see dirty air between the houses across the street. Anybody who lived in LA during those days recognized the things to come. Twenty years later, catalytic converters created complacency, but they didn't stop the greenhouse effect.

Thanks to my visionary mother and a Native American Indian I met hitchhiking, I saw global warming coming.

When the world's population hit three billion in the early '60s, I decided not to have children – I didn't want to contribute to the problem, and I didn't want my kids living on the planet they will inherit from us. I keep practicing, but I still haven't contributed to the problem.

According to the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations, over the past 40 years the world's population grew from 3.3 to 6.5 billion, all but a handful embracing the Industrial Age with no consideration of the consequences. I had occasional doubts about my decision, but things just keep getting worse.

We've had our warnings. In the movie *Soylent Green*, Charlton Heston discovered the green

# The end of tourism

cakes, the only remaining human food, are made from – dead humans.

Isaac Asimov, Frank Herbert and Robert Heinlein warned us in the '70s, but population was only a little more than half of what it is today, so we didn't listen.

Now, our day of reckoning is upon us and I'm not optimistic. I hope I'm wrong, but the sad fact is the monkeys we call Homo sapiens just aren't mature enough to deal with the consequences of their own actions.

Two bombshell environmental reports made headlines this month, but they say nothing new. Gathered from prestigious scientists from many disciplines and universities, they symbolize not a wake-up call, but a final warning. What makes them unique is the scientific community finally realizes that no matter how serious the doomsday scenario, economics is the only argument that affects human behavior.

Unfortunately, as we discovered from Hurricane Katrina, it's usually too late. Pre-Katrina documentaries still air with graphic arguments for taller, stronger dikes. Does anybody doubt that proper preparation would have been cheaper than the final consequences?

A fading Tony Blair released the Stern

Report with a flourish. It's a fancy way of saying what my mama taught me in 1950 – "The world only has about 100 years left before humans destroy it all." She wasn't far off. The Stern Report confirms that unless we change our lifestyles immediately, we'll have fried the planet by about 2050.

Climate change will worsen along the way – with grave economic consequences for tourism. That's already started; in an era of increasing numbers of cyclones, how much longer will punters take far-away holidays in unpredictable weather?

Only last peak high season, three days before Christmas, we had to call off our trips for only the third time in 23 years.



The world is running out of fish, and that is affecting water quality.

Remember February? For the past three years, the weather sucked.

Two days after PM Blair's announcement, prestigious *Science Magazine* predicted that if we don't change our lifestyles immediately, the world's fisheries will be so depleted by 2048 the damage will be irreversible – fish will be absent from our diets, and water quality will also suffer. The 14 authors from 12 marine institutes are a Who's Who of ocean science.

That's serious stuff. As we run out of land to feed and graze livestock, we also run out of fish. Unlike cancer/heart disease-inducing red meat, fish is our best animal protein source, recommended brain food for everything from Alzheimer's to xenophobia (a political disease induced by mental deficiencies).

Since we are nothing but overgrown monkeys, humans are rarely motivated by "doing the

right thing". We are still so underdeveloped that we measure our value in economic rather than human terms, so our immature species requires economic incentives as motivation for change.

I've used the "economic factor" to gain environmental victories for decades. At the height of my environmental activism, I was also a corporate trouble-shooter.

My clients in Hawaii understood that the islands' long-term future was more important than short-term profits, often feeding me work because of my concern for the destination's long-term prosperity.

Population growth is humankind's biggest problem. China's controversial and draconian One Child Policy serves as an example of what can happen if we don't change ourselves – immediately.

It all starts at the top. In my 1997 Tarutao documentary *Ad-*

venture in South Thailand, I had the pleasure to video sailfish jumping in the waters off Adang and Rawi over a script saying, "Locals consider these sailfish sacred, so they have never known net or hook."

Two years later, the Adang-Rawi Sail Fishing Tournament was launched.

I was horrified. How can we protect Thailand from environmental wrath when people just don't get it?

I asked one of the the organizers, "What do you do with the sailfish?"

He replied, "They aren't good to eat, so we photograph, weigh and then throw them away."

"Isn't that a waste?"  
"Yes, but it's an easy promo."

After three tournaments the sailfish colony was wiped out.

Despite my complaints, the TAT continues to promote feeding monkeys in Phi Phi and Phang Nga National Parks – and the parks do nothing to enforce their own laws.

The TAT still promotes 2-cycle speedboats, and at Nai Harn, it's virtually impossible to select any activity except speedboats – easy money today, but your children will pay the price.

Excuse me for being a bit skeptical, but I don't see much future.

We need to convince the rich to start measuring their worth in human terms, not financial. Once we have more than we can ever spend, it's time to start looking for solutions.

Don't believe me? Just ask Warren Buffet and Bill Gates. They know a bit about business and personal worth.

We have about 50 years, but changes must start immediately.

## THE GRAY AREA



By John 'Caveman' Gray

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# Twisting with Vista

**Q** I'm thinking about buying my son in the States a computer for Christmas. I'm not sure if it's a good idea, though, because Windows Vista is coming in January. Should I go ahead and buy it anyway?

JS Kathu

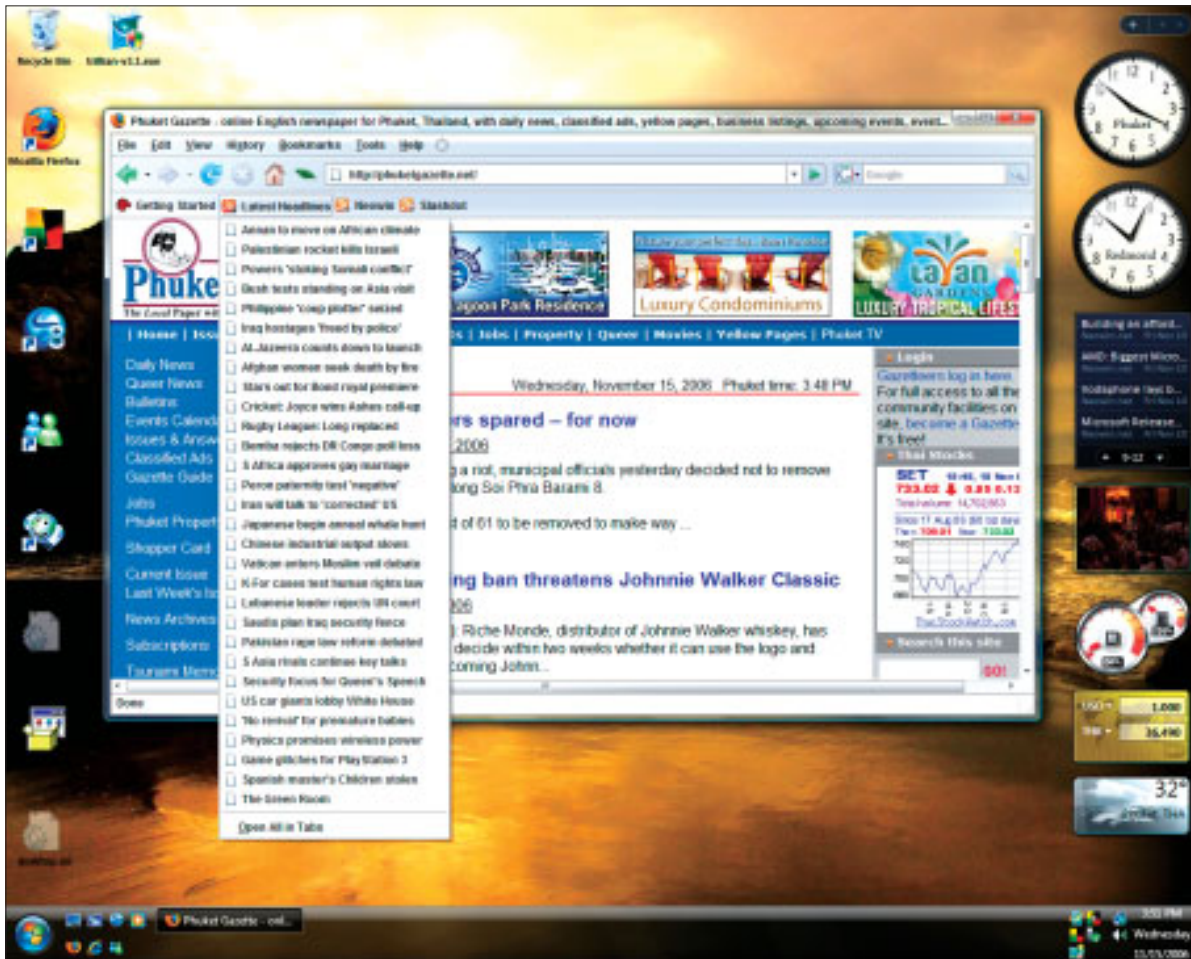
**A** Microsoft has just announced its "Express Upgrade to Windows Vista and Office Technology Guarantee" programs in the US, Europe, Australia and most other parts of the world. ([www.microsoft.com/presspass/press/2006/oct06/10-24TechGuaranteePR.mspx](http://www.microsoft.com/presspass/press/2006/oct06/10-24TechGuaranteePR.mspx))

As expected, if you buy a new computer between now and when Vista and Office 2007 ship, you're entitled to upgrade to the new products, when they're available, at greatly reduced prices.

Maybe. "The upgrade to Windows Vista may be offered for free or at a discounted price (shipping and handling charges may also apply), and customers should check with PC makers for their specific offers," states the official MS announcement.

In a nutshell, if you buy a Win XP Media Center Edition 2005 computer now, you should get a free (or low-cost) upgrade to Vista Home Premium in January or February. If you buy an XP Pro computer, you should get a free (or low-cost) upgrade to Vista Business. If you buy an XP Home computer now, you should get 50% off the full retail price of an upgrade to Vista Home Basic or Premium.

If you buy a boxed copy of WinXP Home or Pro, there should be some upgrade offer - but Microsoft doesn't have any details. Similarly, Office 2007 upgrades



**GOLD PLATED:** The *Phuket Gazette* website as seen through Firefox 2 running on the final 'gold' version of Windows Vista, which is due on store shelves on January 30.

are offered "to comparable editions," but there are no details. (And, of course, there are no upgrades, free or otherwise, to Office 2003 Student & Teacher Edition.)

Adding to the confusion are coupons and restrictions, and each vendor has its own terms.

Here's what I know for sure: if you buy a computer without Vista installed, and you upgrade to Vista in the future, you're going to be stuck with the hassle - and I do mean hassle - of upgrading WinXP to Vista. It's a tough job. Microsoft promises

to have Alohobob file transfer software ready in January, which should make upgrading easier. (It's officially called "Windows Easy Transfer Companion" but it's based on Alohobob technology.) The tool is supposed to go into beta testing around the time Vista ships. So if you're counting on upgrading to your "free" Vista as soon as it's available, you may get to run beta-version upgrade software.

The whole thing's a mess. Do yourself a favor. Instead of buying a new computer now, limp along with whatever you have, and wait until Vista and Office 2007 are available pre-loaded on new machines. Stick a big, engraved "IOU" under your Christmas tree, Hannukah bush, or local equivalent, and enjoy the holidays knowing that you haven't given yourself, or someone you love, a giant headache.

On the other hand, if you thought about buying someone in the US or Europe or Down Unda' a lump of coal for their Christmas stocking, you might want to consider giving them a low-cost XP Home computer...

**Q** So is Vista worth waiting for or is it more of the same-old same-old?

CM, Phuket City

## KHUN WOODY'S COMPUTER Q&A

**A** Both. Scot Finnie and Preston Gralla have posted an extraordinary, unbiased and

thorough review of Vista on the ComputerWorld site ([www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9004916](http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9004916)). If you want a solid, well-rounded look at the new operating system, that's the place to start. I disagree with them on several points, but mostly they're spot-on.

Personally, I'm still having problems with Vista, even though I've been using it (and poking around at its innards) for the past six months.

An example: I have two new machines, side-by-side, both with absolutely virgin, identical, scorched-earth installs. They're both plugged into the same router; both use motherboard-based LAN connections.

The PC with an Intel PRO/1000 MT connection works great: it "enumerates" (identifies and lists) all of the computers in my network - including the other Vista computer.

I can get into the shared (or public) areas on all of the computers and hook up to the shared printers. Everything works great.

The computer with the NVIDIA nForce Networking Controller, on the other hand, can only "see" the other Vista computer. It gets into the other Vista computer, no problem. But it doesn't enumerate any of the other computers on my network.

That's just one oddity of many. There are plenty of problems with Vista. Still, I'm going to switch my production work over to Vista, slowly, over the next month.

**Q** Hi Woody. I read your article in the *Phuket Gazette* about the DO card from CAT and need a little advice. I understand that the AirCard doesn't work with Outlook Express. Is that correct? Thanks in advance for your help.

AH Patong

**A** Sure it works with Outlook Express! The AirCard gives you a fast, reliable Internet connection, at a reasonable price (16,000 baht for the card, 1,300 baht a month for service), almost everywhere in Phuket.

Anything you want to do on the Internet, you can do over the AirCard.

I keep getting reports from all over the island and, with a few exceptions, people are ecstatic about their AirCards. No, I don't work for CAT. No, I don't own CAT stock. No, the cards aren't perfect and, no, they don't work everywhere.

But I've been kvetching about bad Internet service on the island for so many years, in so many ways, that having reliable 400 to 600 Kbps (kilobits per second) download speeds is like a breath of fresh air.

Woody Leonhard ([woody@khunwoody.com](mailto:woody@khunwoody.com), [www.askwoody.com](http://www.askwoody.com)) writes no-bull books about Windows and Office, including Windows XP All-In-One Desk Reference For Dummies, Windows XP Timesaving Techniques For Dummies, and Special Edition Using Microsoft Office.

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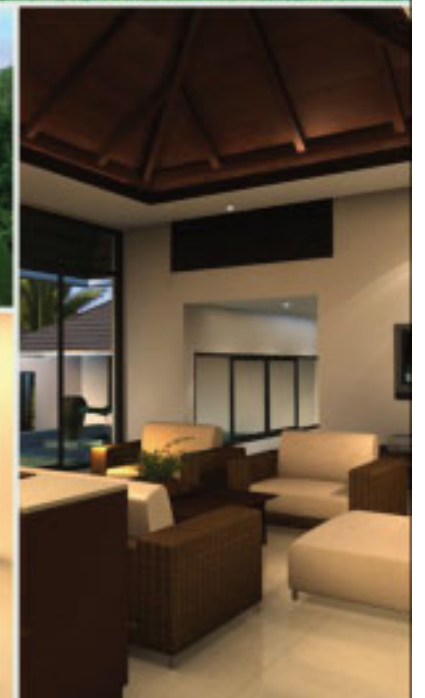
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## ON THE MOVE

**Usa Inthawong**, 41, from Phuket, has been appointed Front Office Manager of BanThai Beach Resort & Spa. A graduate of Prince of Songkla University Haad Yai campus, K. Usa worked at the Holiday Inn Green Hill, and before returning to Phuket, she was Front Office Manager of Rembrandt Hotel in Bangkok for 13 years. K. Usa was also the Reservations Manager of Phuket Island Resort for four years.



Renaissance Koh Samui Resort & Spa has appointed **Parichart "Tim" Kotrajarus**, from Chiang Mai, as Director of Operations. The holder of a degree from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, she has a strong background and 10 years experience in the hotel industry, including five years with Four Seasons in Bangkok and Chiang Mai and five years with JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa and Marriott's Phuket Beach Club, where she was Resort Manager before joining Renaissance.



**Sompratch "Prad" Saowakhon**, 23, from Songkhla, has joined the *Phuket Gazette's* team of reporters. K. Prad graduated with a degree in Communication Arts from Payap University in Chiang Mai. He worked as a journalist with *Tiang Trong* newspaper in Bangkok and also trained as a reporter with Channel 11 Television in Chiang Mai.



# Central to double portfolio by 2010

By Andy Johnstone

PHUKET: In April and May this year, Central Hotels & Resorts (CHR) doubled the number of properties it owns in Phuket to four.

In a joint venture with Lehmann Brothers, CHR added to its Phuket portfolio – which at the time comprised the Central Karon Village and Central Waterfront Suites – the Islandia Park Resort in Karon and the Jiva Resort & Spa in Kata (now the Central Kata Village) in deals industry insiders estimated at almost 1.5 billion baht. It then pumped up to a further 200 million baht into redeveloping the Islandia. CHR will also build a new five-star resort in Karon.

The company's expansion is not limited to the island. Its five-star Central Krabi Bay Resort, tucked beneath towering cliff faces, opened to much fanfare in mid-November. In the capital, the Central World Hotel and Convention Center will open next year, while the adjoining 505-room hotel will open in the second quarter of 2008. CHR is also building



The classy Central Krabi Bay Resort will be the benchmark for future developments in the region.

a new hotel in Pattaya, which involved demolishing the oldest hotel in the city, a property CHR had owned and run since 1989.

"By 2010," said Gerd Steeb, President of CHR, "we will have doubled the number of properties we had in 2005 to around 20; we are already on target for approximately 4,200 rooms by 2009, which is double the number of

rooms currently held."

CHR seems to bide its time well. The plot in Krabi was acquired by the company some 10 years ago, while the Pattaya project was put on hold because, as Mr Steeb said, "In the early-to-mid '90s, Pattaya had a bad reputation because of the sex industry that there was no point in investing a lot of money.

"When things improved, we decided to redevelop the site – the best in the area – into the Central Mirage Beach Resort. It's due to open in about 30 months from now. It will be a

555-room themed resort, geared toward the tourist, family and MICE [meetings, incentives, conferences and exhibitions] markets."

Mr Steeb said that construction of the new hotel in Karon would begin soon.

"There were a number of logistical issues with the new development in Karon, and most of these have been solved," he said.

Modifications have been made to the design – such as reducing the number of rooms from 340 to 275 – which is similar in concept to the Central Krabi Bay Resort and will have a backdrop of hills and direct beach access

"We have done this to allow larger outdoor spaces – balconies, terraces and Jacuzzis for the rooms because people coming from cooler climates tend not to want to spend all day in a bedroom; they want to be outdoors," explained Mr Steeb.

The redevelopment of the Islandia site is due to be complete as this edition of the *Gazette* goes to press, while the Central Kata Village will add a further 30 bedrooms to its existing 128 during the next low season.

"CHR has been approached to manage a residential-cum-hotel development – British money – to be built north of the airport, but we are not sure how this is

coming along. We shall have to see," said Mr Steeb.

Other developments in the pipeline include a 200-room resort in Jomtien – being built without outside investment – and another in Hua Hin, to complement the Sofitel Central Hua Hin Resort.

The expansionist attitude of CHR is backed by healthy results from the first half of 2006. Revenue for the first six months was 1.3 billion baht, up 10.4% on the same period last year, while net profits amounted to 184 million baht, a 4.1% increase on the first half of 2005.

In 2006, CHR projects total revenue of 2.6 billion baht, a 9.5% year-on-year increase.

However, Mr Steeb cautioned that to prevent the debt-equity ratio from sliding into the red, expansion will not go unchecked. Yet CHR is considering negotiating to spread its network elsewhere in the region, such as to Malaysia. It has been unrepresented outside Thailand since the recent sale of its floating hotel off Dili, East Timor, to a oil exploration company.

"The floating hotel was bought to operate in Burmese waters, and was actually off Yangon for about three years. During the time when it was thought that Burma would open up.

"But we are not sure about taking over these hotels in Malaysia; they are in a location that is not very touristic and really require not hotel but destination marketing," began Mr Steeb. "And without destination marketing, we cannot do much."

Mr Steeb said that the expansion of CHR in Phuket reflects the company's confidence in the area.

"Our and other hotels are fully booked. Even here at the old Jiva Resort; average room rates are 50% higher than they were last year.

"The tsunami is, for Phuket, well behind us now, but for Khao Lak, that is a different matter; it's not over yet for that area," he said.

"Phuket, however, is another story. It will boom this high season," he stated.

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The "Open House with Economic Ministers", hosted recently in Bangkok by *The Nation*, was a well-attended and interesting meeting. Five Cabinet members gave individual speeches, each of which was followed by questions and answers.

The first speaker was MR Pridiyathorn Devakula, Finance Minister and a Deputy Prime Minister, and – before the coup – Governor of the Bank of Thailand, the central bank.

His topic was "Putting the Economy in Order". Giving an outline of the new policy, he reflected that Thailand is an open economy and will continue to move forward on the free-enterprise model.

Stressed also was the need to remove restrictions currently in place that inhibit growth. This is a common problem in many Asian countries because they are not able to absorb liquidity in their own capital markets and rely on foreign bond markets for investment.

In his speech, which demonstrated his years of experience and depth of understanding, he advised that the baht will be subject to a "managed float" not a "free float". Thailand is too small for a free float.

The following speaker was Kirk-Krai Jirapaet, the Commerce Minister. His topic was "Trade Policies, Nominee Issues and Competition Rules". He gave a predictably positive speech, but it lacked detail and he skirted the nominee issue.

A representative of an Australian bank pressed him on the nominee issue, but the minister gave a short and uninformative response. I put it to the minister that, with an estimated 100,000 foreign-owned companies involved, this was obviously a serious issue.

He gave the same answer as already reported in the media: "The interim government would have to define what constitutes a nominee and, where changes were necessary, companies would be given time to sort matters out."

*The Financial Times (FT)*

# Still a way to go



The ousted government of Thaksin Shinawatra can be blamed for many things, but the law banning nominee shareholders was a Democrat idea. – Photo EPA/STR

featured a front-page article on this topic the following day, quoting the minister.

"I see no simple solution [as to] who is leading this process of clarifying the foreign investment

laws. We have a desire to open our economy to attract more investment, and a desire to regulate our economy so local people can compete. The question is: how are we going to reconcile these?"

The *FT* also stated that "... ministers are clearly struggling with

one of their thorniest problems: how to revise Thailand's ambiguous foreign investment framework, which has long allowed foreign companies to skirt restrictive foreign equity limits". The *FT* went on to state: "Many multinational companies feel they too have been left on shaky legal ground [following the unresolved Temasek/Shin Corp deal]."

It is not just multinational companies, but the majority of foreign companies in Thailand, which are in this unpleasant situation.

of this legislation arouses bitterness in some, because, just two years before, the same party had borrowed heavily from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), which is – ultimately – funded by taxpayers in many major countries.

At the time of the 1997 Asian financial crisis, the then-executive Vice-President of Bangkok Bank was asked what would have happened to the Thai economy if the IMF had not supported Thailand.

His answer was that the baht would have fallen to an exchange rate of 100 to the US dollar – instead of 56 – and the recession would have been deeper and longer lasting.

In other words, Thailand would have found out what the economic term "depression" – as opposed to "recession" – really means.

Energy Minister Piyasvasti Amranand gave a detailed technical speech on future energy policies. Prof Sitthichai Pookaiyaudom, the Information and Communications Technology Minister, gave an interesting and humorous speech on telecom re-

form and plans for "digital economy".

Prof Pookaiyaudom is far too honest to have a long-term career in politics, and he made it clear that he harbors no such ambitions. In respect of the digital economy, he said he had no idea of what the term meant and had never met anyone who did. It was easy to see that he is a born teacher.

The last speaker, Kosit Panpiemras, Industry Minister and a Deputy Prime Minister, is the former Chairman of the Board of Governors of Bangkok Bank. The topic of his speech was "Thai economy and development policies going forward". Unfortunately, he did not seem to cover anything that had not been said before.

He answered a question regarding policies for giving [foreign] retirees longer visas and the right to own landed property in Thailand, which they can do in Malaysia, with "This is a matter for the Department of Foreign Affairs, Immigration".

I believe this interim government is vastly superior to the previous administration, but agree with Trakal Meechai, a professor at Chulalongkorn University, who said in *The Nation*, "The government has many weak points especially in public relations, which is inadequate."



## MONEY TALKS

By Richard Watson

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# Phuket tops international schools soccer tournament

By Suganya Semacote

**KOH KAEW:** Phuket students outclassed their international counterparts in the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual International Football Tournament played at British International School (BIS) on November 17 and 18, winning both the boys over-15s and the boys under-15s divisions.

Some 250 students from international schools in Kuala Lumpur, Seoul, Singapore, Kathmandu, Jakarta, Bangkok and 140 students from eight Thai schools competed in the tourney.

Dawroong Wittaya School won the boys over-15s category, with BIS Phuket A and BIS Phuket B placing 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>.

BIS Phuket also took top honors in the boys under-15s division.

Seoul Foreign International won the girls under-15s. BIS finished 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Phuket made a clean sweep of the boys under-13s division, with Dragon Junior Club taking top honors, the Chris Koppers team placing 2<sup>nd</sup> and Dawroong finishing 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Bangkok Pattana won the girls under-12s. The Chris Koppers team came 3<sup>rd</sup>.

BIS Jakarta won the boys under-11s. BIS Phuket finished 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Bangkok Pattana won the under-9s mixed category, with BIS Phuket finishing 3<sup>rd</sup>.



Goalmouth action in the inter-schools competition.

# Healthy competition

**PHUKET CITY:** Phuket Provincial Health Office funded a "Health Phuket Friendship Sport Day" at Surakul Stadium on November 18.

The purpose of the event was to promote health and friendship through sport.


Local government agencies,

private sector organizations and the public were encouraged to take part in a range of events, including "blind bucket smash", flag racing, speed walking, relay racing, sack racing, balloon throwing, darts – and even a non-lethal event called "kick the bucket".


Seventeen teams representing different local administration organizations on the island took part, with each team fielding at least 50 enthusiastic competitors taking place in various age- and gender-based categories.



**MAY THE FORCE BE WITH YOU:** Just one of hundreds of competitors who took part in the 'Health Phuket Friendship Sport' day at Surakul Stadium on November 18. This gentleman is giving his all in an event called blind bucket smash.




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## PATONG DARTS LEAGUE

**PATONG:** The new season of the Patong Darts League started nicely, apart from the Coyote team, who were apparently so aggravated by the points system they refused to give any individual results.

**November 14 results:** Didi's\* 5, Piccadilly 4; Dogs Bollocks 4, Queen Mary\* 5; Beach House 2, Shakers\* 3; Off Shore\* 6, Funky Monkey 3; Coyote Bar Valhalla N/A (\* = winner of beer leg).

**November 28 matchups:** Didi's v Dogs Bollocks; Queen Mary v Piccadilly; Beach House v Offshore; Coyote Bar v Shakers; Valhalla v Funky Monkey (home team first).




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# 220 compete in bike races



PHUKET: Karon Municipality and the Phuket Beach Boy Mountain Bike Team jointly organized the Karon Mountain Bike II competition November 18.

The mountain bike races, at distances of 25km, 15km and 10km, were held between 9 am and 3 pm starting and finishing at Karon Park.

About 220 youth, adult and professional competitors took part in the event, which had 166,800 baht in prize money up for grabs, with a top prize of 10,000 baht to the men's open winner.

The winner of the 25km "professional" male group was Kriti Sookprasart, followed by Sgt Seree Rungsiri in second place and Pol Lt Col Thawatchai Masae in third.

Kritika Siraphat won the 25km race for the women, with Chatchadaporn Ruenpae in second and Chatchadaporn Ruenpae in third.

ond and Chatchadaporn Ruenpae in third.

In the 15km race, Thongchai Beednok, Phanu Phungphong and Thaveesin Intranong took the podium positions for the men, in that order.

In the women's 15km race, Kritika Siraphat again topped the field, with Chatchadaporn Ruenpae and Maesiya Sooksawat taking second and third, respectively.

In the junior race, a 10km race for boys and girls 12 years old and younger, Tri Kidmak, Jirayuth Srithiraj and Pongsakorn Sriden took the top honors.

The purpose of the competition was to promote tourism in Karon and to encourage youths in Phuket to exercise. The competition was certified by the Thai Cycling Association and was under the patronage of His Majesty the King and the South Mountain Bike Club.

## PSU student beats 500 to take top Go award

PHUKET: A Prince of Songkla University (PSU) Phuket Campus student won the second Phuket Open Go tournament, organized by the Phuket Provincial Administration Organization (*Or-Bor-Jor*) and the Phuket Go Club, beating 500 other competitors from around the region.

The tournament, held at Phuket Rajabhat University on November 18 and 19, attracted Go, or *Mak Lom* players of all ages. Winners in each category received 3,000 baht, a trophy and a certificate, while second and third place merited 2,000 and 1,000 baht prizes, respectively.

**Results: Hi Kyu** (Advanced) level: 1. Talerngsak Srisatchathon (PSU); 2. Panat Kingkeaw (Phuket Wittayalai School); 3. Theerapoj Itsarachowti (Phuket Wittayalai School).

**Low Kyu** (Intermediate) level: 1. Tanasarn Janram (Phang Nga Technical College); 2. Payon Noinadee (Phang Nga Technical College); 3. Matiman Patpagon (Chalermprakiat School).

**Friendship** (Beginner) level: 1. Parinya Janram (Sattri Phang Nga School); 2. Watchapong Pimkeeree (Kathu Wittaya School); 3. Surachai Chokthaisong (Kathu Wittaya School).



## PHUKET HOOPSTERS VICTORIOUS

The Phuket Youth Basketball Team won the Youth Nation Region 4 competition in Surat Thani province November 1-8 and will continue on at the national competition in March. The Phuket team beat Songkhla 79-66 for the win. The team is led by Thammanoon 'Ting' Laiseau (blue shirt).



Marathon winners of all ages wait to receive their medals at the Childwatch Mini-Marathon on November 19. The event included 11.9km and 3.5km races.

## Phuket City students champs in South

SATUN: Students from Phuket City Municipality schools have emerged champions in the Southern Thailand round of the annual municipality student national sports tournament, held in Satun Province from October 18 to 26.

A total of 364 Phuket students, coaches and assistants went south to compete in sports including beach volleyball, soccer, volleyball, soccer, *sepak takraw*, athletics, table tennis and pétanque.

Phuket topped the medal tally with 12 gold medals, 10 silver and 11 bronze.

Takuapa Municipality in Phang Nga finished second and Haad Yai in Songkhla finished third.

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The villa has been designed around its main swimming pool. The living space of more than 510

square meters affords a large lounge and dining area that opens directly onto the pool area, front and side decks, verandas and the gardens.

The modern kitchen comes fully fitted with custom-built cabinets and top brand-name appliances. Adjoining the kitchen is a

laundry room, work area and self-contained staff quarters.

The two master suites include their own private infinity-edge swimming pools.

Upstairs, there are two more bedroom suites, each with fully-fitted wardrobes and their own bathrooms. There is another room designed to be used as a library, TV room or a family room.

Next to the pool is a self-contained guest suite, which has its own garden.

The villa has its own road and there is secure parking for two vehicles. The main entrance takes you through teak doors into the lobby and inner courtyard.

The house is centrally air-conditioned, with sound systems for each bedroom and the sala bar. There is Wi-Fi connection throughout, provision for satellite TV connection, three telephone lines and ceiling fans in every room.

The property's security system is linked to a guardhouse, which is permanently manned, and the security company's office.

The villa is for sale at 52 million baht.

For more information, please contact CB Richard Ellis at Tel: 076-239967; Email: phuket@cbre.com, website: www.cbre.co.th.

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Design

by Suganya Semacote

# Modern Grace

**T**hanakorn Prakaisriroj and his wife Panarat, or "Kaen", founders of property developer company Grace Gardens, are developing a reputation for the modern.

The couple started creating closed communities with very modern designs with the Grace Gardens Tropical Residence, near British International School.

After the completion of Tropical Residence in 2001, they continued their trend in modern living developments with Grace Gardens Masterpiece, which was completed in 2003, and Sunny-point completed last year.

Throughout all the projects, including their current project The Lantern, just north of Boat Lagoon, is the use of sharp angles and curves with long lines adding to the impression of space, together creating a modern flair to the projects.

Their homes emphasize natural light, airiness and a sense of space, just as would have in their own home.

"We design our projects as we would our own home. We spend time looking carefully at them and change them if necessary," says K. Kaen.

Grace Gardens' uses architects Point Studio Co Ltd, but K. Kaen and K. Thanakorn take the design role a step further by living in one of their project homes for a short period to make sure they are satisfied with it.

"The architects design the homes but never live in one. We build them, live in them and learn from the experience," K. Kaen says. "Sometimes we live in a house for months, and when we



Long architectural lines have become signature touches of Grace Gardens' homes, which all carry a modern feel.

find things we don't like, we just change them and fix what's missing."

Neither Kaen nor Thanakorn has had professional training in design; they taught themselves through experience. Thanakorn is keen to work with lighting techniques and other technical areas whereas K. Kaen has a knack for decorating. "We are not interior designers, but we love it and never stop learning," K. Kaen says.

"I think one has to keep the mind open to learn all the time."

To create a sense of "open living" in their homes, K. Thanakorn and K. Kaen use lighting, ceiling height and glass.

"The height of the ceiling is important in making the house look more spacious, and the glass must complement the functions inside the house and the ambiance. A comfortable house allows wind flow and natural light in the house," says K. Kaen.

To enhance the ambiance created by the designs, Thanakorn uses Lutron lighting systems,

which offer one-touch ambiance settings. K. Thanakorn says that the right lighting enhances the mood. "Like at the swimming pool, soft lighting is enough. It looks beautiful and romantic," he says.

Inside the house, K. Kaen says, no room is more important than another.

"The living room is important as it is the gathering place for all family members. The master bedroom is important, giving homeowners private space to relax in. "Each room has its unique character, but we try to carry the house theme into each room by using common elements," she explains.

Grace Gardens' next project, The Sky, an eight-unit condominium block, will be their next test in this, though K. Kaen says that she and K. Thanakorn are looking forward to something new, and different.

"The rooms in The Sky will each be in a different style, but all with an emphasis on modern, luxurious living with colorful decor," she says.

"We have built many houses, and the more we build the more experience we gain. Now we can take all that we have learned and apply it all to one 'house,'" she says.



'One has to keep the mind open to learn all the time' - K. Kaen of Grace Gardens.



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Construction Update

by Suganya Semacote

# The Heritage takes shape

**KATHU:** The 55-rai Phuket Heritage Home development will be an estate of three- and four-bedroom detached houses. The name reflects the developers' ambitions of preserving Phuket's architectural history by incorporating aspects of it into the house designs.

The project is located off Phra Phuket Kaew Rd, which starts at the Samkong Intersection near Tesco-Lotus and runs to Kathu. There will be a total of 58 units on the site, each on a 600sqm to 880sqm plot. About 80% of the units are currently sold.

The development is the brainchild of husband and wife team, Tanan and Suttida Tanpaibul, the owners of Seatran Ferries.

K. Suttida, the project's Sales Director, explained that construction on each house will not begin until the land has been sold. This gives the buyer a chance to customize the design, though they must stick within some design limits to keep the overall theme of the development intact, she added.

"We understand that people may want to modify the design a little and that this will make them even more happy with their property, which is what we are aiming for," K. Suttida said.

The development will include a clubhouse with a saltwater pool, sauna/steam room and a gym.

Around the clubhouse will be 14 Clubhouse Villas, one of the with four designs available.

The Clubhouse Villas will have three bedrooms, four bathrooms, a family room, living room, kitchen, laundry, storeroom and maid's quarter, giving a total living area of 325sqm. These villas are on sale for between 10 and 12 million baht.

The three other designs of houses are Lakeside Villa, Hillside Villa A and Hillside Villa B.

The Hillside Villas have are slightly larger with a usable area of 343sqm, but lack a storeroom. They are available for nine to 12 million baht each.

Built around a small lake are the Lakeside Villas. At 10 to 15 million baht apiece, these are the largest houses at the development, offering an extra bedroom and bathroom as well as a study.

The Lakeside Villas will have a living area of 405sqm. They are now all sold.

K. Suttida explained that all of the houses will be in contemporary Sino-Portuguese style as this provides a link to Phuket's architectural past and is well-suited to the climate and people's needs.



The Heritage clubhouse and pool (above) are complete, as is the project's show home with its fine finishes showing what owners can expect to enjoy.

The development is designed to have a spacious feel, K. Suttida said. "On 55 rai of land, other projects might build more than 100 units but we will have only 58."

Work on the project started in 2004 and is now around 70% complete, though a final completion date has not been set. After a plot is sold, construction of the house takes about one year. Prices exclude landscaping and furniture, though the developers do offer an interior design service for an extra fee.

The project was designed by architects Sala and Associate and is using a number of local construction companies as contractors.

For more information see: [www.phuketheritagehome.com](http://www.phuketheritagehome.com)



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## Gardening

with Bloomin' Bert

# Greens for gardening, not eating

I try to be as open-minded as I can. Honestly, I know that there are certainly some who don't consider me the most liberal and tolerant of individuals, but I do try. But there are some things in life that I will never understand. One thing that comes pretty high up on that list is vegetarianism.

I just don't get it. I can kind of understand those who simply don't like the taste of meat – it can't be that much different from the way I react to the thought of eating durian. Does that make me an eateverythingexceptdurianian? Probably.

Vegetarians certainly have some interesting alternatives. I believe that nut cutlets are a popular choice, although I've never tried one. Tofu, on the other hand, has found its way onto my plate on a number of occasions. "Try it," my veggie dining partner will always say. So I do.

My reaction is always the same – it's nasty. It's supposed to take on the taste of the ingredients and sauce around it. It probably does, but the stuff itself will always be bean curd, in various stages of solidity, with a gooey taste that's inevitably rather unpleasant in all of them.

I can rationalize that people who don't like meat choose not to eat it, but what I can't understand are the misguided individuals that actually like the taste and smell of the stuff, but choose not to, presumably because they like

the idea of cows being left to eat grass and moo in fields, rather than being eaten.

I had a mate a few years ago who was a die-hard veggie. He used to come to my particularly carnivore-orientated barbecues, clutching his pack of veggie sausages. We'd leave a bit of the grill available for him, so that none of our nasty meat juices would taint his animal product-free offerings.

I tasted one once. Only once. It had a taste reminiscent of boiled cardboard. Absolutely bland – if this cylinder of nothingness represents the joys of vegetarianism, then I have to feel rather sorry for them. I find that food tasting of something – anything – significantly enhances the experience of eating, personally. But that's just me.

And what is it with the veggie tendency to imitate meat? Why would they possibly want to do that? Veggie sausages? Veggie burgers? Why bother? If they hate the stuff so much, does it really make sense that they'd want to eat food that was in any way similar? I have a tip for any veggie burger-lovers – if you really want a burger, nip down to Don's Mall and get the real thing.

Back to my barbecue guest. The daft thing about the whole scenario was his reaction to the sizzling meat fumes wafting through the air. "That smells wonderful," he'd always say. "I wish I could eat that." We could never



Chinese Evergreen.

figure out why he tortured himself in that way, and stuck vehemently to eating veggies.

There's certainly nothing wrong with veggies, it has to be said. Indeed, Phuket has a festival named in honor of them. For me, thanks to a childhood dinner table where plates had to be cleared every meal, I'm actually rather partial to greens to this day. Having said that, there are some things that despite having on the green and leafy tendencies that you wouldn't touch with a bargepole.

The Chinese Evergreen is one of them. The technical name is *aglaonema*, but it's better known to Thais as the *ba-saam-sii*. There are around 20 different varieties of the plant, but probably the most often-seen in these parts is the *aglaonema silver queen*.

*Aglaonema* is a versatile, low-light, low-growing, durable plant that will put up with some pretty neglectful treatment. The foliage is either silvery green with

some dark green or the reverse, mostly dark green with light green or creamy streaks. They're related to the dumb cane in that they're part of the *araceae* family, but they're a different genus; the main difference is that the stems of the Chinese Evergreen are white in most cultivars, rather than green.

The leaves are rather distinctive. They're kind of rubbery, about 30 centimeters long, and appear singly on the end of short stems.

Whenever you see these things in garden centers they're always under that black, sun-screening netting stuff. There's a good reason for that – although they enjoy Phuket's tropical heat, they aren't exactly sun-worshippers, so you'll need to keep them in a shaded spot. Direct sunlight will cause leaf scorching.

*Aglaonema* is also a perfect houseplant. Unlike many of its tropical relatives that crave direct light, this one will be quite happy indoors; they're tolerant plants

that do well in a range of environments. They prefer a bit of humidity if possible, but they'll adapt to a room with air con, so they'll do well in living rooms, bedrooms and bathrooms. If the leaves start to develop brown tips, move it out of the aircon – it's whining.

*Aglaonema* is native to the Philippines, parts of tropical Asia and Africa. The scientific name is derived from two Greek words: "aglaos" meaning "bright"; and "nama", a filament or thread referring to the striking stamens produced within the flowers. Apparently, it's a popular plant with the Chinese, to whom it symbolizes long life and presumably explains the name Chinese Evergreen.

Don't go mad with the water on this one. New growth will be stunted and the stalks could rot if the soil is kept too moist. If the soil is too dry, the *aglaonema's* lower leaves will turn yellow and drop. I wish the water requirements of all plants were this easy.

You might want to prune it a bit on occasion, too – just remove discolored lower leaves. You can also pull off the occasional greenish blooms (unless you actually like them), but always remove them when they die. The center new growth can be pulled out to maintain the stalk's compact growth, if you like it that way.

These things are expensive in areas where they're not native. If you want to buy one of these as a houseplant in the States, you'll be looking at a bill for \$75 to \$100 for something of a sensible size. The same thing here shouldn't cost much more than 200 or 300 baht.

I haven't seen my old barbecue guest for years – I wonder if he's finally realized that meat-eating is the way to go. He can't still be craving meat and denying himself the pleasure. If he is, I just hope he doesn't get bored and give Chinese evergreens a go. I can't say I've given them a try, but I'll bet they're even worse than tofu.

I'm off to McDonald's.



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Rawai. This is a new townhouse in Rawai. 2.8 million baht. Tel: 076-388685, 086-5951499. Fax: 076-388684. Email: info@andamanthai-property.com For further details, please see our website: [www.andamanthai-property.com/atp\\_property\\_419.htm](http://www.andamanthai-property.com/atp_property_419.htm)

**2 Panoramic Sea View Land Plots FOR SALE**

In a residential area of Kata Beach. Next to road with water & electricity. Approx 400 & 550 square meters. Plans for 4 luxury apartments or 2 luxurious villas. 3.2 million baht & 4.6 million baht Both plots at 7.5 million baht  
**Tel: 081 788 8280**  
Email: [katabeachproperty@gmail.com](mailto:katabeachproperty@gmail.com)

**Seaview Condominiums for Sale**  
Rambutan Residence  
An Investment in Paradise



Rambutan Residence offers 20 luxury freehold fully furnished apartments for sale. Located in Soi Playboy just off Nana Rd at Patong Beach, Rambutan Residence offers wonderful sea views from the three upper floors overlooking Patong Bay. Prices start at 2.7 million baht. Please contact Peter at Tel: 01-8928526 For details please see our website at: [www.phuket-besthomes.com](http://www.phuket-besthomes.com)

**All classifieds in these pages are PAID!**

- your assurance that whatever's advertised here is seriously for sale.

**Gazette Classads - they work! ....because they're real.**

**ABSOLUTE BEACHFRONT FOR SALE**



2.2 rai of absolute beachfront land with Chanote title at Khok Kloy. 25 mins from Phuket International Airport.  
*No agents please.*  
Please contact. Tel: 07-8891717.  
Email: [wayne\\_phuket@yahoo.com](mailto:wayne_phuket@yahoo.com)



# Property Gazette

**NEW POOL VILLA**



Fully-furnished top-quality villa on 900sqm of land. Email for more details! Price only 10.5 million baht. Tel: 081-8921097. Email: info@swethai-realestate.com

**APARTMENT FOR SALE**



Bang Tao beach. 140 sqm living space, gym, common pool, spa. 10 million baht. Tel: 076-381490. Email: info@sea-property-international.com

**PHUKET LAND SALE**



www.phuketlandforsale.com  
Best deals, lowest prices for land in Phuket! Guaranteed.  
- 1 million baht a rai near Laguna next to golf course and national park.  
- Amazing Kamala sea view 4 million baht a rai.  
- 2 million baht a rai Chermg Talay amazing east- and west-coast sea view next to golf course.  
- Chalong sea view, 3.5 million baht a rai.  
- Highest house in Patong, best sea view! Only 12 million baht.  
- Thai/Bali tropical home, spa, courtyard, garden, pool. Villa near Kamala beach only 8.9 million baht. And many more please call. Tel: 081-8162066. Email: coneybeezo@aol.com

**KATA SEAVIEW LAND**

Unique opportunity to buy 4 rai of seaview land overlooking Kata beach together with Thai Co., 2 foreign directorships and 2 work permits. Only need to transfer share ownership. In secluded position in select area with elec and town water on site. Ideal for seaview project. 32 million baht. Also available, 0.5 rai building plot in select development surrounded by secure stone wall and mature trees with excellent sea views. Price: 6 million baht. Tel: 081-2735047. Email: houseinphuket@hotmail.com

**APARTMENT FOR SALE**



Direct on the Mai Khao beach. living area, club house, gym, restaurant facility. 13.75 million baht. Tel: 076-381490. Email: info@seaproperty-international.com

**LAND FOR SALE**

At Mai Khao area. 9.3 rai. 1.2 km from the beach and Turtle Cove. 1.6 million baht per rai or 7.3 rai 500 m from the beach. 3.2 million baht per rai. Please contact for more information. Tel: 087-2646808, 083-1743880.

**GREAT PROPERTY deals!** - Beautiful, 4-bedroom, Kathu golf home, furnished. Option 2 year rental return at 6% fall in love at first sight. Stunning home & deal only 16million baht.

**LAND FOR SALE**

Rawai land for sale near Don's Cafe. Sale by owner 1016 sqm or 254 sq wah. 3 million baht. Call Anna. Tel: 089-7291391.

**NAI HARN HOUSE**

For sale. Best location Nai Harn beach. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, A/C, kitchen, living room, 4x8 pool. Bargain price. Sale by owner 4.5 million baht. Tel: 089-7291391.

**CONDO FOR SALE**

Fantastic full re-fit. Sale to include company title. Fully fitted and furnished. Views over Patong. Tel: 087-2650118. Email: ant\_p\_clark@yahoo.co.uk

**AO MAKAM**

Sea view. 1,200 sqm. 150 m from sea. Chanote, road, electric. Be fast. Tel: 081-537-6866.

- 1 rai golf view land 3.2 million baht excellent location.  
- 3 rai, full sea view on east coast north of Cape Yamu. Excellent location, view & price only 16million baht.  
- 1,200 sqm commercial plot 1km from Heroines' Monument only 6.5 million baht. Lots of drive by traffic for advertising location location location!

**200 SQM IN RAWAI**  
750,000 baht. Quiet area, big road, electric, no fill up. Tel: 081-5376866.

**KATA SEAVIEW APT**  
Apartment with the best view, top design, high quality. Starts at 14.5 million baht. Tel: 089-6525664.

**HOUSE FOR SALE**  
In Patong 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, European kitchen, parking for car, furnished. 3.8 million baht. Tel: 087-896-3682.

**RAWAI HOUSE**  
Includes pool. 7.5 million baht. 220sqm house. Balinese style, stunning materials, best price. Tel: 087-8938747.

**BEST SEA VIEW**

Over Patong. 700sqm house, 5 bedrooms, 7 bathrooms, pool, steamroom, lift, Q.S.O., best furniture, 3 whirlpools, 25 million baht. English, German, Italian spoken. Tel: 086-1262571. Email: wilhelm\_maehren@yahoo.de

**HALF RAI IN RAWAI**

No fill up road, electric, water supply. Chanote, asking 3.2 million baht. Tel: 081-5376866.

**HOUSE FOR SALE**

In Patong 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, European kitchen, parking for car, furnished. 3.8 million baht. Tel: 087-896-3682.

**SUPER CHEAP**

P Khlok. 2 rai land asking 3.4 million baht, Chanote title. Tel: 081-5376866.

**HOUSE FOR SALE**



Nai Harn, 200sqm living space, 500sqm land, 2 bedrooms. Fully furnished. 10 million baht. Tel: 076-381-490. Email: info@sea-property-international.com

**PERFECT LAND**

Rawai. Easy to build & develop. 200 m from main road, Chanote. 4.5 million baht. Tel: 089-6525664.

**RAWAI CONDO**

1.35 million baht. Superb 1-bedroom condo on 5th (top) floor. 54sqm, lounge, shower room, kitchen area, balcony with mountain views, fully furnished, aircon, hot water, secure. Chanote for foreign ownership. Tel: 076-388657, 087-8917408. Email: gillies18367@hotmail.com

**GREAT SEA VIEW**

Chalong. Top spot, soft slope, near beach. 4.5 million baht, Chanote. Tel: 087-8938747.

**PHUKET ANDAMAN REAL ESTATE**

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**House for sale - Kamala**  
2-story house, 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, fully furnished. Swimming pool, mountain view. Price 16 million Thb

**House for sale - Rawai**  
2-story lux h, 6 bed, 3 bathrooms, 1 separate maid house. Land 1,064 sqm. A/C all rooms, fully furnished and Western kitchen. Price 13 million Thb.

**House for sale - Rawai**  
New 1 story house, 2 bed, 2 bathrooms, swimming pool. A/C, balcony, wardrobe, fan, laundry, living room, Western kitchen. Price 5 million Thb

**Condominium for sale - Kata**  
Town house style, 4-story, 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Panoramic sea mountain views. Guest studio with kitchen, bathroom, etc. Price 12.9 million Thb

**House for sale - Kathu/Patong**  
2-story house, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, separate guest room, near Patong Beach. Price 3.5 million Thb

Contact us  
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Skype: walha5075

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**NICE 5 BEDROOM HOUSE**

A perfect, 5-bedroom, 6-aircon house, ready to move in. Close to Central Festival and Rawai Beach. Tel: 081-8915296. Email: hkthome sale18@yahoo.com For further details, please see our website: www.jikkycar.com

**HOUSE FOR SALE**



Boat Lagoon. 250 sqm living space, private pool, 11.8 million baht. Tel: 076-381-490. Email: info@sea-property-international.com

**HOUSE CHALONG**

Great 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom house in Chalong: 5.19 million baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-388685, 08-65951499. Fax: 076-388-684. Email: info@andamanthaiproperty.com For further details, please visit: www.andamanthaiproperty.com/atp\_property\_360.htm

**HOUSE FOR SALE**

End house in Kathu. 2 bedrooms with ensuite + 1 bathroom, lounge, dining room, kitchen + contents. 1.6 million baht. Tel: 087-2705514.

**AMAZING LAND**

Talang. Very cheap price never seen before. 1.7 million baht a rai. 2 rai. Tel: 081-5376866.

**STUNNING**

Ao Makham. Almost beach-front, 100 meters from beach. 1,200 sqm at 5.5 million baht. Be fast! Please call for more information. Tel: 086-267-0898.

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**STUNNING ANDAMAN CLIFFTOP VIEWS**  
Uninterrupted cliff top views of the Andaman sunset coastline. Located between Patong and Karon. 10.5 rai of prime land with Chanote title.

**PRIVATE ISLAND FOR SALE**  
Ideal for exclusive development. Situated north of Phuket with total land of 45 rai with Chanote title.  
Please contact for more details:  
Orawan 086 9060166  
Email: orawan@phuketpropertyhunter.com



**Top Sea view Apartments in Kata**



Modern apartments on top sea view land.  
200 Sqm living space.  
Great value for hot spot  
Be quick! Call now: 087-8938747

**Rawai beach villa for sale**



**Starts at 8.5 million baht.**  
Top quality. Luxurious unique design includes pool. Come and look at our house.  
Tel: 089-6525664



# Property Gazette

**2 APARTMENTS FOR SALE**



Rawai, Yanui 2x80 sqm living space. Fully furnished, common pool, 4.6 million baht. Tel: 076-381490. Email: info@sea-property-international.com

**HOUSE FOR SALE**



Quiet area Chalong. Land size 1,000 sqm, living area 210 sqm, 3 bedrooms, pool 7mx3m. 10.5 million baht. Tel: 076-381490. Email: info@sea-property-international.com

**KATHU, NEW HOUSE FOR SALE**

Convenient for international school, located between two golf courses, on the Phuket City side of the hill from Patong. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, large living room, large internal veranda, kitchen/diner, laundry room, private cul de sac. Part of small development. Price: 4.5 m baht. Contact Tel: 084-8439579. Fax: 076-323421. Email: somlerdee@yahoo.com


**Properties For Rent**

**HOUSE FOR RENT**



Ban Prangthong. 715 sqm land, 400 sqm living space. 5 bedrooms, pool, jacuzzi. Ready end December. 80,000 baht a month. Tel: 076-381490.

**KARON STUDIO APARTMENT**



Large studio apartment for rent. 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, Western-style kitchen, pool. Near Karon beach. Free Wi-Fi (ADSL). Good price. Tel: 076-3984 36-7, 086-9062220. Email: karonstudio@hotmail.com Please see our website at www.karonstudio.com

**HOUSE FOR RENT CHAOFAH**



Located in secure estate, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, lounge, kitchen, dining room, study, laundry room, fenced garden, ADSL and UBC connected. Rent: 35,000 baht a month. Seeking long-term renters (6 months plus). Tel: 088-4843957. Fax: 076-323421. Email: somlerdee@yahoo.com

**LUXURY HILLSIDE**  
Villa. Magnificent new 2-story hillside villa featuring 3 bedrooms with en-suites, infinity pool, maid's quarters. Tastefully finished and furnished in traditional Thai style with spectacular views of Patong. Please contact for more information or to view. Tel: 081-6911580. Email: homeinphuket@gmail.com

**QUICK SALE VILLA**  
Owner moving, Kamala villa 3 bedrooms, 3 en-suite bathrooms, 300sqm. Chanote. Landscaped gardens, aircon, a bargain at 7 million baht. Tel: 081-6064649.

**NEW 3B 2B HOUSE**  
Chalong. New 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom house in Chalong. 2.55 million baht. Tel: 076-388685, 086-5951499. Fax: 076-388685. Email: info@andamanthaiproperty.com For further details, please see our website: www.andamanthaiproperty.com/atp\_property\_382.htm

**CHEAP LAND**  
In Rawai. 570,000 baht. Chanote title land in quiet but convenient location in Rawai. 12m x 15m plot, approximately 180 sqm. Desperate! Relocating to Tokyo and need money to do so. 570,000 baht ono. Rare find! Will sell for less than I paid. Great plot on which to build a 100sqm 3-bedroom house. Road access, electricity, well water, phone line access, ADSL area, etc. Call for more information. Tel: 086-7428743. Email: jesse\_in\_karon@yahoo.ca

**SUVARNABHUMI**  
Condo. 60sqm, fully furnished. For details please contact K. Paiboon. Tel: 081-772-7100, 081-5657427. Email: snonticha@hotmail.com

**750 RAI BEACHFRONT**  
Phuket Real Estate has EVERY beachfront plot that is left on Phuket Island. If you're looking for a 5-star hotel site or a 5-star development site, we can assist you. Tel: 076-346346, 089-8715192. Email: info@phuketrealestate.com

**LAND FOR SALE**  
Close to Kata Beach, small plot. 1.4 million baht. Please call Tel: 081-6911053. Email: gotopattanee@gmail.com

**BUNGALOW COMPLEX**  
5 Kamala houses with aircon, kitchens, large swimming pool, landscaped gardens. 9 million baht or sell individual units leasehold soon. Tel: 081-6064649.

**20 RAI BEACHFRONT**  
20 rai beachfront on east coast. The views and location are beautiful. A must-see plot. 8 million baht a rai. Tel: 076-346346, 086-2726508. Email: info@phuketrealestate.com

**AMAZING SEA VIEW! KATA**

Private sale. Fantastic 4-story end-unit apartment on new development near completion. Need to sell quickly! Rooftop sun terrace with one of the best sea views in Phuket! Huge living room, 3 double bedrooms with balconies, 2 bathrooms, plus self-contained guest studio on ground level with living room and double bedroom with en-suite bathroom. Communal swimming pool, sun deck. Genuinely good value at 12.9 million baht ono. Call Greg for more details. Tel: 086-2776698.

**STUNNING SEA VIEW**  
Both Andaman Sea and Phang Nga Bay. Land in Mai Khao. Hurry! Only last few rai left. Price from 2.5m - 3m baht per rai. Please contact PPH. Tel: 086-906-0166.

**SEAVIEW HOUSE**  
Rawai. 3 stories, 3 bedrooms (2 ensuite). Large balconies, roof garden, swimming pool, large garden, panoramic sea & mountain views. Western fittings. Completion: 7 Jan. 8.5 million baht. Tel: 085-782-8405, 087-2655712. Email: shellycider@yahoo.com

**LUXURY HOLIDAY**  
Rentals. We have 2- or 3-bedroom villas with private pool centrally located in Nai Harn Beach. Still available for the holiday season. Tel: 076-289702, 086-7888080. Fax: 076-289703. For further details, please see our website at: www.phuketpremierproperty.com

**HOUSE FOR RENT**  
Chalong. 2 bedrooms, furnished, aircon, carpark, Internet quiet, nice. 10,000 baht a month. Tel: 087-0929921. Email: joe\_anusara@yahoo.com

**SURIN RENTAL**  
2-bedroom apartment. Fully furnished, teak floors, pool, UBC. Near beach. Please call for more details. Tel: 081-2731740.

**GUESTHOUSE LEASE**  
Prime location at Patong Beach. Mint condition. 22 rooms, restaurant and bar. 4 year lease. Rent: 2 million baht. Good will: 3.5 million baht. Email: poul\_66@hotmail.com

**KAMALA VILLA**  
Beachfront. Fully furnished to a high standard. Western kitchen, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lounge and dining areas. Large balcony overlooking swimming pool and landscaped garden. Stunning sea views, only meters from the beach. Private gated parking with storage. UBC & ADSL, including daily cleaning, washing, pool service and gardener. Long-term or short-term rental. Tel: 084-8436837. Email: info@phuket-island-homes.com Please see our website at: www.phuket-island-homes.com

**PATONG APT**  
300m to beach, clean, modern, comfortable apartment. New aircon, big fridge, double bed, pool & parking. Tel: 081-0825707. Please see our website at: www.phuket-accommodation.info

**HOUSE FOR RENT**  
Spacious, 3-bedroom house, Chalong. Furnished: 14,500 baht. Unfurnished: 10,000 baht. Tel: 084-8484344.

**CHALONG NEW HOME**  
Exciting Western-standard, 3-bedroom home for rent with separate office and staff accommodation. Aircon, telephone, UBC etc. Tel: 076-280466, 089-6521473.

**APARTMENTS**  
And houses in Patong and Rawai from 10,000 to 25,000 baht a month. Please contact for full details. Tel: 086-686-5567. Email: freeholdprop@yahoo.com

**HOUSE FOR RENT**  
Kata. 2 bedrooms, swimming pool, Jacuzzi, fully furnished, 5 mins to Kata beach. Tel: 081-8913972, 076-284257.

**RAWAI LUXURY VILLA**  
Long-term rent. Furnished, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, covered 2-car carport and terrace, garden. Rawai Beach. 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-940-8914. Email: freeholdprop@yahoo.com



## Surin Beach—Modern Seaview Apartments for sale

Within 100 metres of the beach, 80 sqm. of living space. One bedroom, living room, European-style kitchen, fully furnished, air conditioning, hot water system, home security system, internet connection, television and satellite TV. The price starts from 6.5 million baht for the first-floor apartment.

Please contact Ann 66 1 866 7676 or email: ann@mms.ais.co.th

## Emergency Numbers

✓ Police	191
✓ Fire	199
✓ Tourist Police	1155
✓ Marine Police	076-211883
✓ Hyperbaric recompression chambers	076-342518, 089-8712335
✓ Bangkok Phuket Hospital – Phuket City	1719 (Call Center)
✓ Vachira Phuket Hospital Phuket City	076-211114 ext 385 081-8951075







# Property Gazette

## Property Wanted

**KAMALA/KARON**  
Apartment or house. I am seeking a small house or apartment in Kamala or Karon for long-term rental. Require 2 bedrooms, 1 living room and kitchenette. Own laundry room/space must also be available. Fully furnished or not, please let me know what you have. My budget is 7,000 to 8,000 baht a month. Must be clean and quiet and NOT in a busy area. Tel: 089-6085808. Email: nuy254@hotmail.com

**LOOKING FOR LAND**  
Phang Nga or Krabi area. Best with river and jungle access. Need 2 to 4 rai. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-8942908. Email: beatduss@orchid-services.com

**1 RAI + SEA VIEW**  
Looking for up to 2 rai of Chanoteland with a sea view, preferably on west coast of Phuket. Must have road access and utilities. Email: ulrichkuhl@gmail.com

**BEACHFRONT**  
Looking for a beachfront restaurant or business property to buy or to lease. Please contact for more information. Tel: 089-0543505.

**GUESTHOUSE**  
Wanted, take-over or participation (long lease). Guesthouse should have a minimum of 5 rooms and be in/around Patong, Karon, Kata, Nai Harn or Rawai. Budget: 2 million baht. Please email friendly offers or recommendations. Please contact for more information. Tel: 085-7813814. Email: jochensgallery@yahoo.com

**HOUSE FOR LONG-TERM RENT**  
Foreign couple is looking for a 2/3-bedroom house in Chalong, Kata, Karon or Rawai (with sea view) for long-term rent (minimum 1 year). Please send area description, picture and monthly rent by email to: Job2@gmx.de

**RESTAURANT**  
Wanted. Surin. I am interested in renting a restaurant in Surin/Bang Tao Beach area. Open to all suggestions. Have a great day. Email: mostlind@hotmail.com

**1-5 RAI WANTED**  
On 3- to 30-year lease. Any beach, prefer Bang Tao. Suitably dry for horses, water, electric, small home welcome. Please contact with details. Tel: 084-8424581. Email: andamanhorsespa@yahoo.com

**LOCATION FOR RESTAURANT**  
Our firm needs a location in Kata for a restaurant of about 400 to 600sqm. Tel: 47-90585925. Fax: 47-38178043. Email: firm.rkristiansen@phileasfogg.no. Or rkristiansen@phileasfogg.no

## Accommodation Available

**ROOM TO LET**  


Lakeview apartments in Kathu. Fully furnished with aircon, fridge, cable TV, hot water and car park. Standard room just 6,000 baht per month or 500 baht per day. Deluxe room is 8,500 baht per month or 700 baht per day. Tel: 076-202585, 089-1968449. Email: ketmaneeclayton61@hotmail.com

**ROOM + APARTMENT**  
Patong. For short- and long-term rent. From 800-2,000 baht a day, 13,000-20,000 baht a month. Electricity. Tel: 076-512151, 089-2909567. For further details, see our website at: www.brommathaihouse.com

**PATONG LUXURY**  
Central Patong 1- and 2-bedroom apartments. Email for information and photos. Email: suites247@yahoo.com

**U KSENII GUESTHOUSE**  
Kata. Located at Kata Night Bazaar. New guest-house "U Ksenii" has 7 fully-furnished rooms with aircon, TV, hot & cold shower. Call Tel: 076-284238. For further details, please see our website at: www.ksenia-guesthouse.com

**2-BEDROOM HOUSE**  
and apartment. Fully furnished, European style, close to Nai Harn Beach. Tel: 076-388-621, 084-8519072. Email: goodtasteforgoodlife@yahoo.de

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Fax: 076-271218  
Email: info@thestone-doctor-asia.com

**PHUKET CONSTRUCTION Services.** Building or renovating a property? Frustrated with the standard of workmanship? We'll do the job professionally and efficiently, with an English-speaking Thai manager to oversee all aspects of your building project, making sure it's completed to the standards you expect. Tel: 081-9697260. Or email to: info@buildingphuket.com

**INSPECTION/SURVEY**  
New & existing homes. Tel: 076-388309. For more information please go to www.homeinspectionsphuket.com

**ALL KINDS OF Construction.** Houses, ceiling, paint, aircon, steel, renovation. Please contact for more information. Tel: 089-5913996, 087-2636337. Email: malaisiam@gmail.com

**CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT**  
2-person telescopic personal lift for rent, daily, weekly, or long term. Ideal for working up high. 10m working height. Contact Andy. Tel: 081-8913466. Fax: 076-296160. Email: antc@phuket.ksc.co.th

**CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT**  
A.N.T Construction Ltd, have the following equipment for rent, daily, weekly or long term: Bobcat kidsteer loaders with the following attachments: back hoe, concrete breaker, post hole auger, road brush, forklift. These machines are small but strong. Good for small spaces. Need to dig a pool in your garden? This is the machine for you, 3m long 1.5m wide. Contact Andy. Tel: 081-8913466. Fax: 076-296160. Email: antc@phuket.ksc.co.th

**A.N.T CONSTRUCTION LTD**  
Builders of top-quality homes, on the island of Phuket. Since 1991, so we must be doing something right. We are not the cheapest but are most likely the best. For quotes or advice contact Andy. Tel: 081-8913466. Fax: 076-296160. Email: antc@phuket.ksc.co.th



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Specialize in wood work for houses & boats with our own factory and boatyard - furniture, kitchens, built-in or moveable bars, counters, desks, etc. We repair and rebuild. Please call us for anything that has to do with wood work. Tel: 076-243089, 081-9683118. Fax: 076-243089. Email: pro\_carpenterin@yahoo.com

**TAM CONSTRUCTION**  
Quality building services, all jobs done by qualified staff with English-speaking boss! Fair price, free estimates. Renovations, shopfitting, electrical and metalwork, built-in furniture. Tel: 085-8816429. Email: tamjai\_06@yahoo.com

## Household Items

**MODERN KING-SIZE BED**  
King-size Slumberland bed. Cost 43,000 baht when bought new at Central 6 months ago. Have moved into furnished house so no longer have need for it. 30,000 baht or best offer. Tel: 087-8935762. Email: stumur2000@hotmail.com

## Household Services

**PHUKET HOME MAINTENANCE**  
Construction, renovation, electricians, plumbers, carpenters, painters, tilers, gardeners, aircon servicing, pest control and electrical goods repairs. Please contact Khun Rin. Tel: 084-193524. Or email to us at: phukethomemaintenance@yahoo.com

## Classified Advertisements

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Classified ads are charged per line. Each line is 95 baht, with a minimum of 4 lines (heading included) per ad.  
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## Agents for Classified Advertising

### PHUKET

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| <b>K.L. Mart</b><br>Patak Rd, Chalong                               | Tel: 076-280400/3<br>Fax: 076-280403 |
| <b>Earth Language School</b><br>Phang Nga Rd, Phuket City           | Tel: 076-232398/9<br>Fax: 076-232398 |
| <b>Sin &amp; Lee</b><br>Thalang Rd, Phuket City                     | Tel: 076-258369<br>Fax: 076-211230   |
| <b>Taurus Travel</b><br>Aroonsom Plaza Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd, Patong | Tel: 076-344521/2<br>Fax: 076-344523 |
| <b>41 Minimart</b><br>Srisoontorn Rd, Cherno Talay                  | Tel/Fax: 076-324312                  |
| <b>Deli Supermarket</b><br>Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd, Patong             | Tel: 076-342275<br>Fax: 076-344314   |



# Boats & Marine

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Please contact our sales offices or web site :

<b>Phuket Office:</b> c/o Phuket Boat Lagoon Tel: +66(0)76 239 111, 273 320 Email: charter@asia-marine.net	<b>Bangkok Office:</b> Tel: +66(0)2 651 95 83 Email: marketing@asia-marine.net <b>www.asia-marine.net</b>
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## "Boats & Marine"

at **www.phuketgazette.net!**

**TANKER VESSEL FOR SALE**



1.5 million baht with Thai registration. Width 4.9, length 24 meters. 150,000 litres. Contact Surin. Tel: 081-8912333. Email: surin123@csloxinfo.com

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Boat 4.2l 1.80w for fishing or diving or bikdinki 120,000 baht. Please contact for more info. Tel: 084-6891568. Email: wycov@hotmail.com

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Last chance to buy before export to Australia in new year as new condition. Buy at 60% of cost to buy + ship. Phone Phil: 081-3970905, Robert: 081-5399560.

**FISHING BOAT**

4 pax berth, toilet, cooking facilities, 185hp diesel, 15x3m. Please contact for more information. Tel: 084-6258909. Email: ken@thailand.tc

**SEA KAYAKS**

8 sea kayaks for sale. Used only once. 2 man feel free Gemini model. Asking 21,000 baht including VAT vs 26,500 baht new. Please contact. Tel: 081-2711347. Email: phuket@limestoneadventures.com


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35 foot, 2 years old, Aussie owner. Fast with fully batton main and spinnaker. Big cockpit. Please contact for more information. Tel: 089-5881011. Please see our website at www.phuketsailingadventure.com

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Family boat, 2 twin bedrooms, two bathrooms + shower, saloon, dinette, galley kitchen. Two years old but with complete interior refurbishment within 12 months. Twin Volvo Penta engines + turbo, dinghy. New Mercury outboard used regularly, very reliable. Sale due to owner upgrade. Viewing at Ocean Marina Pattaya. 5 million baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 02-6777555 ext 238.

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# Island Job Mart



**Assistant Sales Manager Education Department**

For our expanding business Dive Supply is looking to recruit an assistant sales manager for our head office in Chalong, Phuket.

The main focus of this position will be our education department where the successful applicant will have complete responsibility over stock levels, ordering and shipping, customer relations, active sales activities and staff training. In addition to that you will work closely with our sales and warehouse teams and be involved in other day to day business such as equipment sales, order processing etc.

**Requirements:**

- Active PADI instructor or higher with at least two years experience in teaching
- In depth knowledge of Padi products and diving equipment
- Bi-lingual, perfect in English and German or Scandinavian language
- Sales background
- Non smoker only!

**We offer:**

- Five day work week during low season(1/2 day every other Saturday during high season)
- 15 days paid holiday per year
- Good salary 80,000 baht gross after trial period of 3 months
- One-year visa and work permit
- Long-term employment

The job is available immediately. Please send your resume to our Managing Director Holger Saupe.  
Email: holger@divesupply.com  
**Interview by appointment only!**



**Sheraton Grande Laguna Phuket**

part of Starwood's Luxury Collection is located on the island of Phuket. Surrounded by tranquil lagoons on its own "island within an island" and facing the Andaman Sea, the five star property offers a range of 405 luxuriously appointed rooms and villas, plus ten dining and entertainment outlets.

**We are currently seeking qualified candidates to fill the following positions :**

- Russian Guest Relations Officer (2 Months Contract)
- Guest Relations Executive
- Assistant Director of Sales - Leisure
- Event Sales Manager
- Senior Sales Manager - Travel
- Golf Villas Housekeeping Manager
- Air Conditioning Tradesman
- F&B Attendant
- Room Attendant (Temporary)
- Houseman (Temporary)
- Cleaner (Temporary)
- Recreation Attendant (Temporary)
- Painter (Temporary)

Please apply in person or send your resume and recent photo :  
Director of Human Resources  
Email : [sglp.recruitment@luxurycollection.com](mailto:sglp.recruitment@luxurycollection.com)



10 Moo 4, Bang Tao Bay, Phuket 83110 Thailand  
Tel: (66)(76) 324101-7 General Fax: (66)(76) 324108.

**Job Openings at Mövenpick Resort & Spa Karon Beach Phuket.**

**Front Office Department** Assistant Manager, Guest Relation Officer, Guest Relation Officer (Korean), Guest Relation Officer (Japanese)

**Food & Beverage Department** Bartender, Waiter / Waitress

**Sales & Marketing Department** Assistant Director of Sales (Phuket Based), Assistant Director of Sales (Bangkok Based), Events Manager, Reservation Agent

**Housekeeping Department** Butler, Assistant Butler

**Kitchen Department** Sous Chef, Chef De Partie

Mövenpick Resort & Spa Karon Beach Phuket  
509 Patak Road, Karon Beach, Phuket 83100, Thailand  
Phone +66 76 396139, Fax +66 76 396122  
[patteera.maneesri@moevenpick.com](mailto:patteera.maneesri@moevenpick.com)  
[www.moevenpick-hotels.com](http://www.moevenpick-hotels.com)  
True Excellence in Swiss Hospitality.




[www.lagunaphuket.com](http://www.lagunaphuket.com)

The largest hotel and resort group in Phuket, and a listed company on the Stock Exchange of Thailand, is seeking a qualified candidate to fill the below position based in Phuket:

**WEB DESIGNER**

Candidates should possess the following attributes:

- Thai nationality
- Able to multi-task and work well under pressure
- Fluent in spoken and written English
- Excellent knowledge of HTML an absolute must
- Able to work with Macromedia Dreamweaver and the Adobe CS Suite
- Able to work with JavaScript
- Able to handle large number of web pages and work with templates
- Understanding of server-side technologies and ability to code in PHP considered an important advantage

**GRAPHIC DESIGNER**

- Thai nationality
- Able to multi-task and work well under pressure
- Fluent in spoken and written English
- Excellent knowledge of Illustrator, Indesign, PageMagker, Photoshop
- Have a good understanding of type faces and page layout: brochures, flyers, posters, promotional material and banners
- Excellent understanding on branding identity and printing process
- Ability to work individually as well as in a team environment
- Prior graphic design experience will be an advantage

**Send application, resumé and recent photo to:**  
Group Director of Human Resources  
Laguna Resorts & Hotels Public Co., Ltd.  
390/1 Moo 1, Srisoontorn Road, Cherngtalay, Thalang, Phuket 83110  
Tel: 076-324 444 ext.16, 71 Fax: 076-271 718 Email: [grouphr@lagunaphuket.com](mailto:grouphr@lagunaphuket.com)

An exclusive luxury villas and hotel development located at Kamala Beach, Phuket is seeking a qualified & energetic person to fill the position below:

**Sales & Marketing Director**

- Foreign national (male, female)
- At least two years Thailand experience
- Bachelors/Master's Degree
- Strong analytical and problem-solving ability and proven team leadership skills
- Positive attitude, pleasant personality, with attention to detail, service-minded, energetic & hard working
- Ability to communicate effectively in English
- Must be very sales orientated
- Able to work in Phuket, own personal transportation

**Interested candidates, please send full resumé, expected salary & a recent photo by fax or email to:**

Chaiyan Saehang, Human Resource Department  
**PARADISE GROUP**  
The Plaza Surin, 5/50 Moo. 3, Cherngtalay Sub-District, Thalang District, Phuket 83110  
Fax: 66-76-271242 Email: [parn@paradisephuket.com](mailto:parn@paradisephuket.com)

**WORK FOR INTERNET SHOP**

We're looking for:

- Women, Thai nationals, to work as cyber cafe receptionists. Full time or night time (18:00 to 24:00). Possibility of lodging. Patong, Phuket City or Kata.
- Men, Thai nationals, to do computer maintenance work.

Please contact K. Yupha by email or by phone. Tel: 076-341255, 089-471-9712. Email: [lenco@liontchai.com](mailto:lenco@liontchai.com)

**SALES ASSISTANT**

Wholesale food company is looking for a sales assistant. Basic knowledge of English required. Call Simon. Tel: 084-1893070.

**INTERNET CAFE**

Staff wanted full or part time to work in trendy Internet cafe and restaurant in Phuket City. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-223210, 084-0143121.

**LAW FIRM**

Looking for secretary and lawyer.  
Please email CV to [scphuket@yahoo.com](mailto:scphuket@yahoo.com)

**O'MALLEYS PHUKET**

The new management of O'Malleys Irish Pub in Phuket is looking for an experienced cook for its new Irish menu! We are also looking for musicians: solo performers, small jazz or blues bands, acoustic guitarists and so on, for Tuesday open mic nights. Please contact for more information. Tel: 085-7840608. Email: [derek@omalleyphuket.com](mailto:derek@omalleyphuket.com)

**RESTAURANT MANAGER & CHEF**

Sunset Beach Resort is looking for a restaurant manager & European chef. Please contact for more information.  
Tel: 076-342482-5.  
Fax: 076-342500.  
Please send CV to: [info@sunsetphuket.com](mailto:info@sunsetphuket.com)



# Island Job Mart



## NAITHONBURI BEACH RESORT

Naithonburi beach resort one of the luxury hotels in Phuket, is inviting applicants for the following positions:

- Bar Manager
- F&B Hostess
- Bartender Bartendy
- Waiter / Waitress
- Reception Supervisor
- Guest Service Officer
- Guest Relations Officer
- Cashier

Attractive salary, fringe benefits and career opportunities are offered to successful candidates

Please send resumé to  
**Naithonburi Beach Resort**  
 9 Moo 4, T.Sakhu, A.Thalang, Phuket 83110  
 Tel: 076-318700.  
 Fax: 076-318777.  
 Email: info@naithonburi.com


## British International School, Phuket

**Required: Temporary Part-time Teacher of Science to begin in January 2007**

The British International School, Phuket requires a dedicated and innovative, temporary part-time Teacher of Science to join a forward-thinking, cohesive and professional Faculty of nine teachers and one technician. This is a part-time teaching position involving mainly KS3 classes, however there may be a possibility of some KS4 teaching for a suitable candidate. All of the science teaching disciplines will be considered.

At KS3 we broadly follow the National Curriculum of England and Wales whilst at KS4, IGCSE Sciences are taught.

Candidates should email a short letter of application, CV, recent photograph and email/fax and telephone contacts of referees to [kamolphanv@bcis.ac.th](mailto:kamolphanv@bcis.ac.th)



**British International School, Phuket (BIS)**  
 59 Moo 2, Thepkasattri Rd, Koh Kaew, Muang, Phuket 83000 Thailand  
 Tel: 076 238 711-20 Fax: 076 238 750 Bangkok Tel: 02 636 8991-2 Fax: 02 636 8992

### BOOKKEEPER NEEDED A/R

An established Patong company with a mixed business portfolio is seeking a bookkeeper. You will be responsible for the recording and tracking of all income and expenditure and answerable to the FD. Our businesses include hotels, F & B outlets, a leisure center with a pool and gym, a dance club and a live entertainment venue. We are a happy company and you must be able to work as part of a team. Excellent salary and benefits package available. Please contact. Tel: 084-6275728. Email: info@yorkshireinn.com



## wine connection

We are now accepting application and resumes for the following positions. Please apply at our Chalong location.

### Wine Connection Bangtao Branch

Shop Manager	1 Position
Resturant Manager	1 Position
Sous Chef or Chef	1 Position
Shop Assistant	2 Positions
Bartender	1 Position
Cashier	2 Positions
Cook	1 Position
Helper	1 Position
Wait staff	2 Positions

### Wine Connection Chalong Branch

Sales Exccutive	1 Position
Sales Admin/Secretary	1 Position
Assistant shop Manager	1 Position
Sous Chef	1 Position
Cook	2 Positions
Bar Staff	1 Position
Wait staff	2 Positions
Driver	1 Position

Please send resumes to  
 Contact: Wine Connection (Chalong branch)  
 19/54-57 Moo.8 Chaofa Rd., T.Chalong, A.Muang, Phuket  
 Tel : 076-282411-12 Fax : 076-282414.  
 Email: [shopmgphuket@wineconnection.co.th](mailto:shopmgphuket@wineconnection.co.th)

## PROJECT BAAN COCOON

Anuphas Pirom Resort Co.,Ltd., a real estate company developing luxury houses in Phuket Country Club Golf Course, currently seeking qualified candidates to fill the following positions

- 1. Project Architect 1 Position**
  - Male or female, age between 28 - 35 years.
  - Min. 2 years experience with license in architectural field.
  - To be able driving with license.
- 2. Marketing 1 Position**
  - Female, age between 28 - 29 years.
  - Good command of both spoken and written English.
- 3. Secretary 1 Position**
  - Female, age between 26 - 29 years.
  - Good command of both spoken and written English.

Please send your CV and recent photo to  
 Ms. Kantheera Rungsang-anotai  
 ☎ 076-202189, 076-319084 - 5 ☎ 076-319083  
 ✉ [info@anuphaspiromresort.com](mailto:info@anuphaspiromresort.com)  
[http:// www.anuphaspiromresort.com](http://www.anuphaspiromresort.com)



Baan Rim Pa Group, operators of Joe's Downstairs are opening a new restaurant/bar at Kata Noi in December. We require the following experienced staff.

- Assistant Manager
- Supervisor
- Captains
- Waiters / Waitresses
- Bartenders
- Cashiers
- Receptionist
- Cooks
- Engineer
- Maid / Steward

We offer an attractive salary with benefits and excellent career prospects to the right candidates. Please submit a resume stating educational background, work experience, salary expectations, references and contact details, recent photo and commencement date to:  
**Group Human Resources Manager,**  
 6/8 Nakatani Village, T. Kamala, A. Katu, Phuket 83150.  
 Tel: 076 341932 or 086 865655  
 email: [prayad@baanrimpa.com](mailto:prayad@baanrimpa.com)

### An International Law Firm is seeking applicants for the following

**Law Office Receptionist / Junior Assistant**

- Thai Nationality
- Female, 20 - 26 yrs.
- Good English skills
- Computer literate (Microsoft Office and Internet)
- Service-minded, Team - oriented

**Thai Attorney**

- Thai Nationality
- Male / Female, 25 yrs.(+)
- Experience Required
- Good command of written & spoken English
- Knowledge of Microsoft Office
- Good Interpersonal, Communication skills and Team working
- Willing to work hard and under pressure

Contact detail: [firmslaw@hotmail.com](mailto:firmslaw@hotmail.com)

### RESTAURANT MANAGER & CHEF

Sunset Beach Resort is looking for a restaurant manager & European chef. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-342482-5. Fax: 076-342500. Please send CV to: info@sunsetphuket.com

### LOOKING FOR MAID

Foreign couple is looking for a long-term maid with basic English. Working location: Kamala, in a new house. Must be honest and self-motivated. Good salary for the right candidate. Please call or email for interview. Tel: 086-1727974. Email: rene.koller@bluewin.ch For further information, please see our website at : [www.romsai.ch](http://www.romsai.ch)

### WORK CS @HOLYCLOTHING.COM!

Customer service agents needed for expanding Internet fashion retailer. Are you CS experienced, hard working, a team player, computer savvy with fluent English? Superior salary + bonus. Thai or foreigner. Tel: 085-7899249. Email: [gstephenkay@yahoo.com](mailto:gstephenkay@yahoo.com) Please see our website:

### PART-TIME WORK

Promotional staff needed in Patong for brochure distribution on Soi Bangla. Can be students. Please contact K.Jony at Tel: 087-8817600.

### SUPERSTAR CHEF REQUIRED

A fantastic opportunity for a chef who has the flair, imagination and skills to present excellent cuisine to our patrons. A happy, thriving company is looking for the right person to design and implement a first-class menu in a stunning environment. You will have a fabulous kitchen to work from and the support of a talented management team, leaving you free to be your best. Please contact for more information. Tel: 084-6275728. Email: info@yorkshireinn.com

### SALES DIRECTOR/ SALES STAFF

Required: Excellent English, experience in real estate a must. We want only the best. Excellent pay plan + benefits. Phuket based. Please contact for more information. Tel: 089-1068593.

### SOLAR TECHNICIANS

Wanted: Technicians, sales and fitters for PV & solar hot water systems. Diploma or experience with solar energy is required. Tel: 076-378361, 081-7722300. Fax: 076-244652. Email: info@phuketsolar.com

### HOSTESS/COOK

Hostess/cook wanted for sailing boat. Experience required. Please call for more info. Tel: 081-9701260.

### ENGLISH-SPEAKING ACCOUNTANT

Wanted min 2 years' experience. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-280447, 081-0808557. Fax: 076-280447. Email: info@no1visa.com

### NIGHTCLUB

Manager. Established nightclub in Phuket City is looking for a manager. The successful applicant will be male, a Thai national and fluent in English. Previous experience is essential. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-7520275. Email: comfortablynumb\_18@hotmail.com

### HOUSEKEEPER

Required for Surin Villa. Live out. Needs basic English and cooking skills. Pay based on ability / experience. Tel: 087-2839010. Email: ceo@huangtaylor.com

### WANTED HOUSEKEEPER

English-speaking, with driver's license. Work: 1 pm - 9 pm. Salary: 10,000 baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 084-1885828.

### ACCOUNTING MNG

Will be responsible for accounting activities for mid-size company. Required: Accounting degree, more than 5 years' experience, familiar with Peachtree accounting program. Working directly with managing director, providing financial planning and report to all of us. Strong written and spoken English skills required. Email: pat@destinationair.com



# Island Job Mart



Villa Santi, a 5-Star luxury villa resort located in Kalim Beach, is preparing for resort operations and invites candidates to apply for following positions:

**- Villa Manager**

- Age between 25-40 years old.
- Minimum of 3 years experience in villa management.
- Efficient work ethics, used to a professional work environment.
- Excellent written communication skills.
- Fluent in English.
- Service mind / housekeeping experience preferred

**- Personal Assistant to Managing Director**

- Bachelor degree in any related field.
- Experienced in secretary of administrator in multinational company at least 5 years.
- Preference for understanding of the real estate industry.
- Excellent command in English.
- Strong analytical and communication skills, details-oriented with good interpersonal skills.

**- Human Resources Supervisor**

- Bachelor degree in any related field.
- Minimum of 3 years experience in Human Resources.

**- Assistant Housekeeper**

- Bachelor degree in any related field.
- Must have prior experience as a housekeeper in a luxury hotel property.
- Good communication skills.
- Monitor staff performance, able to mentor and lead by example.

**- Administrator**

- Bachelor degree in any related field.
- Good command of English.

**- Purchaser**

- Bachelor degree in any related field.
- Experience in purchasing at least 2 years.

**- Accounting officer**

- Bachelor degree in accounting.
- At least 2 years experience in accounting.

**- Technician**

- At least Vocational Degree in electrical engineering.
- At least 3 years experience in M&E in property industry.

*Construction Project Office*

**- Construction Inspector 2 Positions**

- Age between 25-45 years old.
- Able to understand construction drawing.
- Experience in construction work at least 5 years.

**- Site Manager**

- Bachelor degree in civil engineering.
- Experience in construction work at least 5 years.
- Able to work under deadline and pressure circumstance.

We offer an exciting career future for young, ambitious professionals and a competitive benefit package.

Please submit your resume with recent photo by email to human resources: [thip@phuket-villa-santi.com](mailto:thip@phuket-villa-santi.com).

VILLA SANTI, 328 Prabamee Road, Santi Bay, Patong, Phuket. [www.phuket-villa-santi.com](http://www.phuket-villa-santi.com)

**DENTAL TECHS**

Need dental techs in ceramic.  
Tel: 65-64847495. Email: [hnhchang@gmail.com](mailto:hnhchang@gmail.com)

**WANTED: TEACHER**

English and math teacher needed for 8-year-old boy. 3 times a week, 700 baht an hour. Thai or English welcome to apply. K.Emma Tel: 081-0898777.

**MAID WANTED, SURIN HILL**

Female, #1 maid required.  
Skills: speak and write English, basic computer, cooking, housekeeping. Supervisory experience wanted. Live-in. Large home at Surin Hill. Contact Lorna. Tel: 076-271711, 081-8451492. Email: [shdrbkk@ksc15.th.com](mailto:shdrbkk@ksc15.th.com)

**THAI RECRUITMENT CONSULTANT**

Recruitment company based in Phuket Town requires a Trainee Recruitment Consultant to start as soon as possible. The successful candidate will be a female Thai national with an outgoing personality. You must be able to work independently but as part of a hard working young team. Also essential are experience in administration, a good command of written and spoken English, good organizational skills and a knowledge of Microsoft Office. Salary 12,000B, plus bonuses. Please contact by email: [lan@evocation.net](mailto:lan@evocation.net)

**BLUE FROG WAITRESS**

Looking for qualified cook & experienced waitress. English speaking. Please call Pavel. Tel: 086-2832279.

**FILIPINAS WORK CS IN PHUKET**

Filipina/Filipino Customer Service Agents needed for expanding Internet fashion retailer. 1 year minimum CS experience. Are you hard working, a team player, computer savvy with fluent English? Superior salary + bonus. Tel: 085-7899249. Email: [gstephenkay@yahoo.com](mailto:gstephenkay@yahoo.com) Please see our website: [www.holyclothing.com](http://www.holyclothing.com)

**SECRETARY NEEDED**

Secretary needed in Cherng Talay. Duties include basic accounting, banking, purchasing and documentation. English helpful but not necessary. Salary based on experience. Need to begin training on or before Nov 22. Please contact for more information. Fax: 076-270662. Email: [info@avcphuket.com](mailto:info@avcphuket.com)

**Latinos**

**Exotic Unique Latin Cuisine in Phuket**  
We are opening soon. Applicants for the following positions are welcome.

1 Administration & Accounting Coordinator

**Kitchen**

- 1 Sous Chef (experience in Mexican or international cuisine)
- 1 Chef de Partie (experience)
- 1 Cook

**Service (must be female)**

- 1 Hostess (Experience in international restaurant, good English)
- 1 Captain (Experience in international restaurant, good English)
- 4 Waitresses
- 2 Cashiers
- 1 Bartender Supervisor
- 2 Bartenders

All candidates must have working experience in restaurants, good command of English and be service-minded. Attractive salary and allowances.

Interested candidates are invited to apply in person or submit application with complete resume together with a recent photograph and send by e-mail: [info@latinos-restaurant.com](mailto:info@latinos-restaurant.com) or contact:

English 089 725 69 94 Thai 086 745 33 59

Latino's Restaurant - Bar & Latin Club 95/30 Soi Saiyuan Nai Harn Beach T. Rawai A. Muang, Phuket 83130

**Le Meridien Khao Lak Job Opportunities**

We are currently seeking dynamic and innovative people to join **Le Meridien Khao Lak Beach & Spa Resort**. Applicants who feel they would excel in a motivated and challenging environment are invited to apply to the following positions by sending your resume (in English) with a recent photo to the address below :

**Room Division**

- Guest Relation Mgr./Officer. (Japanese National Only)
- Chief of Security
- Assistant Sports Manager
- Assistant Spa Manager
- Spa Therapist

**A&G Department**

- Executive Secretary
- Secretary to Hotel Manager

**Food & Beverage Division**

- Waiter / Waitress / Bartender
- Chef de Partie
- Demi Chef de Partie

**Sales & Marketing Department**

- Conference Service Manager

Attractive salaries, fringe benefits and career opportunities are offered to successful candidates.

**Human Resources Department**

Le Meridien Khao Lak Beach & Spa Resort  
9/9 Moo 1, Tambon Kuk-kak, Amphur Takuapa, Phang-Nga 82190  
Tel. (076) 427509, Direct Fax. (076) 427559  
[n.waiwong@khaolak.lemeridien.com](mailto:n.waiwong@khaolak.lemeridien.com)



**Le MERIDIEN**  
KHAO LAK BEACH & SPA RESORT



# Tout, Trader & Trumpet

## Articles For Sale

### UP TO 14 E-Z-GO GOLF CARTS FOR SALE



Very good condition. All new batteries. 120,000 baht per cart. Based in Phuket. Call Mr. Tim. Tel: 081-8556915.

### FURNITURE

Furniture for sale due to moving. 2 new Index beds with mattresses, 1 bedroom wardrobe, TV table, 21" TV with DVD, refrigerator and oven. Call for a great deal. Tel: 085-7814105. Email: hajensse@hotmail.com

## Bulletins

### ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Is holding meetings in English at the following places in Phuket:

- Mission Hospital Phuket City**  
Wed and Sun 7 pm
- Bangkok Phuket Hospital Phuket City**  
Fri 7 pm
- Patong Hospital Patong**  
Mon, Tue, Wed, Sat, Sun at 7 pm and Fri at 8 pm  
For Phuket info (English) call 081-9564031, 081-8912895
- Scandinavian speaking Group Wat Karon School Karon**  
Tue 7 pm and Nov-April only on Sat 7 pm  
Tel 081-2732053 Nor 087-2795636 Nor 086-7458910 Swe

For info on other Thailand AA meetings inquire at Tel: 02-2318300 (for Thai language press 3) www.aathailand.org or email info@aathailand.org

**PHUKET CHESSCLUB**  
Saturday from 2 pm. Tel: 081-8948446. Email: info@southernfriedrice.com

## Business Opportunities

**TIME IS MONEY!**  
Farang offer for Thailand. Newly established Thai limited company fully qualified for visa and work permit. No competition, no wasting time, clients enough! Start-up money required: 30,000 Euros. Contact for more info. Email: advenaturantern@hotmail.com

**PARTNER REQUIRED**  
Up to 50% share in lounge bar & cafe in Patong. Call K. Chad. Tel: 084-8466243.

**COMPANY FOR SALE**  
4 million baht capitalization, no need to show statement & can provide 2 work permits. Tel: 085-0293095.

### BUSINESS IN PHI PHI ISLAND

Now for sale in a top location. Popular fast food corner and Internet business, plus owner's room with balcony. 14-year contract and low monthly rent. Please contact for more details. Tel: 081-0820039. Email: asiantips@gmail.com

**WORKING PARTNER**  
Needed for new exiting "never seen before" biz in Koh Samui. Price for partnership: 1 million baht. Email: admin@no1phukethomes.com

**BAR/RESTAURANT**  
On Nanai Rd, best offer. 2 years, 4 months left on lease, with further options. Profitable business, all equipment, 8 months old. 3-story building (live in). Genuine reason for this urgent sale. No time wasters, please. Tel: 084-847-8469. Email: ptpbar@yahoo.com.au

**PHUKET FRANCHISES**  
Island-wide opportunities, unique spa technology. Good and quick return on modest investment, no special skills required. Tel: 087-1446686.

**BOOK SHOP FOR SALE**  
Patong OTOP book shop & Nanai book shop. 2 shops for 980,000 baht. Tel: 084-1705552.

**WORKING INVESTOR**  
Local handyman company is looking for a working partner to manage the day to day workings of the company. Must be hands on type of person. Regular contracts, no sales required. Work force of 7 expanding to 12 in the New Year. Good opportunity for the right person. Prefer local ex-pat. Investment 1 million baht. Contact for more details. Email: matlat@loxinfo.co.th

**BAR FOR SALE**  
On Nanai Rd. 2-year lease 10,000 baht per month. Pool table, darts, 42" plasma TV on wall, sound system, all fittings brand new. Buy now & enjoy high season. 950,000 baht ono. Tel: 084-8520862. Email: hotevo69@hotmail.co.uk

**BEAUTY SALON**  
Beauty salon for sale in Kathu 150,000 baht or 8,000 baht per month. You can live inside. Tel: 084-8448589. Email: bb-anaia@hotmail.com

**KATOYS'R'US**  
Famous Patong cabaret bar. Tel: 081-8955242. Email: junavorn@hotmail.com For further details, please see our website at: www.katoysrus.com

### PIRATE SHIP INVESTMENT



We own the 35m pirate ship Hispaniola from the film Treasure Island cast in the Krabi area 6 months ago. The ship needs extensive repairs. We need investor(s) in the region of 10 million baht to make it a high-class restaurant and secure a land deal. Another option is to make the pirate ship a center of a theme park. An investor can also be a landowner who could provide suitable land with a long-term lease. If you are interested in buying the ship and using it for your own purpose we will also be interested in selling. Let's talk. Please call Nathalie. Tel: 085-1111155, 081-666-6622. Email: alexanderkbh@gmail.com

### ONLY 14 SHARES LEFT!

For a large, prime commercial site located only minutes from Kata beach. Share value: 425,000 baht. Can be bought in lots (max 14). For details contact Mark. Tel: 087-2742759. Email: britcorp@hotmail.com

### EJECTION SEAT FUN RIDE

Ejection seat bungee fun ride machine, imported from Austria. Full working machine, and operating site, in Kathu next door to go-cart track. This ride launches 2 people in a safety cage 60m into the air at a speed of 100kmh, in 1.8 seconds. I am looking for a working partner to invest and help run the ride. For full details contact Andy. Tel: 081-891-3466. Fax: 076-296160. Email: antc@phuket.ksc.co.th

**NAIL/MASSAGE**  
Salon Patong Beach. Must sell this month. 265,000 baht. Bangla Road. Contact Anna. Tel: 66-90468603. Email: gordytlc@yahoo.com

**PATONG BAR(S)**  
Wishing to concentrate on one bar, have the option of either GoGo in Sea Dragon (6-year lease) or Beer Bar (2-year lease) in Happy Road (next to Seduction disco). Tel: 089-9546433. Email: kjralph@hotmail.com

**RENT/LONG LEASE**  
3-story building inside Ocean Time Square department store in Phuket City. Please contact for more details. Tel: 081-8909891, 086-3053922, 081-4452156. Email: momsri@hotmail.com

**Herman's Restaurant and Lips Bar at Rawai Phuket on sale** about deep illness of the owner (two cuts of the backbone) Take over two top venues at Rawai beach, located on Viset Rd well accepted and steadily frequented by wealthy people out of the areas Rawai, Nai Ham, Ban Saiyuan and Chalong. Both venues were refurbished this year and became this kind of special touch which let the customers feel cozy, romantic, warm and in a very special place. Both venues attract tourists out of the hotels around as well, for example The Evason. This is the best basic for a successful business.



**Herman's Restaurant** The most beautiful garden restaurant with a great waterfall inside and the best menu around Rawai appears with selected Mediterranean and Asian dishes and a fine steak menu. Fully equipped, as well technical wise in the kitchen-provides the restaurant 42 seats on regular basis. Herman's comes with very experienced staff for immediate start of your own business. No waiting time, no further investment necessary. Any bid is welcome starting Thai baht 3.2 M ongoing.



**Lips Bar** with the best turnover in Rawai is a designed sports and cocktail bar, fully equipped as well with two bars, one brand new dance floor, music computer, Beamer for big display, where you may watch DVDs, football, music events etc. Experienced staff is providing the guests a fun place with a special touch. No wonder that this venue became something like an In-Meeting point by many repeat customers. No waiting time, no further investment necessary. Any bid is welcome starting Thai Baht 2.5 M ongoing. Both venues could be purchased together or apart. Remaining rental contract for property 4 high seasons. Only serious offers will be accepted. Call +66818940570. Email: hsiegner@hermanns-phuket.com

**BAR/RESTAURANT**  
Long established. More than 200 sqm. Minutes from Karon beach in prime tourist area. No key money 5 + 5 lease available. Rent: 69,000 baht per month. Please contact Mark for more information. Tel: 087-2742759. Email: britcorp@hotmail.com

**GUESTHOUSE LEASE**  
Quick sale, reduced price, 9 rooms, restaurant, bar. Fully fitted, long running, main road in Patong with 5-year + lease. Please call for more information. Tel: 089-6489932.

## Business Products & Services

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Visa runs everyday. Big bus or mini-bus services available. Personal DVD players and entertainment included. 1,500 baht all inclusive. English staff available 24 hours a day. Tel: 083-1057398 085-7855389.

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Non-immigrant B and O visas (90-day stay, multiple entry) 60-day tourist visas (1, 2 or 3 entries) 4,900 baht - includes hotel, food and drink (NOT INCL VISA FEE)

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Date	3,10,17,24	1,8,15,29	5,12,19,26	17	7,14,21,28

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**VISA RUN TO ANDAMAN CLUB**  
Only Eve. 1,500 baht includes transfer, soft drink, insurance, breakfast and visa fee (US\$10). Lunch at hotel luxury boat. Renew visa from Penang, 4,900 baht, not including visa fee. For more information call K. Eve at Tel: 076-289201, 081-5352637. Website: www.evevisarun.com

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Company registration 2,229 baht; one year visa 5,999 baht; retirement visa 5,999 baht; work permit 5,999 baht; UK & US visa 16,999 baht. No more visa runs - get a one-year visa for only 5,999 baht. Establish your Thai company today to buy land or start your business for only 2,229 baht! Property title search, sales contract and land registration. Thailand's largest legal service network. Always low prices by our licensed Thai lawyers. Tel: 076-345277. Email: info@siam-legal.com www.siam-legal.com

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## Computers

**SALE LAPTOP**  
 Fujitsu computer. Model No LBC-2010, C-series Pentium 4, 1.8GHz, 256MB Ram, 30 GBHD Modem, Internet card 1394 net adapter. Floppy drive DVD Rom, 4USB connections PCMCIA Slot, IR Port S-Video out. Bought Global Solutions Pantip Plaza Bangkok 31-10-02. Cost 82,000 baht (have receipt). Best offer up to 25,000 baht. Tel: 089-972-3861.

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## Miscellaneous for Sale

**OFFICE PARTITIONS**  
 4 office partitions with T-foots. Good condition! 6,000 baht for all! Tel: 076-340792. Fax: 076-340693. Email: info@phuket-tropical-realestate.com

**BOAT, BIKE AND MORE**  
 - Dahon fold-away bike with carry bag: 5,000 baht. - Artist's fold-away easel: 4,000 baht. - Cash register TK-T200, six months old: 11,000 baht. Tel: 085-783-8336. Email: ozzanthony@yahoo.com

## Miscellaneous Wanted

**WATER SKIS WANTED**  
 Please contact me if you have or know of any for sale. Tel: 089-8314703. Email: thai larry@myway.com

## Personal Services

**PROMPT TRANSLATION SERVICE**  
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 MBA graduate student offers translation service at reasonable price. I worked as a manager at a local company, so I understand the nature of many businesses. For more details, please call Mr. Dusit or Mr. Paul. Tel: 089-6524747.

**LEARN THAI AT HOME**  
 Charming Thai lady teacher gives Thai lessons at your home. Full course with conversation practice and home study material. Beginners or more advanced. Tel: 081-7971497. Email: churee77@hotmail.com

**DOG TRAINING**  
 Basic dog obedience training by retired English police dog handler. Please call Keith for more information. Tel: 087-2711280.

## Personal Services Wanted

**TEACHER WANTED**  
 English and maths teacher needed for 8-year-old boy, 3 times per week. 700 baht per hour. Thai or English welcome to apply. K.Emma Tel: 081-0898777.

**WEB DESIGNER**  
 We need a part-time web-master to help maintain a website. Only a few hours per week. Tel: 08-709-29921. Email: joe\_anusara@yahoo.com

**ENGLISH**  
 Conversation. Need courses by experienced teacher with Master's degree from top university. Please contact Nutthathirataa. Tel: 081-4027021.

## Personals

**FRIENDSHIP**  
 Female English teacher new to Phuket, young 50s, slim, attractive, personable seeks unattached nice guy for good times together. Tel: 084-3087974.

## Pets

**ENGLISH BULLDOG**  
 Female English bulldog for sale. We have beautiful AKC English bulldog companions. Home raised, vet examined, shots and dewormings current to age. Health guarantee. Shipping and delivery available. Please contact for more details. Tel: 415-415-775303. Email: petbreed11@yahoo.com

**FOR SALE QUALITY**  
 Pit bull puppies now available 5,000 baht. Please call for more information. Tel: 087-146-6622 (Eng), 087-274-1388 (Thai).

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**MITSUBISHI GALANT**  
 Yellow, many accessories, good condition. Price: 45,000 baht. Tel: 081-7375909, 086-6874308.

**HONDA JAZZ 2004**  
 Excellent condition. 45,000 km. Airbags, ABS. 500,000 baht. Please call for more details. Tel: 086-2825107.

**BMW 323i E46**  
 Only 22,500km perfect condition. Tel: 089-4707640.

## Pickups

**NISSAN NV 2002**  
 Farang-owned, 5-speed manual, carryboy, electric windows, aircon, Queen Cab, 64,000km, excellent condition. Price: 245,000 baht. Tel: 086-7392220.

**DAIHATSU MIRA**  
 Dark red, well maintained, CD player disco system cost 35,000, petrol saver. For sale at only 89,000 baht. Call Sam. Tel: 081-7375909, 086-6874308.

**MITSUBISHI LANCER**  
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**TOYOTA COROLLA**  
 DX running condition, one hand drive, very good looking, dark green, cassette player, new for only 54,000 baht. Call Sam. Tel: 081-7375909, 086-6874308.

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**CHEAP CARS**  
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**FORD RANGER 2002**  
 60,000km, carryboy, chrome, big stereo. First hand, good condition. Farang owned. 370,000 baht. Please call for more information. Tel: 081-8954112.

## 4 x 4s

**TOYOTA VIGO 3.0G 4X4**  
 Black, 4-door, 18 months old, only 12,000km. Also has first-class insurance. A1 condition: 700,000 baht. Tel: 089-7292846.

**MITSUBISHI 4WHEEL**  
 Mega cab. 1999, 2-door, 5-speed, a/c, foreign owned, very nice condition, never used for work, 100,000km. CD. 375,000 baht Tel: 077-826355, 087-0403007. Fax: 077-813145. Email: tomcox100@hotmail.com

**KIA SPORTAGE**  
 Black, reliable, 4x4. Price: 180,000 baht. Please contact for more details. Tel: 081-5399560.

**CARIBIAN FOR SALE**  
 Suzuki, 1994, gray. 110,000 baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-6078567. Email: suksavat@hotmail.com

**GAZETTE MIRA FOR SALE**  
  
**Daihatsu Mira 1999**  
 We have one Mira for sale: 1999 model, violet, manual. The car has never been driven outside Phuket province and has been well maintained by Daihatsu. Price: 115,000 baht. To inspect/test drive, contact Khun Phai. Tel: 076-236555. Email: Phai@phuketgazette.net

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### TIGER SPORT CRUISER 2002 LTD

Good condition, blue, 110,000km, one owner, fsh, many extras, 4-door, 4x4, leather interior. 550,000 baht ono. Tel: 081-7817250. harveynolanhn@hotmail.com

### TOYOTA HILUX

X-tra Cab, 1997 model, very good condition, 2.8 engine, 155,000km. 150,000 baht ono. Leaving Thailand so must sell urgently. Tel: 076-288500, 087-8957810. Email: t\_cosens@yahoo.com

### TOP OF THE RANGE

Ford Ranger 2001, 4WD, 4 doors. New respray, 56,000 km, white with black leather, CD, power steering, etc. Lady owner. Never used commercially. Reason for sale: have new SUV. 375,000 baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-8111067.

### CHEROKEE, 4.0L

Bronze, perfect, new Sony stereo, new paint and leather seats. All services by Benz. 91,000km. Only 420,000 baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-0780014. Email: bjarneaagaardhansen@hotmail.com

### HONDA CRV

Auto, 2003, 1 careful lady owner, black, 70,000 km. Full insurance, no accidents. 750,000 baht. Call K. Yao. Tel: 081-0790688.

### TOYOTA VIGO ECTi

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### HONDA CRV 34,000 KM

Black metallic, 800,000 baht. Woman owner, first-hand. Tel: 087-8822462.

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**HONDA WAVE 100S**  
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**CHOPPER FOR SALE**  
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**KAWASAKI Z1000**  
2004, green, 8,500km. As new. 380,000 baht. Call for further details. Tel: 076-386118, 084-0513473. Email: cain@phuket.ksc.co.th

**SUZUKI BEST 110**  
1 lady owner, electric start, serviced at Suzuki, year 2000. 15,000 baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 087-2689123. Email: jamescawood@hotmail.com

**2 YAMAHA NOUVO**  
Sale. Yamaha Nouvo, 1 year, 3,000km, 45,000 baht. 3 years, 20,000km, 29,000 baht, very good, urgent sale. Tel: 081-3670991.

**6-MTH-OLD BIKE 22K**  
Honda Wave, 6 months old, for urgent sale at 22,000 baht. Cost new 36,500 baht. Tel: 081-9580815. Email: moodiving@yahoo.com

**HONDA PHANTOM**  
For sale, many extras, 171 km. Tel: 089-9723074.

### Van

### MINIBUS FOR SALE



Nissan UK van, year 1998, gold, good condition, CD player, sale 290,000 baht. Tel: 081-6078567. Email: suksavat@hotmail.com

### Rentals

#### JIKKY CAR RENT

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#### P.M.P. CAR RENT

Many types of cars for rent. Short term or long term. Very special price for a new car. Tel: 087-2646808, 083-1743880.

#### NEW BLACK

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New car for rent. Special price for long-term rental. Tel: 081-5388567. Email: suksavat@hotmail.com

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### Wanted

#### WANTED CHEROKEE

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