

SOI DOG PUSHES TO END ASIAN DOG MEAT TRADE > PAGE 5

DRIVEN UNDER HEROINES MONUMENT TO GET B2.3BN UNDERPASS

Image: Bureau of Surveying and Design Department

The Phuket News
editor@classactmedia.co.th

The Department of Highways has announced a B2 billion project to build a three-lane underpass under the Heroines Monument to alleviate traffic in the area.

While at the time of press the Phuket office of the Department of Highways had yet to announce the project, the news was published by the Phuket Info Center on Aug 2.

The Bureau of Surveying and Design Department, which has commissioned a feasibility study for the project, confirmed the project by sharing a report by the Thai-language

Daily News on the Bureau of Surveying and Design Department official Facebook page.

The national Department of Highways has confirmed that the Bureau of Surveying and Design has conducted a survey and design project of the Tha Reua Intersection (the formal name for the Heroines Monument roundabout), said the report.

“The Bureau has hired a group of study consultants to prepare an environmental impact report (EIA). The EIA report will be submitted to the responsible agency for approval,” the report added.

Construction is expected to begin in 2024, and the underpass to open

for service in 2027, the report noted.

A construction budget of B2.365bn has been allocated for the project.

The consultants hired for the project were named as M.A. Consultant Co Ltd, V Engineering Consultant Co Ltd, Bangkok Engineering Consultant Co Ltd and Entic Co Ltd.

“At present, the Tha Reua Intersection has a heavy traffic volume and frequent accidents because it is an intersection of the main highway in Phuket [Route 402, locally called Thepkasattri Rd],” the report explained.

The underpass is planned to be three lanes wide under the monument along Thepkasattri Rd.

Two lanes of the lanes through the underpass will be northbound, with each lane 3.25 metres wide, and one lane will be southbound, measuring 4.5m wide.

At the ground level there will be two lanes on each side, with each lane 2.1m to 2.7m wide. The plan is to “maintain a two-lane roundabout around the monument along with designing a traffic signal system at intersections for safety,” the report said.

“When the project is completed, it will increase the efficiency of traveling to be more convenient, faster and safer, while Increasing the elegance of the important landmark monument...

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

NEWS PAGE 3

Pub closed for 30 days after fatal shooting



LIFE PAGE 9

Patong Rotary stepping up for the community



SPORT PAGE 16

Thai athletes shine at Asean Para Games



081 100 6092



PATRICK
CHANTHAM



PATRICK CHANTHAM HAIR LAB, BOAT AVENUE LAGUNA PHUKET

49/35 BOAT AVENUE LAGUNA, CHERRINGTALAY AMPHOE THALANG, PHUKET, THAILAND 83110

PATRICK CHANTHAM HAIR LAB, ROBINSON LIFESTYLE THALANG (UNVEILING SOON)

8/88 MOO 5, T. SI SUNTHON, A. THALANG, PHUKET 83110

เชียงใหม่ภูเก็ต
CENTRAL
PHUKET

ARCHITECT & HOTELEX

18-21 AUGUST
สิงหาคม 2022

AT 1st FL. CENTRAL PHUKET FLORESTA

NEAR JIM THOMSON SHOP

FREE
ENTRANCE
เข้าชม
ฟรี!!

DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION INNOVATION EXHIBITION
งานนวัตกรรมการก่อสร้างและออกแบบตกแต่ง

Exhibitor



[PIC] PHUKET
ORGANIZER

จัดโดย
PIC PHUKET ORGANIZER

TELEPHONE : 076-217199

LINE : @PICASIA

EMAIL : INFO@PICPHUKET.COM

Shooting nightclub closed 30 days

The Phuket News
editor@classactmedia.co.th

The nightlife venue where a man brandishing a sword was shot dead by a pub security guard last week has been ordered closed for 30 days for late trading.

The official notice was served on Friday (Aug 5), with the closure order in effect through to Sept 3. According to the order, the venue “is regarded as a place where illegal acts and behaviours are contrary to public order or good morals.”

The venue was finally identified by Phuket officials on Friday as ‘Sod’ (meaning ‘fresh’ or ‘single’), located at 445/1 Phuket Rd, Talad Yai, Phuket Town. The venue had previously traded as Nai Mueang Phuket pub and karaoke bar, located opposite Phuket Customs House on Phuket Rd, barely 200 metres from Phuket Immigration.

While the order was signed by Phuket Governor Narong Woonciew, the announcement marking the closure order listed more than a dozen top-ranking local officers involved in the investigation, including



Photo: PR Phuket

senior police officers.

The closure order also followed the venue operator being given four days to try to explain why the venue was open so late.

Initial reports said police were called to the venue at 5:50am, but official reports later said the shooting happened at about 5am on Aug 1.

Yet according to the announcement by Phuket officials last Friday, the statement given to officials by the venue opera-

tor said the incident happened sometime after 4am.

According to the venue operator, patrons were outside the venue waiting for heavy rain to ease in order to go home. Apparently they had waited for hours.

At about 4am, Traitaewit ‘Got’ Chindamaikul, 27, a resident of Phuket Town, attacked a group with a sword after an altercation with a woman at the pub. One person had suffered serious injury to

a finger, the venue operator, unnamed by officials, said.

In response, pub security guard Chaiwat ‘Od’ Chuwong, 35, pulled out his Glock 9mm handgun and shot Mr Traitaewit once in the chest, killing him. Traitaewit’s body was found beside his white pickup in the car park, more than 20 metres from the front of the club. Blood smear marks were on the side of the pickup showing that he had fallen there.

Mr Chaiwat waited for

police at the scene and immediately surrendered the handgun used in the shooting.

The announcement by Phuket officials last Friday marked that Mr Chaiwat had no right to be carrying a firearm at the scene.

However, it was not confirmed what charges, if any, he would face for the transgression.

Officials did not confirm what charges, again, if any, Mr Chaiwat would face for the fatal shooting.

At time of press, more than a week after the shooting, other than their initial reports Phuket City Police and Phuket Provincial Police had yet to make any public statements about their investigation into the shooting.

INSPECTIONS

Following the shooting incident and within hours of the deadly fire at the Mountain B pub in Chon Buri that left 15 dead and 37 injured (see page 7), Governor Narong ordered officials to conduct safety inspections of venues in Phuket Town, Patong and Kamala.

The inspections were carried out last Friday night (Aug

5) as part of a drive to check building safety and evacuation standards to ensure the welfare of patrons is protected.

At around 8pm, Kathu District Chief Siwat Rawangkul led a team to inspect entertainment venues such as bars, pubs, clubs and karaoke bars, predominantly on Bangla Rd in Patong.

As part of the inspection the safety officers reviewed the premises to check general design, construction materials used, control systems and fire exits.

A particular focus was placed on the inspection of electrical wiring and fire protection system measures. Entrance and exit doors were checked at the venues including emergency lighting. Likewise each venue was checked to ensure fire exits were accessible and it had fully functioning fire extinguishers available.

The general safety of the buildings was also checked as well as performance areas including stages and DJ booths.

The officials also spoke with the venue owners and operators to make sure they took extra care to maintain safety standards.

Heroines Monument underpass

Continued from page 1

...as well as promoting tourism of Phuket,” the report concluded.

The redesign plans include raising the monument itself by 90cm amid a gardened forecourt where visitors can come to pay their respects.

Access to the monument will be by walkways leading to the Robinson department store on the northwest corner of the intersection and to the closed jewellery retail centre (the building that looks like a museum) on the southeast corner of the intersection.

Stairs and elevators will be installed to make visiting the shrine accessible to all people, and a multipurpose hall will be built to showcase the legendary tale of the island’s two heroines.

People wanting to visit the monument will be able to park at either the jewellery retail centre building or the Robinson department store, the report said.

The Heroines Monument has been notorious for traffic tailbacks for years. A heavy downpour on the afternoon of July 29, a Friday, saw traffic slow through the junction for hours. At 7pm that night the tailback for northbound traf-



Image: Bureau of Surveying and Design Department

fic still stretched back along Thepkasatti Rd as far as the bypass road at the Bang Khu Intersection, a distance of over four kilometres.

Until the announcement last week, the plans announced for the Phuket Light Rail, or ‘mass transit’ system, had never included any construction to alleviate heavy traffic at what is easily Phuket’s busiest intersection.

In February 2017, Nirun Ketkao, Acting Director of Bureau of Regional Transport and Traffic Promotion, confirmed that six tunnels were to be built where the light rail is to travel underground:

- Tha Chatchai Checkpoint, at the northern tip of the island;
- Thepkasattri Rd, in front of Hongsyok Bamrung School, in Baan Suan Maphrao, Thalang;
- Thepkasattri Rd, just

south of the Rawdatul Jan-nah Mosque (the “Baan Mai Khao Mosque”) – about 1.9km north of the turnoff to Phuket Airport;

- Thepkasattri Rd, near the Khun Mae Ju store just north of Muang Thalung School;
- Thepkasattri Rd, in front of Thalung Police Station;
- Thepkasattri Rd, in front of Tesco mall, Thalung.

The six tunnels added to the plan saw the required budget for the megaproject jump by B9bn, roughly B1.5bn per tunnel. In 29 months, the budget ballooned from B23.5bn in November 2015 to B30bn in December 2016, to B39bn as of 2017.

Transport Minister Sak-sayam Chidchob last year ordered an in-depth analysis of a proposal to dump the Phuket light-rail project in favour of a ‘smart bus’ system that would reduce the cost of launching a mass transport option on the island by some B15.2bn.

Since then officials have made no comment on the suggestion, and pushed forward with the move to spend the B39.4bn on the light rail/tram option. That price tag does not include the B2.38bn now proposed to build the Heroines Monument Underpass.

Mastery Learning • American Curriculum Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education



Ensuring success for all by providing education based upon student mastery of all subjects.

Enroll Today!



QSI INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL OF PHUKET

81/4 Moo. 1 Chalemphrakiat Ror. 9 Road Kathu
www.phuket.qsi.org • 076 304 312

The Phuket News

CONTACT US

editor@classactmedia.co.th 076 612 550

PURIYA BEAVAN
EditorCHRIS HUSTED
Executive Editor
084 307 7408
execeditor@classactmedia.co.thBEN TIREBUCK
News / Sport Editor
061 806 8132
editor3@classactmedia.co.thCHUTHARAT 'UM' PLERIN
Thai Editor
088 766 1615
thai@classactmedia.co.thJASON BEAVAN
General Manager
086 479 7471
gm@classactmedia.co.thSIRIPORN (NOK) SEANGMAS
Sales Support
086 479 7470
sales@classactmedia.co.thNIRAVIT 'MOS' VORAVANITCHA
THANAPONG 'OAK' KHAO-AMPHAIHAN
Graphic designersThe Phuket News
@thephuketnews

ADVERTISING

ClassAct Media

The Phuket News

WINDOW ON PHUKET

Where to eat in PHUKET

Новости Phuket

ข่าวภูเก็ต

NEWS TV

LIVE 89.5

Phuket TICKETMASTER

076 612 550 ext. 605

Fax: 076 612 553

Info@classactmedia.co.th

thephuketnews.com

99/7 Moo 1 (Billion Plaza),
T. Kathu, A. Kathu, Phuket 83120

PHUKET SEVEN DAY WEATHER FORECAST

www.foreca.com

FRI AUGUST 12



High: +30°

Low: +27°

Wind 11 m/s

SAT AUGUST 13



High: +31°

Low: +27°

Wind 11 m/s

SUN AUGUST 14



High: +31°

Low: +27°

Wind 11 m/s

MON AUGUST 15



High: +31°

Low: +27°

Wind 4 m/s

TUE AUGUST 16



High: +32°

Low: +27°

Wind 4 m/s

WED AUGUST 17



High: +30°

Low: +27°

Wind 4 m/s

THU AUGUST 18



High: +30°

Low: +27°

Wind 4 m/s

Anutin pushes policy in Phuket

Eakkapop Thongtub
editor@classactmedia.co.th

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Health Anutin Charnvirakul was in Phuket last Friday (Aug 5) to drive a seminar focused on outlining the nation's medical policies, including the increased use of medicinal marijuana.

The academic seminar "Advancement of Medical Policy Driving, Department of Medical Services, fiscal year 2022" was held at the Pramukko Resort Phuket Hotel in Karon and drew about 400 delegates.

Joining Anutin were Dr Kiattipoom Wongrachit, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Public Health, executives from the Ministry of Public Health, Director-Generals from various government departments, the Inspector-Generals of the Ministry of Public Health Health Areas 1-13, and 76 provincial public health doctors who are responsible for the elderly or patients prescribed narcotic medicines.

Anutin started by thanking all workers from all departments at the Ministry of Public Health for the tireless work they have undertaken during the COVID-19 pandemic and for all their efforts in helping the country revert to normality.

He added that the COVID crisis afforded the Ministry of Public Health



Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Health Anutin Charnvirakul speaks to the press after his conference in Phuket last Friday (Aug 5). Photo: PR Phuket

opportunity to develop and improve medical services by creating a new experience of home service with patients placed firmly at the centre. He explained that improvements in gathering and recording patient's information has been possible due to technology and medical personnel being able to connect with people while they were restricted to their homes during periods of lockdown which has created a DMS smart hospital dynamic.

Care of the elderly came firmly into focus during the pandemic, said Anutin, adding that the Department of Medicine has collaborated with the Department of Health to develop holistic care solutions for the elderly, particularly in regards to cancer

treatments with the National Cancer Institute and specialist cancer hospitals across the country.

Anutin also thanked attendees for raising awareness of the government's medical marijuana policy. He explained the policy is focused on helping epilepsy patients and terminally ill cancer patients who are unable to sleep or eat. Marijuana can help with their conditions, he said, and they can now do so openly without having to hide anything.

Academics of the Department of Medicine have provided clear information on treatment guidelines to support the use of marijuana for medicinal purposes, Anutin explained.

The Food and Drug Administration, the Department of Thai Tra-

ditional and Alternative Medicine, the Department of Health and other departments have done similarly in pushing for the medical marijuana policy while waiting for the cannabis law to be clarified and completely ratified.

Dr Kiattipoom said that the slogan attached to the policy of the Ministry of Public Health for 2022 is "Strong people, strong economy".

He explained that great importance is being placed on the development of public health under the royal initiative that will focus on maximising benefits for the people.

Herbal development would be a key component of establishing a strong, transparent, well governed, holistic primary health system where everyone can be treated everywhere, Dr Kiattipoom added.

Furthermore the Department of Medical Services has pledged to develop quality medical services and medical personnel, he said.

The seminar was the perfect platform to communicate the 2022 policy to all attendees from all provincial regions across the country, said Dr Kiattipoom. It allowed the opportunity to build the understanding and confidence that the policy can be put into practice and yield positive results for the people of the nation inline with the Medical Department's mantra of "Do the best for every life".

Monkeypox fails to spread

THE GIRLFRIEND OF THE 25-year-old German man in Phuket who has tested positive for monkeypox is not infected, Dr Kusak Kukiattikoon, Chief of the Phuket Provincial Public Health Office (PPHO), has confirmed.

Dr Kusak, speaking on Aug 4, repeated from his announcement that health officials had identified seven high risk contacts under watch for developing symptoms of the disease.

"One was a high-risk touch contact, the Thai girlfriend," he said.

"The PPHO sent samples to the Medical Science Center Region 11 office in Phuket for tests, which have come back as negative," he added.

"The remainder of the group have been quarantined for 21 days," Dr Kusak noted.

Dr Kusak repeated his warning for people to beware of contracting the disease, while admitting that monkeypox needs direct contact or exposure to blood or secretions for people to become infected.



Dr Kusak. Photo: Eakkapop Thongtub

"Monkeypox is not easily transmitted, but it can be avoided by wearing a mask, washing your hands often and avoid touching your face, eyes, nose and mouth with your hands," he said.

"Watch out for animal bites or scratches. Do not share items with others. Do not come in close contact with monkeypox patients, and that should leave tourists and other people to still be able to travel to Phuket as usual," Dr Kusak said.

Eakkapop Thongtub

Kusoldharm hands out 313 education scholarships

THE KUSOLDHARM PHUKET Foundation held its annual education scholarship ceremony last week, when it distributed a total of 313 scholarships to help local children.

The ceremony, held at the Kusoldharm Phuket Foundation offices on Aug 2, was overseen by acting president of the foundation Lek Tantiwongpaisan.

Mr Lek was joined by members of the foundation's board of trustees as well as teachers and students from a range of schools across the island.

As part of his opening address, Mr Lek explained how the Foundation was granting a total of 313 education scholarships to students for the year ahead, which would contribute positively to helping local communities in Phuket in the longer-term.

He also detailed and praised the work that the foundation and its volunteers carries out, principally rescue work and helping victims of accidents and various disasters, which he explained is the primary duty of the foundation.

The Kusoldharm Foundation



Photo: PR Phuket

scholarship distribution project was created by former chairman Benjawan Tampanuwat, who recognised the importance of education.

After establishing the scheme Ms Benjawan stated that such scholarships would allow children access to education, knowledge, skills, and social awareness and acceptance, which will contribute to building a better society and help further develop the nation.

Founded in 1974, the Kusoldharm Rescue Foundation is Phuket's largest volunteer ambulance and rescue organisation with bases across the island including in Patong, Muang and Thalung. *The Phuket News*

End the Asian dog meat trade

Soi Dog Foundation

Soi Dog Foundation has relaunched its latest campaign to end the dog and cat meat trade in Asia after the COVID-19 pandemic hampered progress during 2020 and 2021.

With many pandemic restrictions now lifted, Soi Dog is once again tackling this horrific trade throughout the region. The 'Last Country on Earth' campaign has been created to pressure all Asian countries to end the dog and cat meat trade. This new step marks the foundation's effective return to action after two years of obstacles posed by the pandemic.

Soi Dog has been fighting the Asian dog and cat meat trade for over a decade. With the help of a number of governments and private organisations, the inhumane trade in Thailand was effectively stamped out in 2014, the same year the foundation was influential in helping to bring about Thailand's first animal welfare law.

Between 2011 and 2014, thousands of dogs were rescued, and close to 800 were rehabilitated and rehomed



The ARK119, Soi Dog partnership in South Korea rescued almost 30 dogs from the slaughterhouse. Two of them are already in their new homes in the US.

worldwide. Since then, Soi Dog has targeted nearby countries, putting pressure on authorities to bring about changes in legislation and collaborating with active local animal rescue groups like ARC (Animal Rescue Cambodia) and ARK119 (Animal Rescue Korea 119) to help put an end to the barbaric practice. In partnership with ARK 119, they have been successful in shutting down 13 farms

and three slaughterhouses in South Korea, with some of the rescued dogs already finding new homes overseas earlier this year.

The foundation also focuses on Vietnam, the country with the highest consumption of dog and cat meat per capita anywhere in Asia. According to Soi Dog data collated on the ground in Vietnam, there are 700 dog meat restaurants in the capital of Hanoi alone.

To fulfil demand, stray dogs and owned pets are routinely snatched, transported and then slaughtered in the most inhumane ways imaginable.

In addition to their existing work in South Korea, Cambodia and Vietnam, as part of the foundation's relaunch into tackling the trade, Soi Dog has now incorporated a project in the Philippines, where an estimated 200,000 dogs are caught up in the

illegal trade each year. The foundation has teamed up with the Manila-based Animal Kingdom Foundation (AKF) to combat the dog meat trade in a country where laws already exist to prohibit the killing and consumption of dogs.

AKF is a partner of the Philippine National Police and other national agencies enlisted to enforce laws against animal cruelty and, in particular, the dog meat trade. The focus is on carrying out raids of illegal premises, interceptions of dogs being transported for slaughter and convictions of perpetrators. The illegal trade in the Philippines continues underground, especially in the city of Baguio on the northern island of Luzon and in the south of the country on the island of Mindanao.

The Last Country on Earth campaign is targeting the dog meat trade throughout Asia, taking into account the variances of the trade and highlighting the different approaches required to achieve the same goal in all countries where it is prevalent. The initiative covers a lot of ground, from an online campaign to show how cruel the dog meat trade is, to a

street-level campaign with a number of independent groups to look for rabies and shut down dog meat restaurants, slaughterhouses and other small related businesses.

Enforcing the law is just as important as banning the trade. According to John Dalley, co-founder of Soi Dog Foundation, "Our plans will include not only having countries ban the trade but also ensuring the laws are followed – just as we did in Thailand."

To maximise the impact on a large scale, Soi Dog and its allies will consult with national leaders for significant law reform, such as the Department of Health in Vietnam, to urge that dog and cat meat consumption is a health threat, including rabies and possible future zoonotics, that must be brought to light to improve public health in the country.

Sign Soi Dog's petition letter to the government of the Philippines at <https://support.soidog.org/content/help-shut-down-dog-meat-trade>

For more information about the effort to end the trade in every last country on Earth, visit www.soidog.org

Officials target coastal erosion

LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES AND administrations around the island have been asked to survey their areas for coastal erosion after the heavy inundation at Sai Kaew Beach in Mai Khao last month flooded Thepkasattri Rd heading off-island.

The issue of coastal erosion was discussed at a meeting at the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE) office in Phuket Town on Aug 3, chaired by Phuket Vice Governor Amnuay Pinsuwan.

Present were officers from Sirinath National Park and the MNRE Region 10 office, along with local officials from Mai Khao Tambon Administration Organisation (OrBorTor), the Phuket Provincial Administrative Organisation (PPAO) and Thalang District Office.

Vice Governor Amnuay highlighted the importance of the issue, noting that he had been ordered by Phuket Governor Narong Woonciw to look into measures to prevent coastal erosion.

Of particular concern was the extent of heavy erosion at Sai Kaew Beach last month when storm conditions coinciding with a king tide resulted in the outbound road from Phuket along Thepkasattri Rd (Route 402) being flooded.

"This affected traffic and posed a risk to the coastal and traffic surfaces in the area," he said.

In total, 8.26km of shoreline around Phuket was affected by coastal erosion in 2020, the meeting was told.

Only 160 metres had suffered severe erosion that year, but 5.79km of shoreline



Coastal erosion at Sai Kaew Beach in Mai Khao is a key concern. Photo: Eakkapop Thongtub

had suffered "moderate erosion" and a further 2.30km of shoreline had suffered "minor erosion".

Local government organisations are to survey their areas and report the situation of coastal erosion to the Phuket office of the Office of Natural Resources and Environment up to date, Vice Governor Amnuay said.

The Phuket Highways Office is to inspect road conditions, road surfaces and the areas immediately surrounding major roads, he added.

"The information will be used to review current plans and projects related to the prevention and solution of coastal erosion in Phuket in order to find a solution to solve the problem in the long term," Vice Governor Amnuay said.

The Phuket News

Phuket officials prepare for APEC SME meeting

WEERAPONG MALAI, Director General of the Office of Small and Medium Enterprises Promotion (OSMEP) was in Phuket last week to coordinate preparations for the 28th Apec SME Ministerial Meeting to be held at the SAii Laguna Phuket resort on Sept 5-10.

"Phuket was selected as the host location for the meeting in consideration of the potential of the province in welcoming the ministers with a focus on small business operators, which are considered as the frontline of the country's economy," Mr Weerapong said during his visit, on Aug 4.

"The OSMEP believes that the results of this meeting will make various information helpful as a guideline for all relevant sectors for the promotion of developing SME entrepreneurs to recover sustainably and comprehensively, and have the ability to develop into part of the global supply chain and for them to be prepared to able to effectively cope with new challenges that arise in the future," Mr Weerapong noted.

Phuket Governor Narong Woonciew explained that in addition to the ministerial



Photo: PR Phuket

meeting, other related meetings will be held on the island.

"In the event area, there will be a showcase of SME entrepreneurs developed with the BCG approach [Bio-Circular-Green economic model]," he added.

"At the same time, parallel activities will be held to show the potential of Thailand's readiness to drive the economy after the COVID-19 crisis," he said.

SME operators in Phuket suffered heavily under the tourism shut down during the COVID-19 pandemic, a period when the island's economy shrunk by 83%.

In October last year SME operators in Phuket called on the OSMEP to provide access to low-interest loans without the onerous requirements required by government agencies and to set up a fund so they could reopen to serve tourists.

The Phuket News

Foreign workers vetted for entertainment work

The Phuket News
editor@classactmedia.co.th

Officials from the Phuket Employment Office have begun inspecting venues across the island for foreigners working illegally in the entertainment industry.

Officers inspected eight venues in Phuket Town last Friday (Aug 5), and found seven foreigners employed by the venues – but none of them were found to be working illegally.

The inspections followed a group of disgruntled workers in the local entertainment industry filing an official letter of complaint urging authorities to act on the numbers of illegal workers across the island.

Phromphiriya Tham-maupatham, representing the group, submitted the complaint to the Damrongtham Center, otherwise known as the Provincial Office of the Ombudsman, stating that the illegal workers are taking jobs of Thais and thus denying them an opportunity to make a living.



Photo: PR Phuket

He and his colleagues urged the authorities to conduct appropriate investigations to determine the accurate facts then act accordingly.

The delegation was met by Provincial Damrongtham Center Director Kritsadee Chaiphakdi and Pichit Singthongkham of the Phuket Employment Office, who accepted the letter and said they would coordinate with the relevant departments internally. Mr Pichit led the raids last Friday.

Mr Phromphiriya, 37, explained that a huge proportion of people working in Phuket's service and entertainment

venues such as pubs and bars are foreigners who are usually not permitted to work.

"Many people are on tourist visas or do not have the necessary work documents to allow them to legally work here," he said.

"Bar and restaurant workers such as waiters, hosts and bartenders, managers, receptionists and those working as entertainers such as dancers, performing groups, DJs, singers, musicians, almost 100% of positions in the hospitality industry are filled by illegal foreign workers," Mr Phromphiriya added.

"Many foreigners enter the country on tourist visas and stay here for five to 10 years, regardless of the fact their visa has expired.

"It isn't just one nationality either, there are many different nationalities in these roles, many of whom are in very obvious, front-of-house positions in bars and restaurants, attempting to attract customers from the street."

He further explained that this was causing problems for Thai nationals who were unable to secure jobs in such roles. "They are hijacking jobs from Thais and this is a big problem that is creating much hardship," he said.

Mr Phromphiriya be-moaned the fact that there are no officials tasked with inspecting the situation and therefore was compelled to submit the letter requesting action be taken.

The letter asked for officials to conduct random spot checks on venues without prior announcement so the business can not react in advance, with a particular focus on bars, pubs and restaurants in Patong.

Tourism minister pushes to revise entertainment venue trading hours

THE TOURISM AND SPORTS MINISTER is planning to propose new opening hours for entertainment venues, allowing them to open until 4am to revitalise tourism sentiment during the upcoming high season.

Tourism and Sports Minister Phiphat Ratchakitprakarn said the extended hours will be designated to tourism-driven economic zones to avoid creating discontent among local communities.

"We already asked each provincial governor to study the economic and social impacts as well as the necessity of extending operational hours," said Mr Phiphat.

He said not every area in a province would be allowed to follow this as the government would only concentrate on areas which mainly focus on international tourists.

For instance, Thong Lor and Ekamai in Bangkok might not be included as these areas are better known among local partygoers, but Khao San Rd might be able to take part as it is a well-known centre for foreign travellers.

In Phuket, certain areas, such as Bangla Rd which is already famous for its nightlife, might be allowed to benefit from the extended opening hours.

Mr Phiphat said Thailand still has to work hard to bring in 1.5 million tourists per month from October to December, which would be a 50% increase from the current rate of 1mn tourists per month.

He said he will propose this agenda to the meeting of the Centre for COVID-19 Situation Administration (CCSA) in September, after the Apec Tourism Ministers Meeting 2022, which runs from Aug 14-20, has concluded.



Bustling scenes return to Sukhumvit Soi Nana in Bangkok. Photo: Arnun Chonmahatrakool / Bangkok Post

Mr Phiphat said the Apec Tourism Ministers Meeting will be organised under a concept called "Regenerative Tourism", which highlights sustainable recovery of tourism.

The meeting will include tourism ministers from 21 countries and economic zones, with at least 300 participants.

Besides the ministerial meeting, the Tourism Ministry will also hold an academic seminar and familiarisation trips to Talad Not in Charoen Krung and Sampran district in Nakhon Pathom to showcase the bio-circular-green (BCG) economic model.

Sustainable recovery prioritises the impact of tourism on the environment, culture and folk wisdom and identifies methodologies to balance demand and supply in each of the areas.

Mr Phiphat said next year Thailand will introduce low carbon destinations for the first time.

Khao Lak and Koh Kho Khao in Phang Nga are set to be a pilot project as the Prince of Songkla University is conducting a feasibility study of the project. Bangkok Post

30% of MY Olympia 76ft Yacht for sale

- Managed by Twin Palms group.
- Thai registered boat with permanent crew of 5 and registered for chartering.
- Boat has an assessed value of about 25MB, each share is worth 2.5MB.
- Entitled to 28 days usage per each 10% share, per year.
- Cost of yearly maintenance including marina, crew, maintenance, insurance etc is US\$25,000 per share.
- Reason for sale, I have had my shares for almost 8 years and at my age of approaching 80 have found I am not using the boat.
- Selling 1, 2 or 3 shares.

Great walk on, walk off boat and I have had some great time using it.
Access to a million dollar boat as a part owner.

For more details contact Ian at ilancast@me.com

Devastating Chon Buri pub fire leaves 15 dead

CHON BURI

Bangkok Post

A devastating fire at a crowded pub in the early hours of last Friday (Aug 5) left 15 people dead and a further 37 injured, police have confirmed.

The inferno started about 1am as around 100 customers packed the Mountain B pub in the Sattahip district of Chon Buri, a venue popular with young local people.

Footage showed people running for safety and screaming as flames and smoke billowed from the building. Some were seen running with their bodies engulfed in flames.

Eyewitnesses said they heard two explosions near the DJ booth then saw sparks that ignited soundproofing foam which resulted in the fire spreading quickly.

The building – including the interior structure and decor, soundproofing, stage and ceiling tiles – was almost completely destroyed, firefighters said.

All the victims were be-



Flames engulf the Mountain B pub last Friday (Aug 5) which left 15 dead and 37 injured. Photo: Sawang Rojana Thammasathan Foundation

lieved to be Thai nationals, police confirmed.

On Saturday Interior Minister Anupong Paojinda confirmed that the venue did not have a pub licence and was built in an area where entertainment venues were prohibited.

Pol Maj Gen Atthasit Kitjahan, commander of the Chon Buri police, said the premises were licensed to operate as an eatery, and had been illegally altered and used as an enclosed entertainment place.

Five senior officers includ-

ing the chief of the Phlu Ta Luang police station in Sattahip district have been transferred pending an investigation.

The pub's owner, 27-year-old Phongsi Panprasong, later confessed to charges of operating a pub without permission and negligence leading to death and injury.

In addition to a full confession, Mr Phongsi offered preliminary financial assistance to all parties affected with B50,000 to be given to families of the dead and B10,000 to anyone injured.

A bail application was filed with the court on Monday for Phongsi who had been in police custody since Saturday, said his lawyer Anucha Wongsirat.

Phongsi's wife, 31-year-old Anongnat Panprasong, told the press she and her husband dropped into the pub in the early hours of Friday shortly before the fire broke out.

Not long after entering, there was a loud explosion followed by flames that swept through the pub's interior, she said.

Ms Anongnat shouted for everyone to flee the fire as the flames raged and thick black smoke filled the pub.

She denied fleeing the scene and insisted she had called rescuers and firefighters before being stopped by security from re-entering the burning pub to help more people escape.

The blaze is reminiscent of the Santika pub fire in Bangkok during the New Year's Eve countdown to Jan 1, 2009 when 66 people were killed and more than 200 others injured.

Chiang Rai airport reopens as stranded Nok Air plane removed

CHIANG RAI

MAE FAH LUANG CHIANG Rai International Airport reopened last Friday (Aug 5) after a damaged Nok Air plane was finally removed from the runway.

The Don Mueang-Chiang Rai flight with 164 passengers and six crew slid off the runway and its undercarriage collapsed as it landed in heavy rain at Mae Fah Luang international airport on July 30.

Passengers said the captain turned off the engines, leaving the cabin in darkness and without airconditioning. They had been left in stuffy conditions for over an hour before being evacuated.

Nok Air apologised yet insisted it had followed maximum safety procedures by coordinating with a work unit about evacuating passengers via a slide from the front door, as a stairway could not be placed properly against the aircraft because of the heavy rain and wet ground.

Moreover, there might also have been dangerous animals around which could have posed

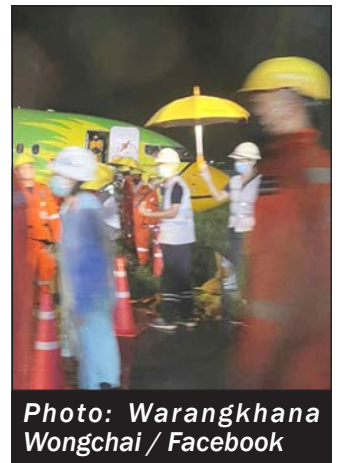


Photo: Warangkhan Wongchai / Facebook

a danger to the passengers, the airline said.

Nok Air CEO Wutthiphum Jurangkool confirmed the airline will compensate all passengers on the flight with refunds and free tickets worth B1 million. All passengers are to be given tickets for a round trip valid for a year and they can request refunds, cancellations or destination changes without charges.

Mr Wutthiphum also defended the pilot of the aircraft. "The pilot did his best to land the aircraft and there were no deaths or casualties. Every step of the evacuation went according to safety protocols," he said. *Bangkok Post*

No appeal for 'Joe Ferrari'

BANGKOK

THE FAMILY OF THITISAN Uthtanaphon, the former Muang Nakhon Sawan police chief sentenced to life imprisonment for killing a drug suspect while in custody, has confirmed they will not appeal to the court for mercy.

Thitisan's mother, Chanta Uthtanaphon, said last Friday (Aug 5) that her son regrets his wrongdoing and was sorry for having abused his authority, adding that he and his family are willing to follow the court's verdict.

Thitisan's sister added the family will pay compensation as demanded by the victim's relatives.

Thitisan, otherwise known as "Joe Ferrari" for his extensive collection of luxury cars, was charged last year with murdering 24-year-old Chiraphong Thanapat after torturing him by forcing six plastic bags over his head and ultimately suffocating him.

Thitisan and five colleagues were arraigned on charges of malfeasance, coercion and lethal torture and found guilty of murder by the Central Criminal Court for Corruption and Misconduct on June 8.

All six were initially given the death penalty although the sentences were commuted to life after the officers confessed to some acts, attempted to resuscitate the suspect and gave financial assistance to the victim's family.

Chiraphong and his wife, Kanokwan Klainim, were arrested in Muang district



Thitisan 'Joe Ferrari' Uthtanaphon: 'Regrets wrongdoing'. Photo: Bangkok Post

of Nakhon Sawan on Aug 4, 2021 by police posing as drug customers. The couple were taken to a room in the compound of the police station for interrogation, led by Thitisan.

A leaked video clip showing Chiraphong being suffocated during the interrogation was posted on social media at the time, even though surveillance cameras at the scene were removed afterwards.

Kanokwan, who was not seen in the room, was released. Chiraphong was officially pronounced dead on Aug 5.

The leaked video emerged two weeks after the incident, causing a national outcry. Thitisan fled but surrendered four days later on Aug 26.

He denied allegations he and his team were trying to extort money from the suspect, saying they were trying to get information from him because they found pictures of drugs in the suspect's mobile phone. *Bangkok Post*

UPHOLSTERY
CURTAIN
WALLPAPER
BLIND
CARPET

**GREAT VALUE.
LUXURY FEEL.**

**MADE TO ORDER
INSTALLATION
& SERVICES**

PROFESSIONAL
Curtain repeating, stitching,
sewing and installation.

www.phuketcurtain.com sales@phuketcurtain.com 095 428 2299, 076 216 666

WhatsApp



Memories of a True Rock 'n' Roll Dad



BLAZING SADDLES

Baz Daniel
baz_gunner2000@yahoo.com

My dear friend of many years, Sam Wilkinson sadly passed away some weeks ago back in his home-town of Liverpool, in England.

Sam was a wonderful character, known and loved by many in Phuket and around Thailand. He was a sort of romantic troubadour and wandering artist of abundant talents... in music, words, wit and just the noble art of enjoying life to the full! Sam was always kind and loving, sometimes almost unworldly and seeming to belong in a kinder, gentler era than the one we now inhabit.

In his early years, Sam and his then wife Myriam travelled extensively around Europe and much of South America, making a living by playing music... a true romantic wandering minstrel. Sam was a man who seemed to wear his very big heart profoundly

on his sleeve and so he came to mean a great deal to many close friends and family... not least of all, me.

I met Sam in 2006, when I moved from corporate life in Bangkok to Phuket to take over the editorship of *Phuket Magazine* working for John Everingham's iconic ArtAsia Press. Sam was an accomplished writer and had also worked for ArtAsia Press over the years and he was a regular contributor to *Phuket Magazine* among others in the company's stable.

A humorous column titled 'Ex-Pat Diary' appeared each month in *Phuket Magazine* telling bawdy tales of Westerners getting themselves into all sorts of trouble with the locals, with their girlfriends, with the law, in motorbike crashes, or simply falling off their bar stools in late-night ramshackle dives along the Rawai waterfront!

Sam often wrote for this column and I well remember reading a story he'd penned titled 'An Update on Phuket's Sex Wars' which had me in gales of laughter when I read it after work one evening while having a cold one. Sam was of course a wonderful wordsmith and had a great sense of humour which often shone through in his many writings, as it did in this particular story.

After reading this article I asked another of the editors at ArtAsia Press, Simon Hand, to introduce me to Sam and when we subsequently met, we immediately hit it off and a great friendship was born which lasted for the following 16 years.

Sam was, I thought, an ultimate 'Rock 'n' Roll Dad', one of those Phuket characters who keep on expanding their families while singing, laughing and making music well into later life, a bit like the rocker aristocrats such as Mick Jagger and Rod Stewart, and I personified Sam in an article titled 'Rock 'n' Roll Dads' for Ex-Pat Diary in 2006.

Over the years, Sam and I collaborated on many creative activities from magazine articles, to restaurant reviews for the *Thailand Tatler Magazine's* annual Best Restaurants Guide, to dramatic performances such as the comedy and musical show, 'Love is a Four-Letter Word', which I co-wrote and for which Sam was our Musical Director. This dinner theatre show was staged at the luxurious Mom Tri's Villa Royale in 2010 and I well recall Sam's beautiful voice and guitar on several of the numbers we performed that night to an enthusiastic audience of guests and local celebrities overlooking the Andaman Sea.



I became close to Sam's family, to his wife Wan, his son Samson, to little granddaughter Peng, and to Sam's older daughters Miki and Joy. Many times, Sam and his bubbly family tribe came over to parties and gatherings at my beachside cottage at Fisherman Way on Chalong Bay, where we sang and danced while Sam played, then laughed, talked, ate and drank together, while putting the world to rights sitting outside in the darkness, long into the star-filled tropical night.

From these many shared experiences I've enjoyed with Sam, I was always struck by his kindness, his romantic nature, his intelligence, creativity and talent, and perhaps most of all his wonderful, unspoiled boyish-ness.

Sam, I think, was in many ways almost too romantic and kind for this hard world... a supremely gentle alien from a better place, perhaps sent here to keep us all laughing, singing and entertained.

Tragically, Sam developed an aggressive cancer earlier this year, which caused his weight to decline dramatically and he was just able to make it back to England from his home in Isan. He was taken into Intensive Care at a London hospital off the plane in May and then transferred up to Liverpool, where he was born some 66 years earlier. He passed away on June 5.

I miss you a great deal my lovely friend and I'll never forget the cherished friendship I was fortunate enough to share with you, a true 'Rock 'n' Roll Dad'.



MACNELS SHIPPING PHUKET

ANY SHIPMENT ANY WHERE

IMPORT AND EXPORT SERVICES, AIR AND SEA FREIGHT

COMMERCIAL CARGO AND PERSONAL GOODS
INCLUDING HOUSE HOLD RELOCATIONS

- DOOR TO DOOR SERVICES
- CUSTOMS CLEARANCE FORMALITIES
- PROJECT CARGOES INCLUDING BOATS
- WAREHOUSING AND STORAGE
- STRONG AGENCY NETWORK WORLDWIDE
- 20 YEARS STAFF EXPERIENCE IN PHUKET

☎ OFFICE: 076 603907

☎ MOBILE: CALL PETER 0863645862

www.macnelsphuket.com

Best of Patong Rotary

Frank Walbaum

We, the Rotarians of the Rotary Club of Patong Beach, are heading into our new Rotary Year 2022-2023 with many new exciting projects. We are as colourful as the island of Phuket and our club has grown by 40% in the past year alone.

We are the only English-speaking club on this island. Despite our work for the local communities our number one goal is to have a lot of fun while gathering every Tuesday either at FourPoints by Sheraton Patong or for our special Rotary dinners anywhere on the island to explore great food places.

Our public meetings are open for everyone to join, a great way to connect with club members. Since we come from 16 different countries, we combine a lot of knowledge, special ideas and positive vibes.

Our new President Best Wanamakok is a veteran Rotarian, who was the Club President back in 2011-2012 and is now leading the club one more time. Being a Thai national he also builds the bridges to the many other clubs and the local communities to leverage our impact.

One of our signature projects has been the swim program. As every day more than two children drown in Thailand, we employ qualified swimmers



to teach kids basic survival skills to prevent drowning. As well, we meet up every other week at one of our homes to cook meals for communities in need.

We also welcome friends of the club to join in, a great project to connect each other and to make contact to the underprivileged population, which we also like to support further in promoting entrepreneurship to the people: how much better could we create an impact

than to help communities to be sustainable themselves.

An exciting new project this year is the procurement of a special sailing boat for disabled people. Being limited should not exclude anyone from society and we believe that this will be an excellent opportunity to do more water sports around Phuket.

In the calendar section of *The Phuket News*, people can follow our

club's activities and if you like to share our fun and like to dedicate time or support with the club, we would more than welcome you to do so. Just join one of our evenings or send an email to our Club Secretary Hans at info@rotarypatong.org and we will get back to you.

Frank Walbaum is Club Public Relations Chair 2022-23 at the Rotary Club of Patong Beach.



THAI
RESIDENTIAL

Phuket's No.1 Trusted Real Estate Advisor

Are You Trying To Sell Your Phuket Property?

List Your House, Villa or Luxury Condo with
Thai Residential
and Increase Your Chances
of a **Successful** Sale.



PHUKET@THAIRESIDENTIAL.COM | +66 94 8411 918 | WWW.THAIRESIDENTIAL.COM
THAIRESIDENTIAL CO., LTD. 82/37 SAM PAO COURTYARD, MOO4, PATAK ROAD, T.RAWAI, PHUKET, 83130

POP QUIZ

- Which is larger, Phuket or Luxembourg?
- Who is Forbes' highest-paid entertainer for 2022?
- In poker, 'pocket rockets' are a pair of which card?
- Which of these Greek philosophers was born first: Aristotle, Plato or Socrates?
- What is the name of The Beatles' last studio album?

Answers below, centre

SUDOKU

Hard

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

Crossword by Myles Mellor & Sally York

Across

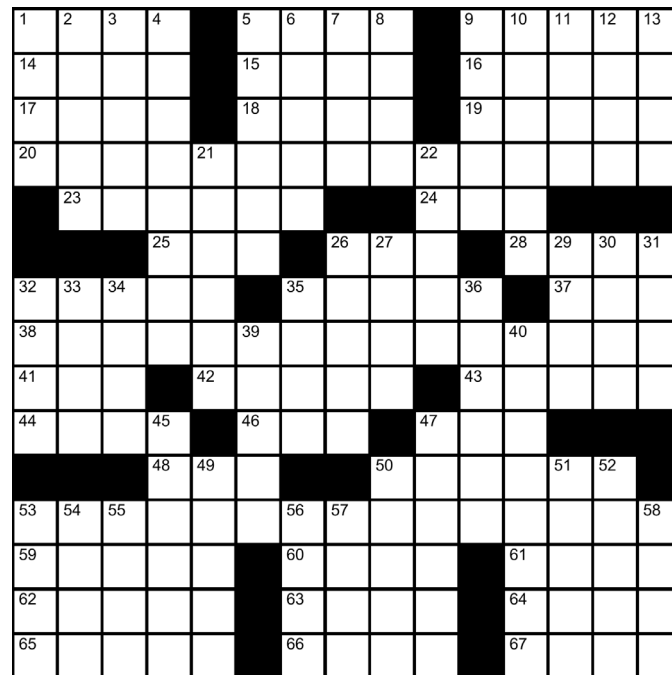
- Peewee
- Frog or year starter
- Bungle
- Barge ____
- Lady's man
- Assoc. of nations
- Club fees
- Flu source
- ____ fraiche
- Does a mediocre job
- SS ____ Fitzgerald
- Row producer
- Fishing aid
- ____ jacket
- Farm soil
- English rock band
- German municipality
- Sedona maker
- World's largest ocean predator
- Emeritus: Abbr.
- Capture
- Approval
- It may be due
- Boiling blood
- Mont Blanc, e.g.
- Attention
- Tooth type
- Dramatic downturn

Down

- Skirt style
- Busy
- Extremely
- Condition
- Absorbed, in a way
- Slowly merged (into)
- Mozart's "Madamina," e.g.
- ____ du jour
- Hairy-chested
- Kamakawiwo'ole
- Request
- British title

13. Half of binary code

- Invitees
- Excelled
- Yellow shade
- ____ meridiem
- Passable
- Haughtiness
- Ocean menace
- Blackguard
- Bailiwick
- Fixes
- Engine sound
- Gauge
- Bizarre
- Leave it alone!
- Movie preview
- Goddess of devotion
- Answer
- Extract
- Edmonton skater
- Wavelike design
- Shot up
- Radio host, to friends
- To be, in old Rome
- Flightless flock
- Prefix with scope or meter
- All alternative

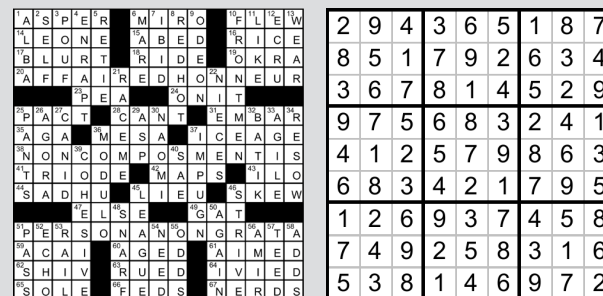


Visit: www.ilovecrosswords.com

Answers to this week's Pop Quiz:

1) Luxembourg (2,586km², Phuket is 576km²); 2) Lord of the Rings director Peter Jackson (US\$600 million in the previous 12 months); 3) Aces; 4) Socrates; 5) Let It Be

Solutions to last week's puzzles:



GOT YOUR NUMBER

3

months is how long it originally took to complete an episode of *The Simpsons*, since it was hand-drawn.

20

percent of the world's freshwater is held in Canada's lakes, rivers, streams and wetlands.

5,000

percent is how much Disneyland ticket prices have increased since the park's opening. In 1955, admission was only \$2.50.

216,847

litres (or 57,285 gallons) is how much fuel a Boeing 747 airliner holds.

1.3

million

Earths could fit into the Sun.

Source: Uberfacts

ISLAND VIEW



Streaking past the Moon. Photo by Jason Beavan

Got an unusual or particularly beautiful picture of Phuket?
Email it to execeditor@classactmedia.co.th

This week in history

August 12, 1990

Sue, the largest, most complete Tyrannosaurus rex skeleton ever found, is discovered in South Dakota. The skeleton auctions for US\$8.3 million. Sue is on display at a Chicago museum.

August 13, 1961

The German Democratic Republic closes the border between the eastern and western sectors of Berlin to thwart its inhabitants' attempts to escape to the West, and construction of the Berlin Wall is started.

August 14, 1893

France becomes the first country to introduce motor vehicle registration.

August 15, 1969

The Woodstock Music & Art Fair opens in upstate New York, featuring some of the top rock musicians of the era.

August 16, 2008

The Trump International Hotel and Tower in Chicago is topped off at 1,389 feet (423m), the world's highest residence at the time.



August 17, 2015

A bomb explodes near the Erawan Shrine in Bangkok, killing at least 19 people and injuring 123 others.

August 18, 1963

James Meredith becomes the first African American to graduate from the University of Mississippi, a flashpoint in the Civil Rights Movement.

Source: Wikipedia

Trades & Services



The Phuket News



@thephuketnews

CORPORATE SERVICES

VERTIGO
VIDEO PRODUCTIONS

WE MAKE YOU LOOK GOOD.

VERTIGO VIDEO PRODUCTIONS.COM

f i t y

HOME IMPROVEMENT

Waterproofing & Crack Repair

20 year WARRANTY

under yearly checkup plan...

Drone Survey

Pipe Inspection

TCM Asia Co., Ltd - quality services since 2003

office@tcm-asia.com 086-9439834

HOME IMPROVEMENT

Plumber
German Water Team Ltd. Part
We repair what your husband fixed

MASTERCRAFTSMAN
WE REPAIR AND BUILD NEW:

- ALL KINDS OF HOT AND COLD WATER SYSTEMS
- HOT WATER SOLAR SYSTEMS AND SOLAR PUMPS
- POOL EQUIPMENT AND SERVICE
- REPAIR ALL KINDS OF WATER SYSTEMS AND POOL PUMPS
- A VARIETY OF WATER FILTRATION SYSTEMS TO FIT YOUR NEEDS

SHOWROOM NEXT TO WAT CHALONG
OPEN FROM 8AM TO 5PM

094 594 8868 (THAI)
089 645 4848 (GER / ENG)

www.germanwaterteam.com
Email: germanwaterteam@yahoo.de

22/12 Moo 6 Chaofa R.d west Chalong A.Muang Phuket 83130

HOME IMPROVEMENT

tile-it
SMART TILES
Tile Leveling System

Baan Wana - Cherng Talay
Tel : 076 620168

PHUKET'S QUALITY TILE BOUTIQUE

www.tile-asia.com | letstalk@tile-asia.com

HOME IMPROVEMENT

WOOD FLOOR PHUKET - 20 YEARS

Solid wood floors and engineering.
Decks supplied and installed - Teak & NZ Pine.

f /solidwoodfloorphuketthailand
M Matt 081 271 2684 or Jessica 062 372 6624

HOME IMPROVEMENT

The Curtain Shop

UPHOLSTERY
CURTAIN
WALLPAPER
BLIND
CARPET

PROFESSIONAL
Curtain repeating, stitching, sewing and installation.

GREAT VALUE. LUXURY FEEL.

WhatsApp

www.phuketcurtain.com sales@phuketcurtain.com 095 428 2299, 076 216 666

MARINE SERVICES

Marine Engineering Specialists

C & C MARINE®

YANMAR mtu

C & C Marine (Thailand) Co., Ltd.

16/2 Moo 4, Soi Nanai, Thepkasatri Rd., Koh Kaew, Muang, Phuket 83200
Tel: +66 (0)76 273247 Fax: +66 (0)76 273248 Mob: +66 (0)81 078 4507
Email: cholmes@candc-marine.com www.candc-marine.com

OTHER

Mac-Nels

MACNELS SHIPPING PHUKET

ANY SHIPMENT ANY WHERE

☎ OFFICE: 076 603907

☎ MOBILE: CALL PETER 0863645862

www.macnellsphuket.com

OTHER

FASTSHIP

บริการส่งพัสดุต่างประเทศ
International Express Delivery Services

Fastship Phuket Branch
0950690002 f @fastshipphuket
www.fastshipphuket.com

WANT TO TALK TO PHUKET?

The **Phuket News** Your Island - Your Paper

Новости **Пхукета** Твой остров - твоя газета

ข่าว **ภูเก็ต**

WINDOW ON PHUKET

The **map of PHUKET** English 中文 Русский

Where to **eat** in PHUKET

LIVE 89.5 NEWS **TV**

Contact: gm@classactmedia.co.th

FRI

12

AUG

MON

15

AUG



STEAK HOUSE & RESTAURANT

98/18 Vises Road, Rawai

Oil: 081 891 4381

www.shakersphuket.com

shakersphuket@gmail.com

FB: shakersphuket



STEAK HOUSE & RESTAURANT

98/18 Vises Road, Rawai

Oil: 081 891 4381

www.shakersphuket.com

shakersphuket@gmail.com

FB: shakersphuket

SUN

14

AUG



STEAK HOUSE & RESTAURANT

98/18 Vises Road, Rawai

Oil: 081 891 4381

www.shakersphuket.com

shakersphuket@gmail.com

FB: shakersphuket

Sunday roast

12PM – 9PM: All you can eat Sunday Roast Buffet Beef, Pork, Chicken & Lamb – Cauliflower, Broccoli, Peas, Carrots, Fried mushrooms, Grilled Tomatoes – Yorkshire pudding – Roasted Potatoes, Mashed Potatoes – Apple sauce, Gravy, Mushroom sauce, Horse raddish, Mint Sauce. We have a kid's playground zone. Adults: 350 baht P.P. Kids under 12 years old: 175 baht P. www.shakersphuket.com www.facebook.com/shakersphuket Oliver, Shakers restaurant 98/18 Vises Road, Rawai 83130, 081 891 4381

Want your EVENT listed here?

Reserve your space **NOW!**

076 612 550 sales@classactmedia.co.th

TUE

16

AUG



Rotary Club - Weekly Meeting

Come join Rotary Club of Patong Beach's Tuesday dinner meeting at Four points by Sheraton Patong. August's speaker lineup: Aug 09 - Brendan Mooney - Andamanda Water Park, Aug 16 - Rainer Schmitz - WOW Workshop Summary, Aug 23 - Kyle Daniels - Mindset for Athletes and Aug 30 - Tommy Hongsyok - Cable car to Patong. Email club Sec. Hans at info@rotarypatong.org to register.

WED

17

AUG



STEAK HOUSE & RESTAURANT

98/18 Vises Road, Rawai

Oil: 081 891 4381

www.shakersphuket.com

shakersphuket@gmail.com

FB: shakersphuket

Wednesday BBQ night

6 PM onwards: All you can eat BBQ buffet cooked to order. Beef, Pork, Chicken, Burgers, Ribs, Sausages,

Fish, Prawns & Squids, salad buffet and veggies, Choice of potatoes, cold and hot sauces, Bread, Buns & garlic bread. We have a kid's playground zone. Adults: 395 baht P.P. Kids under 12 years old: 195 baht P.P. www.shakersphuket.com www.facebook.com/shakersphuket Oliver, Shakers restaurant 98/18 Vises Road, Rawai 83130, 081 891 4381

THU

18

AUG



PIWC Monthly Lunch

The Phuket International Women's Club will meet for their August monthly lunch at Eden Grill at 21/17, Boat Avenue Cherngtalay 17, Lagoon Rd, Thalang District, Phuket 83110 https://goo.gl/maps/DKYK-KYxT79wTtkk7 Date: Thursday, August 18. Time: 11:30 for registration, 12pm lunch. Cost: B900 for members, B1,200 for non-members/guests. Please make your reservation with Maggy by August 15 at the latest. robmaggy@yahoo.com

SAT

20

AUG



Phuket Yacht Club - Ao Po Club Race

August 20-21, 2022

Phuket Yacht Club heads north for a weekend event to encourage more yachts to get out on the water.

Off Ao Po Grand Marina

www.phuketyachtclub.com

Sailing and Motor Yacht Rally

Phuket Yacht Club Ao Po club race, all welcome. The Phuket Yacht Club is heading north for a weekend of fun sailing to encourage more yachts to get out on the water. Notice of race and more information can be found at phuketyachtclub.com

FRI

26

AUG



Shifting Demographic: The Hidden Derailer of Thai Economy

Speaker: Chris Cracknell

BCCT & Grant Thornton Thailand Chairman

Friday 26th August 6:30 - 9:00pm

SAii Laguna Phuket

BCCT PHUKET DINNER

You are invited to the BCCT Phuket Dinner at SAii Laguna Phuket. Our guest speaker is Chris Cracknell, BCCT Chair & Grant Thornton Thailand Chairman who will present on 'Shifting Demographics: The Hidden Derailer of the Thai Economy'. Before the dinner join us for some business networking. This is a fantastic opportunity to catch up with old friends, make new business connections, and share experiences in an open, relaxed and friendly environment. Cost: THB 1,200 for BCCT members and THB 2,000 for non-members including 3-course western set dinner, free flow selected beverages and soft drinks. Booking visit bccthai.comw

Listen for

DAILY EVENT UP DATES ON

LIVE 89.5

JOBS

Full Time Nanny

Looking for a nanny to take care of 1y9m old child. Live in or work 7am to 7pm English or/and Thai speaking Nanny experience 3 years 18000, Napakpapha, nicky_karpuzov@yahoo.com, +6639503078

BUSINESSES FOR SALE

URGENT

Resort for sale /rent

3 Rai grass land, 8 houses 18 double rooms + porch, some with kitchen, Pool 12/6m own Well, Restaurant/Bar parking, 5min.walk to Macro/Lotus Supermarket,very quiet location.must see 'Horst :eng./ germ. Tip- Thai, 67/18 Soi Sermsuk (opp. Makro/ Lotus , Chalong/Rawai), bigasail33@yahoo.com

PROPERTY FOR RENT

Land for sale near Mission Heights

Land is 1,656 square meters approx on 3 Chanote titles. Has concrete road, water and electric. Small quiet village close to Mission Heights. I'm looking for 4.5 million Baht, negotiable. Call 093 629 4400.

Reserve your space **NOW!**

076 612 550, sales@classactmedia.co.th

PROPERTY FOR SALE



Pool Townhouse best location

PRUKSA Ville 82/1 Kathu. 24hrs security, Corner unit, private pool, big garden, Sala. 3 Bedroom, european Kitchen, 4 Aircon. Covered carpark. FULLY FURNITURED.

ruen_narayan@hotmail.com, +66895938690

Alcoholics Anonymous

If you want to drink that is your business

If you want to stop that is ours

Daily Meetings

Patong, Chalong, Phuket Town, Bang Tao & Karon

CALL 081 895 4763

help@aaphuket.org

Google www.aaphuket.com

PROPERTY FOR RENT



URGENT

Stunning Villa For Rent/Sale

Stunning Villa for rent or sale in Chalong. 795,2 square meter or almost ½ Rai Land. 4 Bedrooms each with bathroom & shower. 1 laundry room with dishwasher and washing machine. Fully equipped kitchen. Aircon units and ceiling fans in all rooms. Saltwater Pool 8m x 4m + jacuzzi + outdoor shower. Water system with very high-quality water filter. Long term rental min 6 months price 60,000 THB incl. garden and pool cleaning or available for sale 16,800 000 THB. adam.goodman@hotmail.com, 0910161167



Australian Visas

Need An Australian Visa or Expert Advice?

Have the confidence dealing with an Australian Lawyer and Agent, based right here in Thailand but regulated in Australia.

Your application will be prepared and lodged for you, as well as expert advice as to the best visas and approach.

We can assist with all visa types, including Tourist, Partner, Work, Study and Family visas.

Had a visa refusal - our team specialise in getting you the result you want.

Phone: 084 400 9487

www.AustralianVisas-Thailand.com

Migration Agents

Registration Number 1464995

www.mara.gov.au



ROTARY CLUB OF PATONG BEACH MONTHLY DINNER OUT

Each month, on the first Tuesday, the Rotary Club of Patong Beach enjoys a relaxed evening with members and guests at some great local restaurants. This month, on August 2, more than 20 Rotarians and guests experienced a wonderful dinner at SUAY Restaurant at Baan Wana. Great to see a group of like-minded people coming together to help make a difference. To find out more about the great work and the regular weekly meetings of the Rotary Club of Patong Beach, visit rotarypatong.org



GROW BOATING EVENING AUGUST 2022

Held at the Boardwalk Bistro and Bar, Phuket Boat Lagoon on Friday the 5th of August. Drinks sponsor for the evening was Beef Bank. Newly opened in Phuket Boat Lagoon, next to the Boardwalk Bistro, they provide a delivery service in Phuket of authentic Japanese Sukiyaki and Shabu-Shabu using Japanese Wagyu beef. Delicious finger food buffet sponsored by the Boardwalk Bistro for all attendees. Look forward to seeing you at the next event on Sept 02.

Thai shuttler duo win national championship

BADMINTON

WOMEN'S DOUBLES stars Jongkolphan Kititharakul and Rawinda Prajongjai claimed their third national title after winning the Thailand National Badminton Championships 2022 at Central Chaengwattana in Nonthaburi last Sunday (Aug 7).

The top-seeded duo, who won the tournament in 2015 and 2018, defeated second seeds Nuntakarn Aimsaard and Benyapa Aimsaard, the 2020 champions, 21-12, 21-8 in 38 minutes.

Jongkolphan and Rawinda took home the B120,000 winners' cheque while the runners-up pair got B60,000.

Two-time winner and fourth seed Sitthikom Thammasin also claimed his third men's singles crown with a 21-6, 21-13 victory over third seed Panitchaphon Teeraratsakul.

Second seed Supanida Katethong won the women's singles title after she beat Pitchamon Opatnirut 21-13, 17-21, 23-21 in 71 minutes.

The singles winners received B100,000 each while runner-ups got B50,000 each.

The men's doubles title



Jongkolphan (left) and Rawinda with the trophy and badminton chief Khunying Patama Leeswadtrakul. Photo: Bangkok Post

went to Pharanyu Kaosamaang and Worapol Thongsanga who beat Thanawin Madee and Pongsakorn Thongkham 23-21, 21-10 in 44 minutes.

Pharanyu Kaosamaang and Worapol got B120,000 while Thanawin and Pongsakorn received B60,000.

Mixed doubles pair Pakkapon Teeraratsakul and Phataimas Muenwong captured the title after they beat Watchara Buranakuea and Kittipak Dubtuck 21-19, 21-7 in 33 minutes.

The top Thai shuttlers will take part in two major tournaments later this month, including the BWF World Championships in Tokyo between Aug 22-28 and the Japan Open in Osaka between Aug 30-Sep 4. *Bangkok Post*

Ferrari fumbles again as their season slips away

FORMULA ONE

Michael Lamonato
michael@boxofneutrals.com

Going into the midseason break Max Verstappen enjoys an 80-point championship lead and he largely has Ferrari to thank for his almost unassailable position at the top of the table.

Ferrari's first half of the season ended not with a hoped-for bang but with the whimper of yet another grand prix victory blown up by a bumbling pit wall.

The Hungarian Grand Prix on July 31 had long been earmarked as a likely Ferrari victory, the twisty Hungaroring perfectly suiting the SF-75 while neutralising some of Red Bull Racing's strengths.

Fundamentally Ferrari had the fastest car in Budapest, just as it has for most of the season. The team wasn't just hopeful of a good result, it was confident. Principal Mattia Binotto said the Scuderia's aim was to take a one-two finish, nothing less.

But in a microcosm of the entire season, the final race before the midseason break showed up the team's worst traits, which conspired to hand victory to Verstappen.

Slow pit stops and questionable calls on tyre choice cost Charles Leclerc and



Ferrari's garage responds to yet another disappointing race for the team at the Hungarian Grand Prix on July 31, the final race before the midseason break. Photo: AFP

Carlos Sainz and left the former 80 points off the lead in the championship race, more than three clear race wins. Ferrari is now 97 points adrift in the constructors championship.

Ferrari boss Binotto defended the team after the race, protesting that it wasn't strategy but a slower than expected car that had cost his team a spot on the podium.

"It's important to say the pace of the car today was not as expected," he said. "It was totally different conditions, cooler, but overall the speed today was not quick enough whichever tyres we were using."

And while it's true the car wasn't at its ominous Friday practice best, when

it seemed sure to sweep the field easily, it had more than enough performance to take the race on rather than race so defensively.

But that's been the story of the Ferrari's season. It did the hard work during the winter to develop a race-winning car, but operationally the team lacks sharpness.

To win the championship you need speed and execution. Mercedes has the nous but this season not the speed. Ferrari has the performance but not follow-through.

Only Red Bull Racing has both, and at Verstappen's current hit rate, he'll be a double world champion in a matter of races.

Charity football match to help kids in need

FOOTBALL

A CHARITY FOOTBALL match is being organised by authorities to help underprivileged youngsters across Phuket, it has been confirmed.

The competition, labelled "Penalty Shootout", will be held on Aug 21 at the artificial grass football field at TX Park Stadium in Ratsada, with the aim to raise funds for the Phuket Provincial Children and Youth Aid Committee, Children's Observation and Protection Center and Juvenile Detention Center.

Local teams can register to take part in the competition, which includes a fee of B2,500 per team.

Several official agencies, including from neighbouring provinces, have been engaged to help recruit teams although registration is open to the general public, organisers confirmed.

The unveiling of the competition was made on July 31 at an event hosted by Nattaporn Panitpichetwong from the Phuket Provincial

คณะกรรมการสงเคราะห์เด็กและเยาวชนสำหรับสถานพินิจและคุ้มครองเด็กและเยาวชนจังหวัดภูเก็ต

ร่วมกับ สมาคมกีฬาจังหวัดภูเก็ต ขอเชิญสมัครการแข่งขันฟุตบอลกุศล **ดวลจุดโทษ**

แข่งขันในวันอาทิตย์ ที่ 21 สิงหาคม 2565 เวลา 14.00 น. เป็นต้นไป ณ สนามฟุตบอล TX park สวนทอง

ค่าสมัครทีมละ 2,500 บาท (ยังไม่นับรวมค่าอาหารและเครื่องดื่ม)

1. รางวัลชนะเลิศ	10,000 บาท
2. ชนะเลิศ อันดับ 1	5,000 บาท
3. รางวัลชนะเลิศอันดับ 2	3,000 บาท
4. รางวัลชนะเลิศอันดับ 3	2,000 บาท
5. นายประตูยอดเยี่ยม	1,000 บาท

สมัครได้ถึงวันที่ 12 สิงหาคม 2565 นี้

สมัครได้ที่ 081 891 3498 จม / 081 543 9227 อรุณ / 076 250 353 กด 0 สำนักงาน

Image: Sports Association of Phuket / Facebook

Children and Youth Aid Committee, who will serve as chairperson for the charity match on Aug 21.

Mrs Nattaporn was joined by Thammawat Wongchareonyot, president of the Phuket Sports Association; Somsak Boonkaew, member of Wichit Municipality Council; Warin Khaothong, secretary of Phuket Town Uncle's Association; Somkid Supap and Sathit Chuaydam, acting presidents of Phuket Town Uncle's Association; Cholasit Kaewyaratana, president of Phuket Songkhla Association; Kamron Sukban, president of Nakhon

Si Thammarat Association; the Phuket province director of the Trang Club; Phuket province director of the Northern Andaman Association; and the director of the Surat Thani Club in Phuket.

Mrs Nattaporn explained that team application inquiries can be made to Ms Jinnatphon Phanitpichetwong on 081-891-3498 or Ms Onuma Boonrit on 081-543-9227 / 076-250353.

She further explained that a meeting on Aug 20 at TX Park Stadium will see the draw for the competition being made which will order the teams accordingly.

The Phuket News

BCCT Phuket Dinner Shifting Demographic: The Hidden Derailer of Thai Economy



Speaker:
Chris Cracknell
BCCT & Grant Thornton
Thailand Chairman

Friday 26th August | SAii Laguna Phuket
6:30 - 9:00pm

To Register:

BCCT Members: 1,200 THB/pax
Non-Members : 2,000 THB/pax

Email: palika@bccthai.com or scan:



Brighton rock Old Trafford

Losing start for Manchester United while Haaland purrs for City

FOOTBALL

AFP

Erik ten Hag's reign as Manchester United got off to a disappointing start at Old Trafford last Sunday (Aug 7) as his lacklustre team were beaten by a Pascal Gross-inspired Brighton 2-1.

Brighton thrashed United 4-0 when the sides last met in May and despite losing Yves Bissouma and Marc Cucurella for over £100 million (B4.3 billion) since, the Seagulls were again too slick for United's leaden-footed defence as they recorded their first ever win at Old Trafford.

Twice in nine first-half minutes German midfielder Gross ghosted in unmarked at the back post to slot into an unguarded net.

It even took a Brighton mistake for Ten Hag's men to find the net as Robert Sanchez slapped the ball into his own net off the unfortunate Alexis Mac Allister.

The contrasting fortunes of the Manchester clubs in recent seasons was highlighted



Pascal Gross scores his and Brighton's second goal at Old Trafford in the Seagull's 2-1 win against Manchester United last Sunday (Aug 7). Photo: AFP

once again as Erling Haaland scored twice on his Premier League debut as Manchester City opened their defence of the title with a 2-0 win at West Ham.

The Norwegian has been signed as the long-term successor to Sergio Aguero and started his City career just like the club's all time record

goalscorer with a double on his league debut.

Haaland lived up to the hype since his transfer from Borussia Dortmund to give the champions a perfect start to the season in the searing heat of East London, taking responsibility from the penalty spot to open his Premier League account after he had been

brought down by goalkeeper Alphonse Areola.

West Ham started the second half with more attacking intent but that simply played into City's hands as Kevin De Bruyne split open their defence with one pass on the counter-attack for Haaland to gallop clear on goal and slot low past Areola.

LIVERPOOL HELD

Elsewhere, Liverpool's Premier League title challenge got off to a sluggish start as the Reds were held 2-2 at newly-promoted Fulham on Saturday.

Aleksandar Mitrovic maintained his stunning form from last season in the Championship as the Serb head the Cottagers into a deserved half-time lead.

The introduction of Darwin Nunez in the second half brought Liverpool to life and the Uruguayan flicked home his first Premier League goal before Mitrovic restored Fulham's lead from the penalty spot after he was tripped by Virgil van Dijk inside the area.

But Mohamed Salah ensured Liverpool at least did not start the season with a defeat by slotting into an empty net from Nunez's pass.

By contrast, Tottenham had a dream start to the campaign to raise hopes they could compete for a first league title in 61 years.

Spurs fell behind to James Ward-Prowse's strike from

the edge of the box after just 12 minutes but the response from Antonio Conte's men was emphatic.

The goals to turn the game around before half-time came from unlikely sources as Ryan Sessegnon and Eric Dier headed home.

Mohammed Salisu then passed the ball into his own net for a comical own goal on the hour mark before Dejan Kulusevski rounded off the scoring with a cool and precise finish into the far corner to take Spurs above Arsenal at the top of the table.

Arsenal had beaten Crystal Palace 2-0 in the season opener on Friday courtesy of Gabriel Martinelli's strike and a Marc Guehi own goal.

Elsewhere, Chelsea overcame Everton 1-0 thanks to Jorginho's penalty, Leicester and Brentford shared a 2-2 draw and Newcastle defeated Nottingham Forest 2-0.

Fellow newly-promoted team Bournemouth fared better as they beat Aston Villa 2-0 while Leeds saw off Wolves 2-1.

Asian qualifying format for 2026 World Cup announced

FOOTBALL

THE ASIAN FOOTBALL Confederation (AFC) executive committee has approved the qualification format for the continent's road to the 2026 World Cup to accommodate the eight direct spots and a single intercontinental play-off slot allocated to the AFC by FIFA following the expansion of the finals to 48 teams.

The AFC earned 4.5 slots for the 2022 World Cup in Qatar. The new qualification format has been established after several consultation and dialogue sessions with key stakeholders.

It was decided that the 2026 World Cup qualification tournament will comprise four rounds.

The first preliminary qualification round will involve teams ranked 26 to 47 (in the AFC rankings).

These 22 teams will face each other in a home-and-away format, with the 11 winners progressing to the second preliminary qualifi-



The FIFA World Cup trophy. Photo: AFP

cation round.

The second round will have 36 teams – teams ranked from one to 25 as well as the 11 winners from the first round – and will be divided into nine groups of four teams each, who will each compete in a round-robin, home-and-away format.

The top two teams from each group – 18 in total – will advance to the AFC Asian qualifiers.

The Asian qualifiers will have 18 teams and be divided into three groups of six teams each, competing in a round-robin, home-and-away format, with the top two teams from each group – six in total – qualifying directly to the 2026 World Cup.

The final round will consist of the third and fourth placed teams from all groups of the Asian qualifiers – six teams in total.

The six teams will be drawn into two groups of three teams each, competing in a single round-robin format.

The two first placed teams from the play-off groups will advance to the 2026 World Cup.

The second-placed teams from both groups will compete in a play-off match to determine the side that will represent the AFC in the intercontinental play-off.

The 2026 World Cup will be held in the US, Mexico and Canada. *Bangkok Post*



THAILAND'S
PVC WINDOW
SPECIALISTS
SINCE 2004



Contact us for the lowest
prices in Phuket



PROJECT SUPPLIES DIRECT

Head Office at Tesco Lotus Thalang Phuket

English 087 061 7631 or Thai 095 463 6422

f PVC Phuket f NathanUpvcBrown



editor3@classactmedia.co.th

Sport



A Gross start for ten Hag at United > p15

COMING UP

Phuket set for series of major sports events

Kata Beach will host an international surfing competition on Aug 23-28. Photo: Thailand Surfing Federation

ALL SPORTS

The Phuket News
editor@classactmedia.co.th

Sports enthusiasts in Phuket have much to look forward to in the coming months after the Phuket Provincial Sports Committee recently confirmed a series of exciting events will be hosted on the island.

The announcement was made on Aug 3 at Provincial Hall overseen by President of the Phuket Sports Association Thammawat Wongcharoenyot, Deputy Governor of Phuket Pichet Panapong and Director of the Sports Authority of Thailand in Phuket Damrong Chaisena.

First up is the “Thailand Karate-do Championship 2022” which will be held at Phuket Rajabhat University Convention Center from Aug 19-23.

It will be the first time this competition has been held outside of Bangkok and it is expected to attract over 400 competitors from 22 different countries, including Olympic athletes.

Next is the Phuket Beach Festival 2022’s International Surfing Competition which will take place at Kata Beach on Aug 23-28.

The competition is part of the “Air Sea Land Southern International Sports Tourism Festival” which is showcasing selected events in Phuket, Songkhla, Satun, Phatthalung,

Krabi, Phang Nga and Surat Thani, backed by a budget of B177 million.

The Kata competition, sanctioned by the Asian Surf Cooperative (ASC), is set to attract more than 120 professional surfers from all over Asia.

There will also be a fair to coincide with the tournament, showcasing surfing clinics, skating lessons, beach yoga and live musical performances.

“This is not just a surf competition, it’s a festival to celebrate our lifestyle and also to inspire more people to choose a life based on happiness and outdoor activity,” said Chanin Aiyarak, President of the Thailand Surfing Association (TSF).

“On the weekend, we will

have music from well-known bands and DJs, an array of workshops, surf clinics, art and good food – something for everyone,” he added.

The ASC is working with the TSF and the Southeast Asia Surfing Association to produce the event and their Managing Director Tipi Jabrik is looking forward to returning to the island after several years absence due to COVID-19.

“The ASC is extremely excited to come back to Phuket to work with the Thailand Surfing Federation on this special event,” said Mr Jabrik.

“Thanks to the Sports Authority of Thailand, the National Sports Development Fund and the Tourism Authority of Thailand for their support

in making this event happen. We haven’t been to Phuket for several years now, so we’re glad to be working with all the team there on this fantastic surf event. We know that everyone will have a great experience both in and out of the water,” he added.

Additional upcoming events to be hosted in Phuket include the Phuket Sports City 2022 Run at Saphan Hin on Sept 3, the Esther Bunny Women’s Health Run on Sept 10-11 at Laguna, the Basketball Under-23 World Championship at Prince of Songkla University Phuket Campus on Sept 3-17 and a Bodybuilding World Championship in December at Central Phuket.

The committee also con-

firmed that the Weightlifting World Cup will be held in Phuket between Apr 2-11, 2024 at Phuket Rajabhat University.

Finally, details were shared on the 42nd National Student Games 2023 Qualifying Round 8 Competition, which covers the seven southern provinces of Phuket, Krabi, Phang Nga, Ranong, Chumphon, Surat Thani and Nakhon Si Thammarat.

The sports to be contested in Phuket between Aug 20 and Sept 4 include athletics, golf, karate, cycling, tennis, table tennis, badminton, petanque, futsal, football, swimming, woodball, snooker, handball, beach handball, volleyball and beach volleyball and amateur boxing.

Thais exceed Asean Para Games target

ASEAN PARA GAMES

THAILAND FINISHED SECOND overall at the 11th Asean Para Games in Solo, Indonesia, which ended last Saturday (Aug 6).

The Thais took home 116 gold, 111 silver and 90 bronze medals, behind Indonesia who claimed 171 golds, 138 silvers and 110 bronzes to become overall champions for the third time after their success in 2014 and 2017.

Among Thailand’s successful athletes at Solo 2022 were the

boccia team which won eight of 11 gold medals on offer.

Paralympic champion Pongsakorn Paeyo won his third gold in the T53 wheelchair racing while Tokyo Games winner Athiwat Paeng-Nuea took the T54 title.

Sports Authority of Thailand (SAT) governor Gongsak Yodmani hailed his athletes’ performances which surpassed the target of winning 70 gold medals.

He said the SAT, other agencies and sponsors would look after disabled athletes and find jobs for them.

The Indonesian team were clearly a cut above the rest, pulling away from their rivals on the very first day of competition and dominating at least seven sports – athletics (57 golds), para-badminton (13), judo (nine), chess (13), powerlifting (18), swimming (29) and table tennis (27) – which paved the way for their convincing win.

Indonesia are the first hosts to emerge overall champions since Thailand achieved the feat in 2008.

Meanwhile, Vietnam, the original hosts of the 11th Asean Para Games, ended their campaign in

the top-three bracket with athletics (13 golds), chess (13), powerlifting (10) and swimming (23) as the contingent’s major contributors.

Aided by their golden haul of 18 titles in swimming, Malaysia also surpassed their target with 34 golds, 19 silvers and 14 bronzes.

The Philippines maintained their 2017 position as the fifth-best nation with a 28-31-43 haul while Myanmar came in sixth (14-12-16) followed by Singapore in seventh place with seven gold, nine silver and 11 bronze medals.

Cambodia, participating with



The victorious Thai boccia team. Photo: Bangkok Post

a large contingent in preparation as hosts of next year’s Asian Para Games, improved their standing, climbing two rungs up from 10th in 2017 to eighth in Solo with a six gold, nine silver and 11 bronze medals.

Timor Leste have five gold medals to show while Laos and Brunei failed to bring home a single gold medal.

Bangkok Post