

MY HOME IN 6 SECONDS

CCM CLASSES FOR ALL PRIMARY SCHOOLS

THE Conversational Chinese and Malay (CCM) programme will be expanded to all primary schools in the next four years, Education Minister Ng Eng Hen said yesterday during racial-harmony celebrations at Elias Park Primary School.

SHELL LEADS ANOTHER CUT IN PUMP PRICES

PUMP prices fell for the third time in a fortnight yesterday, led again by Shell. A litre of 92-octane petrol is now at \$2.133 before discount; 95-octane at \$2.166; 98-octane at \$2.24. Diesel returned to sub-\$2 level at \$1.993.

ABOUT 1,000 GIVE UP CITIZENSHIP ANNUALLY

AN AVERAGE of about 1,000 Singaporeans gave up their citizenship each year in the last three years, said Home Affairs Minister Wong Kan Seng yesterday, in a written reply to a question from Non-Constituency MP Sylvia Lim in Parliament.

NEW BABY-BOOSTING MEASURES NEXT MONTH

NEW measures to boost the birth rate will be announced next month, said Deputy Prime Minister Wong Kan Seng in Parliament yesterday. It will include more financial support for parents and pro-family policies in the workplace.

Now, there is a way to verify IC numbers

The free Microsoft Excel spreadsheet allows users to confirm if NRICs are valid

KOH HUI THENG

FED up with parents who fill in their children's identity card (NRIC) numbers wrongly, freelance writer Gangasudhan Bala Supramaniam, 32, hit upon a solution.

Last month, he invented a service to check whether the seven digits and letter in an NRIC number were legitimate each time he handled paperwork for the Singapore Indian Development Association's student-tuition programme. He is a volunteer with the organisation.

Based on the "Modulo 11" algorithm that the NRIC system follows, his invention allows users to download a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet from his blog,

key in the NRIC number, and let the system confirm its legitimacy.

In Mr Gangasudhan's case, this ensures the students' NRIC numbers are valid before he registers them for classes.

my paper understands that the system is legal. IT security expert Aloysius Cheang said the formula is common knowledge among those in the industry.

The checker can help verify the NRIC numbers before access is granted for further online transactions.

Said Mr Cheang: "When used appropriately, this can be a useful first-level protection against malicious attacks."

Administrative executive Charulatha Vengadiswaran, 31, has also benefited from the free service.

She said: "The NRIC-checker helps cut down the time I spend chasing people for official documents."

The Immigration and Checkpoints Authority has a similar service called iCheck.

Available online, it needs the enquirers' personal information first, such as the NRIC number and issue date.

Then, the NRIC number, issue date and birth date of the identity being checked must be provided "to prevent frivolous use".

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HELPDESK 我的字典

Identity card numbers:
身份证号码
shēn fèn zhèng hào mǎ

Legitimate:
合法的 hé fǎ de



HAVE A HEART: JIL staff practising CPR. (PHOTO: IT'S JUST LUNCH)

Dating agency donates money for life-saving CPR kits

THE Singapore Heart Foundation (SHF) recently received a boost to its Heart Safe programme.

The Singapore office of dating agency It's Just Lunch (IJL) has pledged to donate 4 per cent of its monthly revenue for four months, for its fourth anniversary in Singapore, it said in a media state-

ment. The first donation will start this month.

The donation will go specifically to fund SHF's CPR 3A (Anyone, Anytime, Anywhere) kit. The \$50 kit is a user-friendly, time-saving device that aims to teach the basic skills of CPR.

IJL Singapore hopes to donate at least 150 kits.

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- ✓ No existing illness or medication

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CRIME SCENE

PRE-TRIAL DATE FOR TRIO IN KIDNEY CASE

THE case against three men charged with offences under the Human Organ Transplant Act has been fixed for a further pre-trial conference on Aug 1.

Retail magnate Tang Wee Sung, 56, accused of entering into an arrangement with a few people for a kidney to be supplied to him for about \$300,000 and two other charges, was accompanied by a nurse when he turned up in court yesterday.

His nephew-in-law, Whang Sung Lin, 44, was charged with introducing Tang to Wang Chin Sing in return for a fee to procure a suitable living kidney donor between April and June 19 this year.

Previously represented by KhattarWong, he has now engaged a lawyer from Rajah & Tann to act for him. Wang, 44, faces 10 charges.

EX-LTA EXEC JAILED FOR 10 MONTHS FOR CORRUPTION

A FORMER executive with the Land Transport Authority was sentenced to 10 months' jail yesterday after he was found guilty of 32 corruption charges.

Muhundan Muthusamy, 38, was also ordered to pay a total penalty of \$19,684, The Straits Times reported.

He was found guilty by District Judge Kow Keng Siong of corruptly getting bribes in the form of salary and Central Provident Fund contributions paid to his wife.

The judge allowed him to start his sentence on Aug 4 so that he could settle his personal affairs.

He could have been fined up to \$100,000 and/or jailed for up to five years on each charge.