

TOP NEWS

Deutsche Bank: In Stall Speed **DFDL:** Here Comes the Sun **Interview:** Giovanni Dante Salce **Swiss School: Football Friendly Matches**

Contribution: Kurt Wüthrich

THE SWISS AMBASSADOR'S MESSAGE

DEAR FRIENDS AND MEMBERS OF THE STCC



CHRISTINE SCHRANER BURGENER AMBASSADOR OF SWITZERLAND TO THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND

For once, the STCC Board asked me to provide an introductory message. While Thailand is going through a difficult phase, lenging.

on Swiss exports to Thailand. elers.

among non-Asian countries. With goods worth USD 9,2 billion in 2013, Switzerland exported more to Thailand than countries like South Korea, Singapore, Indonesia, Germany or India. The total volume of bilateral trade amounted to USD 10,7 billion. Swiss machinery, precision instruments, watches, pharmaceutical and chemical products remain popular here. Also, on Foreign Direct Investments (FDI), Switzerland takes an eminent position. In 2013, Switzerland advanced from the 10th to the 7th rank. The 150 Swiss companies located here do employ over 55'000 workfinding the right words is chal- ers. The Swiss have a distinct passion for Thailand - not only for economic reasons. In 2013, If I am looking back, on a 199'923 Swiss tourists visited positive note, I would like to Thailand marking an increase underline how well the bilat- of 4.6 percent towards 2012. eral economic ties between Thailand reciprocated its affec-Thailand and Switzerland had tion for Switzerland by increasdeveloped throughout 2013: ing the number of Thai visitors Switzerland is Thailand's 6th to Switzerland by 27 percent most important trading partner (!), amounting to 71'134 trav-

Our country takes pole position

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STCC CALENDAR

Europäisches Fernsehen www.globaltv.to

Tuesday, 3rd June 2014: Joint Event with German-TCC: Economic Outlook 2015: 11:00 Kempinski Hotel

Tuesday, 3rd-5th June 2014: Kafka Festival @ Goethe Institute; Opening Ceremony 18:00

Thursday, 12th June 2014: STCC- Stamm, AMARI Boulevard Hotel, Sukhumvit Soi 5

Friday, 13th June 2014: SwissSchool Graduation Ceremony, @RIS Minburi, 10-12hrs

Thursday, 19th June 2014: **VOLVO Truck Factory Visit with** BeluThai Chamber, start 07:45

Sunday 22nd June 2014: SWISSRail Business Brunch in Mandarin Oriental @ 13:00

Thursday, 10th July 2014: STCC- Stamm, AMARI Boulevard Hotel, Sukhumvit Soi 5

More details at www.swissthai.com



JUNE 2014 | SWISS-THAI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE | E-NEWSLETTER #47

STCC PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

ones of 2013.

But I cannot talk today about as soon as possible. economic relations without expressing my concerns with Yours sincerely, regard to the actual political Christine Schraner Burgener situation. The Swiss govern- AMBASSADOR OF SWITZERLAND ment made a statement a day TO THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND after the coup, demanding the military forces to respect the rule of law and allow the return *** to power of a democratically Contact the president: elected government. Economic Luzi A. Matzia rights and economic well-being (Lersan Misitsakul) are closely interlinked with civ- President STCC il, political, social and cultural president@swissthai.com rights. International relations Tel. +66 (0) 2626 2121

However, economic forecasts cannot be reduced to national for the current year have been economic interest; all human grim. Most worrying in this re-rights play a significant role. gard in my view is the fact that The history has shown that the current situation is likely successful economic and social to affect the FDI performance development is not sustainable of Thailand's most important in a suppressed society. All huinvestors - Japan, the USA and man rights are based on printhe UK - adding to the overall ciples of dignity and freedom. dampened investment climate. Therefore, my sincere wish for The statistics for 2014 are very Thailand is that full freedoms. likely to look different from the social equality, the rule of law and a democracy that can work for all Thais can be established

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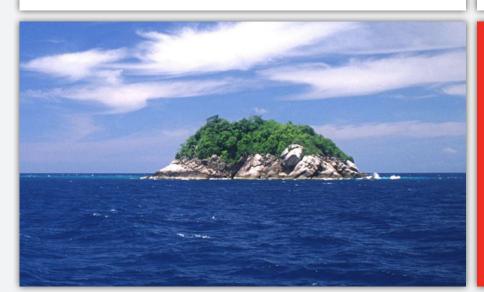












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MEMBER DETAIL **UPDATES**

Do you have changes among your delegates or changes to vour e-mail, mobile, telephone, or fax numbers?

Please send all updates to secretary@swissthai.com

ECONOMY REPORT BY DEUTSCHE BANK

IN STALL SPEED

- Economic outlook: High frequency data suggest that the economy may well have contracted in the first quarter, which has prompted us to revise the 2014 GDP growth forecast down to 2.5%.
- Main risks: The political situation continues to loom large as a major drag to consumption and investment. The risk is things could get worse this summer as yet another election is planned, opposition to the timing of which has already been vocalized by the opposition.

The 2.45% inflation print for April (core inflation: 1.7%) was not surprising. Inflation can remain subdued for only so long even in the presence of weak demand as supply side factors

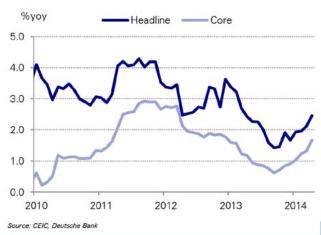
tend to come into play eventually. Prepared food price inflation (5.1%yoy in April vs. 3.7% in March) was the main contributor to the pick-up in CPI, but we see conditions in place for further inflation in the coming months. Weaker baht, firming fuel prices, and concerns about El Nino affecting food production, can all contribute to inflation heading past 3% in the next few months.

While inflation has bottomed, it's not clear if the economy has troughed. In its recently published report on economic and monetary conditions, the Bank of Thailand saw conditions weakening in March vis-àvis February, with both external and domestic demand subdued. Although there was little to be concerned about on the em-

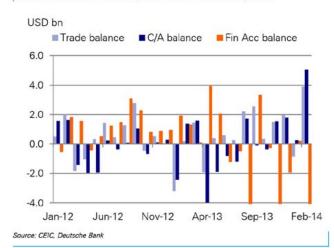
ployment or the BOP front, and auto and electronics exports, along with tourism, seemed to be turning a corner, indices of private consumption and investment remained in contraction territory. Indeed, weak growth momentum may diffuse some of the inflationary risks later this year.

Clearly the ongoing political conflict continues to weigh heavily on expectations and outlook. There is also little support from fiscal as disbursement has lagged considerably due to the political situation and adverse judicial ruling on various public sector activities. The outlook for the economy relies heavily on the political situation, but there is some room for optimism for the second quarter as exports and tourism





Trade balance has improved on weak imports

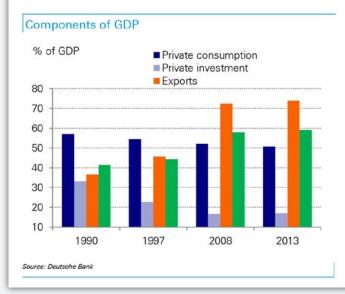


ECONOMY REPORT BY DEUTSCHE BANK

are likely to pick up. Q1, however, looks like a wash. Indeed, we think that Thailand's economy likely contracted in Q1, continuing on a path of weakness that has been charted for nearly a year. The index of value-added production declined by 10.6%yoy in March, which was the twelfth consecutive month of contraction of the series; the index of capacity utilization was down 9.8%yoy at the same period while the index of shipment was down 13.1%yoy; electricity generation was down 6.8%yoy through February.

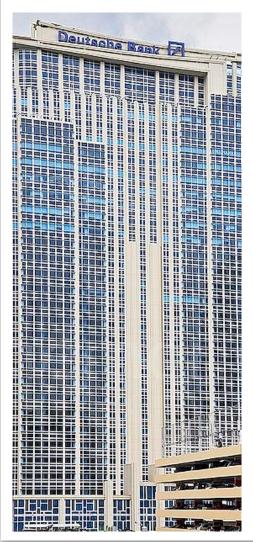
Measures gauging consumer and investor sentiment were also down sharply. Based on this dataflow indicating very weak domestic demand, and poor exports data through March, we estimate that the economy contracted by 1.5%yoy in Q1. Based on this, we have revised down the 2014 annual average growth forecast to 2.5%. Lower economic growth will be driven by weak consumption and investment; even trade will likely be anemic in the first half of the year.

Risk of weak growth external accounts may be mitigated though as weak exports and imports go hand-in-hand. Three key factors have driven the weak Thai economic performance, in our view. First, with the expiration of various one-off supporting measures (car buying scheme, rice



National Income Nominal GDP (USDbn) Population (m) GDP per capita (USD) Real GDP (yoy %) Private consumption Government consumption Gross fixed investment Exports Imports Prices, Money and Banking CPI (yoy %) eop CPI (yoy %) ann avg Core CPI (yoy %) ann avg Broad money Bank credit¹ (yoy %) Fiscal Accounts² (% of GDP) Central government surplus Government revenue Government expenditure Primary surplus External Accounts (USDbn) Merchandise exports Merchandise imports Frade balance % of GDP Current account balance % of GDP Current account balance % of GDP FDI (net) FX reserves (USDbn) FX rate (eop) THB/USD	2012 370.5 64.5 5749 6.5 6.7 7.5 13.2 3.1 6.3 3.6 3.0 2.1 10.4 15.3 -3.5 19.2 22.7 -3.6	2013 367.6 64.8 5675 2.9 0.2 4.9 -1.9 4.2 2.3 1.7 2.2 1.0 7.3 9.4 -3.0 18.8 21.8 -3.1	2014F 388.0 65.1 5961 2.5 0.1 0.5 -0.8 2.0 1.2 1.8 2.4 1.8 7.5 9.0 -3.2 19.0 22.2 -1.9	393.6 65.4 6016 4.0 3.8 2.0 6.0 11.3 12.9 3.0 2.2 1.4 8.0 10.0
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Merchandise imports Frade balance % of GDP Current account balance % of GDP FDI (net) FX reserves (USDbn) FX rate (eop) THB/USD	225.9	225.4	246.7	270.8
Trade balance % of GDP Current account balance % of GDP FDI (net) FX reserves (USDbn) FX rate (eop) THB/USD	219.9	219.0	238.8	267.6
% of GDP Current account balance % of GDP FDI (net) FX reserves (USDbn) FX rate (eop) THB/USD	6.0	6.4	7.9	3.1
Current account balance % of GDP FDI (net) FX reserves (USDbn) FX rate (eop) THB/USD	1.6	1.7	2.0	0.8
% of GDP FDI (net) FX reserves (USDbn) FX rate (eop) THB/USD	0.2	0.5	4.0	1.1
FDI (net) FX reserves (USDbn) FX rate (eop) THB/USD	0.0	0.1	1.0	0.3
FX reserves (USDbn) FX rate (eop) THB/USD	-2.0	-3.0	-3.0	2.8
FX rate (eop) THB/USD	181.6	186.1	193.1	199.2
Debt Indicators (% of GDP)	30.7	32.4	32.0	32.5
Debt Indicators (% of GDP)				
	40.7	45.5	100	40.5
Government debt ^{2,3}	43.7	45.5	46.0	46.5
Domestic	41.5	43.6	45.0	45.5
External	2.2	1.9	1.0	1.0
Fotal external debt	35.3	36.3	34.6	34.4
in USDbn Short-term (% of total)	130.7 44.5	135.0 45.0	140.0 45.0	145.0 45.5
General		(V250/EV)	102/129	5. <u>0.</u> 74.6
ndustrial production (yoy %)	2.5	2.6	4.0	5.0
Jnemployment (%)	8.0	8.0	0.7	1.0
Financial Markets Co	urrent	3M	6M	12N
BoT o/n repo rate	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
3-month Bibor	2.20	2.25	2.40	2.60
10-year yield (%)	3.61	3.55	3.70	4.00
THB/USD (onshore)	32.4	32.5	32.7	32.0

ECONOMY REPORT BY DEUTSCHE BANK



pledging scheme, and postflood reconstruction), and the rise in household debt (nearly 80% of GDP), some fatigue in the economy was inevitable. Second, the ongoing political uncertainty has caused delays and cancellations in consumption and investment decisions and soured external investor sentiments. Third. exports have disappointed so far this year, unlike the performance of Thailand's peers in the region (i.e. Malaysia, the Philippines, and Singapore), with key export items such agriculture and electronics products still in negative growth territory.

Looking ahead, the external sector remains a major potential source of support. Exports could bottom with a rise in partner country demand, especially China and EU. Regionally, auto demand is already

showing signs of a turnaround. Note that over the past couple of decades Thailand's economy has become increasingly more reliant on trade (see chart below), with trade share of GDP far exceeding that of consumption or investment. Since we remain confident of a pick-up in global demand, we still see a growth rebound despite a poor first quarter and lingering political risk.

The other area of positive development could be tourism. If the political situation does not worsen, the summer season could see a spike in arrivals and hotel occupancy, giving the economy a rare respite. We understand that visitor arrivals picked up in later April and early May.

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NEWS BY DFDL

HERE COMES THE SUN

Solar power is an extremely country. As expected, Thailand The current target for solar enpopular concept these days; in- has an enormous solar power ergy under the AEDP is to interestingly humans have been generation potential with solar crease generation, by 2021, to harnessing the power of the sun irradiance levels ranging be- 2,500 megawatts ("MW"). Sosince the 7th century B.C to light tween 1700-2100 kWh/m2/year. lar power currently generates torches. Swiss scientist Horace These figures can be compared power only in the amount of de Saussure is credited as build- to Switzerland which has solar 448 MW. Presently, almost all of ing the world's first solar collec- irradiance levels ranging from Thailand's solar power is genertor, which would serve as a pre- 800 -1400 kWh/m2/year. cursor to solar cookers. In more recent years solar energy is being Thailand, since the early 2000's Lopburi Solar Plant in central used to generate electricity us- has put forth several ambitious. Thailand, with only 1% coming ing the photovoltaic process; it renewable energy promotion from industrial rooftops and/or is this method that is still used policies. The most recent being today to harness the energy de- the Department of Alternative understands the importance of rived from the source of all life, Energy Development and Effithe sun.

els (the measure of electro- duce Thailand's dependence on (PV) Rooftop Programme. magnetic radiation produced fossil fuels by having renewable by the sun which is perceived energy provide 25% of Thai- The Solar Photovoltaic ("PV") as sunlight) proves as an effec-land's total energy generation Rooftop Programme is aimed tive way to determine the solar by 2021. energy generating capacity of a

ciency's "Alternative Energy Development Plan 2012 - 2021"

ated by solar farms that are over one MW in capacity such as the residential sources. The AEDP both large and small scale solar generators and as such introduced one of the key pillars of Measuring solar irradiance lev- ("AEDP"). The AEDP aims to re- its plan; the Solar Photovoltaic

> at encouraging domestic and commercial buildings to install



NEWS BY DFDL

with the intent of generating homes in Thailand for private, cations may be reopened in the electricity which can be either off-the-grid consumption may coming months. self-consumed and/or sold to do so without fulfilling any lithe government via entities censing and permit require- In regard to the relevant licenssuch as the Provincial Electrici- ments. The problem arises when es and permits, on 25 March ty Authority ("PEA") or the Met- such systems are connected to 2014 the Energy Regulatoropolitan Electricity Authority the grid and have a generating ry Commission ("ERC") issued ("MEA") under the Energy Reg- capacity of in excess of 3.85 an announcement which ruled ulatory Comission's Rules and KW. To be eligible for (i) elec- that the generation of electric-Regulations on Thailand's Solar tricity generation in excess of ity under the Solar PV Rooftop PV Rooftop Programme. These 3.85 KW, and (ii) grid-connec- Programme did not constitute a regulations outline the vari- tion, a Factory License issued power plant factory. Since the ous rules for determining the by the Department of Industri- issuance of the announcement eligibility of participants, sale al Works and a Permit to Alter there has been an a debate beprocesses and the method for Residential Buildings issued by tween which governmental aucalculating remuneration, and the Civil Works Department are thority has the power to issue mandate use of a standardized required in addition to entering such a notification, there issue Power Purchase Agreement to into a standardized power pur- has be referred to the Office of be entered into between the chase agreement. proposed generator and either the PEA or MEA.

mentation of the Solar PV Roof- power generated by participa- Nevertheless solar energy de-

PV systems on their rooftops low 3.85 KW on their residential ical situation is at ease, appli-

2013, the MEA have stopped nouncement. One impediment to the imple- accepting applications to sell

the Attorney-General so as to determine which agency has Unfortunately, since October authority to issue such an an-

top Programme has been the tion into the Solar Photovoltaic velopment remains an exciting quagmire of licensing and per- (PV) Rooftop Programme. Based industry which will be heavily mit requirements. Those wishing on the effectiveness of the cur- promoted by the Thai governto install solar panel systems rent grid connected systems ment until the AEDP targets are with generating capacities be- and subject to when the polit- met. This is facilitated by the





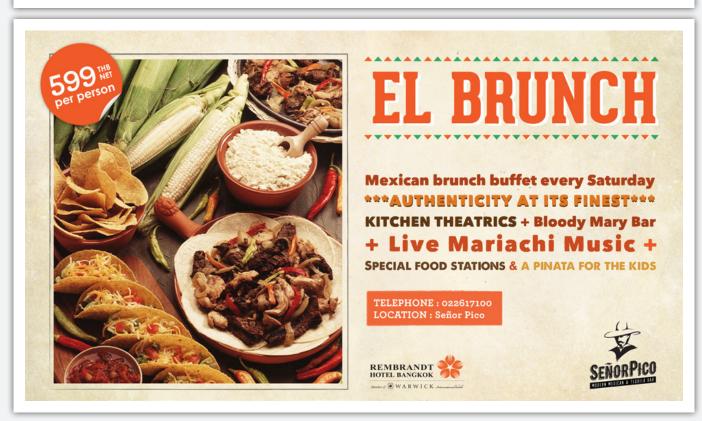
NEWS BY DFDL

also aided in the development globally. of solar energy as there exists a variety of solar panels available for purchase such as foldable panels to save space, panels with higher efficiencies and panels created from semi-transparent organic nanotechnology. Despite the considerable potential for solar generation on a micro and macro level in Thailand,

decreasing manufacturing costs it has yet to gain adequate Angus Mitchell for solar PV cell technology traction due to its relatively (angus.mitchell@dfdl.com) which are making solar energy high set-up costs and a lack of an increasingly viable option for awareness among the general Kunal Sachdev smaller scale and domestic use; public. These issues have not (kunal@dfdl.com) as such strong supporters and barred the Swiss Embassy from advocates of solar energy have launching its own initiatives to Matthew Christensen not been hindered by the strin- install a 150 KW solar generat- (matthew.c@dfdl.com) gent licensing requirements for ing set-up. We understand that their future installations. Tech- several Swiss Embassies have For more information nological developments have also implemented this initiative please contact

thailand@dfdl.com





MEMBER INTERVIEW

GIOVANNI DANTE SALCE

Name or Alias

Giovanni Dante Salce

Occupation / Employer

M+R Forwarding (Thailand) Co., Ltd.

Languages

German/Italian/English/French

Family & Home

Married to Mona mother of Luca, Marco 19 y/o, Yasmin 18 y/o

and Christian 16 y/o, Living in the Ekamai area

Years in Thailand

Arrived in 1999 from Jakarta, so since 15 years Bangkok

Favorite restaurants in Thailand

Enoteca Italiana Bangkok. Nicolas and his team are the best. Thai: Sabai Jay Gayang, on Ekamai

Favorite destination in Thailand

Kao Tao Beach near Hua Hin

How do you spend your free time?

Youth Football coach and part time sausage maker...

Which book or movie would vou recommend to vour friends and why?

Games of Thrones by Georg R.R. Martin

If you had a million dollars, how would you spend it?

Donate to "Cleft Children Relieve Foundation" www.cleft-children.org/en/ Home.aspx

If you had the power to change something in Thailand, what would it be?

Better education system on all levels









SWISS SCHOOL NEWS

CULTURAL FESTIVAL NEW DELHI

An illustrious delegation from the RIS Swiss Section - Deutschsprachiqe Schule Bangkok travelled to the Cultural Festival of the German-speaking schools in Southeast Asia from March 13th to 17th 2014.

This year's venue for the festival was the German European School as this year's topic. The chaper-



New Delhi in India with "Colours" in yoga sessions, organised field 8th and 9th period, where they trips as well as musical events planned and worked on the Swiss ones were Liv Lange Rohrer and there. As preparation for the trip School workshop as well as their Alex Schillig. The participants and the cultural event in New own presentation on the topic selected one workshop from the Delhi the participants attended "Colours". All participants left ones offered which they attend- the school workshop led by Ms. New Delhi enriched by many ed on the four days in New Del- Lange Rohrer and Mr. Schillig experiences and meaningful imhi. Furthermore, they could join on Thursday afternoons in the pressions.

ALOHA SPLASH

and organized each year by our er for a wonderful lunch buffet students' body SMV.

the students of grades 2 - 11 by the PBV. Such a fun day at enjoyed a day with all sorts school! We are all looking forof watery fun. The school was ward to "Aloha Splash 2015"! set up with different stations, each one supervised by a different teacher in charge of a particular game. This gave the students a variety of wet ways to get soaked and stay cool on the hot day. Of course, all the kids and teachers ended up with pretty wet heads and clothes! The superb planning from the student council included food as well. At the end of the school

Aloha Splash is a fun event held day all students came togethin the music room. There was also an extraordinary snack sale On Monday May 12th, 2014, (Pausenbrotverkauf) organized Thanks to the hard work of the student council in throwing this party.



Important events

12.06.2014 Flea Market (11:10 - 12:45) 13.06.2014 Graduation Ceremony 14.06.2014 Matura Ball

Please visit our website www.swissschoolbangkok.org and get more information about our upcoming events. SWISS SCHOOL NEWS

FOOTBALL FRIENDLY MATCHES

On April, 26th RIS Swiss Sec- REMATCHES tion - Deutschsprachige Schule hosted friendly football matches RIS Swiss Section – Deutschspra- Anglo Singapore International against three teams from Berke- chiqe Schule Bangkok played School vs the Swiss U11: 5-0, ley International School.

high.

The kids from both schools showed massive improvement and the games were extremely competitive and showed great sportsmanship and determination on and off the court. The boys 11 years and under started the competition and the Swiss boys managed to win the match 2-0. The Berkeley boys 14 years and under were too strong for the Swiss team and the final score was 6-2. The girls presented a great match and both teams finally scored one goal.

the rematches against Berkeley Berkeley Girls vs the Swiss U14 International School and Anglo Girls: 1-2, Berkeley Boys vs the Enthusiasm, competition, and Singapore International School Swiss U14: 0-0, Anglo Singapore good fun were the name of the on May 17th at Berkeley Inter- International School Boys vs the day, although the longer the national School. Expectations Swiss U14 Boys: 0-3 matches lasted, the more the were high and more victories. The supporters of both sides heat was starting to play a fac- were in the offing. And the three watched well played games with tor. The level of performance in teams of our school did not let lots of action, goals, and exciteall three matches was extremely the supporters down and were ment. Well done to all teams for successful.

Here are the results: Berkeley Boys vs the Swiss U11: 2-1,

effort, skills and fairplay!



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MEMBER NEWS

SAMITIVEJ SUKHUMVIT HOSPITAL AND STCC THY DAY EVE

Nine STCC members have been welcomed on Friday 16th of May at the Samitivej Hospital by Nicolas Leloup, Head of International Marketing, and some photos have been taken by Erwin and the hospital's photograph.

The visit begun at the fitness centre of the hospital, it can be used not only by the patients but as well by the staff of the hospital - "mens sana in corpore sano" said the Romans! I was impressed to see such a perfectly equipped Fitness Room Auditorium. sense!

switch on the TV, to adjust and respectively drinking habits. to open or close the curtains and so on, with remotes or an iPod. Doctor Isares Seisorn informed remotes. that most of the hospital rooms focused ultrasound). will be upgraded to "intelligent" rooms. If I remember well, the The advantages are evident: cost for such a room is around 8'000 Baht per day.

6th floor, to the Bancha Lamsam



Some at a Hospital – it makes really snacks and refreshment with coffee, tea and sweet drinks (but of course no alcohol) where of-We visited then a so called "in- fered. Later on two doctors lectelligent" hospital room. The tured about treatments against patient in this room is able to prostate cancer and fatty liver

However the patient should be about a new possibility to cure skilled enough to handle all the prostate cancer. The treatment Mr. Nicolas told us is called HIFU (High intensity

- Less side effects compared to other treatments.
- At about 16.00 we went to the Highly effective compared to alternative treatments.

- delicious Good option for a first time treatment.
 - Suitable for treatments of prostate cancer at several stages.
 - No side effects from radio active elements.
 - No surgical incision.
 - Short recovery period compared to other treatments, the patients are required to stay only 1 - 3 days at the hospital.
 - Immediate treatment result.
 - The treatment can be repeated during the follow-up peri-
 - Applicable also for patients whose condition is not appropriate for major surgery.



This new treatment is not yet The

second treatment incl. a three day stay sumption. Men should not drink appropriate diet program. at the Hospital would cost be- more than 2 - 3 glasses of wine tween 400'000 - 500'000 Baht. per day (or equivalent in oth- It seemed to me that the sec-

presentation body has more problems with available in all countries, the about "Social Drinking" by Dr. alcohol. Cirrhosis Livers look apparatus cannot yet be bought, Nathavut Sirimontaporn advised guite ugly, however the fat in the hospital has to rent it. This about dangers of alcohol con- the liver can be reduced with an

However it might be good news er kinds of drinks). Women may ond theme found a little less for men with prostate problems. drink even less, it seems their interest by the auditorium. As I know, Switzerland is in matter of consuming Alcohol number 3 in the world, after Italy and France. But of course, the consumption of alcohol in Thailand is a big issue, especially the "Lhau Khaau"; this white alcohol causes not only liver cirrhosis but as well many accidents. The slogan "mau may kap", "do not drive when you drink alcohol", should really be observed!

> Finally, the lucky draw presented 2 Members with vouchers for a Liver screening at a value of 4000 Baht each.

We thank the Management of the Samitivej Hospital for welcoming us at this event, the interesting presentations as well as the nice coulinary snacks and we all agreed that we would welcome an other similar event again for our members

Markus Ruprecht, Bangkok; 081 985 69 42; markus.ruprecht@yahoo.com





Swiss Thai

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

29 Unit 1802 Bangkok Business Centre Bldg. Sukhumvit 63 Road, Klongton Nua, Wattana Bangkok 10110 Tel. +66 (0) 80 771 0270 Fax + 66 (0) 2 714 4179 E-mail: secretary@swissthai.com Web page: www.swissthai.com

Bangkok, May 21, 2014

H.E. Christine Schraner Burgener

The Ambassador of Switzerland

Embassy of Switzerland

35 North Wireless Road

Bangkok 10330, Thailand

Dear Christine,

On behalf of the Swiss-Thai Chamber of Commerce it gives me great pleasure to congratulate you on having been chosen as the DEAN of the entire Diplomatic Corps in Thailand.

This is a great honor and Achievement which deserves due mention in our next Newsletter.

I thank you for your always great support of the STCC and wish you success.

Yours sincerely,

Swiss-Thai Chamber of Commerce

Luzi A. Matzig

(Lersan Misitsaku)

President

cc. Mr. Thomas Gerber / Executive Director of STCC

Mr. Bruno Odermatt / Vice-President of STCC

MEMBER CONTRIBUTION

EMERGING NATIONS, BASIC SCIENCE AND NOBEL PRIZES



Luncheon Talk by Kurt Wüthrich, 2002 Nobel prize laureate in chemistry, August 7, 2014

the lives of their citizens, Thailand and most emerging countries in Southeast Asia follow a knowledge-based strategy, where scientific research and innovation play a key role. Academic performance and degrees have become measuring gauges in these societies. Are emerging nations on the right track by pushing their kids



through weekend tutoring classes and sending them to the west, in the hope that this will produce creativity and economic success? Is western innovation and Nobel Prize winning the way to a happy life? Kurt Wüthrich is the right scientist to address these issues. As you find out by reading his biography, http://www.nobelprize. org/nobel_prizes/chemistry/laureates/2002/wuthrich-bio.html

Kurt Wüthrich is a people's man who grew up on a farm in western Switzerland. He went through To expand economies and better regular Swiss education like every other citizen, including many of us expatriates in the Swiss-Thai community. In those times the worries were more on winning the next football game, catching a big fish from the neighboring river, rather than studying for the In the 1960's, Magnetic Resnext math exam. In short, a reqular Swiss, whose passion for nature provided the energy for hard the chemical structure of small work in scientific discovery. His down-to-earth approach is evident when he lectures about proteins, the molecules of life which are the basis of Kurt Wüthrich's ing backgrounds just to operate fame. Taking off his belt, which the systems. Vision, stamina and normally functions as pant holder, to explain the folding and spiral- this technology to bio-molecules, ing of amino acids and then to at a time when the fields of bioloremark that this belt has gotten gy and chemistry were still widely longer over time (as it does for separated. Kurt Wüthrich has ac-



the size of the protein structures solved by using Magnetic Resonance, shows the unconventional ways Kurt Wüthrich walks. Therefore his luncheon presentation will be understandable for a general audience i.e. it will be nontechnical, focusing on the impact of scientific discovery and excellence on daily life. It may be useful, however, to have at least a basic picture of the nature of Kurt Wüthrich's achievements.

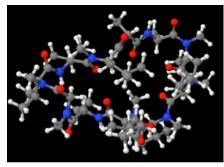
onance has been used by few organic chemists to determine organic molecules. At the time the instruments were driven by vacuum tubes and one needed chemistry, physics and engineerpersistence were needed to apply many of us) at the same rate as complished to use Magnetic Reso-

MEMBER CONTRIBUTION

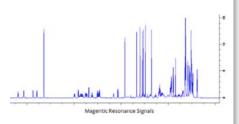
ache disappears after swallowing over nearly 50 years. a tablet of paracetamol? There is interaction between the drug We are very excited that Kurt off pain signals to our sensory in your calendars. Venue and

nance to determine the three-di- system. These processes are very registration details will be anmensional structures of proteins complex, and the understanding nounced in the next newsletter. and other "molecules of life". In of the three-dimensional strucour daily lives we know Magnet- tures of proteins helps to gain ic Resonance as MRI (Magnetic new insights as a basis for fight-Resonance Imaging) from the ing diseases. Understanding biohospital's radiology departments. chemical pathways is necessary Kurt Wüthrich has used this spe- to develop new drugs and medicial tool to generate pictures of cal procedures. With this in mind, proteins. This makes it possible Kurt Wüthrich has driven the field to look inside the proteins. Have of protein structure determinawe ever wondered why a head-tion with Magnetic Resonance

molecule and our body. Very like- Wüthrich has accepted the lunchly the drug molecule docks onto eon invitation on August 7, 2014. a protein which may then switch Friends, members, mark this date



3D molecular structure





Evangelische Gemeinde deutscher Sprache mit neuer Adresse

Nachdem schon die Deutschsprachige Katholische Gemeinde eine neue Adresse in Bangkok hat, wird auch die Evangelische Gemeinde deutscher Sprache ein neues Gemeinde- und Pfarrhaus beziehen.

Die Adresse ab Juni 2014 lautet:

Nr.125/1 Soi Sitthi Prasat, Rama IV Road, Thung Mahamaek, Sathorn, Bangkok 10120

(Nähe MRT Station Lumphini).

Die Telefonnummer (mobil) +66 (0) 8 1815 9140 und die E-Mail Adresse <u>ev.kirche.th@gmail.com</u> bleiben unverändert.

Die Gottesdienste der evangelischen Gemeinde finden vom 15. Juni 2014 an um jeweils 11 Uhr im Gemeindehaus in der Soi Sitthi Prasat statt; der letzte Gottesdienst im Gemeindehaus in der Pridi Phanomyong wird der Konfirmationsgottesdienst am 1. Juni 2014 um 10 Uhr sein.

Mit herzlichem Gruß Ulrich Holste-Helmer, Pastor Annegret Helmer, Pastorin





Evangelische Gemeinde Deutscher Sprache in Thailand

Pastorin Annegret Helmer Pastor Ulrich Holste-Helmer

Mobil: +66 (0) 8 1815 9140 E-Mail: ev.kirche.th@gmail.com Internet: www.die-bruecke.net

Deutschsprachige Katholische Gemeinde in Thailand



Pfarrer Jörg Dunsbach

Mobil: +66 (0) 8 11 58 98 12 Email: post@gemeinde-bangkok.com Home: www.gemeinde-bangkok.com

Herzlich willkommen!

Regelmäßige Gottesdienste:

am ersten und dritten Sonntag im Monat um 11 Uhr im Gemeindehaus Bangkok 125/1 Soi Sitthi Prasat, Rama IV (Nähe MRT Lumphini)

> am zweiten und letzten Sonntag im Monat um 11 Uhr im Begegnungszentrum Pattaya Naklua Road, zwischen Soi 11 und Soi 13

Regelmäßige Gottesdienste:

sonntags um 10.30 Uhr in der Kapelle des St.Louis Hospitals Bangkok, Sathon Road (Nähe BTS Surasak)

am ersten Samstag im Monat um 11 Uhr im Redemptoristenzentrum Pattaya Kapelle neben der Lobby, Sukhumvit Road

