

NEWS RELEASE: IMMEDIATE

PM TO VISIT 2 SENIORS IN UPGRADED AMK FLATS

Mr Lee to personally find out how Alert & Alarm System can help elderly living alone

1. Eighty-six-year-old Mdm Lim Luk now no longer worries that no one would know if any thing happens to her in her one-room apartment in Ang Mo Kio. An alert and alarm system has been installed in her flat at Block 318, Ang Mo Kio Avenue 1.
2. This means that whenever she is in need of help in the event of a mishap, she just has to pull a cord in the living room or bathroom to alert her neighbours.
3. Mdm Lim's flat is among 97 units in the block that have been fitted with the alarm system, with another 52 units scheduled to have theirs soon.
4. The system has been installed by the Housing & Development Board as part of the government's efforts to look after the wellbeing of the senior citizens. It has attracted the personal interest of Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, who will visit the flat of Mdm Lim and 72-year-old Mdm Lee Siew Luan when he officially opens the Lions Befrienders (Ang Mo Kio 318) Neighbourhood Link (NL) this Saturday, May 27 2006.
5. Situated on the void deck of Block 318, the Neighborhood Link has been set up to meet the social and recreational needs of some 500 independent seniors in the Teck Ghee area bounded by Ang Mo Kio Avenues 1, 6, 8 and Street 31. It is also the "nerve centre" of the Alarm and Alert System for the elderly in the block, when during office hours on weekdays the centre staff would respond immediately to any alert from the flats that are link to its monitoring system. On weekends, designated neighbours would go to the aid of those who need urgent assistance.
6. Mr Lee Hsien Loong, Prime Minister and Member of Parliament for Ang Mo Kio GRC, is the Guest-of-Honour at the official opening of the Neighbourhood Link, a joint project of the Lions clubs in Singapore and the Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Sports. He will tour the centre to observe the myriad of activities and programmes designed to engage the seniors and keep them active and meaningfully occupied.
7. The event coincides with the completion ceremony for Teck Ghee Vista, a Main Upgrading Project (MUP) that includes retrofitting seniors' home with elder-friendly facilities, such as Alert Alarm System, non-slip tiles, seated pedestal pan and toilet grab bars.
8. Since 1995, Lions Befrienders has become the biggest voluntary welfare organisation of its kind. It reaches out to the lonely elderly via the Befriending Programme and Outreach Programmes. Currently, it has about 1,000 registered volunteers helping around 3,600 elderly.

Lions Befrienders (Ang Mo Kio 318) Neighbourhood Link Official Opening

Date: 27th May 2006 (Saturday)
Time: 6.15pm
Venue: Blk 318 Ang Mo Kio Avenue 1(off Street 31)
#01-1453, Singapore 560318

Picture Opp:

- PM observing activities of seniors in the centre
- PM visits Blk 318 residents' home

NB: GOH will be arriving at 6.30pm

You and your photographer/camera crew are cordially invited to the above event.

Attached is the programme sheet of the event for your reference.

Please confirm your attendance by 12.00pm, 26th May 2006.

Ms Tang Peng Peng
Manager, Communications & Volunteer Management
Lions Befriender Service Association (Singapore)
Mobile: 9368 9447
Fax : 6273 1500
Email: peng@lionsbefrienders.org.sg

Ms Rosalind Yap
Executive, Communications & Volunteer Management
Lions Befriender Service Association (Singapore)
Mobile: 9649 0247
Fax : 6273 1500
Email: rosalind@lionsbefrienders.org.sg



LIONS BEFRIENDERS (ANG MO KIO 318) NEIGHBOURHOOD LINK

Official Opening Ceremony 27th May 2006

Programme

- 6.15 pm Guests to be seated
- 6.30 pm Arrival of Guest-of-Honour
Mr Lee Hsien Loong
Prime Minister and Member of Parliament for Ang Mo Kio GRC
- 6.35 pm Welcome Address by President, Lions Befrienders (Ang Mo Kio 318) Neighbourhood Link
Mr Richard Koong
- Address by Guest-of-Honour
Mr Lee Hsien Loong
- Unveiling of Plaque
Presentation of Token Plaque to Mr Lee Hsien Loong
- 6.50 pm Tour of Centre
- 7.00 pm Visit to Home of two Blk 318 Residents
- 7.10 pm Departure of Guest-of-Honour
- 7.15 pm Open House for all guests
- 7.30 pm Dinner Reception
- 8.30pm End