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PEACE PLEDGE

A protest leader wears a shirt emblazoned with the three-fingered salute in front a crowd of some 700 anti-government protesters at a rally in Phuket Town earlier this month. Photo: Charlie Hallett

POLICE, PROTESTERS PLAY DOWN RISK OF DISRUPTIVE RALLIES DURING PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT

Tanyaluk Sakoot
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Police have assigned a high-security detail to ensure that the visit to Phuket by Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha and Cabinet ministers on Tuesday (Nov 3) will be unaffected by any major disruptions.

The mobile Cabinet meeting will be held on the island after a similar mobile meeting in Surat Thani on Monday (Nov 2).

Phuket Provincial Police Deputy Commander Col Arayapan Puk-

buakhao told *The Phuket News* this week that he was confident that no major protests will disturb the ministers during their visit to Phuket.

"I am not worried about protests. I think they won't do it. If there are any large gatherings, we have the correct procedures to handle any situation peacefully through talks without anyone being harmed," he said.

Security plans were being drawn up to ensure the ministers' journey from Phuket International Airport to the separate hotels where they will be staying remained uninterrupted, Col Arayapan said on Monday (Oct 26).

"The Prime Minister will inspect the processes at the airport for admitting foreign tourists, to confirm that the island is ready to receive tourists, and the Cabinet ministers are likely to inspect some key tourist attractions, likely in Phuket Town," he said.

The ministers may visit other areas on the island, including those severely affected by the COVID crisis and the shutdown of Phuket's tourism industry, Col Arayapan added.

"The places where they will inspect will be related to the major purpose [of the visit] to 'Restore the economy' in Phuket province," he said.

Officers from Phuket Immigration and Region 8 Police will be called in to bolster numbers to ensure the security detail is adequate, Col Arayapan noted.

"I need more than 100 officers for the current security plan. We will make sure there are enough officers in the areas where the Cabinet will visit when those sites are confirmed," he said.

Meanwhile, one of the key organisers of the anti-government protests held in Phuket so far told *The Phuket News* on Monday that it was "too early" to confirm whether or not any...

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Missing police funds just a 'clerical error'



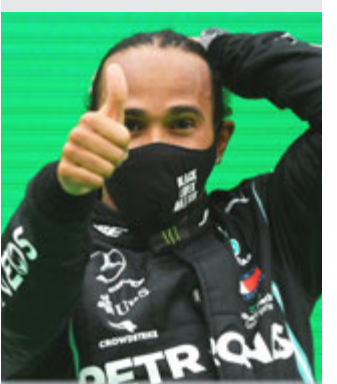
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News



Phuket readies for Loy Krathong festivities > p5

PM visit to be 'peaceful'

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...mass rally will be held in Phuket during the Cabinet visit.

"At this stage, we are not sure whether a protest will be held. It is too early to confirm. If we do gather, we will do so peacefully with three requests: First, Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha must resign; second, specific laws must be fixed, and rewritten; and third, the monarchy is to remain, but there must be some changes," the organiser, who asked not to be named, said.

"We are a new generation of young people. We are loyal to the monarchy but we do not want the monarchy to be involved with politics, and some politicians use the monarchy's involvement for their benefit," the organiser said.

"Another part that needs to be changed is to recheck which assets are provided to the monarchy by the government. We do not want to cross the line to check what they spend their money on or



A protester holds up a sign at a rally in Phuket Town. Photo: Charlie Hallett

anything about their personal lives, but this process will show and build trust for the new generation.

"Another change that must happen is Section 112 of the Criminal Code, which seeks to punish those who defame the monarchy," he explained.

"Our actions have led some people to believe something different. Some people thought we are an anti-monarchy protest. That's not true.

"The young people just want the monarchy to be the centre of the nation as the monarchy is in Japan and England.

"We never have thought of abolishing the monarchy here," he repeated.

Expat pet dumper caught

The Phuket News
editor@classactmedia.co.th

A Phuket expat got more than he bargained for when he made the decision to abandon his pet dog 'Jonney Cash' in a heavy storm on the road outside Soi Dog Foundation's shelter last month.

After dumping the dog on Sept 19 and driving off, little did he know that his actions were clearly caught on CCTV – or that a member of Soi Dog staff saw what had happened and rescued the dog that was running down the road vainly trying to catch up with his beloved owner, and in danger of being hit by traffic, reported Soi Dog.

As well as being a cruel and despicable act, abandoning a dog is also illegal in Thailand. Tha Chatchai Police later tracked down 'Mr.R', an Irishman who has lived in Phuket for a number of years, and filed charges against him



The dog, 'Jonney Cash', was abandoned at the end of the street leading to the Soi Dog Foundation. Image: Soi Dog Foundation

under The Cruelty Prevention and Welfare of Animal Act, the release added.

Pleading guilty, the expat was fined B2,000 by the court and his information and fingerprints recorded into the criminal record system. From now, if he comes to Thailand and requests for a criminal background check,

this record will be shown, Soi Dog noted.

Tha Chatchai Police Deputy Superintendent Lt Col Watcharin Jirattikarnpiwat confirmed that 'Mr.R' had paid a fine and received a criminal record already.

"One of the main stray dog problems in Thailand is because of a lack of pet

owner responsibilities, and we hope that this story serves as an obvious example of legal action that will be taken against the abandoning of pet dogs and cats," Lt Col Watcharin said.

Lt Col Watcharin also urged the public to report any cases of pet animal abandonment to the police.



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Non-islanders urged to change registered address to Phuket

PHUKET GOVERNOR NARONG WOONCIEW has called for people from other provinces who live and work on the island to officially change their registered address to Phuket in order to boost budgets approved to improve the island's infrastructure.

Governor Narong called for the change at a meeting held at Phuket Provincial Hall on Monday (Oct 26), joined by Vice Governor Pichet Panaphong and relevant officers.

Governor Narong explained that the simple administrative change to people's identification cards would not only help officials keep accurate records of how many people actually live on the island, but also boost budgets allocated from the central government to carry out local infrastructure projects.

"By people doing this, officials can use the information to make proper and quality plans for developing people's lives. The central government will be able to give more budget to build or develop infrastructures and add more officers to provide services to Phuket people," Governor Narong said.

The Phuket Government has launched a campaign targeting four distinct groups of people to encourage them to change their registered address, he said.

The four groups comprise officials working in 203 government offices on the island, as well as students, business owners and laborers, and others, he added.

At the meeting, it was explained that there are 8,950 officials posted in Phuket, but only 6,585 officials have changed their registered home address to the island. The remaining 2,365 officers have not.



Phuket Governor Narong Woonciew at the meeting on Monday (Oct 26). Photo: PR Phuket

"The Phuket Government will publicize information and encourage people to move their registration to the island. Officers of the Civil Registration Department in each district and tambon administrative organization [OrBorTor and municipalities] will be mainly responsible for this project," Governor Narong said.

The relatively small number of people registered as living in Phuket compared with the number of Thais usually living on the island to work has been an issue for decades, with government budgets allocated according to the province's registered population.

The difference has resulted in much smaller budgets being allocated for infrastructure projects to serve a much larger population than intended on paper.

Also of note, once a Thai has changed their registered address to another province, they lose their voting rights in their home province.

The Phuket News

Police dismiss missing funds

'Clerical error' sees police COVID-duty pay sent to private account

The Phuket News
editor@classactmedia.co.th

A top general from the Royal Thai Police Office of the Inspector-General in Bangkok, which investigates the "performance" of police divisions throughout the country, has dismissed missing payments to Patong Police officers for extra work due to the COVID-19 pandemic as nothing more than a clerical error.

The financial officer involved in internally transferring the funds to the Patong Police had transferred the money into the account of his own accountant instead, Gen Wisnu Prasatthong-Osoth explained at Provincial Police Region 8 headquarters, at the northern end of Phuket, last Thursday (Oct 22).

With Provincial Police Region 8 Commander Lt Gen Kitrath Phanphet standing beside him, Gen Wisnu explained that his office had received a formal complaint about Patong Police officers not being paid the legitimate allowances for performing extra work as a result of the pandemic.

He declined to name who filed the complaint, though he said the complaint was from a "lower-ranking officer".



Gen Wisnu Prasatthong-Osoth from Office of the Inspector General from Bangkok explained the missing funds at Provincial Police Region 8 headquarters in Phuket. Photo: PR Dept

He also declined to identify how much money was involved in the "accidental" transfer.

However, Gen Wisnu did confirm that a total of B1.5 billion had been allocated to paying police throughout the country the allowances for performing extra work.

Gen Wisnu also explained that Patong was not the only police station that was under investigation for the extra allowance funds disappearing. Thung Song Provincial Police has

also been investigated for officers not receiving the extra payments.

Col Khemmarin Hassiri, Assistant Spokesperson and Deputy Commander Police Region 8, later explained to *The Phuket News* that the investigation into the missing funds meant to be paid to Patong Police officers had concluded, and that money had now been paid to the officers due to receive the extra allowances.

"The investigation has finished,"

he said. "In total, about a B1 million had been paid to officers at Patong Police Station for performing extra duties because of COVID-19.

"From our investigation, we found that four police officers had not been paid because a financial inspector and a financial administrative officer were at fault. The money was transferred to the account of the financial officer's own accountant, who was to transfer it to each police officer. That was wrong.

"It was just a mistake in processing the money. This financial officer just did it the wrong way. This financial officer did not want to cheat, and has been warned to improve their behavior to make sure it won't happen again. The financial officer must transfer money directly to each police officer's own bank account.

"All four police officers [at Patong Police Station] have already been paid," Col Khemmarin also confirmed.

Col Khemmarin declined to identify which financial inspector and financial officer were involved in the transfers.

Of note, Col Khemmarin is no stranger to investigating disappearing government funds. He was the police officer who blew the whistle on funds from Bangkok that had disappeared after it had been dedicated to the Thailand Tsunami Victims Identification (TTVI) unit set up at Baan Nam Khem in Takuapa, Phang Nga, in the wake of the devastating Asian Tsunami in 2004.

Also of note, Col Khemmarin was a police colonel at that time 16 years ago. Since then, his superiors have not advanced his rank. Today, he remains a police colonel.

New traffic fines start Nov 1

THE RAFT OF NEW traffic fines approved by Cabinet earlier this year will come into effect next Monday (Nov 1), Phuket Provincial Police Deputy Commander Col Santat Layangkul has confirmed.

The new traffic penalties were published in the *Government Gazette* in August, and see the minimum penalties raised for a host of minor traffic infractions, but the penalties for drunk driving remain the same as those brought into law in 2015, said Col Santat, who oversees all Traffic Police throughout the province.



Photo: Patong Police

"Phuket police are ready to apply the new traffic fines on Nov 1. I am sure they will work in reducing the number of moving violations, hence making the roads safer," he said.

"Please respect the law, it is the best way to do something good for other drivers," he added.

Among the new fines are:

- Driving against the traffic flow (B400)
- Driving recklessly which may harm other drivers (B400)
- Driving between traffic lanes (B500)
- Driving on footpath without necessary reason (B500)
- Using a mobile phone while driving (B500)
- Overtaking on the left side of a vehicle (B500)
- Joining traffic without indicating (B500)
- Failing to indicate before turning (B400)

The Phuket News

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Overseas yachts now welcome: CCSA

The Phuket News
editor@classactmedia.co.th

The Centre for COVID-19 Situation Administration (CCSA) has announced that tourists aboard overseas yachts have been granted permission to dock in Thailand.

CCSA spokesman Taweasilp Visanuyothin on Oct 21 confirmed that tourists aboard the yachts wishing to enter Thailand would have to quarantine themselves onboard for 14 days, as per the national standard quarantine conditions. During this time they would also be tested three times by health officials.

Dr Taweasilp stated that 60 yachts – 27 superyachts and 33 cruisers – have already expressed their interest in wishing to dock at various Thai ports. The yachts will have about 600-650 tourists and crews in total who it is estimated could generate around B2.1 million of income for the country.

However, the Phuket Marine office has not made any announce-



The announcement on the CCSA Facebook page. Photo: CCSA / Facebook

ment to this effect at time of press.

Dr Taweasilp added that crews from foreign ships will also be allowed to embark to Thailand in order to change vessels to leave the Kingdom and they too will have to enter the 14-day quarantine period.

Additionally, the committee ap-

proved to allow two of the three groups of tourists proposed by the Department of Health Service Support, under the Ministry of Public Health into the country as part of the Tourist Wellness initiative.

The two groups comprise tourists visiting for medical spas, wellness

resorts, and spa resorts in addition to those who are seeking medical treatment.

The third group, yet to be approved and still under consideration, covers tourists who visit in order to partake in activities such as sport, for example, those who will stay in golf hotels.

Dr Taweasilp further clarified the countries who qualify for special tourists visa (STV): "At this stage, the countries considered as low-risk by the Department of Disease Control are China, Macao, Taiwan, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, Norway, Switzerland, Japan, South Korea, Singapore, Australia, and New Zealand."

The topic of potentially shortening the duration of the quarantine period was not discussed in the meeting, Dr Taweasilp confirmed.

However, he did confirm that, as was discussed in the Ministry of Public Health meeting on Oct 20, 14 days is still regarded as the most appropriate duration as 10 days can offer only 95% of protection. It is hoped that in future the period may be shortened.

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ALCOHOL MAY BE A HEALTH HAZARD!



The Phuket-Samui flights resumed last Sunday (Oct 25) and the Phuket-Pattaya flights resumed on Tuesday (Oct 27). Image: Bangkok Airways

Bangkok Airways resumes flights to Samui, Pattaya

BANGKOK AIRWAYS resumed its Samui-Phuket and Phuket-Hat Yai flights last Sunday (Oct 25) and its Phuket-Utapaoo (Pattaya) flights on Tuesday (Oct 27).

The flights are to be operated with the highest preventive measures and standards, said a release announcing the re-launch of the popular services.

The service between Phuket-Samui is operated on Wednesdays and Sundays by an ATR72 aircraft.

Flight PG250 departs Phuket International Airport at 12:20pm and arrives at Samui Airport at 1:15pm.

The return flight, PG259, departs Samui Airport at 10:10am and arrives in Phuket at 11:10am.

The daily service between

Phuket-Hat Yai is operated by an ATR72 aircraft. The outbound flight, PG290, departs Phuket at 8:40am and arrives at Hat Yai International Airport at 9:45am. The return flight, PG295, will depart Hat Yai at 10:25am and arrives in Phuket at 11:30am.

The service between Phuket-Utapaoo, providing direct flight access between Phuket and Pattaya, is operated on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays by an ATR72 aircraft.

The outbound flight, PG288, departs Phuket at 12:10pm and arrives at Utapaoo International Airport at 1:50pm. The return flight, PG285, departs Utapaoo at 2:20pm and arrives in Phuket at 4pm. The Phuket News

Karst collapse dumps 30k tonnes of rock onto reef

Tanyaluk Sakoot
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National park officers will seal off the area at one end of Koh Mae Urai, located between Phi Phi Island and the Krabi mainland, for safety after a large chunk of the Karst splintered off and collapsed into the sea, onto a coral reef.

Chief of the Hat Noppharat Thara–Mu Ko Phi Phi National Park, Prayoon Phongphan, told *The Phuket News* that officers first noticed the end of the island, two kilometres southwest of Koh Poda, had “fallen off” during a routine patrol of the park the morning of Oct 16.

“The section broke into two large pieces, both clearly visible above the water. We estimate that the collapsed rock weighs anywhere from 30,000 up to 50,000 tonnes. Luckily no one was injured from the collapse,” he said.

Park officers conducted a dive at the site on Oct 20 to try to determine how much damage was done to the reef. However, the conditions were too murky for them to see, and



The section of the island that splintered off and collapsed broke into two pieces, plainly visible above water. Photo: DNP

they were to try again later, Mr Prayoon added.

Mr Prayoon estimated that about 20% of the corals at the reef suffered damage from the collapse.

“At this stage we do not know how much of the reef was damaged, but the reef

is home to important corals, including staghorn corals, and was a popular dive site for tourists,” he said.

Mr Prayoon urged all boat operators to keep clear of the collapse site while park officers set up buoys to mark off the area for safety.

“Please be careful. Boat operators must not approach the site. It can be dangerous,” he warned.

“Park officers will mark off the area with buoys with a sign clearly explaining no entry to the sealed-off area,” he concluded.

Phuket prepares for Loy Krathong

LOCAL ADMINISTRATION organisations across the island this week have been making preparations for the annual Loy Krathong Festival, this year to be held on Sunday (Oct 31).

The traditional annual water festival each year sees krathong floated as offerings to the water goddess Phra Mae Kongka in the hope she blesses supplicants by keeping negative forces at bay and bringing prosperity in all its forms to their lives.

Patong Municipality has announced its schedule of festivities for Loy Krathong, to be held at Patong Beach, where a stage will be installed for a performance from local school students and a live band.

There will also be inexpensive seafood stalls as well as beautiful sculptures for people to take photos with on the beach.

Kamala Tambon Administration (*OrBorTor*) will hold its event on Kamala Beach with a stage for performances by local students, including a student band from Rajaprajanugroh 36 School.

Karon Municipality’s Loy Krathong event will take place on the last day of its ‘The 2nd



Loy Krathong festivities will be held across the island on Sunday (Oct 31). Photo: Laguna Phuket

Kata Karon Chuan Chim Rim Lay’ food festival at Nong Han Park, which started last Friday (Oct 23). There will be a series of shows every night of the festival, including the traditional Nang Noppamas beauty pageant for village health volunteers.

Thepkrasattri Municipality is holding its festival from Oct 29-31 along the canal side on Soi Nob Nang Dak, where the Nang Noppamas beauty pageant and other festivities will be held, including the charming ‘Noo Noi Noppamas’ beauty pageant for young children.

There will be food stalls and a stage for a Samkong Superdance band on Oct 29, Khon Thalang Supply band on Oct 30, and Thai folk music singer Duangta Kongthong on Oct 31. *The Phuket News*

Phuket Green Day lifts tonnes of trash

THE PHUKET HOTELS ASSOCIATION’S Environmental & Sustainability Working Group launched the first ever Phuket Green Day island-wide cleanup on Oct 21, which saw a huge drive to clean discarded rubbish from the island.

The initiative, supported by the Phuket Government along with the Tourism Authority of Thailand and the US Embassy in Bangkok, saw hotels, schools, government officers and businesses around the island uniting to carry out the cleanup.

Mai Khao was divided into three zones covering a total area of 10.6 kilometres of beachfront, lake and parklands in a project supported by all the hotels on Mai Khao Beach along with Phuket Yacht Haven Marina, Maikhao School, Sirinath National Park, Soi Dog, Phuket Mitmitree, local community groups, and Mai Khao Tambon



Photo: Sustainable Mai Khao

Administration organisation (*OrBorTor*).

About 250 local and expat community members collected over 263 bags of rubbish weighing a total of 1,717.4 kilograms.

Most of the rubbish collected was single use plastic, shoes, foam, fishing ropes and nets.

For more information, visit Sustainable Mai Khao’s Facebook page. *The Phuket News*

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Students step up for BanYa

Jill N.Wells

If you search the internet for “Generation Z” you will learn that they are on track to be the most well-educated generation yet. So what does this look like when they are still in school?

Dariia, Kanom and Alisa are Grade 12 students from UWCT Thailand International School (UWCT). They, and a team of other Grade 12 UWCT students, just completed their “Project Week” program with St Euphrasia BanYa Literacy Centre (SE-BLC). During the week, the students worked with UWCT art teacher and artist Kru Cece, where they painted a huge mural at BanYa, decorated two kindergarten classrooms and hosted BanYa students on the UWCT campus where students were able to utilise the various school facilities.

Heidi Oxley-Whitnell, their Service Learning Coordinator, said about their work, “During the week, the Grade 12 students planned, implemented and reflected on a service-learning project that involved collaboration with an external organisation. We encourage students to step out of their comfort zone, where they will find that they mature in unexpected ways. Students

will learn something new every day, through a process of reflection and evaluation. When problems arise during Project Week, which does happen, students learn vital skills of cooperation, leadership and patience.”

This program takes place every year, however, due to the impact of COVID-19, this year students have focused on partnering with local Phuket organisations, such as Bodhi Dogs, Phuket Elephant Sanctuary, Gibbons Rehabilitation Centre and Phuket Has Been Good To Us (PHBGTU) in order to carry out their Project Week activities.

Since the relationship between UWCT and SEBLC is well established as part of the school’s service-learning pillar, Dariia, Kanom and Alisa had the idea to decorate the classroom walls. To support the Grade 12’s work, teacher Cece volunteered to create a huge external mural. Plans were reviewed and this idea was turned into a reality. In the long term, when the rainy season ends, the team wants to continue to decorate the walls.

Through the mural, the three students want to advocate for female, human and educational rights. Kanom thinks that, along with access to school for basic education, it is critical for all students to have access to art educa-



All team members in front of the main mural.

tion. “It’s an education in beauty. The paintings on the wall may just appear colourful figures, numbers or simple phrases, but I wish that the colour would give people hope, cheer them up and encourage them to do something to follow their dreams.”


The mural took two days to complete. During the remaining three days of their Project Week, Dariia, Kanom and Alisa hosted 30 BanYa students to experience the UWCT facilities. The BanYa students experienced chemistry experiments, explored how to make electricity and were faced with mathematics and logic challenges. There was also opportunity to take part in art, dance and cooking classes, all facilitated by UWCT students and supervising staff.

Dariia hoped that this experience would enlighten passion, interest and potential career paths for the BanYa students. For UWCT students, Alisa said that this was one of many extraordinary projects, an exercise combining


activity, creativity and service. It was also a very good chance to practice leadership. When asked how they evaluate this project, all three said they knew they had succeeded when they saw the ecstatic smiles on BanYa students’ faces. At the end of the three days, all BanYa students talked with excitement about their experience on the UWCT campus.

As Louisa May Alcott said long ago, “I am not afraid of storms for I am learning how to sail my ship.” Every obstacle and challenge is an opportunity to learn, grow, and develop new skills. Life is full of storms. And it is our response to each storm that determines where we eventually end up. Dariia, Kanom and Alisa, as typical Gen Z members, have demonstrated this truth.

Contact them at www.uwcthailand.ac.th; heidi.oxley-whitnell@uwcthailand.ac.th; www.goodshepherdphuket.com/projects/banya/; Facebook: Cece Nobre



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Little Roma, the nice surprise



THE CULINARY DETECTIVE

Chris Watson
chriswatsonth@gmail.com

When seeking out restaurants in which to spend our time and with the current crisis, in which we choose to cautiously part with our particularly hard to come by Thai baht, I would hazard a guess that certainly high on the list of deciding factors is authenticity. This applies to all cuisines, Thai being no exception. For many of us who have lived some time in Thailand, we undoubtedly shy away from the multitude of ‘farang’ Thai restaurants, serving up a vast array of dishes, all with an abundance of cream and lacking several if not all of the five key flavours; sweet, sour, salty, creamy, spicy – heat sitting on top of the previous core, and finally bitter; all harmoniously balanced. Other country cuisines have also over the years been adapted to appeal to the non-national palate, and even feature dishes which don’t exist in that cuisine, such as Chinese Chop Suey and Italian pasta carbonara, often being prepared with lashings of cream – a big no no from any true Italian Chef.

Invited by Mario and his partner, Anna, to try out Little Roma, their newly opened restaurant located in Porto de Phuket, it was with a hint of



Little Roma has proved popular with local residents.



Prosciutto and Burrata

trepidation that I entered this elegantly furnished outlet, unsure of what was in store for me. Whilst their other restaurant, Little Paris, has established itself as a firm favourite with both locals and expats, Little Roma opened only in 2016 – however I cannot truly remember a time without it, so with such a pedigree I really should not have worried.

In one corner of the room is a pizza oven, imported to create the most stellar Neapolitan pizzas. The restaurant itself is comfortable, slightly rustic with a classy wooden floor and even has table seating on an outside terrace for those somewhat rare sunny days. The menu is a lesson in authenticity oozing traditional Nonna recipes from Sicily and other regions, the home-made pastas and pizzas, made with natural yeast finished off in the gargantuan wood-fired oven are the reason to visit.

Mario suggests a risotto, a lasagne and pizza, of course, finished off with a tiramisu. I am immediately brought a home-made focaccia and douse it in high-quality olive oil and aged balsamic whilst nibbling on olives to whet my appetite. I begin with a truffle risotto, perfectly cooked, decadently creamy, the rice grain clearly visible, the mark of a premium product. Following closely behind, a wonderfully rich lasagne bolognese, the ragu, meaty, the bechamel perfectly partnering and not too creamy as to overshadow the beef. The piece de resistance or pezzo forte arrives, a stunningly classic prosciutto and burrata pizza, straight from the 350-degree-plus oven. In itself, an achievement! I did notice that the menu indicates, red, white and signature green pizzas, for those not “in the know”, the red, with a tomato sauce base, the white, no tomato

and the green usually with eggplant or zucchini. I don’t really have room for dessert but the must-try tiramisu does not disappoint; biscuit, coffee, mascarpone and chocolate. A mouthful of joy!

I remember when Little Paris opened; it was clear to me that both Mario and Anna took huge pride in using only the finest quality ingredients to ensure exceptionally tasty dishes. This same maxim is clearly apparent at Little Roma.

Visit this corner of Italy as soon as you can! Authentic Italian cooking is alive and well!

Chris is a former Michelin Guide Inspector who following an international career in hospitality spanning 30 years in both the Middle East and Asia, has now settled in Thailand and contributes a monthly restaurant column.

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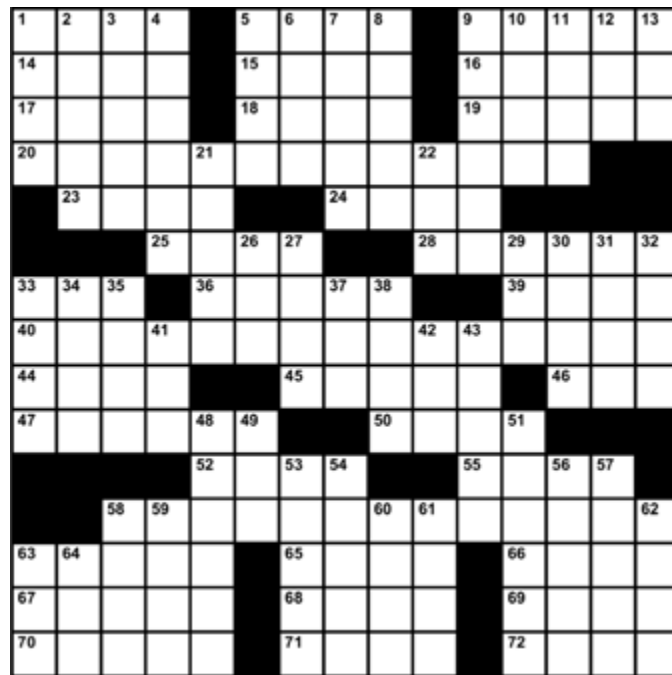
POP QUIZ

1. What is the most widely spoken constructed language in the world?
2. What letter is represented in Morse code by a single dot?
3. In which American state is Yale University?
4. A horse is measured in hands. How many inches are in a hand?
5. What is the English name for the Cote d'Azur?

Answers below, centre

Crossword by Myles Mellor & Sally York

- Across**
1. Kotter of "Welcome Back, Kotter"
 5. Deep cut
 9. Jumbo-sized
 14. Cosmetic company
 15. Not in use
 16. Opened
 17. Asian juice
 18. Earth sci.
 19. Free radicals
 20. Laughing young ladies
 23. Major-____
 24. Not tacit
 25. Scored on serve
 28. Wagnerian heroine
 33. Off-roader's purchase, for short
 36. Savory taste
 39. Laughfest
 40. They are worn in a pool
 44. Fishing spot
 45. Love affair
 46. Tax
 47. Narrow furrows
 50. Cambodia money
 52. Engineer, for short
 55. Prefix with byte
 58. Bird grouping
 63. Swindle
 65. Asia's shrinking sea
 66. "Hey ___ Looking"...
 67. Scarlett of Tara
- Down**
1. Jets or Sharks, e.g.
 2. Steer clear of
 3. Finger drum
 4. "Sadness" singers
 5. "Thank Heaven for Little Girls" musical
 6. Arabian gulf
 7. Plods through clods
 8. Wyeth portrait subject
 9. Palace figures
 10. Like some airports, abbr.
 11. Stirs
 12. Game with matchsticks
 13. N.F.L. scores
 21. Substitute doctor
 22. The Third
 26. Film distributor and record company
 27. Scully on "The X-Files"
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 12. Game with matchsticks
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 22. The Third
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 27. Scully on "The X-Files"



SUDOKU

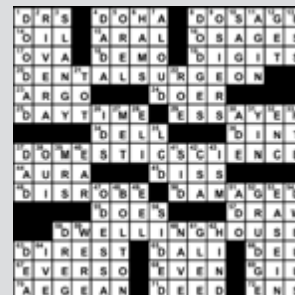
Hard

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

Answers to this week's Pop Quiz:

1) Esperanto; 2) E; 3) Connecticut; 4) Four; 5) The French Riviera

Solutions to last week's puzzles:



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

GOT YOUR NUMBER

1

full orbit will be completed by Pluto on March 23, 2178 – its first since the dwarf planet was discovered in 1930.

50

percent of all giraffe calves do not survive their first year due to predation from hyenas, leopards and wild dogs.

1,776

animals are killed for food for people every second.

80,000

individuals were the targets of 200,000 abusive tweets in just three weeks during a recent international study.

1.16

million

premature deaths occur in India every year with poor air quality identified as a contributing factor – almost the same as China.

Source: Uberfacts

ISLAND VIEW



Good morning, Friendship Beach. Photo: Dominic Hodge

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

This week in history

Oct 30, 1934
The Rumble in the Jungle boxing match between Muhammad Ali and George Foreman takes place in Kinshasa, Zaire. Ali wins by KO in the eighth round, regaining the title of World Heavyweight Champion and causing Foreman's first professional defeat.

Oct 31, 2011
The global population of humans reaches seven billion.

This day is now recognised by the United Nations as the Day of Seven Billion. The current global population is 7.8 billion.

Nov 1, 1520
The ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, painted by Michelangelo, is exhibited to the public for the first time.

Nov 2, 1860
Time zone: New Zealand



Laika, the first dog in space.

officially adopts a standard time to be observed nationally.

Nov 3, 1952
Sputnik program: The Soviet Union launches Sputnik 2.

On board is the first animal to enter orbit, a dog named Laika.

Nov 4, 1922
In Egypt, British archaeologist Howard Carter and his men find the entrance to Tutankhamun's tomb in the Valley of the Kings.

Nov 5, 2007
Android mobile operating system is unveiled by Google.
Source: Wikipedia

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Join us to experience that golden hour glow at 360° Bar, the ultimate sunset perch over paradise every Friday from 5pm. Celebrate with beverages paired with delicious tapas and chilled beats by DJ Garry. Make the most of your special evening with 2 for 1 from 7:30 pm on selected beverages. Reservation, 360° Bar at The Pavilions Phuket, fb.phuket@pavilionshotels.com, 086 281 7597

SAT 31 OCT



All you can eat BBQ night
6pm – 11pm: Beef, Pork, Chicken, Burgers, Sausages, Prawns and Squid, Salad buffet, Choice of potatoes and sauces, bread, buns and garlic bread. Reservation recommended. B395 P/P. shakersphuket@gmail.com 081 891 4381.



Free Beach Music Festival
12 DJs each day, no entrance fee, come and enjoy and have fun. Calcio at Beyond Kata Beach Resort from 11am to 10pm each day.

SUN 1 NOV



All you can eat Sunday Roast Buffet
Beef, Pork and Lamb – Cauliflower, Broccoli, Peas, Carrots, fried mushrooms, grilled tomatoes – Yorkshire pudding – roasted potatoes, mashed potatoes – gravy, mushroom sauce, mint sauce. Reservations recommended. B350 P/P. shakersphuket@gmail.com 081 891 4381.



The Sunday English Family Roast
Let's enjoy our signature brunch with unlimited bubbly, grapes, hops, plates dishes, BBQ meats, fresh seafood, famous roasts & carving stations with dessert buffet. Live music & complimentary pool access. Only THB 2,200 net. Every Sunday 12 pm - 3.30 pm. Reservation, Banyan Tree Phuket, fb-phuket@banyantreephuket.com, 076 372 400



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Sunday Culinary Charity Market at Boat Avenue Laguna. Amazing food offerings from from top hotels and restaurants at street market prices all in one place. Proceeds to be donated to "Phuket Has Been Good to Us" & "Good Shepherd" Azad Meer, 21/11 Lagoon Street Cherngtalay, Phuket 83110, azad@brandconnect.asia, 0890160822

MON 2 NOV



All you can eat BBQ Ribs night
6pm – 11pm: All you can eat BBQ Ribs served with salad buffet, potato salad & choice of sauces. Reservation recommended. 295 baht P/P. shakersphuket@gmail.com, 081 891 4381.

FRI 6 NOV



Grow Boating Networking
The Grow Boating Networking Evening will be held at the Port of Call restaurant, at the Ao Po Grand Marina from 5pm. Please contact us if you would like to be our drinks sponsor for the evening. There will be a light buffet sponsored by the Port of Call restaurant and your favourite beverages will all be available from the bar. Come and join in the fun, everyone is welcome. The Grow Boating Networking Evening is organised by the Thai Yachting Business Association. Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/groups/GrowBoatingNetworkingEvening

SAT 7 NOV



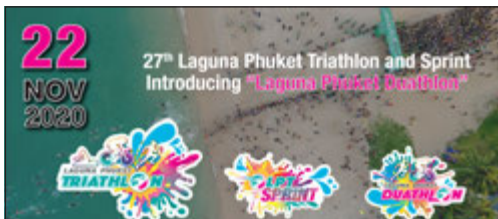
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FRI 13 NOV



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Phuket Sundowners Friday 13 Nov. At Angsana Laguna Phuket. Cost 500 for AustCham member, 900 for non-member. Contact Australian-Thai Chamber of Commerce 02-109-9616. Visit www.austchamthailand.com

SUN 22 NOV



Laguna Phuket Triathlon 2020
27th edition of Asia's longest-standing triathlon race will take place on 22 Nov and comprise Laguna Phuket Triathlon (1.8K Swim, 50K Bike and 12K Run); Sprint (0.5K Swim, 20K Bike and 6K Run) and includes the inaugural Duathlon (4K Run, 50K Bike and 12K Run). All events follow the latest mass participation events health and safety requirements, and contribute towards the official charity partner, Laguna Phuket's Children First Fund. Register at www.LagunaphuketTri.com until 15 Nov.

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Diogo Jota scores the winner against Sheffield United. Photo: AFP

Fab Four on song for Reds

FOOTBALL

Ben Tirebuck
editor3@classactmedia.co.th

Reigning champions Liverpool unleashed their new fab four against Sheffield United last Sunday (Oct 25) and managed to scrape a victory to take them level with arch rivals Everton at the top of the league.

Diogo Jota gelled perfectly with the imperious front three of Roberto Firminio, Mohamed Salah and Sadio Mane,

scoring his second goal since joining from Wolves to seal a 2-1 victory.

Everton lost their first game of the season earlier in the day as an impressive Southampton outclassed them in a 2-0 victory to move up into seventh.

Manchester City stuttered to a 1-1 draw at West Ham and were indebted to prodigious youngster Phil Foden as the substitute snatched an equaliser after Michail Antonio scored a goal of the season contender to give the Hammers the lead.

The most anticipated game of the weekend failed to live up to expectations as Manchester United and Chelsea played out a dour 0-0 draw at Old Trafford, continuing the sporadic start to the season for both of the heavyweights.

Leicester City have been operating somewhat under the radar although a 1-0 victory at Arsenal courtesy of a fine Jamie Vardy goal drew admiring glances and they now move into fourth place, level with early season pace

setters Aston Villa on points.

Villa themselves succumbed to a Leeds United masterclass as Marcelo Bielsa's team won 3-0 at Villa Park with Patrick Bamford registering a fine hat-trick, taking his total goal haul thus far this campaign to six.

Basement club Fulham continued to toil as they lost 1-2 at home to Crystal Palace, West Brom snatched a 1-1 draw at Brighton and Burnley were defeated 0-1 by Spurs with Son Hueng-min once again on the scoresheet.



All over: Khabib. Photo: AFP

End of the road for Khabib

MMA

WORLD LIGHTWEIGHT champion Khabib Nurmagomedov announced his shock retirement from the sport last Saturday (Oct 24) after revealing he "promised his mother" that his clash with Justin Gaethje would be his last fight.

The Russian, who won by a second-round triangle choke, was fighting for the first time since the death of his father and coach Abdulmanap in July who suffered complications from COVID-19.

"I'm the UFC undisputed, undefeated champion with a 13-0 record (in UFC), and 29-0 in all of my pro MMA career," he said

after his win in Abu Dhabi.

"Today I want to say this is my last fight. No way am I coming here without my father. When UFC comes to me about Justin I spoke with my mother for three days.

"She didn't want me to fight without father and I said this is my last fight – and I have given her my word.

"Justin and Conor (McGregor) will fight in January, I have choked both out, I am not interested in this," he added.

"What this guy's been through, we're all lucky we got to see him fight tonight," said UFC President Dana White.

"He is one of the toughest human beings on the planet," he added. *AFP*

22 November 2020

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Sport



That's all folks, says Khabib > p11

SIMPLY THE BEST

FORMULA ONE

AFP

Lewis Hamilton said he was in dreamland after powering to victory in the Portuguese Grand Prix last Sunday (Oct 25) to become Formula One's record all-time race winner.

His 92nd win lifted him one clear of seven-time world champion Michael Schumacher's 16-year-old record of 91 wins and opened up a 77-point lead ahead of Mercedes teammate Valtteri Bottas, who finished second, in the title race.

With five races remaining in the coronavirus-affected season, Hamilton is within reach of a record-equalling seventh championship and a record-increasing 100th pole position.



Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton celebrates after winning the Portuguese GP. Photo: AFP

"I only ever dreamed of being where I am today," he said after the race and a long hug with his father Anthony, who managed his early career. "I didn't have a magic ball

when I chose to come here (Mercedes) – and all we have ever tried to do is make the most of it every single day. We are all rowing in the same direction.

"It's going to take time to sink in, but I was still pushing coming across the line.

"Even now, I am still in race mode mentally so I can't find the words right now to describe

my emotions at the moment... Maybe I will be able to later on."

On the team radio he emotionally told Mercedes that it was "such an honour to work with you" and his race engineer Peter 'Bono' Bonnington replied, saying: "It's the same here, an honour, genuinely."

DEFIES CRAMP

Hamilton had cramp, he said, in his right calf in the closing stages of the race.

"Lifting my foot down the straight, it was pretty painful. I could feel it pull, but I had to get through it. It is what it is."

His Mercedes team chief Toto Wolff, who has helped guide Hamilton to five of his world titles and the team to an unprecedented six in a row, said: "Who would've thought when we started this project in 2013? It's almost a surreal

number of wins.

"From Lewis, it's his absolute passion and energy and its everything he puts into the sport – and the talent and the ability. He's just standing out," said Wolff.

Later, he joked that Mercedes may have to sell some factories to afford to seal a new contract with Hamilton.

"We have to sell plenty of inventory – sell the leaseback of the buildings, just to come up with the money," he said after Hamilton's 71st win behind the wheel of a Mercedes.

Hamilton has distanced himself from re-signing with the team and, like team boss Wolff, is out of contract at the end of the season.

Both say they intend to stay, but have not found the time or right opportunity to settle their futures.

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