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INSIDE



Second Sarasin

Get the latest news on Phuket's second road bridge to Phang Nga province.

Page 9



Bringing out the dead

The president of a Phuket volunteer rescue service talks about a demanding job.

Page 11

NEWS: Violence erupts over new project; Club Med wall provokes protest; TAT targets Vietnamese; Turtle's eggs fail to hatch.

Pages 2 - 4

PROPERTY WATCH: The Renaissance resort adds a touch of class in Mai Khao.

Page 6

PROPERTY: Hafele to open soon; Tourism chiefs head to Korea.

Page 8

Held up on high ground

A TUNISIAN expat gave a lift to a fleeing tourist during last week's bogus tsunami alert – then robbed him at knife point.

Mehdi Issa, 24, is well known to Kathu Police, robbing a string of victims including prostitutes, ladyboys and hapless tourists.

After the tsunami alert on the morning of April 7, Amund Holand, 32, was making for higher ground when he was approached by the Tunisian outside La Flora Resort in Patong.

Mr Issa offered the Norwegian a ride to safety on his motorbike.

The pair drove to 50 Pi Road on the hill above Nanai Road overlooking Patong. When they reached an empty stretch at Baan Morn, Mr Issa stopped the bike and put a knife to the Norwegian's throat.

He relieved Mr Holand of nearly 20,000 baht in cash, his laptop computer, his camera and other items, before pushing him to the ground and speeding away.

The victim's losses totaled over 90,000 baht.

Mr Issa was arrested on April 8 and sent to Phuket Provincial Prison.

The scenario is routine for the Tunisian, who has been arrested many times and sent to Immigration by the Kathu Police, only to be released to offend again.

Superintendent of Kathu police Arayapan Pukbuakao said Mr Issa was indiscriminate in choosing his victims, sleeping with prostitutes and ladyboys before stealing their belongings.

Police said the Tunisian claims to be connected to 'big players' in Phuket including luxury hotel owners.

Mr Holand has yet to see the return of any of the stolen goods. Police said Mr Issa has refused to tell them where the Norwegian's possessions are.

Mr Holand arrived in Phuket on March 26 and is scheduled to fly back to Norway on April 17.

– Atchaa Khamlo

Compact Songkran Special

Due to printing deadlines over the Songkran vacation, this week's Gazette is shorter than usual. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and would like to assure our readers we will be back to our regular page count next week. From all the staff at the Gazette, we wish you a safe and happy Songkran.



Photo: Elizabeth Branca

Custom bikes drew big crowds on Soi Bangla during Phuket Bike Week.

Sun sets on bike week

DESPITE a reduced turnout of bikers due to political problems in Bangkok, about 2,800 riders roared onto the island for the 16th annual Phuket Bike Week.

Event organizer Wittaya 'Sumon' Singkalah said events in

the capital didn't stop an estimated 9,000 people from coming to the event, including members of 400 Thai motorcycle clubs.

From April 9 to 13, riders enjoyed concerts, beauty and tattoo contests and convoy rides around the island.

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Villagers protest Club Med wall



One of the signs used by villagers at the protest on April 9.

MORE than 100 local residents gathered at the Club Med Hotel in Kata on April 9 to protest construction of a concrete wall enclosing the resort's property.

Protester Pradit Thamwatthana said hotel staff began staking out the position of the wall with bamboo poles two weeks ago.

The 1.5-meter-high wall would seal off six rai of land that used to be open to the public.

Concrete forms have already been laid and fitted with rebar, though concrete has yet to be poured.

Part of the wall would run along Pakbang Canal, which channels drainage and wastewater into Kata Bay and is also port to some 40 longtail boats.

Boatmen who were among the protesters say the wall will block a tsunami evacuation route and damage mangrove forest lining the canal.

They have asked Karon Municipality to survey the area and review land title deeds to ensure the construction does not take place on public land.

Karon Mayor Tawee Thongcham said he understood the opinions of both sides, but added that the municipality had yet to grant permission for the construction.

"Club Med has been renting this land from the owner and has the right to erect bamboo markers delineating the boundary. The hotel has been asking for permission to build the wall, but it has never been granted by the municipality.

"We will have to sit down with both sides to work out a mutually acceptable solution," he said.

Club Med representative Wiji Dasanthad said, "We don't want any problems with the local people so we are happy to do what is best for both sides."

Club Med has rented the land in question for more than 20 years, he said.

"Before we had a wooden fence enclosing the property and any longtail boatmen who needed access simply had to ask. After the tsunami cleared the area it was left open and many people have come to believe it is now in the public domain.

"We decided to build the wall to show our boundaries, but they have asked us not to build a wall or fence of any kind," he said.

The project will remain on hold until Land Department officials survey the area, he said.

- Gazette reporter



YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED: Sign on Phuket beach. Photo: Steven Martin

Lifeguards on the way

THE PHUKET Provincial Administration Organization (PPAO) plans to sign a 10-month contract with the Phuket Lifeguard Club that will see 83 lifeguards assigned to 13 island beaches by the end of the month.

Phuket Lifeguard Club President Prathaiyut 'Nut' Chuayuan said he was still waiting to see the contract and had yet to be contacted by PPAO officials, but looked forward to taking on the important job.

"I still need to review the contract before I sign it. If all goes well we can begin training soon, but I think it will be difficult to begin work by the end of the month," he said.

"The PPAO budget allotment is quite small, which is why there has been so little interest in taking it on. But we need to think about society's needs and that's why I would love to try and help. The entire budget is about 10 million baht, which works out at 1 million baht per month. Of this, each of our 83 staff members would earn 10,000 baht per month," he said.

"Compared to overall expenditure I don't understand why so little is allotted for such

an important safety concern, but if all goes well under the new contract we should have good lifeguards and a good beach safety regimen in place in the future," he said.

The lifeguards' equipment will include torpedo rescue tubes, rescue boards, inflatable boats, swim fins and four jet-skis.

"I may ask jet-ski operators to help us as well," Mr Prathaiyut said.

A source in the PPAO confirmed that the two sides were nearing a deal and hoped to have lifeguards back on the beaches by the Songkran holiday.

"We are still awaiting written confirmation from the committee of which of the two bidders will be offered the contract," he said.

A source at Anda Focus Company, the other bidder, said it had not been contacted by the PPAO and believed Phuket Lifeguard Club would get the contract.

The source at the PPAO declined to confirm this, however.

The issue was still under review, but the council expected to have the beaches manned by lifeguards before the end of the month, the source said.

The 13 beaches will be divided into two zones with 28 lifeguard stations as follows:

SOUTH ZONE:
Nai Harn and Yanui: 3 stations, 8 lifeguards;
Kata and Karon: 7 stations, 21 lifeguards;
Patong: 4 stations, 12 lifeguards.

NORTH ZONE:
Laem Sing and Kamala: 3 stations, 9 lifeguards;
Surin and Bang Tao: 6 stations, 17 lifeguards;
Nai Thon and Nai Yang: 3 stations, 10 lifeguards.
Mai Khao: 2 stations, 6 lifeguards.
- Kitima Pornmongkhonwat

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Violence, arson at troubled project



The workers overturned a truck and burned motorcycles.

A VIOLENT confrontation and arson attack at the troubled Phansong City project on April 9 ended when police fired warning shots, causing rioters to run for cover.

The latest skirmish in the months-old battle started about 9pm. Around 200 men alleged to be project workers tried to destroy and burn some 40 motorbikes and a truck which residents had parked at the entrance to restrict worker access.

The dispute began mid-2009, when residents set up a roadblock and petitioned the governor to halt

work at the project, located on 78 rai next to Soi Thep Anusorn, off Chao Fa East Road.

The protesters claimed some of them were tricked into giving up their homes and that others were being pressured to leave the village so their homes could be demolished to make way for the project.

The standoff flared up again on the night of April 9.

According to local residents, a mob of workers armed with guns, knives and clubs stood by while a backhoe moved in to destroy the blockade vehicles, which were then set alight.

Outnumbered, about 100 protesters fled and notified Phuket City Police, who rushed to the scene.

Phuket City Police Superintendent Wanchai Ekpompit, who led the team, said the workmen ignored orders to stop the destruction and only dispersed after warning shots were fired.

Col Wanchai said the brazen defiance of the law indicated an influential figure was involved.

Police would work seriously on the case, questioning suspects to determine who had ordered the workmen's action, he said.

Villager Kitima Suwan, who called the police, said "I heard many gunshots and the sound of fighting outside.

"When I went out to check I saw villagers running away from the workmen, who were using lengths of wood and iron to destroy the vehicles.

"That is why I called the police."

- Gazette reporter

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	6.00 pm	Chipping Competition
	7.00 pm	Prize Presentation Dinner, Raffle & Auction
Format	4-Ball Scramble, 10% of Combined Team Handicap	
Eligibility	Handicap certification required except for BCCC & PEGS members	
Entry Fees	BCCC members: THB2,900 + THB250 Caddie Fee* Non-members: THB4,700 + THB250 Caddie Fee* Price includes green fees, dinner and charity donation *Caddie fee payable in cash during Registration	
Closing Date	Sat, 17 April 2010, 12.00 noon	

For further information and reservation, please contact martin@phuketconciierge.com or events@bluecanyonclub.com.
50% of green fees for the day will be donated by Blue Canyon Country Club.

Leatherback turtle eggs fail to hatch



ENDANGERED: Scores of leatherbacks used to nest on Mai Khao Beach.

HOPES that two clutches of eggs could spell a reversal of fortune for Phuket's endangered leatherback sea turtle population were dashed last month when the eggs failed to hatch.

Mai Khao Sea Turtle Conservation Group member Somporn Anupun said the 130 eggs, laid in mid-January, failed to hatch as expected in March.

The two clutches, thought to have been laid by the same

female, were the first in several years at Mai Khao Beach, once famed nationwide for the scores of enormous leatherback turtles that came to nest there.

The eggs appeared to be viable, but after the expected hatching period, a look inside revealed the albumen was watery. This showed they had never been fertilized, Mr Somporn said.

Kongkiet Kittiratanawong, a researcher at the Phuket Marine Biological Center (PMBC), agreed with this assessment.

The failure of the eggs to hatch had not been caused by volunteers moving them to a safe location on the beach after they were discovered, he said.

The PMBC often incubates and raises hatchlings at its facilities at Cape Panwa, but not the pelagic leatherback, which does not do well in captivity, he said.

Despite the disappointment in Phuket, it has been a good year for leatherback nesting along other parts of Thailand's Andaman coastline.

More eggs were laid this nesting season than over the last five, with clutches reported at Thai Muang Beach and Koh Phra Thong in Phang Nga, and Koh Lanta in Krabi.

Only the eggs at Thai Muang were viable however, with a 70% to 80% hatching rate.

Leatherbacks typically lay clutches of around 80 fertilized eggs together with 30 smaller unfertilized eggs. The incubation period is about 65 days.

- *Sitthipong Nongkaew*



HA LONG BAY: Limestone karsts similar to those of Phang Nga.

TAT targets Vietnam

THE TOURISM Authority of Thailand (TAT) hopes the establishment of Phuket as a regional air hub will help the country attract more than 400,000 visitors from Vietnam for the first time this year.

Pichai Raktasinha, director of the TAT office in Ho Chi Minh City, said the number of Vietnamese arrivals in Thailand has risen steadily in recent years, from about 337,000 in 2008 to 362,000 in 2009.

The TAT would like to see the figure crack the 400,000 barrier in 2010, said Mr Pichai.

Currently, Bangkok and Pattaya are the most popular destinations among Vietnamese tourists, but the TAT hopes AirAsia's direct Phuket - Ho Chi Minh City flights will lure independent Vietnamese tourists to Phuket and other destinations in the south, including Phang Nga, Krabi and Koh Samui.

Thais have also shown interest in Vietnam, with about 160,000 of them visiting the country last year.

Popular destinations include major cities like Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh and Danang as well as Ha Long Bay, a UNESCO World Heritage Site with karst island formations similar to those in Phang Nga Bay.

Nevertheless, Thai arrivals to Vietnam have been down over the past few months due to political and economic problems at home, he said.

AirAsia marketing manager Chuenjit Chotewittayakul said there were fewer empty seats on flights from Ho Chi Minh City to Phuket than on the return leg.

Roughly half of the inbound passengers are Vietnamese. Most of the remainder are non-Thais entering the country for business or tourism.

AirAsia's Phuket hub currently offers direct, round-trip services to five international destinations (Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Hong Kong, Medan and Ho Chi Minh City) as well as direct domestic flights to Chiang Mai, Udon Thani and Suvarnabhumi Airport in Bangkok.

Flights to Phuket are fairly full on all routes except the Medan and Ho Chi Minh City services, which still need more time to gain recognition and popularity, she said.

"We will offer more flights in the future and plan to launch services to India this year. Thai AirAsia expects to service five million passengers in 2010," she said.

- *Atchaa Khamlo*

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EVENTS CALENDAR

Upcoming events on the island

Phuket Punchline Comedy Club at the Holiday Inn Resort April 21



The Phuket Punchline team returns with another night of stand-up comedy. This show welcomes internationally acclaimed novelist and comedian Mark Billingham, author of the hugely successful 'Inspector Thorne' books. Joining Mark are fellow Brits

Mike Gunn and Carl Donnoly. From 8pm - 11pm at Holiday Inn Resort Phuket, Patong. For further information contact Boom. T: 089-646 9278. E: info@phuketcomedy.com. W: phuketcomedy.com.

11th ChildWatch Charity Golf Day – April 24



The Blue Canyon Country Club invites golfers to help support local children's charities in Phuket with the 11th ChildWatch Charity Golf Day. The day will begin with a 4-ball scramble format on the Blue Canyon Course at noon, followed by a chipping competition at 6pm and a prize presentation dinner, raffle and auction at 7pm. 2,900 baht for members of the country club, 4,700 baht for non-members. For more information contact Martin. T: 089-874 9080. E: martin@phuketconciierge.com.

April 19 – 23. PIA Sports & Leisure Club Kids Summer Splash Camp

The PIASLC Thai Summer Splash Camp is a water-based adventure week for kids that includes sea kayaking and cave exploration. From 9am - 5pm at PIA Sports & Leisure Club. For further information contact Khun Mik. T: 076-376000. E: activities@phuketinternationalacademy.com. W: phuketinternationalacademy.com.

April 22 – 26. Passion For Perfume Workshop at The Pavilions

The Pavilions will hold 'Passion for Perfume', a unique three-day experiential program designed specifically for guests to indulge in the sensual pleasures of scent. Created to awaken and arouse the senses, the courses will be hosted by world-renowned Perfumer Stephen V. Dowthwaite, founder of Perfumer's World. The three-day workshop is 9,000++ baht, and includes morning and afternoon coffee breaks and a three-course set lunch. From 9am – 5pm at The Pavilions, Phuket. For further information contact Front Office Manager Khun Or. T: 076-317600. E: fom.phuket@thepavilionsresorts.com. W: thepavilionsresorts.com.

April 22. Phuket Int'l Women's Club lunch at Silk

The Phuket International Women's Club monthly lunch will be held at Silk Restaurant, Andara Resort, Kamala. All are welcome, but please pre-register. 450 baht for members; 600 baht for guests. From 11:30 am - 2pm. For further information contact Carole Dux. T: 076-316711. E: info@phuketiwc.com.

April 23. LOVE is a Four Letter Word by The Andaman Players

The latest Andaman Players theatrical production takes guests on a musical and comedic voyage through the world of love. 'LOVE is a Four Letter Word' promises something for everyone – from ballads and Shakespearean sonnets, modern dance and poetry, to cutting edge comedy sketches that will make grown men squirm and their wives raise a knowing eyebrow. Tickets for the 3-course dinner and show are 2,250 baht and sold only in advance at Mom Tri's Villa Royale. From 7pm – 11:30pm at Mom Tri's Kitchen in Kata Noi. For further information contact Sylvie Yaffe. T: 076-333568. E: pr@villaroyale.com. W: momtriphuket.com/events.

April 23. St. George's Day Supper

A day for being as patriotic as the English ever manage! Join England in celebrating its patron saint, with a four-course dinner, toasts, speeches, recitations, jingoism, music, tall tales and more. Nelson and Wellington, Churchill, Jonny Wilkinson and Dame Vera Lynn will be remembered in speech monologue and song. Reserved seating. Dinner 750 baht per person. From 7:30 pm – 12am at The Green Man Phuket. For further information contact Nui. T: 081-894 7736. E: info@the-green-man.net. W: the-green-man.net.

April 26 – May 1. PIA Sports & Leisure Club After School Program

Running throughout the school year, PIASLC will offer an after school multi-activity program for children. All instruction is given by

professional, internationally experienced and accredited coaches. Activities include: swimming, football, martial arts (judo/muay thai), gymnastics, volleyball, cricket, touch rugby, music (band), and drama. From 2:30pm – 5:30pm at PIA Sports & Leisure Club. For further information contact Khun Mik. T: 076-376000. E: activities@phuketinternationalacademy.com.

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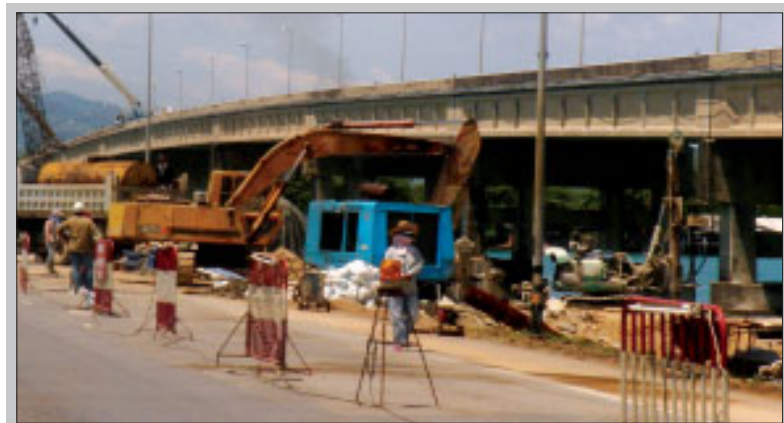
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Mai Khao moves up



Construction on Sarasin Bridge, which links Phuket with Phang Nga. TOP: The Renaissance Phuket Resort and Spa in Mai Khao.

EARLIER this month I met Jason Nuell, the general manager of Phuket's newest internationally branded hotel, the Renaissance Phuket Resort and Spa in Mai Khao.

For many, the term 'corporate hotel' brings to mind the words 'bed factory' and 'cookie cutter', but I am pleasantly surprised at first glance.

The resort 'soft opened' just a few weeks ago. It's not yet running at full capacity but already humming with tourists and shiny happy staff who nearly create a football scrum when greeting new arrivals.

I'm informed that there are 180 guest rooms, 26 private pool villas, a number of bars and restaurants, a ballroom for weddings and something called 'the jack pack'.

The last one caught my eye, and, no, I did not detect any sexual innuendo. What is included in this perhaps poorly named accessory pack are a series of international electrical adapters. Whether you have just flown in from Slovenia, Easter Island or Bakersfield, the Renaissance can indeed turn you on.

Strolling the resort grounds,



PROPERTY WATCH

Bill Barnett is Managing Director of C9 Hotelworks (c9hotelworks.com), a Phuket-based hotel and property consulting firm. His BLOG (thephuketinsider.com) is The Source for all Hotel and Real Estate News in Greater Phuket.

the design is both conventionally tasteful and fresh with some unique touches.

Leading Thai architecture firm A49 and interior gurus P49 teamed up for the Renaissance project, creating what is arguably one of the island's most aesthetically pleasing hotels

Mai Khao is becoming an increasingly sophisticated location, and it's a far cry from the

days when JW Marriott opened and blank stares were the norm when tourists asked where the hotel was located.

Now the Marriott has plenty of company on the island's most northerly beach, including Anantara and cutting edge Sala Phuket. The well known Holiday Inn is set to add a new site to the mix next year.

For those who can't possibly face another breakfast buffet, a first class retail center, 'Turtle Village', is now open and offers shopping, dining and, even more importantly, drinking opportunities.

Getting back into my car, I screech out of the car park to check out progress on the new Sarasin Bridge extension.

An amazing site greets me. Cranes are lifting, workers are hammering and the connection between Phuket and Phang Nga is set to become even bigger and better in just a short while.

With more and more luxury resorts popping up in Mai Khao, tourist numbers are certain to swell.

Much like the North Star, the end of the island is guiding incoming travelers its way.

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PHUKET PROPERTY buyers are often shocked to find their new dream home riddled with faulty appliances and rife with shoddy craftsmanship.

In most cases, this is due to the buyer and seller being too anxious to make a deal on a property.

Buyers are eager to acquire a new home or office, and sellers are eager to make money off their nearly completed projects.

In their haste, it is typically the buyer who is left with the responsibility of finishing work that should have been completed by the seller.

This can be avoided with a simple legal document: a properly written 'hand-over procedure', which can be drafted to include agreements on the quality of work on a new property.

When a seller completes their contractual obligations, they are expected to send a completion notice to the buyer. This typically includes an invoice requesting final or further payment.

Buyers should then draft a hand-over agreement that clearly details what they expect should be completed within their new property before moving in.

If buyers do not present the agreement and go straight to paying the invoice, there is little recourse for any defective or incomplete aspects of the property after moving in.



Unfinished business

Incomplete or defective property is often sold to an eager buyer without regard for legal agreements ensuring quality workmanship.

Hand-over agreements usually require the seller to request an inspection of the property within a specified time period, giving the buyer the chance to check that the seller has fulfilled their end of the contract.

Buyers, with the help of a property surveyor, should conduct the inspection. All defects or unfinished areas of the property should be documented in a report and given to the seller. The buyer

should request deadlines for all changes needed to the property.

There should be two copies of the report made, each signed by both parties.

This is often called the 'practical completion' stage of a purchase. Any payment due should be suspended until the project reaches the 'on completion' stage.

If there are any disputes over defects, the surveyor can act as a liaison between the buyer and seller.

In the event that a seller is unable or unwilling to remedy substantial defects or non-conformities, the hand-over agreement should provide an appropriate recourse.

This could include a right for the buyer to refuse the property and to withhold all outstanding payments until full completion.

In addition, in the event that the seller fails to complete or remedy something, the

agreement can permit the buyer to appoint a third party contractor to complete this work at the expense of the seller.

This article is written by the International Law Office Patong Beach Co. Ltd, a Phuket-based law firm. For enquiries, please contact Michael Greth, Consultant. E:michael@ilophuket.com. T: 076-222 191-5.



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On The Move *Introducing the island's movers and shakers*

Burasari Patong Hotel welcomed **Mr Conor O'Leary** as their new General Manager. His previous experience includes the Clarence Hotel in Dublin and the Mandarin Oriental in London. He joined Burasari three years ago as Resident Manager and most recently worked as Hotel Manager for the Burasari's sister property Shanghai Mansion in Bangkok. Mr O'Leary is originally from Ireland.



Impiana Resort Hotel & Spa Phuket has recently promoted **Mr Noorazzudin Omar** to General Manager. In his new position Mr Omar will be in charge of the entire resort's operations, including sales, marketing and financial management. Originally from Malaysia, he has more than 17 years of experience in the hotel industry in Southeast Asia and the Middle East.



Marriott International has announced **Jason Nuell** as its new General Manager for the Renaissance Phuket Resort & Spa. The Australian's previous positions include Director of Operations at JW Marriott Mumbai in 2005 and Director of Food and Beverage at Surfer's Paradise Marriott Resort & Spa Australia in 2003, where he began his Marriott career.



Tourism leaders skip out to Korea

Four airlines currently operate direct flights between Seoul and Phuket and statistics show that South Korean couples love to celebrate their honeymoons on the island.

In 2007, some 220,000 Korean travelers chose Thailand as their vacation destination, while in the following two years the number of Korean tourists rose to 250,000.

This year it is expected that more than 270,000 South Koreans will come to Thailand on vacation.

- Nam News Network

PHUKET tourism authorities will be in Seoul and Busan, South Korea from April 25-30 to promote Thai tourism and attract more Koreans to the island.

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Hafele opening soon



The new Hafele Design Center is on the bypass road in Phuket and stocks more than 50,000 products.

NOW in its final phase of completion, the new Hafele Design Center Phuket is preparing for its grand opening on June 4.

The 300-million baht complex, located just north of HomeWorks on the bypass road, features a Hafele product showroom and a second building with rental units, including parking for 50 cars.

The Hafele Design Center Phuket offers top quality

construction and interior design products to developers and the general public with a range of at least 50,000 products in more than 4,500 catalog pages. As a one-stop shop for home goods, Hafele is a self-proclaimed 'international hardware hub', operating in 33 outlets worldwide.

Partnered with the wood processing trade, the furniture industry, specialist dealers as well as planners and architects, the new Hafele Design Studio offers

products and services for every room in the house, including furniture, architectural hardware, kitchen, bathroom and tools.

Hafele's corporate headquarters are located in Germany, where it also has 10 sales offices.

In Thailand, the company operates six branches through its subsidiary company Hafele (Thailand) Limited. South of Bangkok, Hafele (Thailand) Ltd operates two show-rooms, one in Hua Hin and one in Phuket.

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Property & Tourism Briefs

Laguna's latest

CONSTRUCTION of Laguna Phuket's 'Latitude', the upcoming waterfront venue designed to host a variety of MICE programs and other events, has commenced.

Latitude is scheduled for completion within the next four months and will occupy a total concrete surface area of 1,500 sqm. A 1,000 sqm marquee-style all-weather structure will be capable of accommodating up to 1,000 guests in a theater-style layout, 800 for cocktails, and 600 for banquets. It also boasts a 450 sqm pre-function area.

Branding Thailand

THE chief marketing representative of the Tourism Authority of Thailand in the UK, Chris Lee, said that the project to co-brand Southeast Asia and Asean as part of a campaign in Europe would prove neither productive nor effective, the *Bangkok Post* reports.

Mr Lee said that there is already "a fairly strong PATA (Pacific Asia Travel Association) chapter within the UK" and that the "Thailand, Hong Kong, Malaysia and Singapore [tourist boards] are already very strong individually."

Tourists undeterred

IN SPITE of the ongoing 'red shirt' political demonstrations in Bangkok, visitors are still streaming into the country, according to recent reports from the Airports of Thailand (AoT).

A spokesperson for the AoT reported that 985,518 travelers arrived at Bangkok's Suvarnabhumi International Airport in March, up 17.63 percent over March 2009.

Electrifying results

PHIBUL Buacham, assistant governor of the Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand (EGAT), said that on April 5 at 2:30pm, electricity usage to date in 2010 peaked at 23,529 megawatts, a 6.74 percent increase over the previous peak last year.

The *Bangkok Post* reported that since the rise in power consumption, EGAT's electricity reserves have dropped to 20 percent, not enough to cause a black-out or brown-out.

About half of Thailand's electricity usage is in the industrial sector. House-holds account for 23 percent and the remainder goes to commercial buildings and shopping centres.

For more news briefs from around Thailand see NEWS HOUND at W: phuketgazette.net



Vietnamese artist Nguyen Tan Cuong (black shirt) exhibited some of his captivating work at D Gallery, Royal Phuket Marina earlier this month. The *Day-night and Day* collection generated wide-spread interest from Phuket art lovers. Gallery Managing Director Pornthip Raksapiksu also pictured.

Find out more at W: nguyentancuong.info

Bridging the gap: Sarasin gets facelift

THE construction firm building a new bridge to Phuket has released computer generated images of what the project will look like upon completion.

Project engineer Dr Phattanapong Thonsuk of project contractor Italian-Thai Development Co said the old Sarasin Bridge has suffered from years of salt-water corrosion and wear and is being replaced following concerns by the Highway Department about its structural integrity.

The original bridge, completed in 1967, was named after Pote Sarasin, who served as head of the now-defunct National Development Ministry.

Construction conglomerate

Italian-Thai built not only the original Sarasin Bridge, but also its sister span, the Thepkrasatri Bridge.

Although the official name of the project is 'Sarasin 2,' the replacement bridge will likely get a new name.

The name will possibly be decided through a public vote, like the baby panda 'Lin Hui' born in Chiang Mai last year, Dr Phattanapong said.

Dr Phattanapong said his preferred name for the new span is 'Srisoonthorn Bridge,' after Phuket's beloved heroine Thao Thep Srisoonthorn.

The name would once again 'pair' the two heroines by having one bridge named after each.

- Stephen Fein



A conception of what the finished project will look like from Phuket.

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<p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">3 Laguna Village Townhome I THB 19.5 M</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2-storey 4 beds Townhome • extra 4th bedroom with ensuite • 24 sqm private pool • lagoon view 	<p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">4 Laguna Townhome THB 23 M</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2-storey 3 beds Townhome • maid's quarters • 25 sqm private pool • golf course view
<p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">5 Laguna Village Residence II THB 38 M</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 beds 3 baths Residence • fully furnished • lagoon view 	

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Quick fix for Patong's incessant traffic woes

A plan by Kathu Police to reverse flow along one-way roads in Patong is a good first step toward reducing traffic chaos in the town, but much more needs to be done to provide the millions of people who visit annually with the safe and affordable transport options they deserve.

Put in place in early 2007, the one-way system immediately faced opposition from tuk-tuk drivers, who complained the increased distances they would need to drive would push up operating costs and eat into profits.

Much like their resistance to the 2005 establishment of Soi Bangla as an after-dark walking street, the opposition was relatively short-lived.

They soon responded in the time-honored fashion of all monopolists faced with cost increases – by passing them off to customers.

Kathu Police Superintendent Arayapan Pukbuakao is correct to point out that the existing 'clockwise' flow that requires drivers to 'keep right' along important connecting roads like Soi Ruamjai and Soi Sawatdirak not only creates confusion, but is also in violation of existing Thai traffic law. So obvious is the infraction that it comes as a surprise that no-one questioned its legality until now.

It is not just motorists who find themselves dangerously disoriented under the current scheme. Long-suffering pedestrians, already forced to run for their lives across three lanes of fast moving traffic along main roads, are also at an increased risk of getting run down on side streets, where they expect cars to be moving in the other direction. It comes as little wonder that many tourists – foreign and Thai – step off Patong sidewalks with the kind of trepidation seen in soldiers traversing minefields.

Another junction of concern that will benefit from the change is at the north end of the beach road, where vehicles turning right onto Phra Barami Road do so against oncoming traffic with no clear indication of who has the right of way.

Although details of the new plan have yet to be worked out, the *Gazette* agrees in principal with the change, which should be relatively easy to adopt by repositioning traffic signs and repainting road markers.

Far more difficult will be dealing with the ever-worsening flooding situation in the town, much of it due to poorly regulated development along the new Phang Muang Road, Nanai Road and extending well up into the Nakkerd Hills. Even more difficult, it appears, is the one idea that would solve myriad traffic problems in the town in one fell swoop: setting up a 'baht-bus' route of the kind enjoyed by tourists in Pattaya.

– *The Editor*

Phuket Gazette

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Letters

The *Gazette* is pleased to receive mail from readers. Please write to us at 79/94 Moo 4, Thepkasattri Rd, T. Koh Kaew, Phuket 83000, fax to 076-615240 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.

Puppy love

I was recently in Thailand with a group of friends and we were horrified to see the neglect and outright cruelty toward dogs and cats.

We found this incomprehensible in a Buddhist nation. What happened to loving kindness?

We saw a dog with a huge knife wound and nobody stopped to help. We also saw puppies being sold in the markets.

A country with thousands of stray dogs should not be allowing the farming of puppies.

I respectfully suggest that the first thing Thailand needs is effective animal cruelty legislation to be enforced.

Animals have mental and emotional capacity similar to that of four-year-old children.

I don't think people usually stab, poison or abandon four-year-old children.

Responsible pet ownership should be taught in schools and people should adopt strays if they want pets. The puppy mills should be closed and dogs should be ster-

ilized to prevent the situation from worsening.

I saw a few kind Thai people feeding stray dogs, but the problem is huge and needs responsible leadership backed up by good legislation.

I hope this newspaper and good Buddhists in the community will step forward to remove this dark spot on Thailand's reputation.

**Diana Thurbon
Phuket**

Swim School 101

It's all fine and well that those concerned are calling for an investment in lifesaving in order to minimize drownings in monsoon season, but it's not going to make much difference if the public don't know how to handle themselves in a rip.

I'm a semi strong swimmer and being that I'm from South Africa and have frequented Jeffrey's Bay at least three times a year, am far from a stranger to generous sized surf swell.

J-Bay's average swell is bigger than Phuket's on a good day.

We don't, however, have riptides!

The first thing I heard when I told my friend of my desire to learn to surf was that it's super dangerous surfing in Phuket because the riptides suck you under the water and carry you away. Pretty intimidating news.

Upon doing some research, I learned that the strongest part of the riptide is at its surface and that it doesn't suck you under.

It is recommended that should you get caught in a rip, you remain calm and swim parallel to the shore and not against the current, as this will result in exhaustion and you floating into heaven's pretty white light.

Alternatively, if it's a really strong rip, stay calm and let it take you out and then when it's lost strength, you can swim back to shore at a leisurely pace in a direction away from the current.

**Jade Matthews
Kata**

Education over incarceration

In the 80s and 90s Thais could buy *ya mah* (methamphetamine), as it was known then, for 10 baht from any pharmacist.

Life went on and some people took too much, but it mostly went unnoticed and most people who took it then have stopped. Sure there is a minority that suffers, but that happens in all walks of life.

Legalize, educate, be true. Now it's all hate, suffering and lies. I'm not pro-drugs, I'm pro-freedom and education.

Thai prisons are crowded with a lot of people who don't need to be there.

**Mike Morris
Gazette Forum**



Siam International
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Letters conveying views and suggestions are published here. Those seeking comment from government officials and/or business owners are published in *Issues & Answers* at www.phuketgazette.net.

Bringing out the injured and the dead



FIRST PERSON

Benjawan Tamphanuwat is the new president of the Kusoldharm Foundation, a volunteer-run rescue foundation serving much of Phuket. The service's ambulances are frequently first on the scene after road accidents and violent crimes. Ms Benjawan has been with Kusoldharm for more than 20 years. In this week's *First Person*, she talks to the *Gazette* about her hopes for the future of the foundation – and what it's like doing a job most people would refuse to do. Compiled by Kitima Pornmongkhonwat.

I have always been very happy working for the Kusoldharm Foundation. I am a Buddhist, so helping people is part of what I try to do every day.

I was first drawn to the idea of helping the dead after watching *Lang Phaa Chaa*, a Chinese ritual to clean up cemeteries. In this tradition, a ceremony is performed to help homeless ghosts dig up their dead bodies so they can be cleaned and blessed. It aims to put the soul to rest. I first saw the event when I was young and have been helping the dead ever since.

Our job at the foundation is to help people who suffer, either by sending the injured to the hospital or transporting dead bodies. I like helping dead people because they never complain or are unsatisfied with what you do for them.

The foundation has around 50 permanent staff members and more than 300 volunteers around the island. About 50 percent of our permanent staff members have received ad-

vanced first aid training, so we know how to help. At the same time, we want to provide additional training to improve the quality of care we provide.

Even with a staff that large, the foundation stays very busy. Phuket is like a big meeting room; we have all kinds of people from all kinds of places. The island is very populous and very busy, so the number of accidents is very high.

Phuket people tend to have little respect for driving laws, and this is hard to fix. I think part of that can be attributed to the laid-back way of life that is the norm here. Foreigners here seem to have more regard for traffic laws, but a lot of accidents still happen every day, especially when it rains and after the bars close.

There are a few things we could do to reduce the number of accidents. First, it would help if we had a good public transportation system. A fair-priced and reliable system for local residents and tourists would have an all-round positive effect – less

traffic on the road and fewer accidents as a result.

But this is not easy to achieve. With a growing population and plans to attract even more tourists, how are we going to accommodate the additional vehicles that will come as a result? The island is not going to get bigger, and the land is becoming more and more developed.

We don't have any plans to expand our foundation. We are already quite big and have enough staff to meet demand. We do, however, have plans to improve our staff and system.

Because we are funded by donations, money is usually not a problem for us. But we do need additional funding if we are to better train our staff. Our steady financing is not because Phuket has a lot of rich people, but because people see what we are doing and want to support us. Donations are especially helpful with paying for coffins. Just one costs 300 baht.

In the event of an accident, please feel safe with us. Because



The Kusoldharm Foundation is frequently first on the scene.

we work 24 hours a day and have so many volunteers, we are normally the first at an accident scene. All our services in Phuket

are free. In case you or anyone else is in need of help, the Kusoldharm Foundation can be contacted on 076-246301.

Issues & ANSWERS

Submit your queries or suggestions to:

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www.phuketgazette.net

What can I do about a noisy karaoke bar?

Who is responsible for issuing permits for bars and karaoke on Nai Thon Beach? This once peaceful beach turns into a nightmare at night with techno music blasting till the early hours of the morning. An open karaoke bar which is disguised as a humble fruit stall in the day has a sign that says the bar stays open until 6am.

To make matters worse, the awful singer they hired screams out old Bon Jovi songs.

Name and address supplied
Phuket

A lawyer at Sakoo Tambon Administration Organization (TAO) replies:

Bring your Passport or ID to our office and fill out a complaint form. Once we've read your complaint we'll check the area and talk with the bar owners.

For more information contact Sakoo Tambon Administration Organization: 24 Moo 3, T. Sakoo, A. Thalang, Phuket 83110. T: 076-205328 F: 076-205328 ext 18.

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Property Gazette

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KAMALA VILLA WITH POOL

Beautiful 3-bed, 3-bath villa with private pool and sea view. For further details, please see our website at www.villakamala.com, then contact me by email at imconnac@aol.com .com

NAI HARN LUXURY CONDO



2-3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 111sqm. Start 4.5 million baht. Must see. Tel: 084-993 7308. For further details, please see our website at www.amphaiseabreeze.com

CHALONG PRIME INVESTMENT

30 rai flat land, 4 million baht per rai. 1km from Chalong Temple. Tel: 081-719 2984.

HOUSE IN KAMALA

for sale. 2 houses on land. 1 Ngan 89sq wah. Chanote title, near mountain, peach and safe, 10 minutes from the beach. 8.3 million baht direct from owner. Tel: 083-180 2143. Email: yarivios@gmail.com

30 RAI IN TOWN

Long lease. Near Dowrning School in Phuket Town. Tel: 081-691 2526.

GOLF VIEW LAND



1,020 sqm, fully serviced, overlooking Loch Palm Golf Course in Kathu. 5 million baht. Tel: 076-321454, 089-724 7211 (English), 080-522 4433 (Thai). Fax: 076-323724. Email: info@botanvillage.com

ROYAL PLACE CONDO

New 37sqm one bedroom condo for sale at Royal Place, near the Tesco Lotus intersection on the Bypass Road. Comes fully furnished including all electrical appliances. Ready to move in August. Complex has pool, gym, restaurant etc. 1.85 million baht. Tel: 083-982 3768. Email: drbeamshaw@gmail.com

PERFECT LAND

Nearly 2 rai at Bang Tao. Very good location for business. 18 million baht. No agents. Tel: 086-944 2065, 087-689 9679. Email: tasuwan@hotmail.com

NEW BRAND CONDO

Mid Town, Royal Place Project. Studio condo, fully furnished, reasonable price. Tel: 086-476-9612.

LAND AT PA KHLOK



49 rai, nice flat land. Chanote, 2.5km from Heroines' Monument. 1.7 million baht per rai. Tel: 083-180 2143.

www.Phuket-Villa-Property.com
We've got it... 08 72 72 03 03

6-YEAR FINANCING AVAILABLE



Rawai Beach sale. 12 million baht. 648sqm. Land, bar, hotel 9 rooms. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

NEW TOWN HOUSE



in Phuket Inter villa project for sale. 2.3 million baht. 36.5sq wah. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, includes furniture, curtains, kitchen, 1 airconditioning unit, common pool access. Tel: 089-873 1009 (English), 081-893 8524.

PRIVATE SALE OF HALF A RAI

in Ao Makham. Land is located opposite Port of Phuket and next to Bel Air Cape Panwa Resort. Price 4.2 million. Tel: 081-891 5932, 089-035 6702.

LAND AT PA KHLOK

1 rai, 18sq wah, Nor Sor 3 Kor, Tha-Rue - Pa Khlok - Muang Mai Road. Near Mission Hill. Price 3.5 million baht. Tel: 089-472 9118.

17 RAI WITH PALM TREES

At Kok Kien, Takuapa, Phang-Nga. 85,000 baht per rai. Contact Khun Piek. Tel: 081-892 4094, 084-304 9339.

CHEAP HOUSE FOR SALE

1 story house on land. 1.5 rai, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully furnished at T. Taimuang, Phang Nga 2.5 million baht. Tel: 083-180 2143. Email: yarivios@gmail.com

LAND FOR SALE

near the main road to Baan Don - Chermg Talay. 68sq wah. 1.1 million baht. Tel: 089-472 9118. Email: honda.1437@yahoo.co.th

SURIN APARTMENT

150m from the beach. 1 b/r, pool access. Great view. 4.99 million baht. Call or mail for further details. Tel: 02-076350. Email: jgstryker@gmail.com

PREMIUM LOCATION AT BANGTAO



Beautiful piece of land in 150 m. from Bangtao beach. Have access to main road. 1.5 rai for only 18 mln. THB. Tel: 081-737 1687. Email: raisamail@gmail.com

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Property Gazette

2 CONDOS RAWAI BEACH



for sale. 54sqm. 1.7 million baht. 27sqm. 1 million baht. 150m. from sea, renovated, credit 1 year. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

COMMERCIAL BUILDING

4 1/2 story commercial building, 3,423sqm. Phuket Town. 1 rai of freehold land. 120 million baht. Contact Robin. Tel: 081-803 7189. Email: robinbglee@gmail.com

3BR, 3A/C: 20,000B RENT/SALE

fully furn & appliances. Tel: 083-299 7257 (English & Thai), 086-465 4674 (English & Thai). Email: cphotosm@hotmail.com See details, pictures & map at www.ddproperty.com/property/show/22800

74 SQM CONDO: 1.7 MILLION BAHT

2 bedrooms, 1 bath, 3 aircon units. Located in Phuket Town. Tel: 085-782 8881 (English & Thai), 081-895 6629 (English & Thai). Email: arunrat65@hotmail.com

PAY IN 5 YEARS NO INTEREST



In Naiham. 4 houses (1 with pool) for sale. Mod style, full chanote. Prices from 8 to 13 million baht. 20% down, rest in 5 terms, 1 a year. Email or phone. Tel: 053-180647, 089-8744050 (English), 081-271 1082 (Thai). Fax: 053-180646. Email: joswana@gmail.com

LAND AT CHERNG TALAY

390sqw, nice flat land, quiet area, chanote. In Pasak Soi 5 near Laguna Home. Price: 6 million baht. Tel: 089-4729118, 086-709-2933.

0.5 RAI CHANOTE LAND

Thalang in area of Ton Sai National park, waterfall, Int'l School, and Russian Church. Tel: 081-005 5701 (English), 086-108 2745 (Thai). Email: info@grass-routes.com

KATA HILL - BEVERLY HILLS

Beautiful villa, 3 bedrooms, big pool/jacuzzi, garden, furnished. Quick sale from 20 million baht. NOW 16 MILLION BAHT. Tel: 081-788 8280 (English), 089-971 8399 (Thai).

MAIKHAO RANCH



for sale. 1 bed, 2 baths on 1,300sqm of land. Wooden ranch with natural lotus pond. 500 meters to West Sands, less than a kilometer to beach. Tel: 087-271 4484, 082-288 0581. Email: supha2007@hotmail.com

NEW HOUSE KHAO LAK



Near Palm Garden Resort, 3 bedrooms, 4 toilets/shower, 6 rai land. Only 12 million baht. Tel: 081-978 0907 for more info. Email: dao01978 0907kl@yahoo.com

RAWAI NEAR CHALONG, NICE

3 rai 10 plots for 10 houses with pool. Price: 5.4 Million baht per rai. Wanted: developer/builder to start. Negotiable terms. Tel: 087-388 7702 (English & Thai), 084-850 7106 (English). Email: pkeowan@gmail.com

PHUKET HOUSE & OFFICE

Living room, 5 bedrooms, 1 Office, 4 WCs with shower, 1 business room, 1 store, 1 garden house. Asking price: 13 million baht. Email: khonkaener@hotmail.ch http://www.thai-swiss.ch/Immobilien.immobiliien.0.html?&L=0

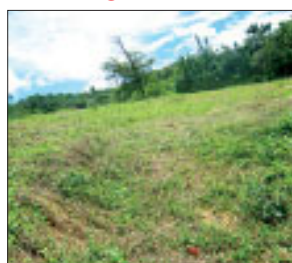
NAI HARN/RAWAI SPACIOUS

1 bedroom, long lease hold apartment with pool, balcony and nice views, 1.75 million baht or 38,000 Euro. Tel: 086-684 5368. Email: bisop5@yahoo.co.uk

PATONG TOWER URGENT SALE

Freehold, lease hold. Start 4.7 million baht. Tel: 081-878 2199. Email: orso.realestate@gmail.com

2 RAI IN AO MAKHAM



Chanote, in Soi Rat-U-Thit 1, public utility area. easy access in and out. Just 12 million baht for both rai. Tel: 076-522938, 087-689 9679, 089-588 5458. Email: tasuwan@hotmail.com

SURIN BEACH

Land on Soi Haad Surin 2 for sale. 2.2 Rai, 5 min walk to Surin Beach. Email: costello@hotmail.net.au

LAND AT CHERNG TALAY

900 sqm, 2.6 million baht. Tel: 086-047 2463 (Eng), 086-161 1136. (Thai).

3 DOUBLE BEDROOMS HOUSE

or sale. Preusachart Lakeview, Land and Houses Park. Beautiful, peaceful setting on the lagoon. Fully furnished with quality new and antique pieces, 3 double bedrooms, 1 ensuite with jacuzzi. Maid room and covered washing area. Email for full details and pictures to: lowprofile@mail.com

SEA VIEW CONDO

Sale/rent new condo. 2 bedrooms, kitchen, balcony, pool, WiFi, parking. Tel: 084-851 0703. Email: st@kl.lv

NEW HOUSE IN NAI HARN-RAWAI



for sale or rent. 3-story villa, sea view, hill view, garden, pool, 4 bedrooms with 2 en-suite bathrooms, 6 bathrooms, ADSL, Jacuzzi. Big living room, kitchen/dining, laundry room. 5 aircons. 8m x 3.5m private pool. 2 parking spaces. Tel: 081-677 9837, 089-646 4786. Email: sync_koji@hotmail.com

SURIN APARTMENT

150m from the beach. 1 b/r, pool access. Great view. 4.99 million baht. Call or mail for further details. Tel: 02-076350. Email: jgstryker@gmail.com

48 RAI KHAO LAK / BANG SAK

250m from the beach. Chanote, Nor Sor 3. Only 1.7 million baht. Call or mail for further info. Tel: 080-522 4089 (English), 081-397 4957 (Thai). Email: kamala@phuket.ksc.co.th

HOUSE IN SOI SAIYUAN

3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms with swimming pool fully furnished 9.5 million. Tel: 081-737 1678 (English & Thai). Email: supotpac@phuket.ksc.co.th

3 RAI LAND IN TRANG



for sale. 3 rai in Baan Po, Muang, Trang. Very good location for business, suitable for house projects. Electricity, access road. Sale by owner. With Chanote. Price: 9 million baht ono. No agents please! Tel: 075-210646, 087-270 9093.

KATA BEACH CENTER

Nice apt/suite, 65sqm. Pool, parking, luxury furniture. PRICE: 3.8 MILLION BAHT. 50% FINANCE AVAILABLE. Telephone: 081-788 8280 (for English), or 089-971 8399 (for Thai).

PANORAMIC SEAVIEW

Koh Klang Lanta Krabi. 27 rai, Chanote title 2.7 million baht per rai. Electric present, asphalt road. Email: famar5@hotmail.com

SHOPHOUSE

12 mos old, 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, kitchen, 1 aircon unit, furniture. Rent: 24,000 baht per month. 3.8 million baht, pay 3.6 million. A bargain! Tel: 080-522 3357 (English), 086-476 2093 (English & Thai). Email: kcoyle@pinn.net

URGENT SALE

Beautiful, seaview, land plot, near Mission Hills, 3 rai. Sale direct from owner. 9.5 million baht for all. Tel: 081-343 0777.

APARTMENT IN NAI HARN

for sale. Palm Beach Resort, 102sqm, private owner free hold, new top floor, 2 bedrooms, swimming pool, fitness, mini tennis club house, security in Nai Harn, minutes to beach. 5.7 million baht. Tel: 089-593 6815. Email: shmaen2006@hotmail.it

KRABI, AO-NANG POOL VILLAS

Land area 320sqm., 2 bedrooms. 6-7 million baht. Second home with strong rental income. Tel: 087-897 7380. Email: mrxelmay@gmail.com

KATHU HOUSE

for sale. Kathu area, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, on 2 floors, parking area, chanote, aircon, WiFi. Tel: 081-415 6415.

PARICHART VILLAGE, CHALONG



35/20 Soi 1. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 aircons, some furniture, 50sq wah, garden. For sale or for long-term rent. Must see. Contact Nina. Tel: 087-689-9679. Email: tasuwan@hotmail.com

NEW DETACHED HOUSE



for sale in Phanason 3, Thalang. 253.25sqm, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, double garage, furnished and landscaped garden. 2.95 million baht. Contact Phing. Tel: 087-278-0067. Email: sweetpinkylive.co.uk

YACHT FOR HOUSE

Trade your property for 48' luxury yacht+business. Based in Greece. 249,000 Euro. For further details, please see our website at http://www.hpyachtcharter.com

PHUKET HOUSE & OFFICE

Living room, 5 bedrooms, 1 Office, 4 WCs with shower, 1 business room, 1 store, 1 garden house. Asking price: 13 million baht. Email: khonkaener@hotmail.ch http://www.thai-swiss.ch/Immobilien.immobiliien.0.html?&L=0

4 BEDROOM POOL VILLA

for sale. Stylish pool villa in Patong. Spacious living, 3 mins to beach. Email: ooy76@hotmail.com

LUXURY CONDO

for sale/rent. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. 106sqm. Cape Panwa. 4.9 million baht. Tel: 082-179 8150. Email: davenatland67@yahoo.com

Would you like to keep up on what's happening in Phuket - the good, the bad and the bizarre? Let us share it with you - every week!

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Property Gazette

NICE HOUSE 88 SQ WAH



4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 aircons, sofa, cable TV. Near Jomthong Village on Khwang Rd. 6.5 million baht. Tel: 086-774 2034. Email: hataimata@hotmail.com

DETACHED HOUSE

2 bedrooms, 2 wc, 4 meter wide garden. 50.5sq wah, Thepkasattri Rd. 2.8 million baht. Contact Kant. Tel: 081-477 6657.

BEACH LAND KHAO LAK 5 RAI

Beautiful 5 rai of Chanote land. Hard to find better than this, next to 5-star resort. 118m of beach front, stunning property. Tel: 081-649 3557 (English). Email: ken@phuketlifestyle.com For further details, please see our website at <http://www.phuketlifestyle.com>

TOWNHOUSE, 2 STOREY



opposite Boat Lagoon. 24sq wah, 3 beds, 2 baths. Email: info@allaboutwebanddesign.com

TWO NICE VILLAS

Two nice villas from private party. In Nai Ham: 1,600sqm. And in Chalong: 740sqm. See link to website below for details. Tel: 087-823 7371. Email: holgersaue750@hotmail.com For further details, please see our website at www.villa-sophia-phuket.com

BEAUTIFUL NAI YANG LAND



9.5 rai, beachfront. 5 minutes to Phuket airport. Asking price: 120 million baht. Chanote. Must see. No agents. Please contact via by email: allservices29@gmail.com

BEAUTIFUL HOUSE, FULLY FURNISHED



Ready to move in, 254 sqm. 2 floors. Near Downrungs school, Laemchan area, close to Phuket Town, nice living room and garden, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, fully furnished, 2 car parks, very nice and quiet area. Price: 6.8 million baht. Tel: 081-541 2025.

TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE OR RENT



In Moobaan Tinawut, Samkong, close to Yada Dental Clinic. 2 connected buildings, 2 floors, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. For rent: 12,000 baht per month, sale: 2.8 million baht. Tel: 081-597 6302, 081-597 9441.

2-STOREY HOUSE IN PATONG



sea view. Hasip Pee Road, 49sqw. 4 bedrooms with balconies, 2 bathroom, air-con, fully furnished. Chanote. Price 17 million baht ono. Tel: 087-270 9093. Email: a.pueng@gmail.com

LAND AT PATONG BEACH

Cheap land for sale at North end of Patong Beach. Has access road, good water supply, and underground utilities. Very quiet, natural location, 2 mins to beach. Land plots range from 500sqm to 1,400sqm. Part of an existing small development. Tel: 081-891 3466 (English). Fax: 076-296160. Email: antc@phuket.ksc.co.th

QUICK SALE HOUSE IN CHALONG

94sq wah, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 2 car park, big garden, full furnished. Price 4.5 million baht. Tel: 087-886 4208.

THE ROYAL PLACE

4th floor unit with 2 balconies. Approx area: 42sqm. Fully furnished, ready to move in. Please email: info@allaboutwebanddesign.com

YACHT FOR HOUSE

Trade your property for 48' luxury yacht+business. Based in Greece. 249,000 Euro. For further details, please see our website at <http://www.hpyachtcharter.com>

KAMALA BEACH

New apartments and houses, furnished Western style, aircon, cable, internet, quiet, security. 6 million baht. Tel: 083-645 3546.

TWIN VILLAS AT NAI YANG



Only 600 meters from beautiful Nai Yang beach, this modern pool villa is perfectly located. Featuring a chic, clean-cut design coupled with a choice selection of quality materials and furniture, this villa is a promising investment for holiday seekers and permanent residents. Price: Bt10.2mil. Contact Khun Penprapa. Tel: 087-898 9646. Email: penprapa2526@gmail.com

HOUSE & BUSINESS, RAWAI

Land and house with 2 successful businesses (Laundry and Coffee Shop) for sale. Good location between Nai Ham and Rawai in developing area. Price: 6.5 million baht. Tel: 076-388484, 081-891 3264 (English & Thai). Email: bergman.brittmarie@telia.com

NICE PLOT BEHIND LAYAN HILL ESTATE



Manik area, 4.7million baht. Chanote title, good for pool villas. Tel: 081-538 7050.or email: talayjan@yahoo.com

HEAVEN ON EARTH



5 bedroom Thai style villa in Phuket. Magnificent Phang-Nga Bay sea view. 3 big bedrooms are ensuite with seaview. Private swimming pool. Land plot 730.8 sqm. construction area approx. 573 sqm. Full security service. Located at Rommai Chailay Estate. 24.9 million baht. Tel: 089-474 2234.

KATA OCEAN VIEW 4.9 MTB

Luxury, 90sqm. Click link below for more details. Tel: +1-408-627 5793. Email: maurick1@yahoo.com For further details, please see our website at <http://oceanviewkata.shutterfly.com>

RAWAI HOUSE

2-story, 3-bed, 3-bath house with self contained Bungalow on 720 sq meters of land in a quiet part of Rawai. 6.8 million baht. No agents, please. Tel: 087-628 3673 (Thai), 081-078 1112 (English). Email: islanderbar3@hotmail.com

NEW HOUSE IN THE BANYAN VILLA



for sale. 3.4 million baht, near Land and Houses Park. 29.5sq wah, 2 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, hill view, common pool, club house. Tel: 089-873 1009 (English), 081-893 8524.

GIANT DEAL

The island's best buy! Villa with pool in Patong. Highest offer, bid wanted by April 10. Display 5pm-7pm. Tel: 083-176 7676. Email: erik.blodoks@gmail.com

RAWAI TOWNHOUSE

NEW 4 apartments/suites, furnished, pool and big terrace. **FORCED TO SELL. TOTAL PRICE: 7.5 MILLION BAHT.** Tel: 081-788 8280 (English), 089-971 8399 (Thai).

NATAI LAND FOR SALE

4 rain 1 ngan, 50 square wah (7,000sqm) of land on main road, 2 km to Natai Beach. 2 million baht per rai. Email: nisaya@hotmail.com

NEW CONDO PATONG

Brand new one bedroom fully furnished, freehold. Email: jgkg24@hotmail.com

2 HOUSES IN PATONG



for sale. Live in 1 and rent the other or sold separately. 5.1 million baht each, fully furnished, well kept, 2 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, Western kitchen. Center of Patong, 2 minutes to Jungceylon. Contact owner at Tel: 087-2793312. www.phukethouseapartment.com

LAKESHORE TOWNHOME

for sale or rent. 16-room large Lersuang apartment, long-term. 27,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-724 3237.

NEW HOUSE KAMALA BEACH

Western style, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, fully furnished, aircon, phone, ADSL, quiet. Mountain view, close to beach. 5 million baht. Tel: 083-645 3546.

DETACHED HOUSE

3 bedrooms, 2 wc, 4 meter wide garden. 68sq wah, Thepkasattri Road. 3.6 million baht. Contact Kant. Tel: 081-477 6657.

KATA BEACH CENTER

6th floor. 2 bedroom apartment, 140sqm. Includes luxury furnishing, POOL, PARKING. SPECIAL PRICE: 8.9 MILLION BAHT. Tel: 081-788 8280 (English), 089-971 8399 (Thai).

3 BEDROOMS HOUSE

for sale. 62sq wah, 2 bathrooms, Villa Dawroong. 4.5 million baht. Contact Khun Tar. Tel: 076-377052, 089-971 1268.

SEA VIEW CONDO

Sale/rent new condo. 2 bedrooms, kitchen, balcony, pool, WiFi, parking. Tel: 084-851 0703. Email: st@kl.lv

VERY NICE SEAVIEW LAND



same as Soi Villas Solitude, Na-Kok, Chalong. 8 rai land for sale, Chanote title. Can buy separate. Price 7 million baht per rai. Contact to see. Tel: 087-689 9679.

RESORT AT NAI YANG

Approx land size: 6 rai, 71 Sq Wah. Nor Sor Sam. Please call for more details. Tel: 086-279 8050. Email: taan_ty@hotmail.com

NEW TEAK HOUSE

2 bedrooms, 2 baths, 84/460sqm, terrace + pool! From 5.9 million baht. Land plot near Boat Lagoon. Construction time: 3 months! Tel: 076-325085, 086-281 1264 (English). Email: ts-teak@contexphuket.com

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Property Gazette

Properties For Rent

PATONG APARTMENT

1 and 2 bedrooms, seaviews, large pool, balconies, parking, European kitchen, lounge, ensuite, UBC, aircon. From 20,000 baht per month. Contact Mike. Tel: 087-268 1170. www.luxuryhousesphuket.com

3 MODERN HOUSES, 1 WITH POOL

Tel: 053-180647, 089-874 4050 (English), 081-271 1082 (Thai). For rent from 22 to 35,000 baht per mo. Long term only. Mail or phone. Email: joswanna@gmail.com.

2 BEDROOM HOUSE FOR RENT

Garden, kitchen, car park, cable TV, internet. Only 10,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-476 9598, 080-521 9888 (English & Thai). Or please send email: somin_s@yahoo.com

3 BR, 3 A/C 20,000 BAHT RENT/SALE

Fully furnished + appliances. Email: cphotsom@hotmail.com See details, pics and map at <http://www.ddproperty.com/property/show/22800>. Tel: 083-299 7257 (English & Thai) or 086-465 4674 (English & Thai).

LUXURY VILLA FOR RENT/SALE

3 or 4 bedrooms, fully furnished, peaceful location, big garden with private pool. Tel: 087-893 8747.

PATONG CONDO

56 sq meters, furnished, pool, cable TV, 400 meters from the beach. Long term (3, 6, or 12 months): 19,000 baht a month. Tel: 084-058 2410 (English). Email: jaques.carl@yahoo.com

B.L. APARTMENT

New in Kathu. Big rooms, 1 bedroom, 1 living room, aircon, cable TV, ADSL, hot shower, garden, car park. 8,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-6923163.

HOUSE FOR RENT IN PATONG

- 1.5km from Patong Beach and 15 minutes to Phuket Town.
- 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, 1 living room, fully furnished
- Rent: 7,000 baht per month. Please contact K. Somboon. Tel: 076 - 274382, 081-677-5136 (English & Thai).

HOUSE IN RAWAI

3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, Thai style, garden, Rawai - Nai Harn Road. Fully furnished. Long-term rent. 35,000 baht per month. Includes weekly cleaning, power and water. Available from April 1st, 2010. Email: rawaihome@yahoo.de

PATONG LUXURY APARTMENT

2 bedrooms, ADSL, large swimming pool 2 levels 200sqm. Long or short term. Tel: 086-279-0837.

BEAUTIFUL CONDO FOR RENT

Great value ground floor condo with 50m pool near to Surin and Bangtao beaches. 25,000 baht per month. Email: lisar_ryder@yahoo.co.uk. W.youtube.com/watch?v=leZ7635xK

FOR RENT LONG TERM

Minimum 6 months. Kata Beach Center. Very luxurious apartment/suite of 65sqm. Comes with pool and parking. 35,000 baht per month. Telephone: 081-788 8280 (for English) or 089-971 8399.

3 & 4 BED POOL VILLAS

Chalong v.n.green location, A/C, Furnished, ADSL, 35K & 50K per mth (neg). Tel: 076-383792, 086-281 7605 (English). Email: nigelnpixie@yahoo.com.au

VILLAS IN RAWAI

2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully furnished, cable TV, ADSL, internet, club pool, gym. Available end of April. Tel: 083-641 9327.

CONDO FOR RENT



The newly built The Royal Place condo opposite Tesco Lotus bypass. 45 sqm. 3 Fl. at the corner with swimming pool view. 2 balconies. 1 bedrm, 1 bathrm, kitchen (microwave, washing machine, refrigerator) living room, 2 air cons, TV flatron, telephone, cable TV. Share pool, restaurant, laundry service, key card with 24 security and car park. Tel: 086-4769612.

MODERN HOUSE NEAR BANGTAO BEACH



Fully furnished, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 aircon, hot water, washing machine, ADSL, WiFi, tel, garden. 10 minutes to Bang Tao beach. Price 18,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-795 6363. Email: sara_supertik@yahoo.co.th

PATONG TOWER

Modern 1 bedroom condo for long-term rent on beach road. Contact for more information. Tel: 084-847 3304. Website: www.selectphuket.com

NEW PATONG APARTMENTS

1-, 2-, and 3-bedroom units. WiFi, gym and 2 swimming pools. Rents from 22,000 baht per month and up. Good location & value. Tel: 087-077 8454 (English), 081-137 1001 (Thai). Email: solitude001@aol.com

450,000 BAHT YEARLY LEASE



Rawai pool guesthouse, 6 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, 4 motorbikes, WiFi, cable TV. 300m from sea, brand new. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

TOWN HOUSE AT 'THE SANDS'

2 bedroom house with Sands facilities. 35,000 baht per month. Available May to November. Email: jack@arden craig.fsnet.co.uk. For further details, please see our website at houseinphuket.com/houses/STR/a0014/

PHUKET VILLA DAORUNG



House for rent, 55sq wah, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, no phone line, unfurnished. 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-270 9093.

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Special offer

Phase I houses for long-term rent. Very private with mountain view, 2 bedrooms, living room, bathroom, kitchen, fully furnished, sat TV, ADSL, UBC.

Contact: 089-7243669
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2 and 3 bedroom, 2 bath room, with sea view. 115sqm inside with a huge 50sqm terrace, teak kitchen, furnished, long term preferred, 25,000/month. Tel: 084-840 1262. Or email: north8east98@yahoo.com

FULLY FURNISHED HOUSE

2 bedrooms, 2 aircon, hot shower, free internet, cable TV. 12,000 baht per month. Near Chalong Bay, Palai. Tel: 081-8924 311.

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New luxury studio in Patong, 46sqm, swimming pool, fully furnished. More details please contact. Tel: 089-728 4005. Email: thamad17@yahoo.com

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New apartments and houses, furnished Western style, aircon, cable, internet, quiet, security. 14,000-18,000 baht. Tel: 083-645 3546.

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3-5 bedrooms, pool, jacuzzi. Private area, maid service. Cable & internet, garden. Tel: 081-691 3029. Email: kris_silanachai@yahoo.com

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Near Palai beach, 3 beds, 2 baths, aircon, furnished, cable TV. ADSL, long-term. Tel: 086-944 4885.

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Quiet couple looking for a house to rent in the Patong area. What we need: 1-2 bedrooms/bathrooms in a townhouse/house with a gate. Must be furnished and have Internet or the ability to install it. 6-month to 1-year lease. Budget: 15,000-20,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-078 1559 (English). For further details, please send email to: matty prubin@gmail.com

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Villa over 15 units for management or long term rent w/ option to buy later. Rawai or Naiham Beach. Please contact for further details. Tel: 086-143 7915. Email: hyipme@lire.de

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Accommodation Available

APARTMENT IN KATHU

58sqm, 1 bedroom, living room, kitchen, bathroom, terrace, pool, fan/air con, cable TV, ADSL, long-term rent: 12,000 baht/month, short-term: 700 baht/day. Tel: 081-891-6632.

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KATHU GOLF PENTHOUSE 135SQM

Condo, 5th floor, 2 bedroom with big living room, terrace, complete Western kitchen, partially furnished, nice view around. For long term rent or sale. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-293149, 081-824 1385 (English). Fax: 076-293149. Email: jbiwo@csloxinfo.com

PATONG SEA VIEW CONDO

Studio, 50sqm, Western kitchen. WiFi. 11th floor, nice sea view. Resort pool, long or short term rent. Also for sale. Tel: 076-293149, 081-824 1385. Fax: 076-293149. Email: jbiwo@csloxinfo.com

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Spacious luxury apartment, quiet location, swimming pool, WiFi, very beautiful. 25,000 baht. Tel: 086-2790837. Email: bricothailand2@hotmail.com

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Apartment for long term rent. 8,000-20,000 baht per month. Room from 600-1,500 baht per night. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-512151, 089-290 9567. Email: info@brommathaihouse.com For further details, please see our website at www.brommathaihouse.com

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Small kitchen, fridge, E-cooker, fully furnished. European style, aircon, fan, internet, TV, safe, bathroom, hot-cold water. 8,000 baht per month. From April 1st, 2010. Tel: 084-845 0541, 081-891 4561

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STUDIO APARTMENT IN PATONG

For rent. 46sqm, fully furnished, swimming pool. Daily - Monthly. Tel: 089-728 4005. Email: thamad17@yahoo.com

HOTEL ROOM FOR 600 BAHT

Brand new hotel type apartments for rent in Rawai (near Tesco Lotus). Tel: 085-472 0542 (English). Email: jens@paradiisisaar.ee

RAWAI APARTMENT

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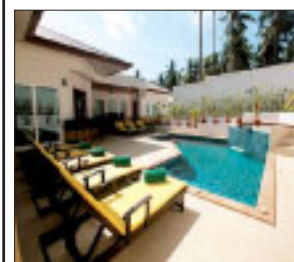
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A/C, WATER FILTER CCTV FOR SALE

A/C 26,000 BTU, R/O Water Filter, CCTV 4-camera system for sale. Tel: 084-065 8036. Email: Imarrable@hotmail.com

NICE NEW CLOTHES HORSE

Aluminium quality. Just bought it new at HomeWorks for 1,400 baht. For sale now at only 700. Moving sale. Tel: 084-065 8036. Email: philip.seiffert@web.de

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A very original boat, one of only 3 on Phuket. Converted to cruising and pleasure boat, ideal for family or charter with seating for up to 12 guests. She has a fully enclosed WC compartment and is fitted with a 2006 4-stroke Yamaha 250hp outboard engine with full service history, giving top speed in excess of 20 + kts Lying Laem Him pier. Asking 1.15M THB.

HER 10 METRE SISTER SHIP is also for sale. She is identical in design but being 2 metres shorter has seating for up to 10 guests and a 2006 4-stroke Yamaha 200hp outboard with full service history, giving top speed in excess of 20 + kts. Lying Laem Him. Asking 1M THB.

Both boats are locally built and are perfect for area conditions. Ideal for anyone looking to start a charter business with a difference.

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 Year 2005. Mercruiser 350MAG MPI 300hp. FWC 250 hours, sleeps 6, toilet, macerator stove MW windlass trailer dinghy + 6hp 4st Suzuki, davit system gen Honda 2KW. Thai reg. just imported from USA. Price 2.5 million baht. Tel: 082-959 5324.

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 20.5m, 12 berths, would make up market live aboard dive boat or private yacht full a/c US\$1,300,000. For further details, please see our website at www.boatshedphuket.com

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PESCOTT WHITEHAVEN 11.8
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B-R SPRAY 33F ST
 Sailboat, good condition. Price 800,000 baht. Tel: 084-112 1419. Email: g2lander@gmail.com

REGAL 3560 FOR SALE
 38 feet, 2004, 2x petrol 4 stroke Volvo Penta 8.1 Gxi. 1000hp. Great price. Tel: 087-893 8747. Email: billeby@comnet.ca

DUNCANSON 30, 1996
 Cruising & racing sails. Website: www.boatshedphuket.com

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 Great condition. 89,000 Euros. Website: www.boatshedphuket.com

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HIRING NOW



The majestic Centara Grand Beach Resort Phuket is now seeking to recruit its pre-opening team in preparation for a soft opening in mid August 2010. This 262 room 5 star property, with its distinctive Sino-Portuguese architecture, occupies an exclusive and stunning beach-front location on Karon Beach and is certain to be a spectacular addition to the shores of Phuket.

The Centara Grand Beach Resort Phuket will be offering the very finest accommodation, including Pool Villas, Pool Suites and Premium Club rooms, all with sea views. Dining options are varied and creative and the meeting & function spaces are large and flexible featuring several indoor and outdoor options. The exceptional leisure facilities available are highlighted by a water-park, 5 pools, beach and water sports centre, as well as a children's recreation club, a well appointed fitness centre and SPA Cenwaree.

We are seeking applications from dynamic and talented individuals who share our passion for providing warm and caring levels of customer service. You should be highly motivated, confident and enthusiastic about creating unprecedented service experiences for all.



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- HR Supervisor
- HR Officer
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- Canteen Chef
- Building Manager (in charge of staff complex, Laundry & Bakery)
- Chief Security
- Security Supervisor

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- Senior Supervisor
- Engineering Supervisor
- Chief Gardener

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- Executive Baker
- Pastry Chef
- Chef de Partie
- Demi Chef de Partie
- Chef Butcher
- Pastry Chef
- Chief Steward
- Steward Supervisor

Housekeeping

- Assistant Executive Housekeeper
- Tailor Supervisor
- Floor Supervisor
- Laundry Manager
- Laundry Supervisor

Sales & Marketing

- Sales & Public Relations Manager

Sport Recreation & Spa

- Leisure Supervisor
- Spa Manager
- Senior Spa Attendant

Finance

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- IT Manager
- IT Supervisor
- A/P Supervisor
- A/R Supervisor
- Income Auditor
- Chief Store
- Chief Cashier
- General Cashier
- Secretary & Paymaster
- AP Officer
- AR Officer
- Night Auditor
- Receiving Supervisor
- Purchasing Manager
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- Reservation Agents
- Guest Relations Manager
- Guest Service Officer
- Guest Service Supervisor
- Front Desk Supervisor
- Front Desk Agent
- Call Centre Officer
- Call Center Supervisor
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683 Patak Road, Karon Beach, Karon, Muang, Phuket 83110
Tel: 076-298689 Fax: 076-298690
Email: cpbr.recruit@chr.co.th

www.centarahotelsresorts.com



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SALA Resorts and spas is a home grown Thai hospitality company which owns and operates three luxury resorts in the Kingdom.

We are looking for the following professionals:

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- Guest Relations Office (Male)
- Driver / Bellman

Accounting

- Cashier

Engineering

- Carpenter/Painter

Houskeeping

- Room Attendant (Female)

Kitchen

- Cook Commis 1

If you have what it takes and you would like to join our dynamic team, please forward your CV or contact our Human Resources Dept. Contact details below.

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333 Moo3, Maikhao, Thalang, Phuket 83110
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Fax: 66 (0)76 338 889
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Should know how to wash/dry hair, manicure, pedicure. Must speak English. Good salary. Tel: 084-838 2304. Email: hamuenst@yahoo.de

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American Red Cross is seeking 2 short-term Administration Clerks for approx. 5 months to assist with arranging, scanning and filing documents. Competitive salary offered.

Preferred qualifications:

- High School or Vocational Education
- Knowledge of computers is mandatory
- Experience with office equipment will be advantage

Interested candidates can walk in during 09:00 am - 05:00 pm on April 19, 2010 at American Red Cross, Phuket office, 100/158-9 Moo 5, Srisuchart Village, Chakempkrakiat R.9, T.Rasada, A. Muang, Phuket 83000. Or contact Khun Apichaya at Tel.076.376.253 ext. 104 for more information.

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- Thai female age 25-35 years old
- Bachelor's degree with experience in sales
- Strong communication skills with clients
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- Must be prepared to work six days a week
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Please send CV with recent photo and expected salary to info@dgallery.co.th

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T. +66 (0) 76 360867 F. +66 (0) 76 360 868
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www.dgallery.co.th

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For a luxury restaurant in Patong, we need 5 waitresses, 1 bartender, 1 bartendee, and 2 cleaners. Good interpersonal skills, English speaking. Tel: 085-679 3808 (English). Please send your CV to email: ilpalazzo.phuket@gmail.com

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Atsumi healing requires full time receptionist 6 days per week, 9-6pm. Must have BA or higher and excellent English skills. Email resume to info@atsumihealing.com. Starting salary: 13,000 baht per month. Tel: 076-288-075, 081-272 0571 (English & Thai). Email: shell@atsumihealing.com. For further details, please see our website at http://atsumihealing.com

DETOX CONSULTANT

Atsumi Healing center is looking for a full time Western Fasting consultant (preferably male). Must have a keen interest in and knowledge of health, the human body, yoga and meditation. Full training will be provided. Tel: 084-855 7803 (English). Please email resume to shell@atsumihealing.com. For further details please visit our website at http://atsumihealing.com

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This is an opportunity for an experienced chef who has worked in the 4-5 star hotel sector and has knowledge about Sushi. A very generous salary is on offer for the right candidate. Tel: 080-6963183.

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REQUIREMENTS:

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- ▶ Minimum 6 years hands-on working experience in property development and building construction
- ▶ Able to lead a team of consultants and contractors effectively
- ▶ Strong project management skills with experience in managing multi-disciplined projects
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