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Phuket Gazette

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Violent crime skyrockets

PHUKET has suffered a sharp increase in violent crime over the past 12 months, according to statistics recently released by the Phuket Provincial Police.

The figures compare numbers of reported crime cases for fiscal years 2009 and 2010 (from October 1 to September 30).

They show a 72.9% increase in reported cases of "heinous crimes": group muggings, armed robbery, premeditated murder, kidnapping and arson.

There were a total of 102 such cases reported in the past year.

Premeditated murders rose by 18.4% year-on-year, with 28 people arrested in 45 reported cases in 2010.

Despite large increases in the number of armed robberies and muggings (133%) and "group muggings" (366.7%), general theft cases were down 21% year-on-year, with 494 cases in 2010.

There were 42 reports of armed robbery and muggings, with 41 arrests, over the past year.

During the same period, there were 14 cases of "group robbery", with 12 people arrested.

Group robbery is defined as theft carried out by three or more people using violence, weapons or other forms of intimidation.

Water woes prompt series of 'mini-dams'

By Janpen Upatising

DESPITE recent heavy downpours, a pilot project in the hills of Kathu is being aimed at alleviating the long-term water supply woes for the Prince of Songkla University (PSU) Phuket campus.

The campus is home to more than 3,000 staff and students.

The project, headed by Bangkok Hospital Phuket (BHP), involves three weirs, or "mini-dams", being built on the hillside.

The first weir, so far the only one completed, fills three 6,000-liter tanks that will feed into the campus' water supply mains while being replenished by the rain runoff from the hills.

"A PSU research project has showed that 70% of the rain that falls on Phuket flows straight back into the sea. Phuket needs to have better water-retention management," said Project Manager Pareeya Jullaphong.

The PSU has its own water reservoir with a capacity of 500,000 cubic meters.

However, Jaron Kueachoo, PSU's Head of Buildings and Location department, explained, "The



NATURAL SOLUTION: An army engineer installs piping at the site in the Kathu hills. Photo: Janpen Upatising

water level in our reservoir has fallen three meters. There is enough to supply our people this year, but I am still concerned about it in the long run."

To help build the weirs, army engineers were called in from the Internal Security Operations Command (ISOC) Fourth Region in Narathiwat.

"For construction materials, we

try to use natural elements – sand, rocks and bamboo – that we already have at our disposal in the construction area. However, some cement is needed in some parts," said Colonel Roengrit Chaloeerkerk, who heads weir construction projects in all three southern border provinces.

Issara Anugul, chief of the Phuket Provincial Irrigation Office

(PPIO) Water Management Department, commended the project, despite the recent heavy rains nearly replenishing all the island's main reservoirs to capacity – and some of them to overflowing.

"We will have enough water to use for the upcoming dry [and "tourist high"] season. I think we will have water to use until the end of May next year," he added.

Relief effort launched for flood victims

AN OPERATIONS center set up at Phuket Provincial Hall this week has been accepting donations to help the more than 100,000 people affected by devastating floods in Thailand's central and northeastern regions.

As this newspaper went to print, 12 people had died so far from the floods, with tens of thousands more displaced.

Nakhon Ratchasima, the worst hit province, had to evacuate one of its main hospitals.

The center, organized jointly by the Phuket Provincial Office and Red Cross

Phuket, is accepting donations of items such as dried or sealed food, drinks, clothing and medicine.

The center is open from 8:30am to 4:30pm daily. It is located in the new building at the Provincial Hall complex.

From Saturday (October 23), the center will shut down and the local office of the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM) will take on the responsibility of accepting donations.

The Phuket DDPM office is located on Damrong Rd, opposite Provincial Hall.

For more information about the Provincial Hall collection center call 076-216118.

Meanwhile, Kusoldharm Rescue Foundation President Benjawan Tamphanuwat announced that 2,000 packs of dry food provided by the foundation were to be despatched on Thursday, bound for people in need in Nakhon Ratchasima.

The Kusoldharm Foundation is continuing to accept donations at its headquarters on Takuapa Road in Phuket Town. For more details call 076-246301 or 076-246599.

– Pimwara Choksakulpan



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This Week

Across the bay



New hospital coming soon in Krabi Town. **Page 5**

Phuket dialect dying out

A Phuket elder discusses the demise of the island's unique dialect. **Page 6**

Roll with it



Making your own spring rolls is easy with our chef's recipe. **Page 15**

Saving Rino's heart



Little Rino gets the money he needs for his operation. **Page 16**

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Everything you need at prices you can afford, from jobs to homes. **Pages 27-38**

Charity drive



Blue Canyon braces for an all-star line up at the Pro-Am. **Pages 39**

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New Westin resort reaches agreement with taxi co-op

By Pimwara Choksakulpan

A TAXI drivers co-operative will be allowed to operate a stand just outside the Westin Siray Bay Resort in Phuket, but only under certain conditions hammered out during a meeting with hotel management last week.

Local taxi co-operative Sirae Island Taxi Service earlier petitioned the hotel management to allow them to operate a stand at the luxury hotel, which opened at the start of August.

The drivers said resort guests were unaware of their services because they weren't visible from inside resort grounds.

Taxi access to the resort was restricted to vehicles operated by Hello Phuket, which has an agreement with the resort.

Phuket City Police Superintendent Wanchai Ekpormpit and Muang District Chief Supachai Pochanukul attended the latest meeting between co-op representatives and hotel management.

During that meeting, the hotel representatives agreed to let the co-op operate a stand at the resort, but only if they promised not



Phuket City Police Superintendent Wanchai Ekpormpit (center) meets with the taxi drivers at their sala outside the Westin resort earlier this month.

to stage protests, block Hello Phuket vehicles from accessing the resort or cause any other disturbances to resort operations.

The Westin Siray Bay Resort in return agreed not to allow in any other taxi operators, except for Hello Phuket.

Other conditions agreed to by the co-op were that the stand will be operated by a single English-

speaking representative from 9am to 9pm.

No co-op vehicles will be allowed into the resort parking lot. They must remain parked no closer than 200 meters from the main entrance until called for.

Taxi stand manager Praderm Klomsuwan said, "We will begin installing the taxi stand, which should be ready in two weeks."

Chula to open learning center near airport

CHULALONGKORN University's Sasin Graduate Institute of Business Administration is planning to develop a Sasin International Learning Center in Phang Nga. The center is to provide management education for both Thai and international executives.

The project covers a 50-rai plot of land 15 minutes from Phuket Airport, aimed at business people flying in for weekends.

Sasin director Toemsakdi Krishnamra said that because the world's economic focus has shifted from the West to Asia, the demand for quality managers in

the region will rise dramatically.

Once in operation, the center will produce premium-quality business leaders to serve business growth in Asia.

Prof Toemsakdi said the project is the realization of Sasin's vision "to be at the forefront of graduate management study in the Asia Pacific region and among leading international institutions of management education".

An architect has already been hired and the project's first phase is expected to be complete by the end of 2012.

- Krungthep Thurakij

Patong tout killer caught

SIX months after gunning down an ex-friend and colleague in Phuket, a former Patong tout is in police custody after his arrest in his home province of Nakhon Sri Thammarat.

Thung Thong Police arrested Viroon "Beer" Sudthue at a market in Kapang, Thung Song district, on October 11. He was helping his mother, a local fishmonger.

The suspect was presented to Phuket Provincial Police Commander Pekad Tantipong at Thung Thong Police Station in Kathu three days later.

Mr Viroon confessed to the murder, saying the April 15 slaying of Pornsak "James Patong" Thongbaiyai was driven by anger and vengeance after Mr Pornsak, also of Nakhon Sri Thammarat, betrayed him.

Mr Viroon told police the pair were once close friends who worked together as touts on Soi Bangla. However, Mr Pornsak's aggressive behavior and failure to respect Mr Viroon as his elder soured the friendship, police said.



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Public health workers cleaning up the streets of Patong. Photo: Gazette file

UN names Patong 'Role Model City'

THE United Nations has named Patong as a "role-model city" for disaster management planning.

The award ceremony, attended by Patong Deputy Mayor Chairat Sukhabaan, was held on October 13, a date designated as both International Day for Disaster Reduction and the Asean Day for Disaster Management.

The Municipality was selected because the UN deemed it had clear strategies and budget planning to help cope with a variety of disasters including tsunamis, fire, flooding, landslides and disease epidemics, according to the UN committee that picked the winners.

- Janpen Upatising

Official nabbed in meth bust

THE vice president of Kathu Municipality was among three people arrested in Phuket for the sale of *ya Ice* (crystal methamphetamine) last week.

Kathu Police Crime Suppression Inspector Akanit Danpitaksat identified the suspect as Somkuan Somboon, 44, arrested in a roadside sting operation in Kathu at about 4am October 15.

The successful sting operation followed the arrest, at about 1am the same day, of Wittaya "King" Gingjampa, 34.

Kathu Police, led by Lt Col Akanit, arrested Mr Wittaya in a home on Soi Trog Nam, off Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Road, with six bags of *ya Ice* weighing a total of nine grams.

Police then set up a sting operation that led to the arrest of fellow meth ring dealer Sineenart

"Ann" Niphath, 39. She was arrested in Patong with eight bags of *ya Ice*, with a total weight of about 10 grams.

Under questioning, the pair identified Mr Somkuan as their supplier.

Kathu Police then set up a sting operation in which Ms Sineenart agreed to be resupplied with three grams of the drug for 11,000 baht.

Mr Somkuan was arrested during a roadside rendezvous on Phra Phuket Kaew Road in Kathu and sent to nearby Thung Thong Police District to be charged.

The other two suspects were charged at Kathu Police Station, which has jurisdiction over Patong.

Body found in search for missing Russian tourist

By Sitthipong Nongkaew

LOCAL fishermen have found what is believed to be the body of Alexey Agaponov, a Russian tourist who went missing off Nai Thon Beach Monday afternoon.

Phuket Marine Police Lt Jirayuth Onthong told the *Gazette* that local fishermen informed them of the gruesome discovery at 6:30pm Wednesday.

Marine Police recovered the body from a rocky area at Koh Krata, a small islet near Layan Beach, Lt Jirayuth said.

Mr Agaponov disappeared in rough surf the same day the Russian Embassy in Bangkok confirmed that a 50-year-old Russian had drowned at Surin Beach, further south down the Phuket coastline.

In the search for Mr Agaponov, Lt Jirayuth said the waves were too strong and divers were initially unable to search for the body.

Mr Agaponov, 28, had gone swimming with his wife and another couple around noon on Monday.

"We warned them that it was dangerous to swim around that time and they said that they understood," said Surasak Bumroongrak, chief of the lifeguard



Marine Police head out on their search. Photo: Sitthipong Nongkaew

contingent assigned to the beach.

"First, they swam near our lifeguard station, but about an later they started to getting into trouble.

The two ladies were safe because they were close to the beach, but the men were further out playing in the waves," he said.

Mr Agaponov's male friend, who asked not to be named, was rescued by a tourist, Mr Surasak added.

One of the restaurant operators on the beach who saw the inci-

dent told the *Gazette*, "The sea was very rough that day."

Mr Agaponov was missing for about two hours before witnesses on the beach said they saw him floating near the rocks at the north end of the bay.

Whether or not Mr Agaponov was still alive at that time the witnesses could not confirm.

The body is at Thalang hospital for examination. Relatives have been called to identify the remains, police said.

Cynics rail against new road safety rule

NEARLY three-quarters of *Phuket Gazette* readers believe having to submit a doctor's certificate when applying for a driving license will make no difference to road safety in Thailand

Under new Transport Ministry regulations, all new license applicants, and those renewing licenses, will have to submit a doctor's certificate in order to ensure that health conditions - both physical and mental - will not adversely affect driving performance.

In our latest readers' poll, we asked readers if

they thought this would make the roads any safer. Of 333 respondents, 73.3% thought the new requirement would make no difference.

Those who identified themselves as foreign Phuket residents were far more cynical than Thai nationals and tourists, with 90% of expats dismissing the regulations as folly, many elaborating their views in the on-line readers' forum.

In contrast, 46% of tourists and Thais thought the regulations would have no affect.

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Murder victim ID's husband in dream

A MAN was arrested in Phitsanuloke after being fingered for murdering his young wife by an unlikely source: her ghost.

Four months after her disappearance, the spirit of Ratee Thongdee, 21, reportedly appeared to her mother, Somjit Jitprajak, in a dream and told her that she had been killed by her husband and buried under a mango tree near the couple's home.

The dream led to the discovery of Mrs Ratee's body under the tree. It also led to the arrest this month of her husband, Senee Thongdee, 27, for murder.

Police received a report on September 22 that a body had been discovered. At the scene, they found a skeleton that had been freshly exhumed from the ground underneath a mango tree. The front of the skull appeared to have been bashed with a blunt object.

Villagers insisted the body was that of Mrs Ratee, saying they recognized her clothing.

QUEER news

Mrs Somjit said her daughter was married to Mr Senee and that the couple had a son together.

Around two months ago, Mrs Somjit went to visit Mrs Ratee but she was not at home. Mr Senee told her that her daughter had run away from the house around two months earlier.

Later, Mrs Ratee appeared to her mother in a dream. According to Mrs Somjit, Mrs Ratee told her she had been murdered by her husband and buried underneath the mango tree behind the house.

The next day Mrs Somjit and some relatives dug a hole under the tree but failed to find anything. That night Mrs Ratee appeared to Mrs Somjit a second time. She told her

mother that she had dug in the right place, but not deep enough.

The next day the group dug deeper under the tree. This time they found a skeleton and police are awaiting results of tests to ascertain the identity of the body.

On October 11, police arrested Mr Senee. He reportedly confessed to killing his wife.

Mrs Ratee had been very good looking and other men were always trying to get involved with her, leading the couple to argue often, Mr Senee said.

On the day of the murder, Mr Senee arrived back from work to find his wife wasn't home. Later, he heard the sound of her talking to a young man outside the house.

He sneaked a look and saw that his wife was indeed talking to a man. He waited for the man to leave and then shot Mrs Ratee in the head. He buried her in the garden and went to tell the police she had gone missing, he said.

- Khao Sod



DRIFT AWAY: One of the ceremonial boats that will be drifted away at the upcoming ceremony. Photos: Rassada Municipality

Sea gypsies prepare for Loy Ruea festival

By Sitthipong Nongkaew

PHUKET sea gypsies will pay their respects to the ocean as part of the annual "Boat Floating" festival next week.

The event, organized by Rassada Municipality, will take place at Baan Laem Tukkae sea gypsy village on Koh Sireh from October 21 to 23.

Rassada Municipality Deputy Mayor Chaolerd Jitjumnong said the festival, known in Thai as *Loy Ruea*, is a unique cultural event that has been celebrated by villagers for many years. The municipality, which wants to preserve the tradition, is providing the funds for it, he said.

The festival takes place twice a year on the full moon nights of the sixth and 11th months of the lunar calendar.

Loy Ruea sees the villagers pay their respects to the spirit of the sea. Early in the morning on the final day, the villagers symbolically float their bad fortune out to sea in a boat. The event is also a chance for sea gypsy girls and boys to meet each other.

Around 4pm on the first day of the festival, villagers build the boat



Fashioning the boat.

and decorate it.

The next day at 10am, Rassada Municipality Mayor Surathin Leunudom will preside over the official opening ceremony.

Later there will be traditional dance performances and an ancestor worshipping ceremony at the village shrine.

The highlight of the festival will be the boat floating ceremony, which will take place around 5am on October 23. Festivities will continue throughout the day.

"Those who are interested in this unique festival are welcome to the village, but make sure you get there on time.

"If you want to see the boat being floated, you must come in the early morning of the last day," said Mr Chaolerd.

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The Cove for sale at Bt1.2bn

DEVELOPER Asian Tropical Homes (ATH) has announced that its 460-rai project The Cove Krabi is for sale at 1.242 billion baht.

The Cove Krabi site is at Haad Yao Beach, famed for its scenery in the hit movie *The Beach*.

The project was originally touted as Krabi's answer to Laguna Phuket, associated with such names as Colin Montgomerie as the golf course designer and various high-profile global glitterati as project ambassadors, said ATH in a press release issued this week.

"The potential and opportunities this particular site has to offer the right developer are boundless, anyone with vision will see and realize this" said ATH Group CEO John Grice.

However, he added, "Unfortunately this site will not now be developed by ATH...Due to the global economic and local political climate we have after five years decided, for the protection of our shareholders, to pass the opportunity onto someone else."

New hospital rising in Krabi



By Gus Reynolds and Lesley Chittayanon

DEVELOPMENTS underway, including a new private hospital being built in Krabi Town, have prompted much talk around town of more comprehensive medical care for Krabi residents in the near future.

The new hospital is being built on Pisalpop Road, near the junction with Maharat Road, where it is expected to provide improved medical care for Krabi residents, especially those living in or near the main town.

Most Krabi residents and tourists currently make the journey to Phuket, to either Phuket International Hospital or Bangkok Hospital Phuket, for advice or treatment of major health problems.

More good news for local residents seems to be on the way as



RISING HIGH: The new hospital under construction. Photo: Lesley Chittayanon

the Bangkok Hospital Group is reported to have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to open a clinic at the site of the new Port Takola Marina in the Baan Laempho section of Ao Nang.

The thinking is to open the clinic for the first two years and as the

marina and new residential communities are developed, the clinic can expand to become a small hospital.

It is reported the land plot they have selected is 10 rai, ample enough for the future expansion into a full hospital facility.

Meanwhile, another construction site in Krabi Town has also caused a buzz among the local community.

As a row of Krabi's oldest shophouses tumbled to the ground, rumors that Central Group had finally settled on a spot for their much-awaited Krabi mall raced around town.

However, a Central mall will not be constructed on this plot. Instead, a new four-story retail development called City Plaza will be built on the riverside site on Utarakit Road.

It is widely known that the Central retail giant has been in search of land, and rumors that the mall will be constructed on a 15-rai site outside of town are much more believable.

Over the past few years Krabi's shopping scene has grown.

Aside from the wide range of goods on offer in the large malls on the outskirts of town, the city center has attracted larger retailers. Among them the department store Vogue has introduced new lines of fashion clothing and chain brand food outlets in an effort to keep up with competitors.

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Death of Phuket's own dialect

By Sim Scudder and Stephen Fein

DEVELOPED over generations in isolation, Phuket's unique version of the southern Thai dialect is dying out, diluted by the huge influx of migrant workers, the tourism boom, mass media and a slew of other factors.

The Phuket dialect is unique. Compared with other versions of southern Thai, it tends to be slower and more flowing than the rapid-fire varieties found elsewhere. It is even considered "cute" or somewhat effeminate by some southerners.

"I was teased a lot by my other southern friends when I said words with "Y" and "W" sounds and for dropping "G" sounds. My friends tried to mimic the unique sound of the Phuket accent, but couldn't," said one resident.

At 93 years old, Cherng Talay native Chote Jumpada has witnessed enormous changes in his lifetime. "It is difficult to watch Phuket's unique language and customs disappear, but nothing can stay the same forever," he said with a sigh.

Although he predicts the Phuket dialect will be gone forever within a few decades, he still uses it with his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren as a way of passing it on. But it's an uphill battle. "When I want them to put ice in the glass I say *ao sueng sai jog*, but they say *ao namkhang sai gaew*," he explained.

Many of the disappearing words were imported from Hokkien Chinese, a legacy of the tin mining era. One such word that has enjoyed a comeback of sorts in recent years is *banzaan* (wet market). A market of the same name opened in Patong in 2005.

Dilok Vuttipanich, born in



Phuket-born Chote Jumpada, 93, is keeping local traditions alive.

Phuket 84 years ago, said the soft tone of the Phuket dialect comes across as polite to people from other parts of the south, even though final "politeness particles" like *krab* or *ka* are often dropped.

Dr Prasit Koeysiripong, who heads the Old Phuket Foundation, explained that many young people in Phuket now blend central Thai with the Phuket dialect.

"Even if they can speak with a Phuket accent, many no longer use the Phuket words. For example, in central Thai the word for 'wait' is *khoy*, but in Phuket it's *tah*, the same of the word for 'station' –

because when you go to a station you wait.

"So it's dying in two ways – vocabulary and accent – but we are trying in schools and privately to save it," Dr Prasit said.

Professor Sommai Pinphutasin, president of the Phuket Historical Interest Group, held Phuket's modern role as the cause for the demise of the island's own dialect.

"The island is a melting pot of people from other regions of Thailand, Asians and Europeans. This has a big impact on local language and culture," Prof Sommai said.

"Natives tend to use the language most easily understood by outsiders, so the local dialect is being used less in daily conversation. New generations, whose parents are not Phuket natives, blend the Phuket dialect with their parents' native tongue.

"The local dialect is not included in [most] school curriculum; students are prohibited from using it when talking with teachers.

"Also, it is now trendy for new parents to speak Bangkok Thai with their children at home, and younger Thais now blend the Bangkok and Phuket dialects.

"The result is that a new hybrid Phuket dialect is being created, while the old one fades away," he said.

English	Phuket Thai	Southern Thai
Why?	<i>sai</i>	<i>tam mai</i>
Again	<i>laow</i>	<i>eeg</i>
Why did you do it again?	<i>sai tam laow</i>	<i>tammai tam eeg</i>
How much is it? (price)	<i>gui baht</i>	<i>gee baht</i>
What time is it?	<i>theyy gui</i>	<i>gee mung</i>
Evening	<i>wan chai</i>	<i>ton yen</i>
Rambutan	<i>mortam</i>	<i>ngao</i>
Guava	<i>ya muw</i>	<i>farang</i>
Cabbage	<i>go rae chai</i>	<i>ga lum plee</i>
Bean sprouts	<i>tao ngae</i>	<i>tou ngog</i>
Ice cream	<i>ged leng</i>	<i>i-thim</i>

Hope lies waiting

LOCAL historian Pranee Sakulpipatana hails the effort by Phuket City Municipality schools to include the Phuket dialect into curricula. The effort is the reverse of what she experienced as a Phuket schoolgirl when Thailand was under the rule of Field Marshal Plaek Pibulsongkram, she explained.

"General P wanted to completely unify the country. He didn't want us to be like a salad, with green peppers and red peppers, but like *khao tom* – everything needed to be mixed together to make one [homogeneous] nation," she said.

"Later, people in the south came to think that speaking central Thai properly was a sign of high status. That's why the students didn't speak southern Thai..."

"But now we are encouraging schools to promote the southern dialect. Most of the [Phuket City] schools have done this. They have one course that focuses on local Phuket culture, including language," said Ajarn Pranee.

Even southern Thai has regional variations. There is one main variety along the Gulf coast and another along the Andaman Coast. But Phuket was isolated for so long it developed its own dialect, she added.

"For example, if I want to ask 'How are you?', in Phuket we say *bpen pheuy*, but in Ranong they say *bpen phreu* (high) or even *bpen pheu-reu* [three syllables with a trill on the final one]. In Phuket Thai we often drop the final sound compared

to, say Surat Thani, where they say it very clearly," she explained.

However, she added, "If you ask me whether I think the Phuket dialect is dying, I would say, 'No.' But it is not the real, proper Phuket language."

Phuket Town is where people are most likely to hear old-school Phuket Thai being spoken, Ajarn Pranee said.

"A lot of people in Phuket Town still speak the local dialect and I try to keep the language going myself. If I am in public I always speak using Phuket dialect first.

"If I am in town with foreigners, I ask if it is okay to switch to English... and they are shocked. They feel like 'Hey! That lady speaks P h u k e t Thai and she speaks good English.'

"The point I want to get across is that it isn't *cheuy* [outdated] to use Southern Thai," she said with a laugh.

Pranee Sakulpipatana



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Floods wreak havoc across country

AT LEAST five people have died from floods in the northeastern gateway province of Nakhon Ratchasima, better known as Korat.

Officials there described this year's annual deluge as the worst in 50 years, *The Nation* reported.

After two days of continual downpours the Korat governor declared 15 districts in the province as "disaster areas".

Floods were also reported in nine other provinces throughout the north and north-east of the country.

When floodwaters reached the 1.5-meter mark, officials were forced to suspend train services linking Bangkok with the affected areas.

Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva flew to Nakhon Ratchasima to inspect the handling of the disaster.

At Maharat Hospital, he saw hospital staff struggling to take care of their 1,200 in-patients in the face of flooding.

In response, he ordered provincial budgets earmarked especially for dealing with

floods to be boosted from 50 to 100 million baht, it was reported.

Scenes at the hospital reportedly prompted HM King Bhumibol Adulyadej to express his fears for the safety of its patients.

Army Commander in Chief Prayuth Chan-ocha ordered disaster relief centers to evacuate flood victims, distribute food and drinking water and provide medical services.

Soldiers were assigned to guard homes to prevent looting of properties whose owners had evacuated.



PM Abhisit visits Korat. Photo: The Nation

Demos in more hot water

AROUND THE nation

THE ruling Democrat Party's dissolution case took a scandalous turn after the opposition released a video appearing to show a Democrat MP attempting to influence a senior court official.

The official, Pasit Sakdanarong, has been sacked as secretary to the president of the Constitution Court for damaging the court's reputation.

The Democrat Party is accused of misusing 29 million baht of Election Commission funds.

If found guilty, the party could be dissolved and its executives – including Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva – banned from politics for five years.

The video, one of five released by Pheu Thai spokesman Prompong Nopparit, allegedly showed Democrat MP Wiruch Romyen trying to convince Mr Pasit to call particular witnesses in the case.



CAUGHT ON CAMERA: The videotaped conversation led to the sacking of Pasit Sakdanarong (inset). Photos: YouTube/The Nation

"This shows that the Democrats, who always present that they do no wrong, are afraid of the mistake they made. Otherwise, they would not have lobbied," Mr Prompong said.

Judge Udomsak Nitimontri told a press conference the court would launch an internal investigation into the matter. He urged the authorities concerned to take legal action against Mr Pasit.

The footage forced Mr Abhisit to deny the party had attempted to lobby the court.

In his weekly TV address, he said there was no need for the Democrats to influence the court because it was a "pillar for the country" that would make its judgment based on the law.

"The court might be able to read the verdict within the next month. I'm not in a place to say

whether the party will win the case or not, but I am satisfied with the party's testimony both on the facts and the legal aspects," Mr Abhisit said.

The Democrat Party also faces dissolution in a second case concerning 258 million baht it acquired in donations from a petrochemicals company. This second case was related to the Election Commission funds case, PM Abhisit said.

"If we win in the first case, we will win the second case too," he said.

Thepthai Seanapong, the prime minister's spokesman, said Mr Prompong's accusations could constitute contempt of court.

Mr Prompong released four other clips aimed at damaging the Democrat Party's reputation.

One, containing a slideshow of photos, purportedly showed former prime minister and head of the Privy Council General Prem Tinsulanonda trying to influence court judges to make sure the case verdict favored the Democrats.

General Prem allegedly told court President Chat Chonlawn he would propose him as a Privy Councilor if the crisis was averted.

– *Phuket Gazette*

Drought leads to murder

WHILE many parts of Thailand are suffering from flooding, a man in drought-hit Phrae province murdered his own brother-in-law for using his water, *Thai Rath* reported.

Nikhom Thidam, 47, shot his sister's 51-year-old husband Lachai Khiowphrom before gruesomely attacking his face with a serrated hoe, police said.

Villagers in Tambon Wiangta, Lawng District, searched all night for Mr Lachai's body.

They eventually found it in a nearby field, one of the many paddies in the area where the crops had failed.

The murder ended a dispute between the two that apparently began after Mr Nikhom caught Mr Lachai pumping out of a dike-enclosed area where Mr Nikhom was storing water for his own rice field.

Mr Nikhom has reportedly fled. Police said if he did not hand himself in soon they would pursue a warrant for his arrest.

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Location Map

Killing the goose that lays the golden egg

Re: *Phuket Gazette*, Only 20 years left: *Expert*, October 16

How welcome were the pronouncements by Mr Chamniern in last week's edition of the *Gazette* about development in Phuket.

Understandably, few take note when expats bang on about the island's rapid and inexorable encasement in concrete; it is quite different when someone as influential as the senior director of the Thai Environment Institute offers a doomsday scenario that predicts ruin for Phuket's natural environment in twenty years.

Let's hope responsible people will finally stand up and act. Otherwise, this paradise will surely end up like Costa del Sol in Spain – or worse....

The trend to encroach – to eradicate green spaces – is everywhere. In my neck of the woods [now a dead metaphor], the construction of single villas with gardens – a less harmful alternative – has almost stopped.

Apart from the visible environmental impact, the effect of all this on sewage disposal and on beaches is too grim to contemplate.

Dr Patrick Campbell
Rawai

Remembering One-Two-Go

Re: *Phuket Gazette*, Keeping memories alive help forge a community, October 16

Regarding the One-Two-Go crash of September 16, 2007, as a survivor died in hospital a few days later the total of lost lives was ninety, not eighty-nine.

Needed in Phuket: White Lines

THERE are some grandiose schemes underway to accommodate the rising number of vehicles plying Phuket's roads, which is growing at a higher rate than ever with some 500 new registrations every month.

Few hold out much hope that the stranglehold the island's transport syndicates have over public transport will ever be seriously addressed – at least in areas frequented by tourists. The provincial council recently won a national "innovation" award for its Pink Bus project that provides a safe and affordable transport option, but only in and around Phuket Town. Of course such "innovation" has been in place in virtually every other part of Thailand for decades.

Over in Patong, which has the highest tuk-tuk density and passenger fares in the world, we are told that work on the Patong Tunnel will be underway by 2013, and that the project is needed to ensure public safety.

Meanwhile, up on Patong Hill two backhoes have been working on-and-off on the nine-million-baht "Welcome to Patong" sign, funded under the government's *Thai Khem Kaeng* (Strong Thailand) stimulus package.

How the sign will make the country "stronger" is anyone's guess, but the work raises an interesting question: how much road paint would nine million baht buy?

The question stems from the deplorable state of Patong Hill in the project area. As if the hairpin turns and steep gradients there weren't bad enough, the streetlights in the

Phuket Gazette

area no longer work – at a time they are needed more than ever. Perfectly completing this formula for rainy-season disaster is the fact that road markings in the area are badly faded, at least where they have not disappeared completely.

The failure to keep our roads properly lined and lit is particularly shameful, especially given the relatively modest costs involved – a drop in the bucket compared with the billions it will cost to bore a tunnel under Patong Hill or create a flyover at the Darasamuth School junction.

Local driving skills are bad enough, but it seems the authorities remain content to sit back and allow our roads to degenerate to a state that ensures maximum carnage. The problem is an island-wide one that needs to be addressed by every local administration organization.

A few years ago a group of Prince of Songkla University students showed that in some cases road lines can be rediscovered by simply using a stiff brush, strong detergent and water to scrape the grunge off.

Why do we so seldom see such simple and cost effective work being done to improve road safety? Perhaps it's because some people are too busy scheming up ways to line their pockets rather than line our roads.

company, Orient Thai a few weeks ago.

I'd like to remind readers that criminal indictments were promised regarding the crash, as it was determined it was entirely pilot error due to management and regulatory failures.

In the Bangkok Post on July 22, 2008, then director-general of the Department of Civil Aviation, Chaisak Angsuwan was quoted as saying that "the airline and its pilots were liable to criminal penalties and the department would file charges against them in two weeks."

But these charges and indictments never materialized and indeed, Mr Chaisak's statements were made more than a year before the accident report was released.

I can well imagine that without the herculean efforts of Bonnie Rind, who lost her brother in the crash and lobbied the US FAA, very little of this information would have come to light and the airline would have continued its unsafe practices (www.investigateudom.com).

I would also wish to warn visitors and tourists alike to be wary of claims to western standards of safety in any area of transportation, it simply is not regulated responsibly.

Christy K. Sweet
Cherng Talay

Award a joke

Re: *Gazette online*, *Phuket's Patong Municipality gets UN award for disaster management*, October 20

This is just ridiculous. I bet they never went through Nanai Road or had a look at the Grand Pothole Exhibition along the road behind Jungceylon.

Fritz Pinguin
Gazette forum

And to answer your question: Yes, on September 16, 2008, a small memorial – a spirit house – was placed on the beach near the site of the wreckage by Simon Luttrell, former Tourist Police volunteer and resident of the area, myself and others.

A couple of weeks later I received a call from the security manager of the airport asking me to remove it as it was on "airport property".

Mr Luttrell moved the memorial a few feet off the property and it soon disappeared.

I would be happy to help arrange for another memorial if you would like to assist me. Perhaps for the four-year anniversary.

As pointed out in your column, One-Two-Go was quietly dissolved into its parent

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Issues & Answers...

Public access to public beaches

A few resorts around Phuket have set themselves up in such a way that they block public entrance to the beach. In my case, it is the Andaman White Beach Resort south of Nai Thon Beach. The old public path has been blocked off with "planned" vegetation and even when you do find a way onto the beach the resort staff tell/force you to leave because you are not allowed to be there.

Do these resorts own the beaches in front of them? Can they block and stop the public from legally enjoying them? What are the resorts' obligations?

C Park
Nai Yang

Luciano Lazzarin, General Manager at the Andaman White Beach Resort, replies:

We understand that the beach is a public place, but people must also appreciate that the hotel is

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

Submit your issue at

www.PhuketGazette.net/IssuesAnswers

private property. To maintain privacy for our guests, only people staying at the hotel are allowed to pass through the hotel to go to the beach.

If people want to go to the beach, of course they can – by dinghy or boat or climb down the hill at the side of the resort – and we will not stop them. But our security guards will preserve the privacy of the resort for our guests.

Surapong Panyawai, Mayor of Sakoo Tambon Administration Organization, replies:

There are no legal requirements that a private property owner must provide beach access to the public. This issue is beyond our authority.

Mongkol Ruengwutchana-puech, a Master of Laws (Australia) and Barrister at Law (Thailand) at the International Law Office (ILO) – Phuket, replies:

"Private beach" is one of the most powerful wordings in terms of tempting a prospective guest to stay in the resort. The resort should be well aware that there is no such thing from a legal perspective.

Generally speaking, land use in Thailand is divided into two categories. The first is land for private use whereby a landowner has the right to use the land and prevent it from being encroached on by any intruder. This right is prescribed in Section 1336 of Thai Civil and Commercial Code.

The second category is land for public use, and as the name suggests it is exclusively reserved for common use by the public.

The beach is considered public domain. Consequently, no resort staff is entitled to bodily force or behave in any manner with the aim of intimidating any

Kamala's future in your hands

FIRST PERSON



Kamala Tambon Administration Organization (TAO) president **Jutha Dumluck**, 51, is a graduate of Phuket Rajabhat University with a master's degree from Ramkhamhaeng University. Here he talks about his plans to develop Kamala while preserving its "relaxing" atmosphere.

THE Kamala Tambon Administration Organization (TAO) now has plans to build a road connecting Kamala and Kathu, eliminating the need to pass through Patong.

The road is about five kilometers long. It starts behind Phuket FantaSea and goes over Kamala Hill to Kathu Waterfall.

Originally, this road was just a narrow trail, traversable only on foot or by motorbike. Local people use this route to deliver agricultural products to the many fruit farms and rubber plantations along the way.

Before leaving office, former Governor Wichai Phraisa-ngop visited the site and suggested the road be widened. It is now wide enough for a car to drive along.

We have asked the Provincial government to supply a 20-million-baht budget to pave the road.

There is no need to expropriate land or conduct an environmental impact assessment (EIA).

I've already talked with Governor Tri Augkaradacha about continuing this project. I beg him not to forget about it, because if

the road is completed it will benefit tourism throughout Phuket – not just Kamala.

The road will help ease traffic congestion along the Kamala-Patong-Kathu route, save fuel costs and reduce the number of accidents on Patong Hill. Travel time between Kamala and Kathu would be reduced to just 15 minutes.

For those concerned that this road would contribute to over-development in Kamala, I would like to say, "don't worry".

I aim to develop Kamala, step-by-step, as a town for peaceful relaxation in harmony with nature; unlike Patong, which is famous for its nightlife and entertainment businesses.

Most accommodation in Kamala is of the luxury villa variety. Those who want nightlife go to Patong; those who seek peace and quiet come to Kamala. I would like to make [Kamala] different, because I know our potential [as a

night life spot] cannot beat Patong. I will focus on natural conservation tourism instead.

One new project to support this is to develop the area around an old tin mining site on Getnee Hill. There are already three tin mine lakes up there.

We are asking the provincial government for a budget to develop the surrounding area as a new tourist attraction featuring a botanical garden and observatory.

With a height of 380 meters above sea level, visitors – especially in the morning – will feel like they are in the North [of Thailand].

To preserve the environment, I have created different projects to prevent problems impacting local life such as a new wastewater treatment system currently undergoing the EIA process, a system to use the water on Getnee Hill as a source of tap water, and a deepening of the canal running through Kamala to prevent flooding.

My efforts alone are not enough to maintain the environment and peace and quiet in Kamala. *Everyone* needs to help.



The road to safety

Island View

By Ed Jones

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

I HAVE to agree with the majority result in the recent *Phuket Gazette* poll: the new Transport Ministry regulations requiring all new license applicants, and those renewing licenses, to submit a doctor's certificate will not improve driver behavior in Phuket.

I could say that following the behavior of more developed nations would be a good start, but given what I have seen in the time I have been here, more specific comments are required.

Road safety starts with all motorists being required to pass a test before being issued a driver's license. Medical checkups are rhetorical and only postpone what is required.

Police need to become serious about enforcing traffic laws about lanes, helmets and reckless driving.

Officers need to actively patrol for violators, not just wait at checkpoints in an effort to collect revenue.

In addition to being fined, people found violating the law must attend a remedial educational program.

A day-long course in defensive driving would make them think twice about violating the law again.

Next, all drivers should be required to carry insurance, to protect the other people on the road that a bad driver may hit. If drivers don't have insurance, fine and ticket them.

If someone persists in violating the law, suspend their license and make them pay a higher insurance rate until they conform.

Lastly, if police would consider the revenue raised, the lives saved by the change in policy, and – most importantly – the effect on driver behavior, then, perhaps, Phuket would be a safer place.

Considering the many tickets I have received, the time I have spent in defensive driving classes and funds I have paid as a result of my driving in another country, it is safe to say I know what I am talking about.

To be clear, I do not speak from hallowed ground; I just want my girlfriend to come home safely.

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

beach-goer to stop using the beach. It is a criminal offense.

However, accessing the beach is another question entirely. Although the only convenient way to access the beach is to pass through the resort, to be frank, the resort is not under any legal obligations to open the access way to public use.

This is a legal loophole. There is no statute and no judgment precedent that deals directly with this crucial issue.

Our suggestion is to raise this issue and discuss it with the local competent officer, such as the Phuket Provincial Administration Organization, as they have the general power to administrate the use of public places.

Can I register my ATV?

Can I register my US-imported ATV (all-terrain vehicle) here in Thailand in my Thai wife's name? The ATV has been legally imported

to Thailand and we have paid all the proper taxes.

*Christoph Jones
Phuket*

Boonmark Chai-In, an officer at the Department of Land Transport headquarters in Bangkok, replies:

Under Thai law, an ATV is not considered a car or a regular vehicle that can be driven on public roads. That means an ATV cannot be registered, as only vehicles that are to be driven on public roads need to be registered.

Driving an ATV on any public road is illegal.

Canceling TOT Internet

I signed up for TOT's internet service on September 22. After battling to get the service working and regular phone calls to the TOT office, I was able to connect to the internet about a week later.

Today is October 11 and once

again I am not able to connect or use my TOT internet.

Since October 5, when the connection stopped working, I've called TOT's Phuket branch several times every day to tell them about the problem. They keep saying they will co-ordinate with their technical department and get a technician to contact me when they have finished.

It has already been one week and I still can't use my home internet and nobody from TOT's technical department has contacted me.

I have also called TOT call center at 1177 many times. They say the same thing.

On Friday, I called the call center again and was told again that they would coordinate with their technical department in Phuket on Saturday morning.

I followed up with the call center on Saturday and was informed that Saturdays and Sundays are the technician's days off.

I am not happy and I would like to cancel my internet subscription with TOT internet.

I have had the package for about a month and have only been able to use the internet for a week.

It is not acceptable, and neither is TOT's customer service.

Can I cancel the internet service from TOT without any charge and if so, how can I do it?

If I can't cancel the subscription I would like to know why it has taken so long to not fix the problem and when exactly they will fix it.

Can I ask for TOT to not bill me while I'm not able to use the internet and if so, how do I do that?

*TOT'd off
Kathu*

Suporn Chuenpimolchankij, Assistant Senior Director of the TOT office in Phuket, replies:

If a customer wants to cancel an internet subscription, he/she will be exempted from the cancellation fees if the reason for the cancellation is an error from TOT, such as, when the customer cannot use the internet after the installation.

However, TOT must first confirm that the customer has actually reported the problem to our call center 1177.

The customer needs to bring a photocopy of their ID or passport to any TOT office to cancel the account, but it would be best to contact their local office. If they live in Kathu, they should contact the TOT Patong branch.

The customer should request to meet the branch manager and explain why they want to cancel the service. Only the manager has the authority to waive the cancellation fee.

For the billing exemption because the customer cannot use the Internet, usually we will not charge them as we can check their internet usage through our records.

Any customer who wants to know why it takes so long to fix a problem should contact the manager in person for this as well.

The manager can answer and explain why it takes so long by checking their records at their local office.

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



Indigo Pearl recently promoted **Niphon Sanpradit** to Acting Chief Engineer. As well as overseeing the resort's engineering department, he will take care of all maintenance at Indigo Pearl. Mr Sanpradit is originally from Songkhla and graduated from Hat Yai College. He joined Indigo Pearl in 2008, after working as an engineer for many years at Twin Lotus in Nakorn Sri Thammarat, JB company in Hat Yai and Wang Mai Hotel in Satun.



Dusit Thani Laguna Phuket recently appointed **Amornthip Hawharn** as the new Executive Housekeeping Manager. Ms Hawharn graduated with a diploma in hotel & tourism business from Phuket's Community College. She also graduated with a bachelor of business administration from Western University. Ms Hawharn was previously the Executive Housekeeper at the Le Meridien Phuket Beach Resort.



The Renaissance Phuket Resort and Spa have appointed **Joanne Chung** as a Director of Sales and Marketing. Ms Chung has worked in the hospitality industry for over 15 years. She worked in sales for the Shangri-La Hotel Bangkok and Swissotel Nai Lert Park Bangkok. She was responsible for the corporate, MICE, wholesale market and the MAR-COM, reservation and revenue departments.

Dreamliner's big ambition

Phuket's tourism industry could move into a new stratosphere of prosperity if Boeing's 787 Dreamliner commences flights.

By Alastair Carthew

NEW York to Phuket direct. St Petersburg, Russia to Phuket direct. These hitherto unheard of flights will become a distinct possibility when the Boeing 787 Dreamliner finally starts commercial service. Currently, it is two years behind schedule.

This is an aircraft made for a destination like Phuket. And it is a

distinct possibility that we will see it landing at Phuket International Airport, since eight airlines already servicing Phuket have either ordered or made a commitment to the aircraft.

It is made of composite materials that reduce fuel consumption by 20%, taking long haul aviation to a new level.

Aeroflot, Air Berlin, China Eastern Airlines, China Southern Airlines, Hainan Airlines, Korean Air, Qatar Airways and TUI Travel, which all fly here, have placed orders and Thai Airways International has made a commitment for eight of the aircraft, with a final decision still to be made.

Phuket International Airport, with its 3,000 meter long runway, could easily handle the B787 since it can land on runways as short as 1,219 meters.

New York to Phuket may be 14,500 km, but the B787-8



BIG BIRD: The B787 is a large aircraft, but Phuket International Airport's runway is long enough to handle it. Photo: AFP

version of the B787 can take it. It has a maximum flight distance of 15,700 km. St Petersburg in Russia is 16,000 km away, but that is still within the B787-9 larger version's flight capability of 16,300 km.

This type of service through airlines like Aeroflot, which already flies from Moscow, bringing in increasingly large numbers of Russian tourists, can only be positive for Phuket's future.

Russians have proven their determination to make it to Phuket's shores: at present the shortest flight time is 29 hours from Moscow

For Australians, who prop up Phuket during the low season, a 7,020 km flight from Melbourne on the B787 would be a doddle.

The aircraft can carry up to 240 passengers at Mach 0.85. three classes and 296 in a high density economy class arrangement.

This would suit a Phuket service as most of the tourists that come here travel economy class.

A new age of comfort will be ushered in with B787, which is packed with new innovations for enhanced passenger comfort.

The cabin windows are larger than any other civil airliners in services at centimeters by 47cm and at a higher level so passengers can maintain a view of the horizon.

Auto-dimming "smart glass" instead of window shades reduces cabin glare while maintaining transparency.

The presence of LED lighting makes the cabin bulb-less, and gives it 128 color combinations.

Higher humidity in the cabin and advanced cabin air conditioning systems will provide better air quality. Filters to remove bacteria, viruses

and fungi will be in operation.

Internal pressure will be increased to the equivalent of 1,800 meters altitude instead of the usual 2,400 meters which will improve passenger comfort.

It's not all beer and skittles in the sky, however. The aircraft's introduction has been delayed for more than two years despite taking in a record 847 in advance orders.

There are questions about whether the carbon fuselage will show cracks and fatigue, will shatter and burn toxic fumes in a crash and the long term effects on the fuselage of its ability to absorb moisture.

But whatever the doubts, aircraft like the B787 and the Airbus equivalent the A350, which is due in 2013, are needed.

It is estimated that airlines will need 30,000 new passenger and freighter jets worth US\$ 3.6 trillion by 2029 to meet an increase in global traffic, led by the Asian region.

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Chinese mull Bt10bn island investment

REPRESENTATIVES of Chinese investment conglomerate Shang Mao Group met the Phuket Governor last week to express their interest in investing some 10 billion baht in Thailand, likely in Phuket or Chiang Mai.

Shang Mao Group President Wang Guiyuan told Tri Augkaradacha the same thing he told Deputy Prime Minister Sanan Kachornprasart at a meeting in Bangkok: that the company has an initial investment budget of 10 billion baht for Thailand.

"I am very interested to invest in Thailand, because we believe the democratic government will open the door for us. We have two options in mind, Phuket and Chiang Mai, but have not yet decided what industry to invest in. We are quite interested in the property and hotel sectors however," Mr Wang said.

Gov Tri said Phuket generates about 100 billion baht a year from its tourism industry, but still had room for growth.

"Many foreign investors have

come to meet the Phuket Governor in recent years to discuss possible investment in projects such as light rail transport, the Patong Tunnel, and development in the property sector and tourism industry," he told the delegation.

Gov Tri said he was pleased to welcome any groups willing to fund Phuket's development as a sustainable tourism destination. He would assist any such firms with any bureaucratic hurdles they might face, he added.

"I welcome investors who don't take advantage of Phuket's natural resources and culture. They have to help keep the environment clean. I want to find balance between development and conservation," he said.

Phuket's single greatest infrastructure need was better public transport between Phuket Town and Phuket International Airport (PIA). This is needed to keep pace with airport expansion plans designed to boost passenger capacity there to 12.5 million by 2013.



CHINESE ARRIVAL: Shang Mao representatives meet Phuket Governor Tri Augkaradacha (third from left).

Airport officials earlier said the annual number of passengers transiting through PIA surpassed the six million barrier for the first time in September this year. The figure is expected to reach 7.5 million by year's end.

A light rail project along Thepkrasattri Road, the island's main north-south artery, appears to be the best solution, Gov Tri said.

At the end of the meeting President Wang presented the governor with a gift bottle of moutai, a refined Chinese liquor distilled from fermented sorghum.

Shang Mao Group is a powerful investment firm operating banks, hotels and property businesses in Nanjing, the capital of Jiangsu Province.

- Krungthep Thurakij



PHUKET INTEREST: Shang Mao Group president Wang Guiyuan.

Phuket resorts shine at travel awards in India

INDIGO Pearl Resort near Nai Yang Beach, was honored as Asia's Leading Design Hotel at this year's World Travel Awards in New Delhi, India recently.

The Indigo Pearl and Six Senses Hideaway in Samui were the only two resorts in Thailand that were honored in the Asian category. Last year, the Indigo Pearl was nominated for World's Leading Design Hotel, but did not win.

"We are proud and privileged to have received this recognition conferred by guests and travel industry players," said Arnaud Girodon, general manager of Indigo Pearl Phuket.

On a national level, the Dusit Thani Laguna Phuket was presented with three awards as Thailand's Leading Beach Resort, Thailand's Leading Golf Resort and Thailand's Leading Spa Resort.

The award for Thailand's Leading Resort of the year went to The Evason Hua Hin Resort and Spa.

The World Travel Awards is one of the most prestigious award programs in the hospitality industry worldwide, often described as the "Oscars" of the industry. The awards are based on thousands of independently audited votes cast by travelers, tourists and industry peers.

- Anand Singh

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Phuket Gazette

NATIONWIDE Edition Published in association with The Nation October 16 - 22, 2010

Airport under strain

Record number of passengers to use Phuket Airport this year

By Jansen Upatising

THE number of passengers arriving at or departing the island from Phuket International Airport over the past 12 months has cracked the airport's official capacity of 6.5 million - and the coming year is expected to see up to a million more.

"From the statistics we have collected [in September 2010], more than 6.7 million passengers traveled through Phuket Airport this past year," Phuket International Airport Director Pichang Sakakorn told the Gazette.

"This high figure already surpasses current capacity and the airport's ability to support those passengers. I think by the end of this [coming] year, the number of

OUTBOUND tourism flying high

OUTBOUND tour operators nationwide expect the strong haul to cause a 13% increase in the number of Thais traveling abroad this year.

Charon Wongsamut, president of the Thai Travel Agents Association (TTAA), said up to 5.4 million Thais were expected to go abroad in the coming 12 months.

The figure is half a million more than last year and similar to the years before the political crisis. About 60% will be students and businesspeople.

Last month about 70,000 Thais holidayed abroad. The TTAA expects this to rise to 100,000 this month, so many families will go on trips during

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WORLDWIDE Edition

Phuket Gazette Phuket daily news, sports, jobs, healthcare, culture page 11 - Weekend Special Edition

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Phuket Gazette

Phuket accident causes commuter misery

Chula to open learning center near Phuket Airport

Monday, Oct 18, 2010

PHUKET: Chulalongkorn University's Sansa Graduate Institute of Business Administration is planning to opening a Sansa International Learning Center in Phang Nga to provide management education for both Thai and international executives.

The project covers a 50-acre plot of land with 15 buildings from Phuket International Airport, all close location for business people willing to fly in for learning over weekends.

Sansa director: Hui Juey

YOU SHALL NOT PASS: The scene on Thepkrasattri Road southbound on Koh Kaew this morning.

Tuesday, Oct 19, 2010

PHUKET: A four-car collision on Thepkrasattri Road southbound in Phuket this morning caused a traffic jam.

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Phuket International Airport

Chasing an African devil

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By James Eckardt

Chasing the Devil

By Tim Butcher

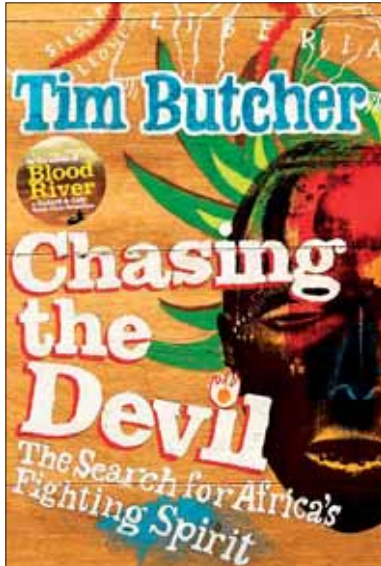
A YEAR or so ago, I wrote a book review in these pages about Tim Butcher's first book *Blood River* in which the intrepid *Daily Telegraph* African war correspondent retraces the footsteps of Henry Morton Stanley's trek across Africa.

In the eastern Congo, he does this mostly on small motorcycles down bush paths infested with murderous Hutu and Mai Mai militia bands.

Now Butcher is following the footsteps of Graham Greene whose 1935 march across the Liberian bush from Sierra Leone to the Atlantic ocean was chronicled with *In Journey Without Maps*.

The footsteps in this case are literal. Butcher and his companion David Poraj-Wilczynski walk the whole way.

It takes them three weeks and by the end the two men are so fit that they are clocking 30 miles a day out of desperate boredom and



a fierce desire to reach the Atlantic and the end of their footslog.

His latest book is *Chasing the Devil* (Chatto & Windus, London, 2010, 325pp), subtitled "The Search for Africa's Fighting Spirit".

Like his first book, this is a real life thriller. The civil wars that ravaged both Liberia and Sierra Leone have been over for six years, yet the devastation is still complete.

Towns have not been rebuilt and people survive in the bush on subsistence farming.

Assorted bad guys might be still lurking in the jungle and Butcher



and his companion are vulnerable.

Whereas Graham Greene had led a party of 30 porters, the two Englishmen are joined only by a lone Liberian guide Johnson Boie while Mr Omaru ferries their luggage ahead on his small motorbike.

Why is Butcher doing this?

Well, first there is his admiration and affinity toward Greene.

"Graham Greene was not ashamed to articulate his love of danger, indeed he wrote often of coming alive through brushes with death," Butcher writes.

"I felt a connection to Graham Greene's attitude. For years I had reported from war zones and had tolerated danger precisely because of its sense of thrill, of personal release as you witness life at its most unvarnished, humans stripped of all artifice as they cope with the ultimate drama of conflict.

Late in life, Graham Greene wrote how coming so close to death had stirred in him a passionate interest in living."

A second reason is to plunge into the bush and see it up close.

Butcher had covered the wars in Sierra Leone and Liberia and had reported on cannibalistic rituals.

These he identifies with the Poro and Bundu secret societies, the first for men, the second for women. In both, boys and girls are circumcised and kept in the bush to learn the secrets of the tribe.

Never once does he mention the word "juju" or black magic.

Whatever connection they have to secret societies, juju masters do indeed tap into the forces of evil.

Butcher's two African companions are particularly terrified by "heart men" who remove and eat the hearts of their victims.

When Foday Sankoh – the rebel group leader that had terrorized Sierra Leone by mass amputations, rapes and murders – was finally captured he was in the company of his personal juju sorcerer.

As someone who spent more

than two years as a Peace Corps volunteer in the bush of Sierra Leone and drove across Liberia by motorcycle, I can attest to the evil power of juju.

My own take on the horrors of the two civil wars was that the soldiers, often children, were not only crazed by drugs but by the devil.

On its surface *Chasing the Devil* is an adventure yarn and a cracking good one, though Butcher does have an annoying habit of dragging in extraneous stories from his reporting days.

In the end he is pessimistic about the prospect of the nation state to dominate atomistic tribal interests.

"In the case of Liberia, with twenty recognizably different tribal groups and many more sub-groups, it is the failure to force the devil to cede his power that has undermined the country's development and made it prone to civil strife and, ultimately, war."



Bestsellers

English language books in Thailand

1) Lost Symbol

Dan Brown (325 baht)

2) The Book of Tomorrow

Cecelia Ahern (350 baht)

3) Becoming Enlightened

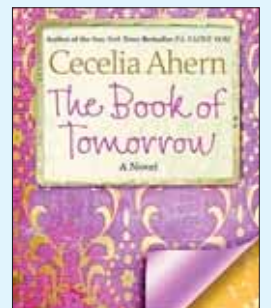
Dalai Lama (395 baht)

4) I, Alex Cross

James Patterson (350 baht)

5) The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest

– Stieg Larsson (350 baht)



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AT ARMS REACH: American Chef Aaron opens his arms to Phuket with one of his recipes.

Roll with it

CHEF Aaron Hooper has been Group Executive Chef at Baan Rim Pa Restaurants for almost six years.

He has been named Thailand's Chef of the Year for the last three years in a row, by the Hospitality Asia Platinum Awards Committee.

Quite an achievement for the young American who started cooking in ski resorts so he could afford to pay for his love of skiing down the snow covered mountains.

Chef Aaron became so engrossed in cooking that he took a winter off from the slopes to attend New England Culinary Institute before heading off to the kitchens and ski zone of Switzerland.

He was also recruited to work at one of Wolfgang Puck's kitchens in San Francisco.

His next stop was cooking for Bangkok's Italian bistro, Tiramisu.

From there he was invited to manage the kitchens at Joe's Downstairs and the other Baan Rim Pa restaurants.

"Working with Tom McNamara, founder of Baan Rim Pa, was a great experience for me. I learned a lot about the restaurant business. I change the menus at Joe's Downstairs four times a year to include the freshest ingredients and new products to the island."

Chef Aaron has kindly shared the recipe for Vietnamese Spring Rolls for readers to make, as an example of his culinary delights.

"All the ingredients are available at local markets and they make a great snack or appetizer before dinner" he suggests.

In the Kitchen

By Bruce Stanley

Making Vietnamese fresh prawn spring rolls



Ingredients for the Rolls:
6 small to medium sized fresh local prawns, peeled and veined
1 ripe mango – julienned
1 red bell pepper – julienned
1/2 cucumber – peeled and julienned
2 Tbsp chopped roasted peanuts
1 Tbsp chopped mint leaves
3 rice noodle wrappers



Ingredients for Poaching Liquid:
4 cups of water
3 Tbsp white wine vinegar
2 bay leaves
8 whole black peppercorns
2 sprigs parsley
1/2 yellow onion sliced or 2 leeks – sliced
2 Tbsp salt

Ingredients for Sri Racha Aioli:
1 egg yolk
Juice of half a lemon
2 Tbsp Sri Racha chili sauce
1 Tbsp Dijon mustard
3/4 cups vegetable oil
Salt to taste
3/4 Tbsp orange juice

Method for the Rolls:
Slowly simmer prawns in poaching liquid until just cooked through. Remove and let cool.
Place your rice noodle roll wrappers in a shallow dish of warm water, until they are soft and pliable (about two minutes).
Remove from water and place flat on a cutting board.
Divide all the ingredients into three portions.
First, lay your lettuce, then arrange the red bell pepper, mango, cucumber, mint and peanuts neatly on top and finally the shrimp.
Now roll tightly in the shape of a spring roll, folding in the

sides to seal. Repeat for the next two rolls.

Slice each of your three rolls into four even, bite-sized pieces, leaving you 12 in total. Serve with Sri Racha Aioli as a dipping sauce on the side.

Next, you need to turn your attention to the Sri Racha Aioli. Here's how...

Method for the Sri Racha Aioli:

In a bowl combine the egg yolk, juice of half a lemon, orange juice, Dijon mustard, Sri Racha sauce and salt. Slowly whisk the 1.5 cups of vegetable oil into the mixture, until you have made an emulsified aioli, which should be the consistency of mayonnaise

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Hope in his heart

By Marc Mulloy

After huge support from Phuket and abroad, Rino Vogt and his family have enough money for his life-saving operation.

TEN-YEAR-OLD Rino Vogt is scheduled to undergo a life-saving heart operation next month following "overwhelming generosity" from local and international donors.

Little Rino, who was diagnosed in June with the rare condition Ebstein's Anomaly, is now 10 kilograms underweight

and feeling "very weak", says his father.

The *Gazette* broke this story on August 14 when Rino's father, locally known musician and filmmaker Ritchie Newton, formed a certified trust called Rino's Heart Foundation to raise the two

million baht needed for the complicated surgery.

Since then the Bangkok Heart Hospital administrators have come to Rino's aid, significantly lowering the cost of his operation.

Dr Boomiporn, who has worked on Rino's case, is now assembling a first-class team to perform the surgery, a procedure extremely rare in Thailand.

Thanks to the many events Ritchie organized, with contributions from hundreds of friends and supporters around the world, it now looks as if Rino's broken heart will finally be fixed.

With the operation now scheduled for November, Rino is looking forward to regaining his childhood and his many hobbies.

"Rino loves sports, but will never be able to pursue a career as a sportsman, even though he

wants to," says Ritchie.

"But this operation will allow him to have a long and happy life, if successful," he added.

"There is a 1% chance of things going seriously wrong...and a 40% chance that Rino could have a heart attack or stroke during the operation," said Ritchie.

Doctors will have to lower Rino's body temperature and then stop his heart while they work to attach a ring inside the faulty valve in Rino's heart.

"All of this would not be possible if it were not for the generosity of the many donors who came forward for Rino," said Ritchie.

One of the largest contributions, about 740,000 baht, came from an anonymous Hong Kong man.

Meanwhile on Phuket, runners who took part in the "Run4Rino Charity Run" at Nai Harn Lake last week will be pleased to know that enough funds have been raised for Rino's operation.

A planned charity concert scheduled for Koh Samui on October 24 will be postponed until after Rino's surgery.

A free concert to show the family's appreciation for the overwhelming support will be planned in the near future.

Any further money raised will go towards surgery for the next child on a Bangkok list of patients awaiting treatment for Ebstein's Anomaly, Ritchie said.

Ritchie is helping to form another foundation "Power Hearts" to help other sufferers around Thailand get the treatment they need.



BRAVE: Rino braves a smile after pre-surgical treatment.

"First I need to help my own son, but then I want to help others in need," said Ritchie.

"I can't believe how generous people have been. It reminds me that there are some wonderful people out there," he added.

"Thank you everyone who has helped my little boy."



Rino with his father Ritchie.



Rino looks on as he waits for test results at the Bangkok Heart Hospital.



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Peter Webber

PETER Webber has a reputation for hosting the best parties on Phuket. He was recently named Director of Operations for the expanding Watermark Group where he is busy upgrading menus and overseeing renovations of what are planned to be the ultimate destinations for those who love food, wine and cocktails.

He arrived to work on Phuket in 2006 when he joined Royal Phuket Marina developer Gulu Lalvani in offering a world-class patisserie, delicatessen and restaurant at Les Anges. Over the next four years, Peter brought the level of fine chocolates and gourmet pastries to an international standard while hosting some of the island's most extravagant charity fundraisers.

Peter had been the Executive Pastry Chef at the world-famous Oriental Hotel in Bangkok for more than 10 years, where he created delectable treats for the Queen of England as well as many state visitors to the Grand Palace.

"It was an honor to work with some of the top three-star Michelin Chefs from France, such as Bocuse, Gagnaire, Robuchon and George Blanc," he says.

Before joining The Oriental in 1993, Peter had worked at the Hyatt Regency Dubai, where he was in charge of the Pastry and Bakery Department. He opened the

EXPAT gallery

By Bruce Stanley

Pastry Department at the Hyatt Regency in Belgrade and featured in a culinary television series that aired throughout Europe and the Middle East. When he heard The Oriental was looking for an Executive Pastry Chef, he applied and got the job.

Peter had first come to Thailand in 1989 for his honeymoon.

"I had just married and was the Pastry Chef at The Savoy in London. The Oriental wanted to do a traditional English High Tea so they sent us to Bangkok, which opened my eyes to another way of life."

He had joined The Savoy in 1986 and was sent to Le Notre in Paris to refine his skills, which resulted in his being awarded the Silver Medal at the Frankfurt Culinary Olympics.

Peter grew up in Devon, England and started cooking with his mother while still a child. They baked every Sunday instead of going to church. When the young Peter won a Christmas cake competition using exquisite decorations, he was on his way to his future career. He

went to college in Exeter to become a chef but soon found he didn't like the heat of the kitchens, so he chose to become a pastry chef instead.

After 20 years of working in some of the finest hotels in the world, Peter was ready for a career break in 2003. He took a year off and traveled around the world looking for a new opportunity. He even considered changing professions and becoming a painter or a dancer. But when he was offered the opportunity to create his own world-class dining experience at Les Anges, he moved to Phuket.

Since becoming Director of Operations for Watermark, he has been busy expanding the production center for bakery and pasta on the bypass road. He has opened a second Pizza Garden restaurant as part of the Watermark Boat Lagoon location and is planning an upscale Watermark Oyster Bar in the Laguna area's Tinlay Place, to be opened by high season.

"I'm excited about the upgrades to the company's restaurants. We are building a new kitchen and menu at Toto's and planning for the most elegant Mediterranean seafood dining at the Oyster Bar. Also, we will open two gourmet bakeries - one at Laguna and the other around the Laguna area. It's a great time to be involved in so many projects," he says.



BY PETER CHILD FOR THE PHUKET GAZETTE

About Expat Gallery

The individuals profiled in "Expat Gallery" are chosen on the basis of their contributions to Phuket, and for having made those contributions in successful partnerships with Thais. For many, the contributions have entailed significant investment, often in the mid-80s and 90s when the rules of business were, ahh, not always clear. Some are not in business at all, but all have one thing in common: if there were a *Who's Who in Phuket*, they'd be in it.

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Getting to know 14th century friends

Looking Back By Anand Singh

SOMETIMES history is right in front of your eyes and you don't even know it.

There is a little restaurant on Choa Fa East Road in Chalong where you can nibble on a cheese platter, slurp a glass of wine and mull over Ming pottery from the 14th century while you wait for your main course to arrive.

Run by life-long collector and historian Michael Slanina and his wife Vilasinee Thephasadin Na Ayuthaya, the pair have accumulated an impressive repertoire of antiques.

While Michael's private collection has reached over 15,000 pieces, only a fraction of these are on display at Bonzai.

Items originate from different eras and civilizations from all over the world, says Michael.

There are even examples of Chinese pottery from the Song Dynasty (10th-13th century).

After you have glugged down the last of your wine and dusted off the remains of your meal – all quite lovely – amble through the small museum at the back of the restaurant until you find a series of pots and vases dating back to the Dvaravati period in



SURVIVORS: Many ancient Chinese Ming and Song Dynasty ceramics have been found at the bottom of the Andaman Sea off Phuket.

Thailand (6th-13th century).

"When I travel to different places, I try to find genuine historical artifacts that I could possibly buy and add to my collection. Many of the pieces I own originate from China, Vietnam and Cambodia. Many of them are also from Thailand," Michael says.

Being the owner of such a large collection of historical items can be tricky though.

Michael and Vilasinee have to

register all their items with the Department of Fine Arts, who ensure that the artifacts are cared for properly and will not deteriorate in the hands of private collectors.

"It's one reason why we can only display a limited amount of pieces at the restaurant. We have many items that date from prehistoric eras, and they require a lot of care because they are very fragile. A lot of conditions have to be met to

preserve them indefinitely.

"Too much humidity for example and the artifacts will deteriorate permanently," Vilasinee adds.

Ming pottery on the other hand is a testament to Chinese mastery in the crafts.

Michael said many artifacts had been salvaged from ancient shipwrecks. Ancient maritime trade routes in the South China Sea, the Strait of Malacca and the Andaman Sea are dotted with age-old ships that met with unfortunate ends and spilled their cargo into the sea many centuries ago.

Many of the artifacts have spent a few epochs at the bottom of the sea and even after being rescued from the seabed, many are still covered with dead barnacles to prove their authenticity.

Yet they remain intact and retain their original beauty and color to an astonishing extent.

Michael says that the extraordinary resilience of Ming pottery could be attributed to the glaze Ming potters used to coat their finished works.

The glaze gave the artifacts astonishing tolerance towards the elements. After centuries on the seabed, weathering corrosive salt water and smashing tides, the salvaged pottery and vases could still be made to look brand new after a good deal of scrubbing.

Apart from ancient pottery, Michael also owns a huge collection of historical stamps.

His collection – passed down in his family for three generations – consists of over five million stamps, including the first issued stamp from every country in the world. Many of these countries no longer exist today, or have changed name.

Notable stamps that are on display include the United Kingdom's Penny Black, the first adhesive postage stamps to ever be used in the world, and the first stamps issued by the Thai government during the early reign of King Rama V.

Finally, Michael's historical collection also contains some rather large pieces that are sure to impress motoring enthusiasts.

Parked inside the restaurant are three rare vintage cars that have been restored close to their original conditions. Marvel at a 1953 red Triumph convertible, a 1975 Rolls Royce Silver Shadow or a 1981 Rolls Royce Silver Spirit. Although the cars are old they are still road-worthy and need to be driven around occasionally, says Michael. A rare find on Phuket. Bonzai is a captivating place and well worth a look.

Bonzai Restaurant is located at 7/1 Moo 4 on Choa Fa East Road in Chalong. Look out for the bonzai trees.

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**WHAT'S ON
in Phuket**

Oct 18-Nov 15. Win free RPM Health Club Memberships
Royal Phuket Marina Health Club is launching a free-entry contest at: www.facebook.com/royalphuketmarina where you can win fantastic prizes such as an RPM Health Club day pass, monthly memberships (6,420 baht value) and a grand prize of a yearly membership (39,396 baht value). Just "Like" RPM's facebook page and tag yourself in the competition/profile picture. You will get a printable day pass to bring with you to enter the gym. Next, send a picture of yourself exercising at RPM Health Club and write a review on the page. You could win prizes. Contact Michael Alan Forrest T: 081-9588199 E: michael@royalphuketmarina.com for more information.

Oct 23. Dive for Phuket dogs
Dive Asia welcomes you to another Charity Event. Two dives at Racha Yai Island dedicated to support the Phuket Soi Dog Foundation, a non-profit organization. All profits will be donated to the foundation. The event includes free transfers from Kata, Karon and Patong, breakfast, lunch, fruits, coffee, tea and water. Price is 3,200 baht for divers (plus Gear); 1,600 baht for non-divers; and 4,900 baht for two try dives. Contact Juergen on T: 081-8953320, or E: reservations@diveasia.com or visit W: diveasia.com/blog/2010/09/d for more information.

October 31. Ghouls come play



Friendship Beach Resort in Rawai is throwing a Halloween Party on October 31. Children are invited to take part in activities from 1-5pm before the adults party starts at 5pm. There will be live music and dancing. Dressing up will earn you one free beer or house wine. You'll also stand a chance of winning a best dressed prize. The kitchen will be open and cooking from their full menu for party people who need a nibble. Contact Chef Charlie on T: 089-7285304 or E: bookings@atmanjai.com for more information.

standard price of 3,200 baht will take effect. For bookings in Thai, please contact Khun Wat on T: 084-6298833 or 084-6298833. For bookings in English or Russian contact T: 083-1020070 or 083-1020070, E: mail@phuket-palazzo.com or visit W: phuket-palazzo.com for more information.

October 31. Frightfully Fabulous Halloween Party
Turn up at JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa in a bloody dead costume with a terrifying mask on Halloween and join in a night of shock and horror with ghosts, ghouls and vampires. Stand a chance to win prizes in a Halloween quiz and costume competitions. Dance until dawn with cool DJ music and enjoy a devil barbecue buffet to die for. Held in the Blue Drinks venue from 5pm onwards, 1,200 baht++ per person. Contact T: 076-338000 or 076-338000, E: jwmarriott.phuket@marriott.com or visit W: jwmarriottphuketresort.com for more information.

Oct 23. End of Buddhist Lent (Khao Pansa)
On this day, the three-month rain retreat for Buddhist Lent (Khao Pansa) is over for the monks.

Oct 23. Chulalongkorn Day – Public Holiday
Chulalongkorn Day commemorates the reign of Rama V, who is best remembered for abolishing slavery in Thailand

Oct 23-24. The 2nd Art Village Weekend@RPM
Royal Phuket Marina and BMS Events proudly present to you the 2nd Art Village Weekend. This includes a diverse display of art,

culture and music. Visit us at the Town Square in Royal Phuket Marina. The event is from 5-10pm. We are looking forward to seeing you. Contact Murat Can Sakarya T: 081-7973364 E: muradc@royalphuketmarina.com W: royalphuketmarina.com for more information.

October 24. Ornellaia Wine Dinner
Join Evason Phuket for a truly remarkable wine dinner with Tenuta dell'Ornellaia. Mr Giovanni Mazzoni from the winery will present his creations at the Evason's signature restaurant Into the Sea. Paired with a six-course dinner prepared by award-winning Executive Chef Thomas Jakobi. The event will be held on Sunday October 24 at 7pm at Into the Sea. 2,900 baht net per person. Designated parking available directly at the restaurant. Please mention "Ornellaia" at the main gate. Contact Khun Bernardo De La Garza on T: 076-381010 or 076-381010 afbm-phuket@sixsenses.com or visit W: sixsenses.com/evason-phuket for more information.

October 29. Estates & Wines Iconic Dinner at the Boathouse
Mom Tri's Boathouse presents an iconic wine dinner. Chandon Brut, Cloudy Bay Sauvignon Blanc, Cape Mentelle Cabernet Merlot, Terrazas

Afincado Malbec and Glenmorangie the Lasanta. Price is 2,000 baht ++ per guest and does not include tax and service charge. As seating is very limited, early booking is recommended. The wines will be introduced by Arnaud Mirey. Contact Pinyo Thippimas on T: 076-330015 or 076-330015 E: fb@boat-housephuket.com or visit W: boat-housephuket.com for more information.

October 29. Palazzo Pre-opening Party
The Palazzo Theatre and Restaurant begins its first season. They invite local residents to the feast of the first European theater-restaurant in Phuket. Feast tickets for October 29 are a bargain at only 800 baht each. Price includes four hours of spectacular show and a five-course dinner from 7-11pm. From November 1, a

November 2. Melbourne Cup charity event at IndoChine
IndoChine is hosting a Melbourne Cup charity event with proceeds from the event donated to Soi Dog Foundation and Barnhem Muang Mai Orphanage. Entry is 1,500 baht and includes an Aussie brunch and welcome drinks. There will also be a sweepstakes, raffle, live auction, DJs, prizes for best dressed, best hat and catwalk show, all hosted by our MC Bill O'Leary. Event sponsors are IndoChine, 91.5 FM, *Phuket Gazette*, PGTV, Works.com, Jagota and Chandon. Tables of 10 are available for groups to celebrate the biggest horse race in Australia. From 9am-2pm at IndoChine in Kalim. Contact Cristy on T: 084-0544367 or E: suaysiam@gmail.com for more information.

Free Computer Clinics

Is Windows driving you NUTS? Want to know about the best Internet connections in Phuket? Need help finding a repair shop or a dealer that knows what they're doing? Join *For Dummies...* author and local Windows guru Woody Leonhard in his free weekly seminars. Sponsored by Woody's Sandwich Shoppes and the *Phuket Gazette*.
October 24 – Chalong
November 7 – Patong November 14 – Laguna
November 21, 28 – Chalong December 5 – Patong
For more info contact Woody T: 076-290 468

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A celebration of art



TEAM CELEBRATION: Serendipity Design, publishers of Art and Culture South, celebrated their 10th anniversary with a cocktail evening at The Blue Elephant in Phuket Town recently.



Jirapa Eawasakul (left) and Toby Allen of The Oasis Spa.



CENTER OF ATTENTION: Lori Ashton (center) from Serendipity Design is presented with flowers from guests as they arrive.



Study time at the Gazette

A team of academic researchers led by project leader Suriya Veeravongs (front row, black shirt) met with members of the Gazette editorial staff to gauge the island's preparedness to host groups of elderly Japanese "longstay" tourists. The meeting was moderated by PSU-Phuket Assistant Professor (ret.) Pimpaporn Suwatthigul.



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Rockin'
at
with
the
hill
and

Fleet of Ghost Riders take on the island



ON TOUR: The thunderous roar of motorcycle engines was heard all over the island last Sunday as the annual Ghost Riders island tour took to the streets. Hundreds of bikers from all over the country turned out to take part in a group ride and after party.

GROOVE ON: The Hard Rock recently unveiled its new and Chill (pictured), been treating rock fans of shows at the based chain restaurant.

OUR
Phuket

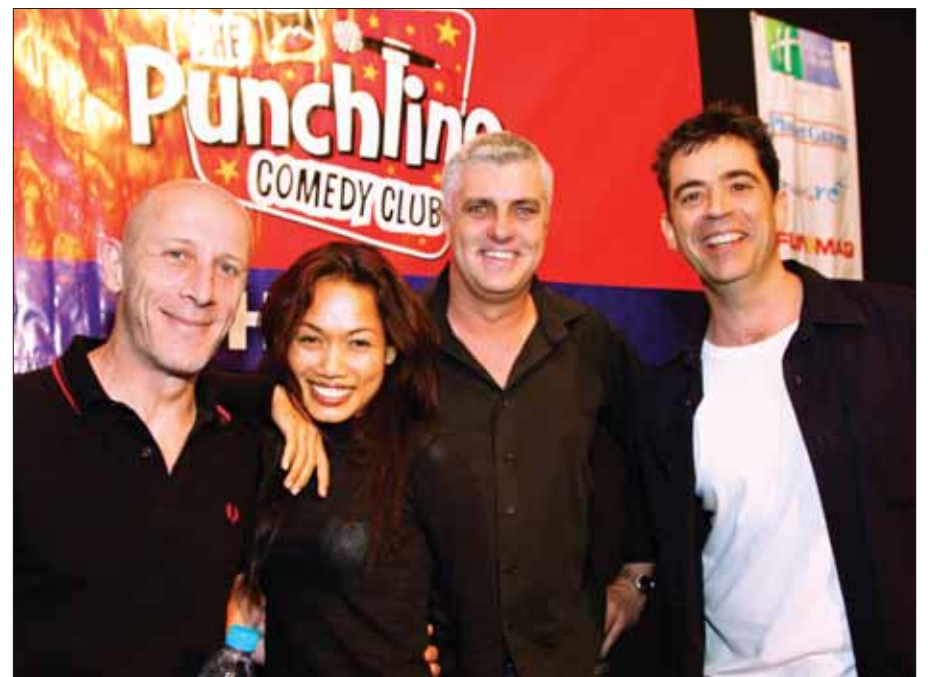


BIKER GANG: From left are BritBike Triumph Thailand president and actor Dom Hetrakul, Ghost Riders PR manager Natasha, event sponsor Philip Cope and female rider Methaya.



TIME OUT: Spectators and riders take a short break at Leam Promthep.

Jokes all round



FUNNY BUNCH: The Phuket Punchline Comedy Club hosted its latest joke-athon at the Holiday Inn, Patong on October 13. From left are comedian Pierre Hollins, organizer Boom, comedian Darren Sanders and organizer Pete Harris.



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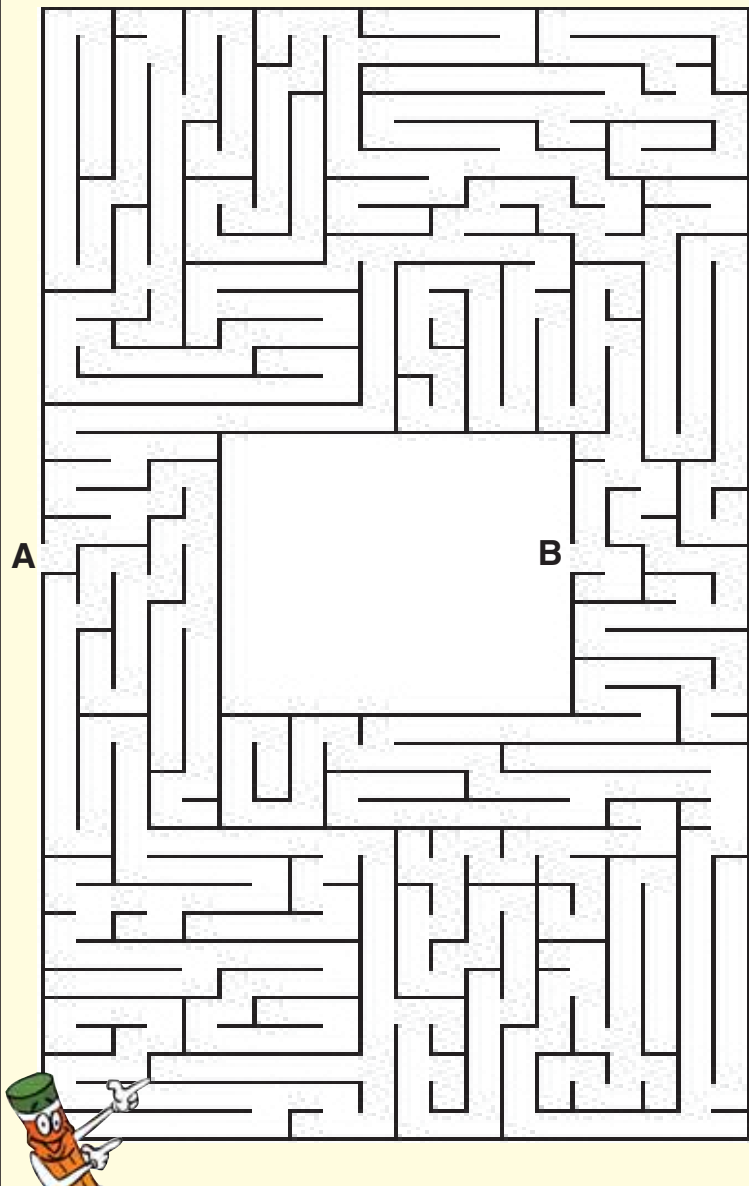
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A *Gazette* staff member completed this maze in two minutes. Can you beat their time? Make your way out of the maze.

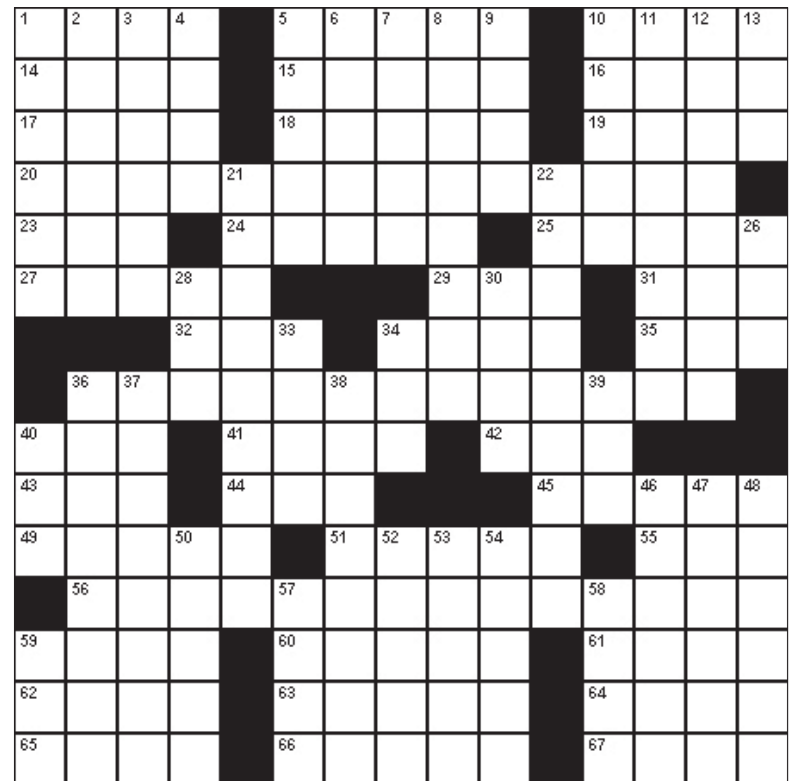


Across

1. Portico
5. Sired
10. London gallery
14. Like some orders
15. Fragrance
16. Ancient Greek coin
17. Shoppe sign word
18. It's a wrap
19. Average guy
20. County in central England
23. Pothook shape
24. Snare
25. Number system with base 8
27. First prime minister of India
29. 19th letter of the Greek alphabet
31. Chemical ending
32. Actress Thurman
34. Elevator man
35. Pledge
36. Voltage divider
40. Sheet music abbr.
41. 100 dinars
42. Go downhill fast
43. Cry __ River
44. Competitor of Tide and cheer
45. Pomp and Circumstance composer
49. Cravat
51. Cordage fiber
55. Hydrocarbon suffix
56. Writing above a letter
59. Hungarian sheepdog
60. At full speed
61. Memo heading
62. Algerian port
63. Chili con __
64. National symbol
65. Shrivelled, without moisture
66. Leg joints
67. Bag-shaped fish trap

Down

1. Hot
2. *Honor Thy Father* author
3. Somewhat aged
4. Novelist Waugh
5. Ezio Pinza, for one
6. Muse of lyric poetry



7. Pierces
8. Almond-flavored liqueur
9. Makes brown
10. Medicine
11. Rudimentary
12. Bullfighter
13. Slippery tree
21. Count
22. Maintain a house
26. Kareem, once
28. Furrow
30. Intentions
33. Indigo
34. Black gold

36. Force per unit area
37. Ambiguous
38. Charm
39. __ the cows come home
40. Doc bloc
46. Graceful
47. Parka
48. Go back on one's word
50. Express a viewpoint
52. Frighten
53. Triple
54. Queues
57. Tiered shelves
58. Petty quarrel
59. Not neg.

Provided by BestCrosswords.com. Used with permission.

Puzzle solutions on page 33

SCORPIO (October 24-November 22): Some Scorpios could be tempted to start grasping at straws this week. The stars advise that you should wait until November begins before taking radical action. Better opportunities are forecast to come your way next month. Those with a birthday in the days ahead are likely to adopt a more laid back approach to romance in the coming year. The number nine can bring good luck this weekend.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23-December 21): Certain Sagittarians have reason to count their blessings during the last days of October when they learn of a friend's misfortune. Enjoyment of life becomes high on your agenda and the stars suggest that your circle of friendships will widen accordingly. Those who are single may be puzzled by a water sign's response to flirtation this weekend - this person is forecast to change their tune in November.

CAPRICORN (December 22-January 20): Capricorns continue to have good luck this week. You will be under more pressure at work when November commences, so it would be wise to bring everything up to date before that time. An in-

fluent Aquarian is ready to make an offer you will find difficult to refuse - a change of employment before the end of this year is highlighted. The number three can bring good fortune this weekend.

AQUARIUS (January 21-February 19): Aquarians are forecast to finish October on a hopeful note. Although your financial luck has been weaker since the middle of the month, there are signs that an overdue payment should be made this week. Those who believed a romantic relationship to be over find out those flames can be rekindled. If you are committed, there are signs that recent misunderstandings can be ironed out. The number nine is lucky this weekend.

PISCES (February 20-March 20): The stars suggest that Pisceans could be intimidated by a pushy fire sign colleague this week. Wednesday is the most auspicious day to stand up for yourself. Your financial luck increases during the last week of October, but impulse buys should be avoided. Those hoping to make a romantic impression on another water sign will see the right result this weekend. Wear the color peacock blue to encourage more self-confidence.

YOUR horoscope
By Isla Star

ARIES (March 21-April 20): A project that you were keen as mustard about is now appearing less attractive. If this change of heart has been caused by information you received from an air sign, it's possible that you have been led up the garden path. The stars advise that working with another fire sign will lead to a satisfactory conclusion. In the realm of romance, this is an auspicious time for commitments.

TAURUS (April 21-May 21): This week Taureans are forecast to learn something to their advantage. If this concerns your personal financial situation, the stars suggest that surprise gain can be expected by the end of this month. An encounter with another earth sign touches your life this weekend - the chances of becoming involved with this person's plans are strong. Romance peaks mid-week and a fire sign is working on ways to steal your heart.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21): News you hear mid-week concerning an earth sign's plans should be taken with a pinch of salt. Those Geminis who are tempted to trust this person are forecast to be disappointed. Where business is concerned, October could end on a slightly sour note, but your experiences this month should enable you to go in the right direction during November. Romance becomes complicated when an old flame makes contact.

CANCER (June 22-July 23): Cancerians are forecast to end October in a good mood. A calmer astral atmosphere encourages you to spend quality time at home - if decorating is on your agenda, a creative air sign friend has some helpful tips. Where personal finances are concerned, the stars suggest that where there's a will, there's a way. Sunday is the best day to discuss new ways of budgeting with family members.

LEO (July 24-August 22): Trawling through old paperwork this week can help Leos to find answers to an ongoing bureaucratic issue. The stars indicate that Tuesday is the most auspicious day to schedule important appointments for. There

will be light at the end of the tunnel for those who recently missed out on new employment. The stars suggest that you made a lasting impression on an earth sign with influence. The number eight is lucky next Thursday.

VIRGO (August 23-September 23): Those born under the sign of Virgo who have been feeling like a castaway lately should enjoy more social company this week. Another earth sign acquaintance is forecast to point you in new directions where like-minded friends can be found. In the world of work, your enterprising skills are gathering strength. Where affairs of the heart are concerned, romance with Scorpio becomes too hot to handle, but love with Libra is well-starred.

LIBRA (September 24-October 23): An off-the-wall suggestion made by a water sign friend this weekend could motivate Librans whose energy has grown stale. As October ends, the astral atmosphere will provide more scope to achieve your goals. In the meantime, take more physical exercise to blow away the cobwebs. Romance could be affected by game-playing. If your heart is not in a new relationship, it would be better to be clear now.

PROPERTY Gazette

News | Construction | Gardening | For sale | For rent | Classifieds

Sign of things to come in Patong

By Janpen Upatising

CONSTRUCTION work on the nine-million-baht sign welcoming motorists to Patong is already a month behind schedule due to severe weather conditions.

“Construction work has been abandoned while the heavy rains persist,” said Patong municipal officer Siwamong Chechang.

“It is too dangerous to continue work when it rains, and subsequently, the project is going much slower than expected,” he said.

Before work began in April, Patong Mayor Pian Keesin said the sign would mark a border between Kathu and Patong and that it would become a famous Patong landmark.

The project is funded by the

central government’s Thai *Khem Kaeng* (Strong Thailand) financial stimulus package.

When completed, the new sign will feature the words “Patong City” in two-meter-high letters on a cliff face along the eastbound lane of the Patong Hill road, about 100 meters uphill from the shooting range.

Already under construction across the street is a walkway area and lookout point that will be 4.5 meters wide and 60 meters long when complete.

Workers building concrete forms must exercise extreme caution at the hillside construction site, which has a steep drop-off on one side and traffic along one of Phuket’s most dangerous stretches of road on the other.



HILLSIDE WOES: Construction on a nine-million-baht welcome sign on Patong Hill has been halted due to bad weather.

Those aren’t the only dangers. Early into the construction phase, a project engineer at the site suffered a powerful electric shock requiring hospital treatment, a source told the *Gazette*.

If all goes according to plan, the lookout will one day afford views of the entrance to the 2.2-billion-baht traffic tunnel Patong Municipality wants to bore beneath the hill to make the commute between Patong and Kathu easier.

Those wishing to enjoy the view will have to do some legwork however, as there will be no room for parking along the road.

Four six-meter tall lighted pillars will illuminate the sign at night.

Each will be crowned with a large white ball spinning in water, as reference to Phuket’s reputation as “The Pearl of the Andaman”.

The pillars will be decorated with large replica banana leaves made of stone.

Patong Municipality Public Works Division chief architect Supasis Utairat said the banana leaves were to represent the banana trees that were once abundant along Patong Beach – before it was developed for tourism.

“Patong means ‘banana leaf forest’ in Thai, he explained.

– Additional reporting by Atchaa Khamlo



Photos: Sitthipong Nongkaew



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Taking the baht on tour abroad

DAILY news headlines lately have touted – for better or worse – the growing strength of Thailand’s currency.

If the current economic situation were a children’s fairytale, it could easily be titled “Jack, The Bean-stock and The Baht”. As most of us know, Jack climbed higher and higher into the sky, until he disappeared into the clouds.

Most local residents and business folk on the ground, though, are sleeping these days with one eye open on the escalating baht.

Insomnia aside, questions looming about how tourism and property will be affected by the market gyrations remain in the realm of “it’s still too early to tell”.

At a time when Asian currencies are rising and booming regional economies are taking the US dollar for a beating, watchers of all things Thai remain perplexed about the underlying local fundamentals.

Exports remain a critical part of the larger economy, tracking anywhere from 55% to 60% of the GDP. Contrary to local wishful thinking, tourism weighs in at only 6.5%, though adding in an appropriately weighted service sector and related employment figures would see it hit double digits. Despite a drop during the 2008

As the baht soars, many domestic tourists are opting for holiday destination in the West.



Property Watch
By Bill Barnett

global financial crises and some jitters from the recent and ongoing political fallout, domestically Thailand has weathered the storm in amazingly good form.

What is worrying analysts now is a huge inflow of foreign speculative investment into the country’s coffers, effectively pumping up the baht like a balloon.

Long-term industrial investors are crying foul over the lack of currency controls, as mega-investments into industries such as automobile manufacturing for export are becoming less competitive by the day, given the currently unfavorable exchange rates.

From all this, two important questions have arisen. The foremost is: Will the economy be able to continue sustained growth if the all-important export GDP driver shrinks?

And of course for the local contingent of retirees who have US dollar savings or fixed income from abroad, the question is: Is it better for the baht be at 25 or 40 to the US dollar?

There are no easy answers. For tourism, which has seen a strong shift to regional markets, the impact has been minimal as industry players also benefit from local currencies rising in value.

As Phuket has limited reliance on the long-haul US market, risk is naturally mitigated.

However, certain segments such as medical tourism, which caters to more affluent North American and European clients, is watching its “value-for-money” attraction being swiftly eroded away.

Property players might expect a pessimistic outcome. The island has always attracted strong overseas interest from Hong Kong, Singapore and elsewhere throughout the region.

Many of these potential buyers have US currency savings or investments and the state of play today might have them warming the bench longer than anyone expected. One key aspect often overlooked is the domestic market for Phuket tourism, which has continued to grow year after year despite the machinations in the nation’s capital.

As the so-called middle class, or “more affluent white collar working class”, see their baht grow, they are now looking to take holidays in the US or Europe, where there is simply more bang for their baht.

This is a similar trend to other Asian countries, where Thailand



GETTING OUT: As the baht continues to rise, many Thais are taking their baht and heading to holiday destinations in the West. Photo: Nicolas Asfour

is expected to fuel tourism growth and now they may be re-directed to longer haul destinations.

The message is clear: Phuket is not just competing with Bali, Langkawi or Vietnam – it is competing with the world.

For a growing number of local residents who have opted to retire or invest here, the attractiveness of a value destination is shrinking and more than a few businesses have opted to close shop.

Many people are citing the rising cost of living in Phuket, but in

fact much can be attributed to the number of higher-end shops and imported goods now available here.

Anyone wanting to view how base costs remain fairly constrained can simply take a trip to Super Cheap.

Even as I write this, calls for intervention is taking place at every level for the flexing currency.

In the past we’ve had oil wars, the war on terror and now many opine on a East vs West fraction could lead to currency wars.

Tonight I will just have to be content to let my dog Koko keep an eye on the market as she tends to sleep with one eye open anyway.

Bill Barnett is Managing Director of C9 Hotelworks and can be contacted through www.c9hotelworks.com.

Laguna

PROPERTY RESALE

Properties for sale within Laguna Phuket

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<p>3 Laguna Townhomes THB 26 M</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 beds 4 baths Townhome • fully furnished • lagoon view • private pool 	<p>4 Laguna Village Residence I THB 28.5 M</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2-storey detached Residence • fully furnished • lagoon view • private pool
<p>5 Banyan Tree Residences THB 45 M</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two-Bedroom Pool Villa • Residence Club membership • fixed rental return • fully furnished 	

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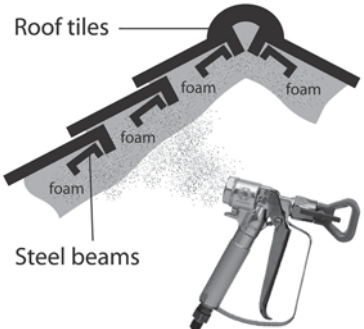






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Shape your home, and legal outlook

Property Legal

By Michael Greth

THERE are a few things that must be clarified when hiring a contractor to build your dream home.

A construction agreement about terms and conditions, specifying the structure, is usually required to be signed by the contractor and yourself as the employer.

When these are agreed upon, the contractor will start construction.

Typically, invoices will be sent to the employer when agreed construction milestones are fulfilled.

Ideally, the invoices should be supported by documentation showing completion of the respective construction phases.

When work on your new home is nearly finished, the contractor should notify you in writing and advise that the construction will shortly be ready for handover.

Usually this completion notice will include a date for a meeting and inspection.

This provides the employer with the opportunity to verify that the construction work has been performed to a good standard.

If the employer or appointed surveyor locates defects, they can be listed in a concise defect list or inspection report, signed by both parties, which stipulates a time pe-



OPEN DOOR: Always consult legal advice when hiring a contractor to build your dream home. Photo: Jim Welch

riod for the defects to be rectified.

This stage of the construction process is often called practical completion and should be followed by a further joint inspection verifying that all defects as described have been rectified as agreed.

Despite practical completion, the employer should be entitled to

withhold consent to accept handover of the structure, and a considerable amount of the contract price, or retention, payable until all the construction work is completed. In particular, all identified defects, and a final acceptance of the construction work issued.

After you accept the completed

structure, delivery can then take place and the retention money released.

In the event that the contractor would fail to make good all identified defects, the employer should have the right to appoint a third party contractor and pay the occurring expense out of the retention funds.

After accepting delivery of the completed structure, contractual warranties are important.

They require a contractor to fix any defects occurring within the agreed warranty period. The term of warranty may vary, but it should not be less than five years for structural and two years for non-structural defects.

Unfortunately, sometimes contractors fail to fulfill their warranty commitments, in which case a construction agreement can allow the employer to retain a reasonable amount of the contract price, for an agreed period of time, to ensure that the contractor will fulfill warranty obligations.

In the event that the contractor would fail, the employer should again have the right to appoint a third party contractor and pay the occurring expense out of the withheld funds.

To summarize, when opting for hiring a contractor to construct your dream home it is advisable to verify that the legal documentation includes provisions helping the employer with appropriate tools and instruments securing the contractor's due performance in relation to quality work and remedy of defects.

Contact the International Law Office, Patong Beach Co. Ltd. E: michael@ilo-phuket.com T: 076-222 191-5.



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Little red flowers with power

Next on our Top 20 Phuket plants is the **Jatropha**. Its unique and bright flowers can be seen all over the island. Here's why...

TODAY'S focus will be on the *Jatropha*, a member of the large rubber tree genus. There are at least two distinct species which deserve a mention.

Jatropha integerrima, or *Patavia* in Thai, is the more perigrine or spicy variety.

It is frequently grown in the tropics as it hails from Cuba. It is widely available in garden centers here.

It is a shrub that can reach three or four meters, and while it can be used as a border or hedge in street plantings, is more often seen in gardens gracing a wall.

It produces a profusion of single red, or less usually pink, flowers which appear in clusters at the end of thin stems. Its large, often lobed, evergreen leaves are light green and nicely complement the blooms.

The *perigrine Jatropha* has a very open habit, which means it can be grown close to other plants, and it will tolerate a wide range of soils.

It is an amenable shrub which enjoys full sun, but will accept part shade. Given the right conditions, it will flower all year. It also does not mind being pruned.

Propagation is by seeds, or by cuttings which need to be dried off before being put in the earth.

While it is a good-natured shrub, the *Jatropha's* Achilles heel is its lack of resistance to disease, especially fungal attacks.

Gardening By Green Sleeves

Less significantly, its milky latex may irritate the skin. Apart from this, it is a good starting choice for the new garden and gardener.

The second member of the family is *Jatropha podagrica*, sometimes known as the coral plant.

It has many far-fetched names such as Buddha belly, the gout plant and Guatemalan rhubarb. In Thailand it is known as *malako-farang*.

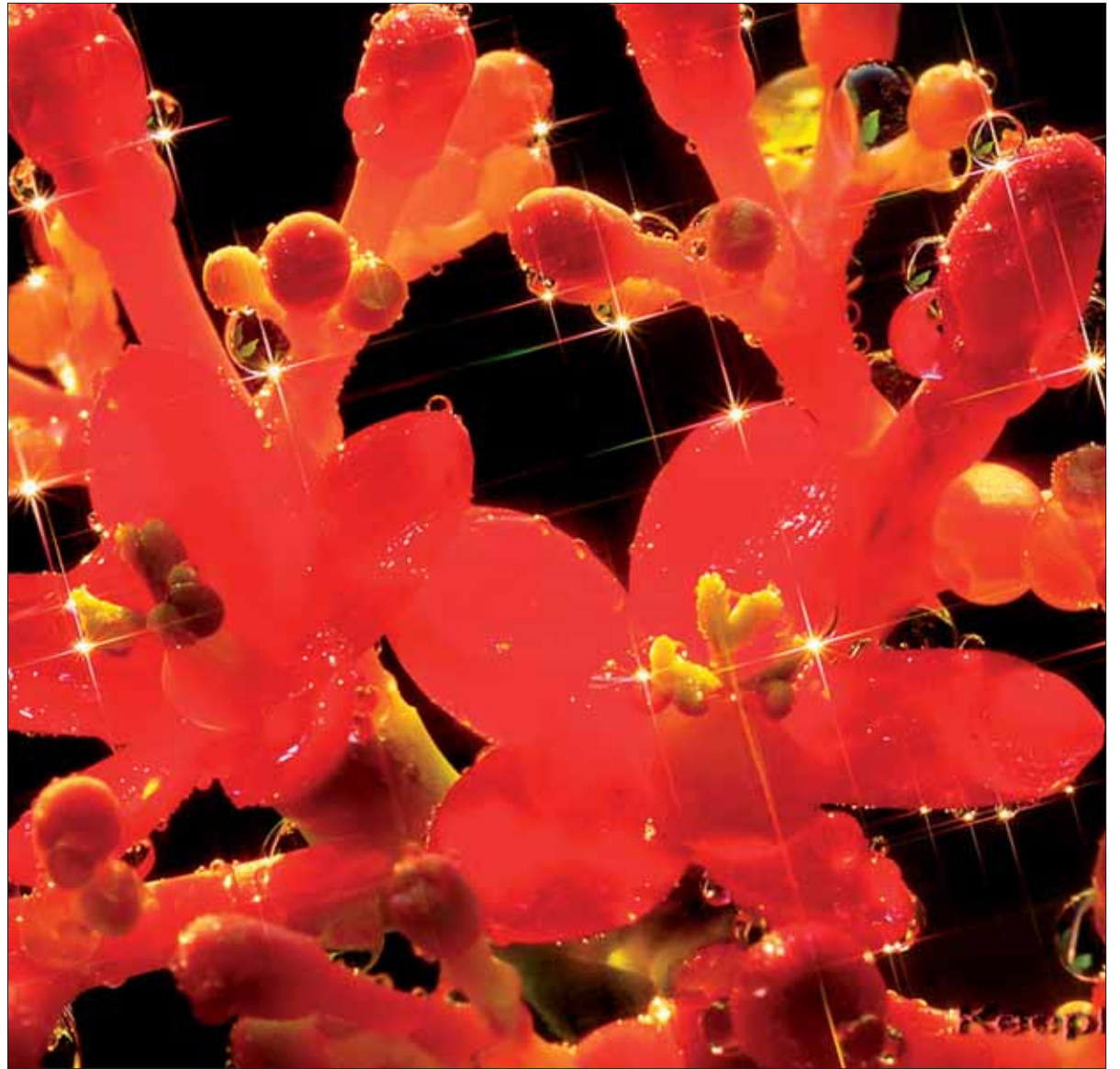
This is a much less common plant than the peregrine *Jatropha*, and you may have some trouble locating specimens. But it's well worth the trouble.

The foliage bears some resemblance to that of the peregrine *Jatropha*, being deeply lobed, but the leaves are altogether larger and more attractive.

They may exceed a foot in diameter. The shrub itself is, however, compact and rarely exceeds three feet in height.

This makes it a suitable candidate for a container. Additionally, it is succulent and can withstand dry periods. Propagation is by seeds which take only three to five days to germinate.

Each cluster of florets normally contains at least one seed pod.



SHINING BRIGHT: The striking *Jatropha Podagrica* grow well in Phuket's climate. Photo: Mike Keeling

Podagrica has two very unusual features. The swollen, bottle-shaped, gray stem which resembles a small baobab tree, and terminal sprays of tiny, brilliant, scarlet flowers on long stems above the foliage, reminiscent of red coral.

Given the right conditions – plenty of sun – the shrub will produce them all year long.

While these flowers are its principal attraction, *podagrica* is strikingly unorthodox in every way. And it will certainly provide a talking point for visitors to your garden.

Both the plants get a vote for different reasons. On looks *podagrica* wins, but together they merit a single inclusion in the top 20.

If you have a garden that you would like to be featured, please email pcampbell45@gmail.com

Tip of the week

Knowing your zones

IN NATURE, climate decides the types of plants found within an area.

Several climatic factors affect growth: humidity, daylight hours, season length, rainfall, temperature, even wind patterns.

However, in books on gardening, temperature is key: it is the factor that plants are usually judged against.

The United States Department of Agriculture devised a system of eleven plant hardiness zones based on

minimum temperatures.

Now accepted by most horticultural writers, the system helps the reader to select suitable plants for his/her patch.

In southern Thailand for example, you should ideally select species with a rating of 10 to 11.

Plants grown outside their preferred zonal range – say eight or nine – will probably survive in Phuket's heat rather than thrive. Anything below 7-8 is a no-no.

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RESORT

Chanot title, 2 rai in a coconut plantation, 23 rooms in 8 bungalows, some with kitchen, some with 2nd room. Aircon, sat TV, large pool, own well, large parking, restaurant, office. 15 years in business, lots of repeat guests. 30 million baht or best offer. Includes company. I want to spend the money before I kick the bucket. Tel: 076-280786, 086-940 1860. Fax: 076-381934. Email: bigasail@samart.co.th For further details, please see our website at www.bigasailing.com

NEW TOWNHOUSE



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

BIG FAMILY HOUSE



Near Loch Palm. 4 bedrooms, living room, dining room, kitchen. Also includes 9 aircons, TV room, maid service, store, UPVC hot/cold water tanks. Nice 440sqm garden. Very cheap! Price: 8 million baht. Tel: 087-417 8187.

PHUKET VILLA CONDO PATONG



New condo. 1km to beach, near Bangla Rd and Jungceylon, 1bed, 1 bath, fully furnished. 3.9 million baht for 42sqm and 3.8 million baht for 44.5sqm Tel:081-541 2025. Email: c.junlarat@gmail.com

2 BEDROOM HOUSE

Tel: +61-4-2917 3103, 087-269 6236, +45-40-294645. Email: cns7620@gmail.com For details, please see the sales website at <http://simplesite.com/cns>

PATONG SEAVIEW

Land for sale 1:2:72 rai. Nor Sor 3 Gor. Hasip Pee Road. Price: 16 million baht. Tel: 084-406 9803, 085-040 7423.

30 RAI IN TOWN

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

SEAVIEW LAND FOR SALE

Near Supalai Resort on the east coast of Phuket slope. A 3-rai plot with road and electricity access. Price: 3.15 million baht per rai. No agents please. Tel: 080-520 5989. Email: pakaporns@yahoo.com

3-BEDROOM HOUSE

(53sq.wah) near the Two Heroines Monument with 2 bathrooms, 3 aircons, curtains and kitchen in nice landscape. Price: 2.7 million baht. Tel: 080-520 2989.

1-RAI PLOT IN CHALONG

For sale. Chanote title included. Photos available. 300m off main road. Price: 7 million baht. Tel: 089-651 3479.

BEACHFRONT LAND

Bang Sak Beach, Khao Lak. Full infrastructure. 21m x 70m Chanote. 9.5 million baht. Tel: 087-003 6078 (English & Thai). Email: pong_ja19_9@yahoo.com

STUNNING SEAVIEW

Overlooking Patong bay. A townhouse with 3 bedrooms and 4 bathrooms. Includes a lockup garage. Asking price: 12 million baht. Tel: 076-341618, 086-691 9657.

NAI HARN LUXURY CONDO



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

NICE AND SPACIOUS HOUSE



In Heritage Project, Kathu. 2 floors, fully furnished, 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 1 maidroom. 234sq. wah. 18 million baht. Tel: 081-8920190 (Warit), 089-6464823 (Rattana). Email: prayoon_jp@hotmail.com

BEACHFRONT CONDO

Located in north Patong, freehold, top floor, 2 bedrooms. Price: 9.7 million baht. Renting also possible. For photos call 086-276 5117. Email: jihshand@gmail.com

3-BEDROOM HOUSE

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

URGENT SALE



New detached house in Phanason 3, Thalang. 253.25sqm, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, double garage, furnished and landscaped garden. 2.8 million baht. Contact Phing. Tel: 087-278 0067. Email: sweetpinkylive@live.co.uk

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.

HOUSE FOR SALE

In a quiet and secure residential compound at Bann Saiyuan, Rawai. An excellent building with furniture. It has 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, a built-in kitchen, a living room, a large covered terrace and parking space. Includes a swimming pool and small garden. Long-term registered lease (30+). Price: 7.2 million baht. Contact: JasminConsulting@gmx.net

1,100SQM LAND PLOTS

Very nice land plots on a secure development estate, 500m from a golf course. For sale only. Price: 1.89 million baht. Tel: 081-343 0777. Email: montha_phuket@yahoo.com

2.85M 3-BEDROOM

Villa California, 40sq wah. 2 bathrooms, large living area, built in teakwood kitchen. Just renovated. For more details, please call 081-895 6833.

HOUSE FOR SALE

400sqm property in a quiet and panoramic location at Baan Saiyuan. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, living room, large covered terrace, and parking, plus storage. Includes Chanote title, company owned. Price: 4.5 million baht. Contact: JasminConsulting@gmx.net

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TWO TOWNHOUSES



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An inexpensive 3-bedroom house for sale. A 150 sqm building on a 260 sqm plot with Chanote. The owners are moving and may decide to renovate this property for sale or rent. A quick "as is" sale is now available for a bargain price of 3.8 million baht. Tel: 081-970 0836 (Thai), 084-184 5162 (English).

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Furnished 3 + 1 bedroom, all w/ ensuite on 900 sqm plot. Bright, alarm system, autogate, etc. Layan Beach 3.4 km. Prefer long-term tenant. Tel: 087-386 3388 (English & Thai). Email: shanya.arman@gmail.com

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Close to Phuket International Airport. 4 rai, Chanote title. 3.8 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-868 7676. Email: phuketann@gmail.com.

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LAND AT CHERNG TALAY

390sqw, nice flat land, quiet area, Chanote. In Pasak Soi 5 near Laguna Home. Price: 6 million baht. Tel: 089-472 9118, 086-709 2933.

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Luxurious, lakeside, Thai-style villa in Chalong. Has 8 rooms and a swimming pool. Price: 38 million baht. Tel: 081-892 8740.

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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 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: 087-689 9679, 081-270 0875. Email: tasuwan@hotmail.com

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SURIN BEACH

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ROYAL PLACE CONDO

A studio for sale near a Lotus supermarket and 2 min. to Central Festival. Fully furnished. Price: 2.5 million baht. Tel: 081-372 3471.

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

LAND AT PA KHLOK

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

UNIQUE TWIN VILLA RAWAI

3/4 big bedrooms, pool. Big terrace, 400sqm living space. Price: 7.8 million baht. Free furnishing. Free transfer fee. Free Thai company/Chanote. Tel: 081-788 8280. Email: maurice.phuket@gmail.com

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3 BEDROOMS HOUSE

2 story, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. No agent. Tel: 081-956 2406.

SUPER DEAL, KATA BEACH

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For sale. 2 houses on land. 1 Ngan 89sq wah. Chanote title, near mountain, peace and safe, 10 minutes from the beach. 7.8 million baht direct from owner. Tel: 083-180 2143. Email: yaris.vios@gmail.com

KATA RESIDENCE FROM 8.5 MTB

Big 2-bedroom apartments, 140sqm. Now 8.5 million baht. Free transfer fee. Free furnishing. Tel: 081-788 8280. Email: maurice.phuket@gmail.com

PATONG SEA VIEW CONDO

120sqm, 2-bed, 2-bath apartment with living room, kitchen, terrace, big swimming pool. Freehold. Tel: 076-293149, 081-824 1385. Fax: 076-293149. Email: jbiwo@csloxinfo.com

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Soi Naya, Naiham. Long term. Price: 35,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-270 5126. Email: mervyn.crocker@yahoo.com

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Siam Real Estate have many tenants waiting for good quality holiday and long term villa rentals in all price ranges. Owners get best rates contact us today! Tel: 076-288908. Email: info@siamrealestate.com For further details, please see our website at www.siamrealestate.com

NEW HOUSE FOR RENT
A new, fully furnished 2-storey house with 2 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms. Price: 25,000 baht per month. Contact K. Nee. Tel: 081-892 4311. For further details, please see our website at http://panwagreen.weebly.com

3 BED HOUSE, KATHU
For long term rent. Furnished, European kitchen. Located on a private road in nice, quiet area. Tel: 085-470 2326 (English), 081-477 2929 (Thai). Email: paulstrong23@hotmail.com

SIAM REAL ESTATE RENTALS
We have the largest selection in Phuket of quality holiday and long term rental villas! Tel: 076-288908. Email: info@siamrealestate.com www.siamrealestate.com

PATONG BUILDING FOR RENT
In Bangla Road area. 4-storey building. Price: 100,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-881 7600. Visit website: www.ivybarphuket.com

NEW PATONG APARTMENTS
Large Studio & 2 Bedroom Units. WiFi, gym, 2 swimming pools. 2kms to town center in quiet location. Start at 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 080-052 8082. Email: solitude001@aol.com



KATA CONDO

Large, western, 110 sqm, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, with huge covered terrace Fully fitted teak kitchen, baths with granite tops, fully furnished, cable, ADSL, parking. Located in a quiet area. Tel: 084-840 1262. Email: north8east98@yahoo.com



SINGLE HOUSE

For rent. At Land & House Park Chalong. It is fully furnished with 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. Includes TV, Internet, 3 aircons, solar hot water, laundry room and clubhouse with pool. 24-hour security available. Please call for more info. Tel: 087-273 6218, 081-085 3583.



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.

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.

GUESTHOUSE KAMALA
Staff apartment, 4 rooms, UBC, cable, safes/hot water, shower. Lease 3x3. Sale price: 1.8 million baht o.n.o. Tel: 089-971 6120.

APARTMENT FOR RENT
A 2-bedroom, 2-bathroom luxury apartment in Rawai with a sea view. Tel: 087-882 9604. Website: premierpropertiesphuket.com

FULLY FURNISHED HOUSE
1-2 bedroom houses for rent. Starting from 9,000 baht per month. At Palai, near Chalong Bay. Tel: 081-892 4311. Visit: http://palaigreen.weebly.com

POOL VILLAS FOR RENT
Fully furnished 2-4 bedroom villas at Bangtao Beach with a big pool, satellite TV and ADSL. Tel: 085-674 6786.

TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
Opposite Phuket City Home, near Kuku. It has 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 1 living room, 1 kitchen, and parking. Looking for a long-term tenant. 12,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-978 6700.

HOUSES FROM WELLTA
Do you want to rent or buy a house in Phuket? Maybe I can help you. Contact Wellta. Tel: 081-968 0309 (English). Email: info@houseinphuket.com www.houseinphuket.com

MODERN POOL VILLA FOR RENT
Furnished 3 + 1 bedroom, all w/ ensuite on 900 sqm plot. Bright, alarm system, autogate, etc. Layan Beach 3.4 km. Prefer long-term tenant. Tel: 087-386 3388 (English & Thai). Email: shanya.arman@gmail.com For further details, please see our website: www.facebook.com/album.php?aid=12164&id=137133126328976&saved



227SQM HOUSE FOR RENT

Fully furnished house with 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 aircons, and a European-style kitchen. Includes 3 TV sets and 2 fridges. Price: 24,000 baht/month. Situated in a quiet location. A minute from Heroines Monument. Tel: 086-949 1913. Email: juraj_t@yahoo.com



SIMPLY PARADISE

A luxurious home with wonderful living space and magnificent uninterrupted ocean views. 10 mins to BIS/Marinas. Rent per month: 80,000 long-term and 160,000 short-term. Tel: 086-279 6283.

GREAT OCEAN VIEW
Villa with a pool, 5 large bedrooms and 3 bathrooms. At a quiet and exclusive location, 1 minute from the beach. 10 minutes to BIS/ Marinas. Price: 80,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-279 6283.

3 BED, 2 BATH NEAR BYPASS RD
3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 aircons. Ten mins from big Tesco Lotus. Fully furnished, ADSL, Internet, hot water heater, big fridge, kitchen, living room, garden. Price: 16,000 baht per month. Ready to move in! Tel: 089-474 0769 (English & Thai). Email: eaonkub@hotmail.com

BUNGALOW IN RAWAI
A 1 bedroom unit with aircon, WiFi and TV for rent. Price: 7,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-279 0837. Email: bricothailand@hotmail.com

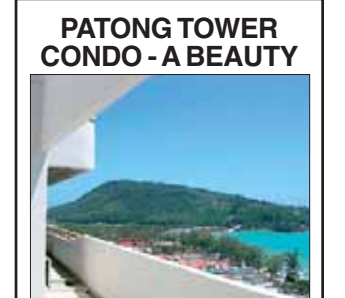
MAI KHAO VILLA FOR RENT
2-bedroom villa with living room, kitchen, big sala, lovely garden. Furnished to European standard. Save place. Rent: 18,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-719 7015. Email: jfyievet@gmail.com

PROPERTY IN PATONG FOR RENT
Luxury 1 bedroom, fully furnished, ground floor, pool side 65sqm apartment in the center of patong. Long-term rental preferred. 1 month minimum. Tel: 087-887 9070. Email: ianscondo@yahoo.com

30 RAI FOR LEASE
Flat land in new Daorung School. Very good location for business. Tel: 081-691 2526.

LUXURY POOL VILLA
Near Phuket International Academy in Thalang. 5 bedrooms, partially furnished. Price: 100,000 baht per month. Tel: 084-057 5756. Website: www.thegardenkptphuket.com

CONDO FOR RENT
2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 126 sqm, partly furnished, at Phuket Country Club. Email: p.panphong@gmail.com



PATONG TOWER CONDO - A BEAUTY

Beautiful Patong Tower Beach Condo with stunning 280 degree panoramic views of the ocean, mountains and town. Large outdoor patio and wrap around balcony. Completely renovated, Internet and washing machine. Available from September 2nd, 2010. Tel: (86) 1381634 4147. Email: PatongTowerRental@yahoo.com. For further details, please see our www.PatongTowerRental.com

3 BED AT LAND & HOUSE PARK
Very nice house + lovely garden. Long term rent, furnished. Price: 28,000 baht per month. Special price without furniture: 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 080-529 6928 (English & Thai). Email: bow.jariya@gmail.com

PATONG 1 BEDROOM APARTMENT
1 bedroom apartment at Royal Paradise Complex in Patong. For more info, call 076-341827. Email: suites247@yahoo.com

Classified Advertisements

Please use this form to write your classified advertisement. Then hand it to any of our agents.

_____ (heading)

Classified ads are charged per line. Each line is 120 baht, with a minimum of 4 lines (heading included) per ad.

All advertising must be paid for in advance.

Deadline for Property Gazette page: Friday 3 pm.

Deadline for all other ads: Saturday 12 noon.

Live in Rawai?
Place your **GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS** at 'The Network' property office

Simply write out your ad, pay and leave it with Khun Anna (086-478 0201)

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

The Gazette Online is always on top in Google!

Property Services

SEARCHING FOR PROPERTY?

To sell or buy property. We offer houses & land plots for sale and rent in Phuket. If you are looking to rent or buy property or would like to list your property for rent or sale, please contact us for quick sale. Visit us at www.thenetworkproperty.com

Property Wanted

SEAVIEW BEACHFRONT VILLA

Interested in renting a villa long-term. Contract must start from the end of 2010. 4 to 5 bedrooms and maids room preferred. Not furnished. Security and/or maid service should be included. Large garden with swimming pool. Pets allowed. Beachfront, sea view or close to the beach. Areas preferred: Naiham or Rawai. Rental will be negotiable depending on facilities. Email for picture and info to: pisodarn@gmail.com

INTERESTED IN RENTING VILLA

Long-term contract from February 2011. 4 to 5 bedrooms. Maid room if possible but not necessary. Not furnished. Security and/or maid service included. Large garden with swimming pool. Pets allowed. Beachfront, sea view or close to the beach. Areas preferred by order: Naiham, Rawai, Chalong, Kata, Kamala. Rental will be negotiable depending on facilities. Email for picture and info: pisodarn@gmail.com

LOOKING FOR VILLA
Laguna Villa, Bang Tao area, fully furnished. Required for Dec-Mar period. Tel: 089-594 6456 (English), 085-888 8485 (Thai).

Accommodation Available

APARTMENT & ROOM IN PATONG

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. Or send email: info@brommathaihouse.com Website: at www.brommathaihouse.com

500 BAHT A DAY, RAWAI BEACH



Nice pool guesthouse, 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, WiFi, cable TV, covered car park. Email: mamard2004@hotmail.com

WANTED BEST VILLA RENTALS

Siam Real Estate have many tenants waiting for good quality holiday and long term villa rentals in all price ranges. Owners get best rates contact us today! Tel: 076-288908. Email: info@siamrealestate.com Website at: www.siamrealestate.com

CONDO 700M FROM PATONG

Fully furnished, 50 sqm, double bed, kitchen, living room, balcony with mountain view, fitness center, swimming pool. Price: 25,000 baht/month. Tel: 081-817 7886, 081-244 6970 (English & Thai). Email: wintin2007@yahoo.com

SIAM REAL ESTATE RENTALS

We have the largest selection in Phuket of quality holiday and long term rental villas! Tel: 076-288908. Or email: info@siamrealestate.com For further details, please see our website at www.siamrealestate.com

SURIN BEACH APARTMENTS

'The Lofts' apartments are situated on the beach road in Surin which is fully serviced by restaurants and shops, and is one of the trendiest areas of Phuket. Overlooking Kings Park, a public park and the location of Phuket's first golf course, these apartments put you on the front step of all that Surin has to offer. One bedroom/bathroom designed by a western architect - trendy tropical living. Tel: 076-326454, 080-146 3466. Email: danmoglia@prodecon.co.th For further details, please visit our website: www.phuketapartmentholidays.com

KATHU GOLF CONDO

62sqm with bath, bedroom, living room, kitchen and balcony for long term rental. Nice view. Tel: 076-293149, 081-824 1385. Fax: 076-293149. Or pls send email to: jbiwo@csloxinfo.com

PATONG LUXURY APT

Royal Paradise Complex. Email for more info and photos: suites247@yahoo.com

PHUKET TOWN, 3 BED, 2 BATH

Nice house close to big Tesco Lotus. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, living room, 4 aircons, fully furnished, ADSL, ready to move in. Price: 17,000 baht per month, 192,000 baht for one-year lease. Tel: 089-474 0769 (English & Thai). Email: eaonkub@hotmail.com For further details, please see our website at www.ddproperty/property/show/87776

APARTMENTS IN KATHU

Newly serviced studios, 1 bedroom or 2 bedroom. Furnished with WiFi and pool. Attractive prices. Tel: 081-892 0038. For further details, please see our website at www.orchidkathuheights-phuket.com

PATONG TOWER NEW 1-BEDROOM

Newly renovated, modern 1-bed condo for long term rent only. 25,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-471 8467 (English). Email: deherder@hotmail.com

LIVING IN PHUKET TOWN

Newly renovated Sino-Portuguese house for rent as 1- and 2-bedroom apartment. Fully furnished. Tel: 089-668 3639 (English & Thai). Email: zhunaumann@gmail.com

KATA BEACH

Low season promotion from 400 baht per night, includes continental breakfast, WiFi and 10% off food. Free airport pickup with five night stay. Tel: 081-894 8446. Email: sfrkata@hotmail.com For further details, please see our website: www.southernfriedrice.com

CONDO IN GOLF COURSE

Secure, great location in Phuket country club and fully furnished. Email: jadejirat@yahoo.com

Holiday Homes & Villa Rentals

BEACH FRONT HOUSE

3 bedrooms, 4 baths. Right next to the water (put your feet in it), private pool, parking, big garden, gazebo sitting area, fully furnished, A/C, small fitness, cable TV. 45,000 baht per week. Tel: 076-288358, 087-097 7759 (English), 089-921 8828 (English & Thai). Email: chandasaisombatt@yahoo.com

WANTED BEST VILLA RENTALS

Siam Real Estate have many tenants waiting for good quality holiday and long term villa rentals in all price ranges. Owners get best rates contact us today! Tel: 076-288908. Email: info@siamrealestate.com Website: www.siamrealestate.com

SIAM REAL ESTATE RENTALS

We have the largest selection in Phuket of quality holiday and long term rental villas! Tel: 076-288908. Email: info@siamrealestate.com Website: www.siamrealestate.com

Accommodation Wanted

HOUSE WITH POOL NEAR KATHU

Looking to rent a house with pool, 1 or 2 bedrooms for 1-3 months, preferred location near Kathu. Email: j.jameson@hotmail.com

LOOKING FOR A HOUSE

Looking for a 1 - 2 bedroom house in Kathu or Phuket town. Long term. Furniture is preferably but not necessarily. Quiet location. Tel: 081-978 0819 (English). Email: genybr2010@gmail.com

SEEKING RENTAL

Seeking a long-stay rental for 15,000 baht per month or less. I live in Thailand on a long-stay retirement visa. Email: ethanbenjamini@yahoo.com

Building Products & Services

QUALITY BUILDING SERVICES

- * Built-in
- * Architect, construction, renovations,
- * Carpentry, real wood, parquet
- * Painting
- * Tilers
- * Sand wash
- * Teakwood furniture
- * Teakwood sala
- * Trailer car delivery services
- ** Fair prices and free estimates given **
- ** Made to order **
- Contact 087-689 9679. (English & Thai). Email: allservices29@gmail.com

CUSTOM FURNITURE PACKAGES

With full interior design and delivery service, including bespoke manufacturing for fitted and loose furniture. We supply the best modern quality in sofas, curtains and outdoor furniture. Please contact Rick. Tel: 082-275 7737. Email: scubarick1@gmail.com

Household Items

SOFA BEDS FOR 5,000 BAHT

Selling purple sofa beds for 5,000 baht each. These are completely new, never used, and boxed. Tel: 087-881 8075 (English & Thai). Email: harrison@windowslive.com

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS SALE

and infant high chair. Fold-up infant's pushchair/ stroller, 1,600 watt Hitachi vacuum cleaner, toaster, kettle blender and rice cooker. Price: 10,000 baht for all. Tel: 089-929 5459 (English).

GREY SOFA AND ARMCHAIR

Grey 3-seat sofa and armchair. 3-4 years old, never really used - pretty much as new. Paid 18,000 baht. Will sell for 6,000. Ready for pick-up anytime. Tel: 081-862 8267 (English). Email: chriso@loxinfo.co.th

SOFA FOR SALE

White reclining sofa, modern style. 3,000 baht. Tel: 086-278 8598 (English). Email: curlyphyl@yahoo.com

LOUNGE FURNITURE

Lounge furniture. Suitable for TV stand or DVD. Can be viewed at Bangtao Beach, near Laguna. One light oak; one dark colored. Original price: 10,000 baht. Make an offer. Tel: +44-794-362 4622. Email: lisar_ryder@yahoo.co.uk

KING-SIZE BED FOR SALE

Barely used king-size bed with mattress for sale at only 4,000 baht. Tel: 083-180 2234 (English). Email: alexkretsu@gmail.com

SINGLE BED FOR SALE

Very good condition. Hardly used. Beach colored wood with wooden head board. Mattress not included. 3,000 baht. Tel: 085-691 7250. Or email: tstcard@yahoo.com

NICE DINING ROOM SET

Wood dining room table with 6 reupholstered chairs. Very good condition. Quick sale at 8,900 baht. Tel: 089-651 5186. Email: Txxzt@yahoo.com

WAHING MACHINE

SAMSUNG Frontloader 6 Kg. As good as new with all programs and temperatures. 7,000 baht. Tel: 082-415 4560 (English). Email: aniqueweymann@hotmail.com

Household Services

DWF HOME SERVICES

Built-in bars, counters, pools, kitchens, ponds, etc. Contact: K. Noi. Tel: 081-606 5746. Email: DWF_homeservices@hotmail.com

HOME CARE PHUKET

All kinds of repair and shop fitting services. Prompt efficient, fair and reliable service. Tel: 084-455 3536. Email: mm79743@gmail.com

Classified Advertisements

Please use this form to write your classified advertisement. Then hand it to any of our agents.

Form with lines for writing a classified advertisement, including a heading line and several body lines.

Classified ads are charged per line. Each line is 120 baht, with a minimum of 4 lines (heading included) per ad.

All advertising must be paid for in advance.

Deadline for Property Gazette page: Friday 3 pm.

Deadline for all other ads: Saturday 12 noon.

Looking for land to buy?

See more classified ads at www.phuketgazette.net

THAILAND'S LEADING BROKERAGE & NEW YACHT DEALERSHIP



Please visit our website for more listings

Pershing 46 (2010)

- New 2010 model with very little use
- Twin MAN R6 - 800hp diesel shaft drive engines
- Upgraded Kohler generator 9KW
- Tropical air/con throughout and in the cockpit
- Raymarine instrumentation including auto pilot
- Immaculately maintained by a full time captain since new

599,000 Euro

Mills 51 (1998)

\$249,000 USD

Executive Catamaran (2007)

2,400,000 Euro

Apreamare 45 (2002)

PERFECT CONDITION

\$395,000 USD

Supercraft 62 (1995)

5,950,000 HKD

leemarine.com






Dealership Office
The Boat Lagoon Marina Phuket
Contact: Martin Holmes
Tel: 076 238 803
Fax: 076 273 319
Email: info@leemarine.com

Brokerage Office
The Boat Lagoon Marina Phuket
Contact: Andrew de Bruin / Marcus Overman
Mobile: 081 894 1530 / 081 968 1437
Tel/Fax: 076 239 729
Email: andrew@leemarine.net

Yacht Haven Marina Office
The Yacht Haven Marina Phuket
Contact: Jim Poulsen
Mobile: 081 891 3237
Tel/Fax: 076 206 260
Email: jim@leemarine.net

Pattaya Office
Ocean Marina Jomtien Beach
Contact: Mark Heath
Mobile: 081 787 9408
Tel: 038 235 061 Fax: 038 235 062
Email: mark@leemarine.net

FAST TOUR/ FISHING BOAT

One owner, wonderful, fast tour boat, RIB rigid foam, 150Hp engine with Yamaha 5Hp for security. Full electronics, toilet, large sun cover. Up to 8 people, cruising at 25/30 knots in comfort. Priced to sell! Below US\$35,000. Hurry, best offer accepted. Tel: 076-270703, 087-2654268. Email: henkt@hku.hk

WHARRAM TIKI 26' (2010)

As good as new with a 6Hp 4-stroke O/B, dinghy & out-board engine and mooring. Only 1.3 million baht! o.n.o. See our website: www.boatshedphuket.com

40 FT CRUISING YACHT

Fast fiberglass boat well equipped for cruising. It's been used for circumnavigation. Sale price: US\$85,000. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-866 8716. Email: stormbay2@yahoo.com.sg

MOTORSAILER



Neptunian 33. Bluewater cruiser. New paint and varnish, inside and outside. Sailed single-handed from UK. Tel: 081-968 1437 (English). Email: bobedward1@hotmail.com

DINGHY BOAT

9-meter long boat with 205Hp, 4-stroke Suzuki engine. 1 year-old in good condition. Price: 890,000 baht. Contact for more information. Tel: 082-815 3132.

AZIMUT 46 (2001)

For sale. New listing. Very good condition, mail for brochure. Please call for more details. Tel: 086-690 0444 (English), 085-887 7414 (Thai). Email: rico@yachtcharter-asia.com

SWISS CAT 20 FT

Made of fiber glass. Comes with a Tohatsu 50Hp trailer with full equipment. Registration: 300,000 baht. Please call for more info. Tel: 089-471 1805.

SIMPSON 12m CATAMARAN

Built to a high standard in UK (1993). Price: US\$169,500. For more details, please see our website: www.boatshedphuket.com

JEANNEAU SUN ODYSSEY 35'

2003, great pocket cruising yacht. Price: US\$79,950. For further information, visit our website: www.boatshedphuket.com

FONTAINE PAJOT 44 (2006)

Professionally maintained in excellent condition. Price: EUR 429,950. See our website: www.boatshedphuket.com

POWER CATAMARAN

For sale. New 35 foot, fiberglass with fly bridge. Perfect for scuba diving, hotel transfers. Email: jgkg24@hotmail.com

BENETEAU OCEANIS 351 (1995)

Great condition. Awlgrip paint job. Price: US\$89,950. For more information, visit our website: www.boatshedphuket.com

43 FT ROBERTS CRUISING YACHT

Fiberglass boat with equipment warranty. It is undergoing major refitting. Price: US\$43,500. Contact for more info. Tel: 081-866 8716. Email: stormbay2@yahoo.com.sg

MONTEREY 298SS (2006)

Twin 320 Hp Volvo engine. 50 KTS airberth is available. Price: US\$99,950. Visit our website: www.boatshedphuket.com

BAYLINER 245Hp (2009)

Like new. 300Hp Mercruiser includes air berth. Price: 2.7 million baht. See our website: www.boatshedphuket.com

12M MOTOR YACHT (1992)

G.R.P. Cummings Diesel 300Hp engine. Just rebuilt. Price: 2.5 million baht. For more info, please see our website: www.boatshedphuket.com

SELLING YOUR BOAT?

With 70 offices worldwide we service more than 360,000 registered customers. We're "The No sale No fee brokers". Call Alan. Tel: 084-842 6146. For more information, visit www.boatshedphuket.com

NEW BOAT SUNNAV 18FT



For sale. Highest quality with trailer. Price: only 270,000 baht. No engine. Tel: 089-476 7443, 085-352 1940, 076-377577. Contact for more details, email sales@sunnava.com or visit: www.sunnava.com

WAKE/SKI BOAT FOR SALE



2-year-old, 4.2 meters long Cholmark boat with a 60Hp Yamaha Enduro engine. Includes trailer, GPS sonar, Waketower and more. Price: 475,000 baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 086-949 1913. Email: juraj_t@yahoo.com

GAME FISHING/ DIVE BOAT

20m long, built 2007. One of the nicest we've seen. Price: 5 million baht. Includes mooring. More details, visit our website: www.boatshedphuket.com

55 FT CRUISING CATAMARAN

6 double cabins, 105sqm sails. 2009 in composite, no engine. Price: 1.5 million baht. Tel: 087-461 8089.

SWAN 42 CRUISER/ RACER

Discounted to US\$119,950. Must sell. Ready for King's Cup. Please see our website: www.boatshedphuket.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!

TO: The Phuket Co Ltd, 79/94 Moo 4, Thepkrasattri Rd
T. Koh Kaew, A. Muang, Phuket 83000

YES, I want to receive the PHUKET GAZETTE for a full year - 52 issues!

I hereby authorize payment against my Visa / Mastercard

Thai Baht 1,560 for Phuket Special Delivery (Phuket Island only!)

Thai Baht 2,800 for a domestic subscription (outside Phuket)

Thai Baht 9,000 for an overseas subscription (any country outside Thailand)

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Country: _____

To ensure clarity, please airmail. Do not Fax!

MOTORSAILER 33'

Neptunian 33. Single-handed, blue water cruising yacht. VHF, radar, autohelm, GPS, depth. Completely refurbished. 2 cabins. Hot water. Please contact for more info. Tel: 081-968 1437 (English). Email: bobedward1@hotmail.com

SOLUTIONS TO THIS WEEK'S PUZZLES



Crossword puzzle:

1	S	T	O	A	5	B	E	G	A	9	T	10	T	A	12	13		
14	T	A	L	L	15	A	R	O	M	A	16	O	B	O	L			
17	O	L	D	E	18	S	A	R	A	N	19	N	O	R	M			
20	L	E	I	C	21	E	S	T	E	R	S	22	H	I	R	E		
23	E	S	S	24	N	O	O	S	E	25	O	C	T	A	26	L		
27	N	E	H	28	R	U	29	T	A	30	U	31	I	D	E			
				32	U	M	A	33	O	T	I	S	34	V	O	W		
				36	P	O	T	E	N	T	I	O	M	E	T	E	R	
40	A	R	R	41	R	I	A	L	42	S	K	I						
43	M	E	A	44	A	L	L	45	E	L	G	A	46	R				
49	A	S	C	50	O	T	51	I	S	52	T	L	E	53	A	N	E	
				56	S	U	P	E	R	S	C	R	I	P	T	I	O	N
59	P	U	L	60	A	M	A	I	N	61	I	N	R	E				
62	O	R	A	63	C	A	R	N	E	64	F	L	A	G				
65	S	E	R	66	K	N	E	E	S	67	F	Y	K	E				



ONLINE JOB APPLICATION
HOTEL - ACCTING - SALES - IT - WEB DESIGN - F&B
www.KARON-PHUKET-HOTELS.com /JOB.htm

STAFF WANTED - ALL POSITIONS

Thurmann Group is rapidly expanding and seeking qualified full- and part-time staff in various positions for its companies with different levels of experience and skills.

We are currently looking for:

- Waiter/Waitress
- Restaurant Manager (Thai)
- Club Manager
- Sales & Marketing Manager
- Purchase Manager
- Personal Assistant
- Bartender
- Cashier
- Safety Instructor for trampolines
- Marketing & Sales Executive
- Cleaner

Location: Patong. Tel: 076-341613, 087-418 1365. Interested candidates, please email your curriculum vitae: schmidt.timo@gmail.com

FREELANCER NEEDED

To translate Thai to German or English to German with the ability to comment on translated texts for two German newspapers. Tel: 085-578 1001.

EVENT COMPANY HIRING

Phuket Event Company. Event Sales, Wedding Planning, DJs, Bands, Promo Staff, Designers, Models. Email: info@phuketeventcompany.com, phuketprivateparty@gmail.com

PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR

Right To Play seeks Thai with fluent English, computer literacy, training and experience to work on education program. Please contact Khun Alisa. Tel: 02-652 9274, 076-321435, 081-122 4803. Fax: 076-321435. Email: info.righttoplayasia@gmail.com

LOOKING FOR ACCOUNTS ASST

1 position. Knowledge of basic accounting and English required. Tel: 084-849 7212. Email your resume to: zeycoth@gmail.com

STAFF WANTED

Need a Thai man to help captain on sailing boat in Chalong. Salary fixed + commission. Start on November 1st. Must understand English. Tel: 087-277 7395. Email: delphine@sweetdreamers.info

MUSICIANS WANTED

Looking for musicians who play western style music such as rock, funk, disco and soul. We offer you 6 times a week playing and a monthly salary. English skills a must. Contact: Roger. Location: Khao Lak. Tel: 089-909 0385 (English & Thai). Email: divepig@yahoo.de

VILLA MANAGER REQUIRED

Must have excellent spoken and written English skills. Experience in property or hotel and people management essential. Must be a good communicator, structured and system oriented. Thai national required. Send CV and salary requirement to email: info@villachangrajang.com

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Seeking self-motivated native English speakers with excellent communication skills for a telemarketing position. Must be comfortable and confident on the phone. Experience in the service industry or telesales would be an advantage. Salary: basic, plus commission. Email: careers@pp-intl.com

WEB DESIGN JOBS

Seeking Dutch-speaking customer care reps, web and print designers, Photoshop illustrator. Tel: 084-628 2629. Please send CV to gianni@ictned.eu

TRAINER, PHUKET OFFICE

Right To Play seeks Thai with experience in Adult Education and Workshop Facilitation. Should be fluent English and computer literate. Please contact Khun Alisa. Tel: 02-652 9274, 089-776 6835, 081-122 4803. Fax: 076-321435. Or send your curriculum vitae to email: info.righttoplayasia@gmail.com Please see our website: www.righttoplay.com

THEATRE & RESTAURANT

Palazzo looking for Stage manager and Light - Sound technicians. Must be experienced in the entertainment industry and have good English. Positions: Floor manager, Bar manager, Bar tender, Waiters, with artistic skills and ability to perform in the Entertainment area. Tel: 076-202277 Or email: info@phuketpalazzo.com

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Good benefits!
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Interested? Please send your CV to la.maison@ymail.com or contact us on 089-993-3964 (Thai and English)
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BAR AND PROMOTION STAFF WANTED!

Seduction is opening Factory Bar on Bangla Road in November 2010. Factory Bar will offer international dance music, trendy cocktails and a stylish interior. We are looking for outgoing bar staff and promoters to give out flyers with a commission salary. Good english skills are necessary.

Send your application with photo by email to susanna.karranto@sk-ravintolat.fi or come and fill out a form at the Seduction office.

The office hours are Monday-Friday from 10am-5pm.
Tel. 076-340 215.

HOUSEKEEPER NEEDED

Full time housekeeper wanted. Should speak English and must like dogs. Cooking Thai and farang food, cleaning house and office in Chemgtalay area. Call K. Sudarat: 081-978 2725. Fax: 076-326144. Email: dae@techworx-projects.com

SALES EXECUTIVE

Seeking sales person to visit hotels, massage centers, spas, wellness stores and more. Must speak Thai and English. Compensation: base salary + commissions on sales. Tel: 087-466 8640. Send CV or resume to xalan71@hotmail.com

Sales & Marketing Executive

- Male / Female, Thai 25-40 years old
- Bachelor's degree in marketing or related fields
- Good command of spoken & written English
- Computer skills, own transportation
- Experienced, creative, positive attitude and self-motivated

Send CV to: helena.klaic@pick-place.si or contact : 089-888 2402.



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British International School, Phuket is looking for the following candidates:

- Housekeeping
- Building Maintenance
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 - Qualifications**
 - Thai National
 - University Degree, Physical Education Major or related fields
 - Good English, Positive, willing & hard working
 - Knowledge of local schools or clubs to arrange fixtures
 - Knowledge of local facilities & sports opportunities
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 - Be able to work flexible day 1 pm. to 6 pm. all day Saturday
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 - Male or Female / Thai national
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Fax: 076 238711-20 # 1130
E-mail: patcharakorn@bisphuket.ac.th or sirirats@bisphuket.ac.th

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We are growing and looking for the following talented individuals to join our dynamic team:

Marketing & Communications Manager

Requirements:
 • Bachelor's Degree in Marketing or related fields
 • Knowledge of graphic design software packages
 • Good command of written and spoken English
 • Creative with good initiative and leadership abilities to manage marketing programs, events and projects

Sales Coordinator

Requirements:
 • Bachelor's Degree in related fields
 • Good command of written and spoken English
 • Customer focused, with a service mind

Reservation Officer

Requirements:
 • Bachelor's Degree in related fields
 • Good command of written and spoken English
 • Customer focused, with a service mind

Beach Club Manager

Requirements:
 • Prior hospitality management experience
 • Enthusiastic, energetic, diligent and personable
 • Good command of written and spoken English
 • Expatriate preferred

Cost Controller

Requirements:
 • Prior hospitality management experience
 • Good command of written and spoken English
 • Expatriate preferred

Waiter / Waitress / Bartender

Requirements:
 • Diploma in hospitality or related fields
 • Good command of written and spoken English
 • Friendly, approachable and able to work in a team



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If you have what it takes and wish to join a people-oriented company that prides itself in excellence and the belief that people are our most important assets, then please submit your resume and a recent photo to our Human Resources Department as follows:

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 Email: hr@theracha.com
www.theracha.com

42/12-13 Moo 5, Rawai, Muang,
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 Tel: +66 (76) 355455 Fax: +66 (76) 355637

BLISS LOUNGE

We are looking for staff.
 Bliss Lounge Patong:
 - Bartender (Thai national)
 Good fixed salary, tips and bonuses
 Bliss Lounge Kata Beach:
 - Bartender/Cashier (Thai national)
 - Hostess (Thai national)
 - Waitress (Thai national)
 - Office assistants (Thai national)
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 Positions available now!
 Interested? Visit us at Patong or give us a call!
 Tel: 085-619 4963 (Thai/English).
 Please send your CV to email: info@blissphuket.com
 Address: 58/6 Bangla Rd. Soi Patong Resort-Patong Beach

STAFF WANTED

European-managed restaurant and hotel requires an experienced seafood chef, the salary depends on level of experience. Good opportunity. Other positions; English speaking bartenders, waitresses, waiters and kitchen helpers. English speaking hotel receptionists and driver. Guaranteed all season jobs. Hotel located at Ao Nang Beach, Krabi. Tel: 075-637767, 083-640 8003, 085-150 4840 (English & Thai). Fax: 075-637812. Email: aningrestaurant@hotmail.com

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 - Night receptionist
 - Sous chef
 - Waiter
 - Waitress
 - Assistant general manager
 - Housekeeping
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 247/1-8, Nanai Road, Patong, Kathu, Phuket 83150 Tel: 076-345345-7. Fax: 076-345099.
 Mobile: 081-893 0135.
 Email: accounting@clubbamboo.com

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Class Act Media is a company that produces The Phuketian, The Hua Hin Informer and The Samui Informer. We require an advertising sales manager to handle all aspects of our publications. Extensive knowledge of sales techniques, preferably in advertising sales in Thailand. Foreigner/Thai with excellent English. Good salary, bonuses and expenses. Please send CV in English and salary expectations (base salary) to Jason. Tel: 076-620553, 086-479 7471. Email: jason@aclassactmedia.com

TEACHERS WANTED IN PHUKET

Satree Phuket School is seeking 1 full time, native English speaking mathematics teacher for 11 – 18 year-old students. Salary with B.A. degree in English, drama or science begins at 35,000 and M.A. degree in English, drama or science begins at 40,000 baht. Both include 4 weeks paid holiday, a government health plan and 3,000 baht housing allowance. Minimum requirements: Bachelor's degree or above, plus TEFL or CELTA certificate or equivalent. We can only reply to applicants who meet the minimum requirements. Please email your CV with covering letter to: joeynho@gmail.com; toptip4736@yahoo.com. Or call Tel: 084-666 3557. Be prepared to present all original certificates at interview and do teaching demonstration.

LIVE-IN NANNY / MAID WANTED

Experienced live-in nanny to help with 3 children, aged 5, 6 and 7, at the Boat Lagoon. All children at school from 8am to 4pm. Cooking and English speaking skills would be a plus, as would a sense of humour. Tel: 081-893 7027. Email: potter.ian@gmail.com

RECEPTIONIST

Cleaner, security wanted. For guesthouse in Patong. Please contact more information. Tel: 082-598 1386.

Yes

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Open Position Listing :

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- Chief Accountant
- Assistant Executive Housekeeper
- Purchasing Manager
- Assistant Chief Engineer
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- Laundry Manager
- Concierge
- Recreation Manager
- Spa Manager
- Executive Sous Chef
- Restaurant Manager

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Career Opportunity



VS Asia Co., Ltd. was established in Phuket, and has experienced over 10 years as professional in printing & information technology and post-production for clients in Europe, Asia and worldwide, which co-operate with our business partnership company as a headquarter in Europe.

We are expanding our production department and looking for an active colleague to work in our team department as a position of "Text-Editor". Interested candidate must be a fast learner, self-motivated, creative, and keen to learn a new thing & IT and also a team player.

Text & Content Editor

Job Description:

- Knowledge of German language
- Text and content checking + correcting
- Combination of text and figure in page layout
- Work with editing text program
- Art or imagination of design
- Team working and cooperate with other related department

Qualifications:

- Male/Female, Thai Nationality
- Fluent German Language in reading + writing
- Any Vocational, Diploma or higher education related field of study
- Good knowledge of Computer (Windows or Macintosh) and Internet
- High responsibility and punctuality
- Able to work as a shift with team or independently
- Experiences of text editor would be advantaged

Salary & Welfare:

- Salary, Social Security Insurance, Tax, Food, etc.
- Incentive bonus: depends on quality, skills and experiences.

Interested applicants apply at: **VS Asia Co., Ltd. (Human Resource Department)**
 42 Moo3, Palai2, Chaofa Rd., Chalong, Muang, Phuket 83130
 Tel: (00)66-76-380600 Fax: (00)66-76-380605 email: info@vsdma.com

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Thai national with good English, both written and spoken. Must be computer literate and have a minimum of 1 year experience in a real estate company.

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Or email: info@phuketiw.com

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Wed and Sun 7 PM

Bangkok Hospital - Phuket City
Fri 7 PM

Patong Hospital - Patong
Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri, Sat, Sun 17 PM

Green Man Restaurant - Chalong
Tue 1 PM

Scandinavian Speaking
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Massage chair: 1.5 years old. New price: 140,000 baht. Selling for 56,000. Office chair: As new. Original price: 8,900 baht. Selling for 4,500. Tel: 085-793 1890. Email: gaanrab@hotmail.com

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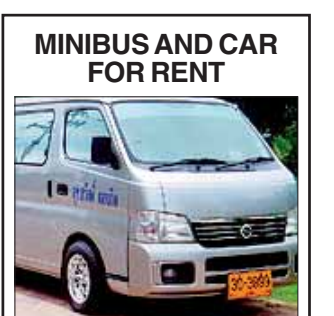
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On the ball with Brazilian footy tourney

PHUKET'S Brazilian Soccer Schools (BSS) held its first 3v3 *Futebol de Salao* (FDS) tournament for Under 9s and Under 12s at Phuket International Academy (PIA) earlier this month.

A total of 60 players from 24 teams pitched up to play in the tournament, and a crowd of 50 parents cheered on the teams.

Students from both international and government schools played alongside each other on teams named after football clubs in the English Barclays Premier League.

After teams were drawn, they were then split into divisions.

The tournament was played on three small 3v3 size pitches on PIA's floodlit astroturf.

Using small goals, and with no goalkeepers allowed in the FDS format, games were fast paced and provided some exciting action.

In the Under 9s tournament, West Ham won gold, Manchester United were runners up and Newcastle took bronze.

Martin Hill, head coach of BSS said the tournament exceeded all expectations and "was played in great spirit among players".

Young player Philip Schaupp says FDS is a "great way to improve football skills".

- James Goyder

Asia's top pros swing in for charity drive

By Alexandra Andersson

OVER 20 international golf pros have confirmed to play in Phuket's first Pro-Am golf charity event, to be held on November 5.

With more pros signing up, organizers of the 2010 Phuket Property Dot Com Pro-Am Invitational anticipate about 30 professionals to attend in total.

Among the star-studded lineup are Simon Yates (Scotland) and Scott Hend (Australia) - each of whom has won the PGA Asian Tour five times - going head-to-head with 10-time PGA Asian Tour winner Gerry Nordquist (USA).

Singapore's number one ranked player Lam Chih Bing and top-ranking Thai golf pro Undorn Duangdechra have also put their names down to play.

Amateur golfers from all over Thailand are welcome to join and challenge the pros in the 18-hole tournament, teeing off 11:20am at the Blue Canyon Country Club.

The total prize purse is valued at more than US\$150,000.

Proceeds will go to the Phuket Has Been Good To Us foundation, which provides free English-language education to more than 700 underprivileged children.

Mr Duangdechra, known for



FORE: Five-time GPA Asian Tour winner Simon Yates will be playing at Phuket's first Pro-Am golf charity event.

his bright dress sense on the course, says he's looking forward to taking part. "It's great to see an event like this in Phuket that supports a worthy cause."

"Blue Canyon's Canyon Course is always a challenge and I'm sure all involved will enjoy the event," he said.

Blue Canyon has been voted Best Golf Course in Asia by FinanceAsia for four years in the past decade. It is the only course to have hosted the Johnnie Walker Classic tournament three times - in 1994, 1998 and 2007.

Hole 17 was once described by Fred Couples as one of the best par-3s in the world, and is one of

two holes where substantial prizes are up for grabs at the tournament.

Anyone who hits a hole-in-one at hole 17 will win a 3.1-million-baht condominium, and hole-in-one hitters at hole 13 will walk away with travel vouchers worth one million baht.

All of this is on top of prizes for the nearest to the pin on each hole, prizes for overall tournament winners and a gift bag worth 3,000 baht for each participant.

Entry for members of Blue Canyon Country Club is 7,000 baht, and 9,000 baht for non-members.

The *Phuket Gazette* and PGTV are media sponsors of this event



The championship Canyon Course.

To get involved, email Graham Haslam at graham@phukethasbeengoodtous.org

Division 2 promotion playoffs FC Phuket net a point

IN THE first round of play in the Thai League Division 2 promotion playoffs, FC Phuket picked up a valuable point on the road with a 0-0 draw at Samut Prakarn.

Fellow Division 2 South qualifiers Trang FC were less successful, going down to FC Pichit at home 2-1.

Results of other matches played October 16 and 17: Saraburi FC 2-2 Chiang Mai FC,

Rangsit 1-2 Buriram FC, Bangkok FC 1-4 Chainat, Loei City 1-4 Rayong FC.

FC Phuket's next match is a road fixture at Rayong FC on October 24. Kick-off is at 6pm.

FC Phuket's first home fixture is at 6pm on October 30, against Chainat FC, who are off to a flying start after their impressive 4-1 win in Bangkok.

- Stephen Fein

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