

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 SUMMER HEAT 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, 9 swimming lane pool with depths of 1.2 - 1.6 meters, and a wading pool for toddlers with 30 cm depth.

At **Jyohza Sohgo Koh'en**, there is a 25-meter, 8 swimming lane pool which is 1.1 - 1.6 meters deep, a 60 - 70 cm deep children's pool, and a toddlers' wading pool which is 15 - 30 cms deep.

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 cosmetics such as tanning oil or cream (to keep the water clean)

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

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.

DAYS & HOURS: Wednesday, July 15 - Monday, 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.

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 POOLS: Swimming pools in **Negoh Junior High School** and **Usui-Minami Junior High School** are open to elementary school pupils and above, who live, work, or study in Sakura. Elementary school pupils need to be accompanied by guardians.

DAYS & HOURS: Saturday, July 18 - Monday, August 31; 13:00 - 15:00, 15:30 - 17:30, and 18:00 - 20:00. Visitors are shifted every time. Both school pools are closed on August 3 and 17. **FEES:** Free of charge.

NOTES: In addition to the notes for *Iwana & Jyohza* pools;

- Elementary and junior high school students are not allowed to use the school pools during nighttime hours (18:00 - 20:00).
- In case there are too many visitors, the admittance might be restricted.
- Be sure to wear a swimming cap. Swim tubes/rings and beach balls are not allowed in school pools.
- Parking is limited. On-street parking is strictly prohibited. Users are encouraged to come by bicycle or on foot.
- Swimming pools might be closed without notice in case of bad weather, or low water temperature. Please call the facilities for possible schedule changes: Negoh Junior High School, ☎483-0139; Usui-Minami Junior High School, ☎ 489-6795.



**Swimming pool
at Usui-Minami
Junior High school**

THE 49th SAKURA CITIZENS' FIREWORKS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 19:00-21:00



Fireworks add a sort of poetic charm to the summer season. At Sakura's most colorful and exciting event, Citizens' Firework Display, approximately 10,000 fireworks will paint the night sky over the Imba-numa (marsh).

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 ¥5,000/partitioned seating cell of 2m x 2m, including shopping coupons equivalent to ¥1,000 and a leisure sheet. Up to five people can sit on the seat. The purchase of the seating tickets is available at the convenience store chain 'Lawson'. 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 (¥3,000/ unit) and they will be entitled to have their message fireworks whether for a birthday, marriage anniversary or whatever. The messages will be broadcast at the time of launching fireworks, The application deadline is Monday, July 20.

Donation money will not be refunded even if the fireworks display is cancelled.

DONATIONS: Donations are solicited for fireworks.

Donation boxes are placed at public facilities in the city, convenience stores, and post offices

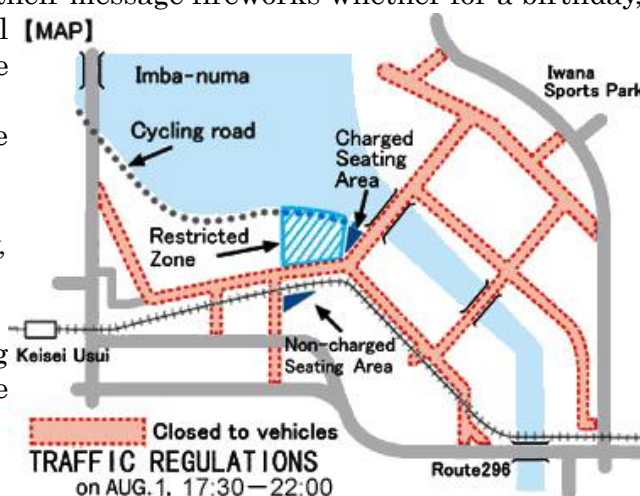
TRAFFIC REGULATIONS: AUG. 1 (Sat.), 17:30 – 22:00.

Please refer to the map shown on the right. The cycling road which runs through the restricted zone will be closed for both pedestrians and vehicles.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- There is no parking lot at the venue.
- You are urged to take your own garbage home.
- To be postponed to the next day in case of bad weather.

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



'HELLO KITTY' CELL PHONE STRAPS

SPECIALLY MADE FOR SAKURA'S FIREWORK DISPLAY—NOW ON SALE !

The ever-popular character Hello Kitty holding a large firework ball shell became a cell phone strap. 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, etc. Call *Sakura-shi Kankoh Kyoh'kai* (Sakura Tourism Association), ☎486-6000 for further information.

'NETHERLANDS BY SAKURA CITIZENS' EXHIBITION: The city of Sakura is collecting exhibits to display at the 'Netherlands by Sakura Citizens' to be held at City Museum of Art between November 29 and December 23. Those who live, work, or study in Sakura are eligible to apply, regardless of age, with up to two works of painting, photograph, sculpture, or craftwork, themed on 'the Netherlands' or 'Sakura and the Netherlands'. The application deadline is Wednesday, September 30. Guidelines for applicants will be obtained at the City Museum of Art or *Bunka-ka* (the Culture Section), ☎484-6191.

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 ●Tuesday, July 21 at Sakura district, ●Wednesday, July 22 at Wada district, ●Thursday, July 23 at Negoh and Yatomi districts, and ●Friday, 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.

'LET'S STUDY JAPANESE' – SUMMER COURSE FOR CHILDREN OF FOREIGN NATIONALITY

The city of Sakura will hold Japanese language classes for elementary school pupils of foreign nationality who live in Sakura and require additional support in learning Japanese. 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 Wednesday, July 15. A fee of ¥200 will be charged at the venue on August 25.

DATES & TIMES: August 25 (Tue.) – 29 (Sat.); 10:00 -12:00.

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

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

'KAIUN NANDEMO KANTEI-DAN' WILL VISIT SAKURA !

– BE ON THE POPULAR ANTIQUE APPRAISAL PROGRAM –

'*Kaiun Nandemo Kantei-dan*' is an 'antiques roadshow' televised by TV Tokyo every Tuesday from 20:54, in which antique appraisers travel to various regions of Japan and appraise family heirlooms, antiques, valuable treasures and collections brought in by local residents. Part history lesson and part family drama, the program reveals the fascinating truth about items put on show. The TV Tokyo is now looking for interesting items to be shown in the program. Application form is available at the City Hall, city branch offices, and community centers, and must be filled and submitted to *Shoh'koh-kankoh-ka* (the Commerce, Industry & Tourism Section) no later than Monday, August 31. The eligible applicants need to appear on the stage for recording on Tuesday, November 3 at the City Concert Hall. Call *Shoh'koh-kankoh-ka*, ☎484-6146 for further information.



CITY EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: The city of Sakura is recruiting two fixed-term members to work at *Bunka-ka* (the Culture Section): 2-3 days/week, 8:30-17:15 during the period of August 1, 2009 - March 31, 2010. Applicants are required to have the ability in reading and writing Japanese and using Word and Excel. Any nationality is welcome. Application is accepted by bringing or sending your resume together with your photo to *Bunka-ka* no later than Monday, July 13. Call *Bunka-ka*, ☎484-6191 for more information.

ONE-HOUR YAKATA-BUNE (RIVERBOAT) OBSERVATION TOUR AROUND

IMBA-NUMA for 168 people will be held on Wednesday, July 29. Departure times are 9:00, 10:30, 12:45 and 14:15. To be postponed to Thursday, July 30 in case of bad weather. Fee is ¥100 for insurance. Apply by sending a prepaid reply postcard (up to 2 applicants/postcard) with addresses, names, ages, and phone numbers of the applicants, and two preferred departure times to *Imba-numa Kankyoh Kikin*, 〒285-8533, 12 Miyakohji-machi, Sakura-shi. The application needs to arrive no later than Monday, July 13. Drawing will be carried out in case of the excess of applications. Participants must assemble at Furusato Hiroba (the Tulip Field), 30 minutes before each departure. Call *Imba-numa Kankyoh Kikin* (Environmental Fund), ☎485-0397 for more information.



HAND-PAINTING ON FUH'RIN – THE SOUNDS COOL MINDS : *Fuh'rin* is a small wind-bell of metal, glass or pottery, hung under the eaves and tinkle when moved by a breeze. In the old days, when there was no air conditioner, the soothing sound of fuh'rin cooled people down during summer. Nowadays, the sound of fuh'rin is still regarded as a symbol of summer in Japan. On Monday, August 10, you can enjoy drawing pictures by yourself on fuh'rin at the Sakura City Museum of Art for ¥1,000. Classes begin at half-hour intervals starting from 10:00 until 12:30. First 60 people are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis by sending a postcard (up to 5 applicants/postcard) with addresses, names, and phone numbers of the applicants, and two preferred starting times to Sakura Chamber of Commerce, 〒285-0811, 3-3-10 Omote-machi, Sakura-shi. The application needs to arrive no later than Friday, July 31. Call Sakura Chamber of Commerce, ☎486-2331 for more information.



AUTO-CAMPING is possible at Imba-numa Sunset Hills which is located on the rise of the Iino Upland. It is highly recommended to enjoy your outdoor dinner with an impressive sight of the sun setting into the Imba marsh that spreads out below. Each of the 37 camp sites offers enough space for a car and a tent. The cost for a day camp from 11:00 to 18:00 is ¥2,000/site. Overnight camp from 11:00 through 10:30 next day costs ¥4,000/site. An additional hour costs ¥300. Reservations are accepted by telephone 3 months in advance until the day before the camping day. Skyrocket type fireworks are not allowed. Call Imba-numa Sunset Hills, ☎484-1011 for more information.



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 '09	TIMES	PLACES
Health consultation for children of 4 months born in February, 2009	10	9:30 – 10:30	Kenkoh Kanri Center
		13:30 – 14:30	
	8	9:30 – 10:30	Seibu Hoken Center
13:30 – 14:30			
	7	13:30 – 14:30	Nambu Hoken Center
<i>Mogu-mogu</i> (munching) Class for children of 8 months born in October, 2008	15	9:30 – 9:45	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	21	9:30 – 9:45	Seibu Hoken Center
For 18-month-old children born in December, 2007	14	13:30 – 14:30	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	23	13:30 – 14:30	Seibu Hoken Center
	28	13:30 – 14:30	Nambu Hoken Center
For 3-year-old children born in January, 2006	17	13:30 – 14:30	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	13	13:30 – 14:30	Seibu Hoken Center
	29	13:30 – 14:30	Nambu Hoken Center
Dental check for children born in January or July, 2007 or in July, 2006	9	13:30 – 14:30	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	16		
	3	13:30 – 14:30	Seibu Hoken Center
	27		
	24	13:30 – 14:30	Nambu Hoken Center

HEALTH CONSULTATIONS

- Consultation with public health nurse is available on Thursday, July 16, 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 2009, the Japanese population of Sakura was 175,697 (86,668 male and 89,029 female) in 69,513 households. Registered foreign residents accounted for 1,946. The combined population of Sakura City was 177,643.

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