

MENARA MPAJ, JALAN PANDAN UTAMA, PANDAN INDAH, SELANGOR, 55100 KUALA LUMPUR

KERATAN AKHBAR 27 MAC 2019 (RABU)

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TRAFFIC MATTERS

The right lane closure will continue, intermittently, towards the slip road to New Pantal Expressway (NPE) (northound) from MEX Highway until April 7. There will also be a continuation of lane closures intermittently along Sungai Besi Highway (Besraya) (Sungai Besi-Bound and Kuchal Lamabound) until April 19. Both closures are from 9. 30am to 4.50pm and from Jopm until Sand from Jopm until Sand Salam starting from the intersection of Jalan Salam starting from the intersection of Jalan Salam starting from the intersection of Jalan Salam salar balan Kasuarina 3 in Klang to the intersection of Jalan Salam salor to Jalan Kasuarina.

section leading to Jalan Kasuarina 13 until April 21, from 10pm until

Gam.

TREASURE HUNT
Themed 'The Orient Connection', the 36th Kiwanis Treasure Hunt 2019 will see treasure hunters involved in a hunt from Kuala Lumpur to Penang, from May 4 to 6. The trip will help treasure hunters get to know more about Down syndrome children and their families. The Kiwanis Club of Kuala Lumpur also aims to raise funds to sustain operational costs of KDSF-NC. To register, call 03-7958 3655 (Tang) or visit www.kckl.org.my

HEALTH TALK

HEALTH TALK LifeStyle Centre and Malaysian Healthy Ageing Society (MHAS) is hosting a health talk at LifeStyle Centre, 10, Jalan 5735, Bulki Gasing, Petaling Jaya, from 4pm to 6pm on March 30. Topics to be covered include 'The Healthy Ageing Benefits of an Elderly Daycare Centre' and 'Healthy Joints for Healthy Ageing with Therapeutic Yoga'. There will also be a yoga demonstration. Free Therapeutic rogal. There will also be a yoga demonstration. Free admission. Registration is required. For details, call 03-79312273 or 010-368 2273.

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PUBLIC TALK

There is a free talk on 'Desire,
Attachment and Love' at Harmony
Hall, C-19-2, Dataran 3 Two, Jalan
19/1, Section 19, Petaling, Jaya
today from 7.30pm to 10pm by
Kadampa Buddhism Australia, New
Zealand and South-East Asia
national spiritual director Gen
Kelsang Rabten. Participants will
learn how to free themselves from
attachment while cultivating pure
love for others. For details, call 012200 9170 (Sze Wai Meng).

FREE TALK

FREE TALK
The Women's institute of
Management is organising a free
talk on 'Judicial Independence and
Integrity' by Emeritus Prof Datuk
Dr Shad Saleem Faruqi at Wisma
WIM, Taman Tun Pr Ismali, Kuala
Lumpur on March 30 at 9,30am. To
register, call 03-7722 1878 or email
to info@wimnet.org.my

BLOOD DONATION DRIVE

There will be a blood donation drive at E-10-6, Block E, Megan Avenue 1, Jalan Mayang Sari, Hampshire Park, Kuala Lumpur on April 3, 10am to 4pm. For details, visit www.facebook.com/avenue-

ENGLISH CLASSES

ENGLISH CLASSE
The Perak Women for Women
Society (PWW) will hold its second
intake of the English Language
Communication Skills classes for
disadvantaged women starting
from April 19. Application forms
can be obtained from PWW, 15,
Market Street, Ipoh, and must be
submitted by April 6. For details,
call 05-246 9715 or email at perakwomenforwomen@gmail.com





MPSJ seizing properties and household items from residents who failed to pay their maintenance fees. (Right) Security personnel at Iris Apartments deny access to those who fail to pay their maintenance fees.

Nifty tactics help sway defaulters

e-Pay service and blocking access cards among initiatives that got residents to pay maintenance fees

Stories by PRIYA MENON and SHALINI RAVINDRAN metro@thestar.com.my

WHEN Normadiah Abdul Halim took up the building manager position at Iris Apartments in Saujana Utama, Sungai Buloh, Petaling Jaya, she did not anticipate the amount of debt she would have to recover in unpaid maintenance fees.

Over a period of 15 years, residents owed a whopping RM90,000 in maintenance fees which in turn left the place in a rot.

which in turn lett use protein rot.

The inability of joint management bodies (JMB) and management committees (MC) to collect fees from residents is a common problem at high-rises but many are finding innovative ways to address the issue.

Like other JMBs, Normadiah knew something had to be done

knew something had to be done to get residents to settle their

dues.
"We had an issue with breach

"So winning people's trust to pay up was not easy. We decided to show that their money was being put to good use," added Normadiah who is also a resident there.

Normadian who is also a resident there.

The first order of business was to change the entire system with several new initiatives that proved worthwhile.

"We set up a management committee comprising residents, in addition to the JMB which already comprised two other paid staff besides me.

"The idea was to give residents a say as to how their money was being used," she said.

The JMB also met residents bi-monthly to run ideas and obtain their approval for new projects.

Among the ideas that got the

Among the ideas that got the thumbs-up was the e-Pay service that was introduced in March last year.
The e-Pay service, usually set

up at convenience stores, now allows residents to pay utility bills at the management office.

Normadiah said people started using the service, especially since there were a significant number of housewives and senior citizens living in the area. JMB senior assistant and accounts keeper Muhammad (Iqman Rajim said the e-Pay service encouraged more people to visit the office and subsequently reminded them to pay their maintenance fees.

"Before this people rarely came down to the office, so they never bothered paying.
"Now with the e-Pay service, they come down to the payfer where band automatically pay their maintenance fees as well," he added. A flexible payment scheme for those with outstanding bills in staggered payments was also introduced.

More importantly, access cards to the apartment were blocked by the 10th of each month if residents did not pay their maintenance fees promptly.

The access cards are used by residents with vehicles.

This brought down the out-anding amount to RM800,000

standing amount to RM800,000 while current payments increased by 20% within two years. In total, there are 60% paying residents. This is a lot of money for the JMBs coffers. Normadiah said the JMB faced problems with regards to collecting money from tenanted and empty lots. Foreign tenants make up 20% of the total number of residents living in the eight blocks of four-storey apartments. Around 30% of units are vacant.

Around 30% of units are vacant.

"We penalise residents through the access cards but foreigners do not drive so it is hard to control payments for the units they occupy," added Normadiah.

The only alternative was to issue red notices prompting the tenants to alert their landlords. Normadiah said the money was only enough to pay the security guards manning the apartment perimeters, cleaners and salary for the management body staff.











Residents Normadiah and Muhammad Iqman are employed full time to run the JMB at Iris Apartments.



Iris Apartments introduced the e-Pay method and to earn more money, it agreed for telco towers to be erected on the buildings. — Photos: KAMARUL ARIFFIN/The Star and to earn

To fund major works and repairs, the JMB has rented out the roof of four blocks to house telecommunication towers. It earns RM9,000 a month from this initiative.

The amount is used for lift maintenance in three blocks as well as other small repairs.

"I also look out for special grants and assistance that the government announces, and write in requesting for funds," she said.

In fact, she managed to get a

she said.

In fact, she managed to get a grant from the Housing and Local Government Ministry to build a multipurpose court and upgrade the playground near Block H.

Block H. In Ampang, Pangsapuri Sri Hijauan JMB chairman Khairul Anuar Abdul Wahid said the JMB's coffers was almost empty when a new committee was elect-ed in 2016.

ed in 2016.

The committee had to find a way to reduce RM800,000 in arrears and fund its monthly maintenance of RM70,000.

"We knew we had to take extreme measures to get people to pay up and reduce expenses." One of the ways was to place notices in public areas as well as block access cards of defaulters.
"This worked and we managed to increase the numbers by 40%," he said, adding that the highest outstanding maintenance fee owed by a 1 omeowner was RM12,000.

To reduce expenses and control maintenance costs, the JMB also took over management of the building. "We were paying about RM15,000 a month to a management company but it was not loing the job. So we took over," he said.

Khairul added that security was sessessed and so were clean for

Khairul added that security was Kharul added that security was re-assessed and so were cleaning contracts. New and cheaper quo-tations to lower costs were obtained, he said. "It has not been easy as these are our neighbours but we have to be firm," he said.

CoB keeps an eye on strata properties in Selangor

LOCAL authorities can attend to problems faced by Joint Management Bodies (JMB) managing strata properties even if the properties are privately-owned. Non-payment of maintenance fees is one of the most pertinent increases freed at extract properties.

issues faced at strata properties such as flats, apartments and con-

dominiums.

Besides getting tough with enforcement, local councils and their Commissioner of Buildings (CoB) try to educate and raise awareness among management bodies and residents about their respective responsibilities and rights of living in stratified build-

respective responsibilities and rights of Iving in stratified buildings.

Docal councils also conduct various seminars and dialogue sessions such as financial management and induction Course on Stratified Building Management (Rokus).

Ampang Jaya Municipal Council (MPA) president Faulk Abdul Hamid Hussain said there were several actions the council, through its CoB, can assist and intervene in Issues at strata properties.

These are outlined in the Strata Management Act 2013 (Act 757).

"This includes the setting up of a JMB, appointments of JMB committee members, building management, legal advice and enforcement of laws.

"The CoB will prepare investigation papers while the Housing and Local Government Ministry will prosecute if required," she said.

The most common problem faced by JMBs and management committees (MC) of strata properties is the non-payment of maintenance fees.

Since adequate funds are needed to manage a stratified building, the law makes it mandatory for charges and contributions to be paid into a maintenance account and



JMB and management committee members at a Strata Building Management seminar held at Wisma MBSA. — Filepic

Management seminar held at Wisms sinking fund, respectively. Shah Alam City Council (MBSA) corporate communications head Shahrin Ahmad said one way for JMBs and MCs to compel defaulters to pay outstanding maintenance fees was through written notices demanding payment via Form 11 or Form 20 of the Act. "If the defaulter does not pay the charges after the managing body serves Form 11 or Form 20, the managing body may file a summons or claim in court or go to the Strata Management Tribunal for recovery of the said sum. "Alternatively, a warrant can be applied from the CoB to seize the movable property of the defaulter," he said.

In 2017 and 2018 MBSA CoB.

movable property he said. In 2017 and 2018, MBSA CoB In 2017 and 2018 form 11 and issued over 1,800 Form 11 and Form 20 notices to defaulters.

Subang Jaya Municipal Council (MPS) Corporate and Strategic Management Department deputy director Azfarzial Abdul Rashid said MPS]'s CoB was the second among local councils in Selangor to confiscate moveable items from strata properties with outstanding maintenance fees. MPS] implemented the move by issuing a warrant (Form A) at Cempake Talas in Taman Puchong Prima last year. Azfarzial said 14 warrants to seize movable properties were issued to recover the sum of RM27_50 to recover the sum of RM27_50.

RM27.580

"The challenge was changing

mindsets.

"A stronger sense of responsibility is needed to maintain shared buildings and facilities," he



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PBT tidak puas hati boleh jumpa SPRM

SHAH ALAM 26 Mac - Pihak berkuasa tempatan (PBT) yang tidak berpuas hati dengan tindakan Suruhanjaya Pencegahan Ra-suah Malaysia (SPRM) berhubung isu rumah urut dialu-alukan untuk

berjumpa dengan agensi tersebut.
Tegas Timbalan Ketua Pesuruhjaya (Operasi) SPRM, Datuk
Seri Azam Baki, tindakan yang di-lakukan oleh pihaknya itu mengikut bidang kuasa agensinya.

"Kita alu-alukan mana-mana jabatan seperti PBT yang hendak bekerjasama dengan SPRM. Sekiranya tidak berpuas hati, boleh bertemu dengan kami untuk perbincangan lanjut.

"Berhubung penglibatan orang kenamaan di sebalik

Kita alu-alukan manamana jabatan seperti PBT yang hendak bekerjasama dengan SPRM. Sekiranya tidak berpuas hati, boleh bertemu dengan kami untuk perbincangan lanjut."

AZAM BAKI

pembukaan rumah urut yang menjalankan kegiatan pela-curan kita tidak boleh dedahkan nama mereka. Biarkan kami menjalankan pemantauan dan siasatan selain tangkapan akan

dilakukan bergantung kepada siasatan," katanya. Beliau berkata demikian dalam sidang akhbar selepas majlis perasmian bangunan ba-haru Kompleks SPRM Selangor

di Seksyen 16 di sini hari ini. Semalam, Majlis Perbandaran Subang Jaya kesal dengan kenyataan SPRM yang seolah-olah menuding jari terhadap PBT berhubung isu lambakan premis

urut di negara ini. Mengulas lanjut, Azam berkata, SPRM akan mendakwa kira-kira enam individu yang terdiri daripada penguat kuasa di mahkamah esok berhubung isu rumah urut yang menjalan-kan aktiviti pelacuran.

"Kita akan mendakwa dalam empat hingga enam orang. Kita akan bawa ke mahkamah se-lepas dipersetujui pihak pendakwaan dan mungkin akan berterusan," ujarnya.



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BH Rabu, 27 Mac 2019 C

MPSepang sita motosikal ceroboh tempat letak kereta

BH 27/3/19 MS 61.

● Langkah bertujuan galak orang ramai patuhi akta PBT berkuatkuasa mulai April

Oleh Samadi Ahmad bhnews@bharian.com.my

► Cyberjaya

ajlis Perbandaran Sepang (MPSepang) memberi amaran akan melancarkan operasi menyita motosikal yang menceroboh petak letak kereta atau lokasi tidak dibenarkan mulai April ini.

Pemilik motosikal terbabit bukan sahaja akan dikenakan kompaun malah juga denda bagi caj simpanan di depoh MPSepang.

Yang Dipertuanya, Mohd Fauzi Mohd Yatim, berkata Jabatan Penguatkuasa MPSepang akan menguatkuasakan tindakan sita motosikal di Bandar Baru Salak Tinggi (BBST) bertujuan menggalakkan orang ramai mematuhi undang-undang dikuatkuasakan pihak berkuasa tempatan (PBT).

Katanya, pihaknya menerima banyak aduan daripada orang ramai berhubung motosikal yang diletakkan di parkir kereta dan siar kaki yang menghalang laluan serta membahayakan keselamatan orang ramai.

Ambil jalan mudah

Beliau berkata, tindakan tidak bertanggungjawab itu dipercayai berpunca daripada sikap pengguna yang mahu mengambil jalan mudah untuk ke kompleks perniagaan dan bangunan komersial biarpun tempat letak motosikal sudah disediakan.

"Tindakan meletak motosikal di parkir kereta semakin berleluasa sehingga menimbulkan kesukaran kepada pemilik kereta mendapatkan parkir kerana jumlahnya juga amat terhad di kawasan ini," katanya.

Antara kawasan yang akan dikuatkuasakan adalah di Medan 23, Medan 88 dan Kosmopleks di bawah Perintah Pengangkutan Jalan (Peruntukan Tempat Letak Kereta) MPSepang (pindaan) 2012 Dan Akta Jalan Parit & Bangunan.

Mohd Fauzi berkata, motosikal yang disita akan dikenakan kompaun sebanyak RM25 dan caj sitaan RM5 sehari dan sekiranya tidak dituntut dalam tempoh 14 hari, kompaun adalah sebanyak RM50 manakala caj sitaan RM10 sehari.

Beliau berkata, motosikal yang disita itu akan disimpan di depoh MPSepang dan bagi pemilik yang ingin menuntut semula kenderaan boleh mengemukakan dokumen serta pengenalan diri.

"Tindakan ini bukanlah untuk menghukum pemilik, sebaliknya bertujuan mendidik orang ramai agar lebih bertanggungjawab dan menghargai kemudahan yang disediakan serta tidak menyalahgunakan kemudahan itu untuk kepentingan diri sendiri."

"Kita berharap selepas kempen ini diadakan pengguna akan lebih bertanggungjawab dan tidak lagi meletak motosikal mengikut sesuka hati serta mematuhi Undang-undang di tempat yang betul," katanya.



MPSepang terima banyak aduan daripada orang ramai berhubung motosikal yang diletakkan di parkir kereta dan siar kaki yang menghalang laluan serta membahayakan keselamatan orang ramai"

Mohd Fauzi Mohd Yatim, Yang Dipertua MPSepang