

HELLO SAKURA

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This is a free monthly English newsletter for foreign residents carrying excerpts from the Japanese newsletter published twice a month by the city of Sakura. Unless otherwise indicated, inquiries over the telephone or at the facilities are handled only in Japanese. If you do not speak Japanese, please have someone who speaks Japanese with you when you make inquiries. Inquiries in English may be made generally on Wednesdays through Koh'hoh-ka (the Public Relations Section) at the Sakura City Hall.



BEAT THE HOT DAYS OF SUMMER AT SAKURA'S MUNICIPAL POOLS

MUNICIPAL SWIMMING POOLS in Sakura offer a good way to beat the summer heat and get into shape without spending a lot of money.

Iwana Undoh Koh'en (Sports Park) has a 50-meter competition swimming pool and a wading pool for toddlers. At **Jyohza Sohgo Koh'en**, there is a 25-meter competition swimming pool, a toddlers' wading pool, and a children's pool with a mini slide.

DAYS & HOURS Thursday, July 15 - Tuesday, August 31; 9:00 - 12:00 and 13:00 - 16:00. The visitors are shifted at 12:00.

FEES ¥310 for senior high school students and above; ¥100 for junior high school & elementary school students; free for preschoolers; locker is available for ¥50.

ONE-POINT ADVICE GIVEN BY INSTRUCTORS Swimming instructors will be willing to give you one-point advice every morning on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Please feel free to ask them to improve your swimming skill.

RULES To ensure a safe and pleasant time for all pool users:

- Please refrain from causing annoyance to others, doing dangerous actions, or playing practical jokes in the water and at the poolside.
- Do not bring valuables.
- No eating, drinking, or smoking is allowed
- Do not use oily cosmetics such as tanning oil or cream. This is to keep the water clean.

★Toddlers who need diapers are not allowed to enter the pools.

NOTES As the above two pools locate outdoors, they might be closed without notice in case of bad weather, or low water temperature. Please call the facilities for possible schedule changes.

Iwana Undoh Koh'en, ☎484-1943 ; Jyohza Sohgo Koh'en, ☎461-2611.



SCHOOL POOL The swimming pool in Negoh Junior High School is open to elementary school pupils and above, who live, work, or study in Sakura.

DAYS & HOURS Saturday, July 17 - Tuesday, August 31; 13:00 - 15:00, 15:30 - 17:30, and 18:00 - 20:00. Visitors will be shifted every session.

Closed on Mondays, August 2 and 9.

FEES Free of charge.

**Swimming pool at
Negoh Junior High school**



RULES & NOTES In addition to the rules and notes for *Iwana* & *Johza* pools, school pool users are asked to observe the following points:

- Junior high school students need to be accompanied by guardians during nighttime hours (18:00 - 20:00). Elementary school pupils always need to be accompanied by guardians.
- In case there are too many visitors, the admittance might be restricted.
- Be sure to wear a swimming cap. Inner tubes and beach balls are not allowed in the school pool.
- Parking is limited. On-street parking is strictly prohibited. Users are encouraged to come by bicycle or on foot. ●Call Negoh Junior High School, ☎483-0139 for possible schedule changes.



KIDS' SWIMMING CLASS Elementary school pupils are accepted to this class scheduled to be held at Negoh Junior High School on August 8 (Sun), 14 (Sat), 22 (Sun), and 28 (Sat), 13:00 -14:00. Ten pupils for each class. Free of charge. Call *Shakai-kyoh'iku-ka* (the Social Education Section), ☎484-6189 for application and information.

THE 50th SAKURA CITIZENS' FIREWORKS SHOW

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7, 19:00 - 21:00



Fireworks add a sort of poetic charm to the summer season. In Sakura, *Imba-numa* (marsh) offers a stage to entertain you with a summer spectacle of sound and light caused by 10,000 fireworks.

SEATING Please note that the entire space of *Sakura Furusato Hiroba* (or the Tulip Field) will be used for paid-seating.

<Paid-seats> are available at ¥10,000/partitioned seating cell of 2m x 2m, including chairs for six people and shopping coupons equivalent to ¥1,000. The purchase of the seating tickets is available at the convenience store chain 'Lawson'. Call Lawson Ticket, ☎0570-000-777 for information about purchasing of tickets. Paid-seating area is a 40-minute-walk from Keisei Usui Station (2.3 km), a 50-minute-walk from Keisei Sakura Station (3.3 km), or a 60 minute-walk from JR Sakura Station (4.4 km).

<Free-of-charge seats > area is located in the rice field south of railroad crossing.

MESSAGE FIREWORKS Those who want to express their support for the fireworks have a chance to donate ¥5,000 or more, and they will be entitled to have their message fireworks whether for a message to your loved one, proposal of marriage, cheering for someone, or whatever you want, except for religious/political contents, business advertising, mental abuse, etc. The messages will be broadcast at the time of launching fireworks.

<Application method> After you credited the designated bank account, send a fax to *Sangyoh-shinkoh-ka* (the Industry/Tourism Promotion Section) with your name and address, phone number, and your message. If you write the message in Japanese, you can enter up to 100 two-byte characters. If in English, up to 200 one-byte characters. The application deadline is Friday, July 23. Call *Sangyoh-shinkoh-ka* for information about the designated account, etc.

DONATIONS Donations are solicited for fireworks. Donation boxes are placed at public facilities in the city, convenience stores, and post offices.

IMPORTANT NOTES

- To be postponed to the next day in case of bad weather.
- Donation money (including donations for message fireworks) will not be refunded even if the fireworks show is cancelled.

Call *Sakura-shi Kankoh Kyoh'kai* (Sakura Tourism Association), ☎486-6000 for further information.

NEW COLLECTION OF 'HELLO KITTY' CELL PHONE STRAPS SPECIALLY MADE FOR SAKURA'S FIREWORKS SHOW



The ever-popular character Hello Kitty became a cell phone strap. This year's Kitty wears a happi coat with folded fans in her hands. Hello Kitty straps are available for ¥630 (incl. tax) at Sakura Tourism Association, stores at the Tulip Field and City Museum of Art, JR Sakura Tourist Information Center, Wishton Hotel Yukari, etc. Sales start on Saturday, July 15. Call *Sakura-shi Kankoh Kyoh'kai* (Sakura Tourism Association), ☎486-6000 for further information.

OPENING OF NEWLY AUTHORIZED HOIKU-EN (NURSERY SCHOOLS)

- Lakeside International Child-care: 1515-30, Obukai, Sakura, ☎461-3112, for 60 children.
- Ohisama Hoiku-en: 4-10-1, Ohji-dai, Sakura, ☎488-2177, for 90 children

Call *Kosodate-shien-ka* (the Child-rearing Support Section), ☎484-6245 for information about enrollment.



INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF DAYS AVAILABLE FOR TEMPORARY DAY CARE SERVICES AT NURSERY SCHOOLS

Some of the nursery schools in Sakura provide temporary day care services to support in-home childcare. For example, when the parent wants to feel refreshed, he/she can ask a nursery school to look after the child. Recently the number of days available for this service is revised from two days/month to three days /month. Parents whose children are usually raised at home can apply for this service. Call *Kosodate-shien-ka* (the Child-rearing Support Section), ☎484-6246 for more information.

'LET'S STUDY JAPANESE'— SUMMER COURSE FOR CHILDREN WITH FOREIGN NATIONALITY

The city of Sakura will hold Japanese language classes for elementary school pupils with foreign nationality, who live in Sakura and require additional support in learning the Japanese language. Seeing other children in situations similar to their own can be a great encouragement to them and they will have fruitful and enjoyable time in learning Japanese and playing games with other children. Application will be accepted at schools in Sakura until Thursday, July 15.



DATES & TIMES August 24 (Tue.) – 28 (Sat.); 10:00 -12:00.

PLACE Millennium Center Sakura (a building connected to Keisei Sakura Station via a passage).

FEE ¥200 for insurance.

Call *Shidoh-ka* (the School Guidance Section), ☎484-6185 for further information.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCES FOR SINGLE-PARENT FAMILIES

CHILD-REARING ALLOWANCE (JIDOH-FUYOH-TE'ATE)

This allowance is available for single-parent families which are raising children until the first March 31 after the child's 18th birthday. Income restrictions apply. Items required for application will be announced after an interview with city staff. From August, 2010, single father families are also eligible to apply for this allowance.

SINGLE-PARENT FAMILY MEDICAL EXPENSE SUBSIDY (HITORI-OYA KATEI-TOH IRYOH-HI JOSEN):

Financial assistance is available to cover a portion of the personally borne expense when members of single-parent families receive medical treatment using a health insurance card. The subsidy will be provided until the first March 31 after the child's 18th birthday. Income restrictions apply.

<Items required for application> •Either a certified copy of *koseki toh-hon* (Japanese family register), a certificate of child-rearing allowance (*jidoh-fuyoh-te'ate*), survivor's pension (*izoku nenkin*), or *tohroku-gempyoh kisajikoh-shoh'meisho* (a certificate of registered information in the foreign resident registry) •A copy of health insurance card, •Bankbook in the name of the applicant (postal savings book will not be accepted), •If you are not registered as a Sakura citizen on January 1, 2010, you are requested to submit a *shotoku shoh'meisho* (certificate of your income) for the year of *Heisei 22* (2010). Call *Jidoh seishoh'nen-ka* (the Children and Youth Section), ☎484-6140 for further information.

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION OF INSURANCE PREMIUMS

We will send a notice of determination of insurance premiums for *Kokumin Kenkoh Hoken* (National Health Insurance) and *Koh'ki-koh'reisha Iryoh Hoken* (Medical Care System for Elderly Aged 75 and over) to people to whom this matter applies, in mid-July.

<National Health Insurance Tax> If one of your family members is issued a National Health Insurance certificate, the tax notice will be sent to the head of the household, even if the head of the household himself/herself is not covered by National Health Insurance. It is because the obligated taxpayer is the head of the household.

< Medical Care System for Elderly Aged 75 and over> The notice will be sent to the insured himself/herself. Spouse/head of the household have collective responsibility for the payment of premiums.

Call *Kenkoh-hoken-ka* (the Health Insurance Section), ☎484-6125 for National Health Insurance, and ☎484-6136 for 'Medical Care System for Elderly Aged 75 and over' for further information.



PEST CONTROL BY RADIO CONTROLLED HELICOPTER will be carried out to control harmful insects and disease for paddy rice, approximately from 4:00 to 10:00 on ● Wednesday, July 21 at Wada district, ●Thursday, July 22 at Sakura district, ●Friday, July 23 at Negoh and Yatomi districts, and ●Saturday, July 24 at Usui, Shizu, and Chiyoda districts. Schedules are subject to change in case of bad weather. Call Sakura-shi *Shokubutu-boh'eki Kyoh'kai* (the Plant Protection Association), ☎485-6188 for further information.

NEVER LEAVE YOUNG CHILDREN UNSUPERVISED AROUND WATERSIDE

There are many land improvement facilities around *Imba-numa* (marsh) such as water pumps and small dams, which stir the interest and attention of children. There, the water depth is much deeper and the current is swifter than they look. There is also a powerful electric current running through the wire to operate large pumps. Tragic accidents were reported every summer. So, never allow children to go around the marsh without adult supervision.



HEALTH CHECKS FOR CHILDREN

Kenkoh Kanri Center (Health Management Center) ☎485-6711; *Seibu Hoken Center* (Seibu Health & Welfare Center) ☎463-4181; *Nambu Hoken Center* (Nambu Health & Welfare Center) ☎483-2812

AGES OF CHILDREN	JULY '10	TIMES	PLACES
Health consultation for children of 4 months born in February, 2010	16	9:30 – 10:30	Kenkoh Kanri Center
		13:30 – 14:30	
	2	9:30 – 10:30	Seibu Hoken Center
13:30 – 14:30			
	15	13:30 – 14:30	Nambu Hoken Center
<i>Mogu-mogu</i> (munching) Class for children of 8 months born in October, 2009	1	9:30 – 9:45	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	12	9:30 – 9:45	Seibu Hoken Center
For 18-month-old children born in December, 2008	13	13:15 – 14:15	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	21	13:15 – 14:15	Seibu Hoken Center
	8	13:15 – 14:15	Nambu Hoken Center
For 3-year-old children born in January, 2007	14	13:15 – 14:15	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	22	13:15 – 14:15	Seibu Hoken Center
	9	13:15 – 14:15	Nambu Hoken Center
Dental check for children born in January or July, 2008 or in July, 2007	6	13:30 – 14:30	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	27		
	12	13:30 – 14:30	Seibu Hoken Center
	23		
	28		

HEALTH CONSULTATIONS

- Consultation with public health nurse is available on Tuesday, July 20, 9:30-11:30 at Seibu Hoken Center. Appointment is required. Public health nurse will help you to develop a healthier lifestyle.
- **Telephone counseling** with public health nurse or nutritionist is available at any of the centers, 8:30 – 17:00, Monday - Friday.
If you need a consultation with dental hygienist or speech therapist, call Kenkoh Kanri Center.

HOLIDAY & NIGHTTIME EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Always be sure to bring your health insurance certificate !

HOLIDAY & NIGHTTIME CLINIC FOR CHILDREN'S DEASEASES IN ACUTE & EARLY STAGE (Pediatrics) :
For children under 16 years of age. Open year-round for treatment at Kenkoh Kanri Center from Monday through Saturday, 19:00-6:00 (next morning). On Sundays, public holidays, and year-end/New year holidays (12/29-1/3) 9:00-17:00 & 19:00-6:00 (next morning). Call ☎485-3355 for further information.

Daytime treatment on Sundays, public holidays, & year-end/New Year holidays : Consultation with doctors will be available at the doctor's office who is on duty in a rotation system. Call ☎484-2516 to learn the doctor on duty.

● **Surgeon:** 9:00-16:30, 19:00-21:45 ● **Physician, dentist:** 9:00-16:30 ● **ENT doctor:** 19:00-21:45

Nighttime treatment on Sundays, public holidays, & year-end/New Year holidays:

Internal medicine & dental treatment are available at Kenkoh Kanri Center, between 19:00 and 21:45.

THE POPULATION OF SAKURA CITY

As of the end of May 2010, the Japanese population of Sakura was 175,955 (86,872 male and 89,083 female) in 70,397 households. Registered foreign residents accounted for 2,056. The combined population of Sakura City was 178,011.

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