

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 Sakura City Hall.



THE 49th SAKURA CITIZENS' FIREWORKS DISPLAY

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

Come and enjoy a summer spectacle of sound and light beside Imba-Marsh. After seeing brave *tezutsu* hand-tube firework pyrotechnists work amidst a shower of falling sparks, see and hear a harmony of color and sound caused by 10,000 fireworks, as well as water fireworks which light up the lake surface. It will surely become one of your finest memories of Sakura.

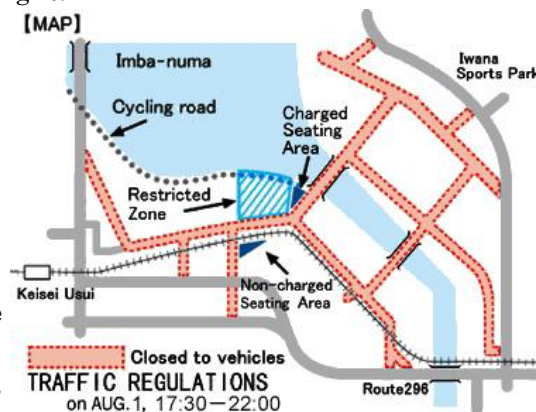
REGULATION OF TRAFFIC - Please refer to the map shown on the right.

Roads leading to the fireworks site are closed to vehicles on the day of the event from 17:30 to 22:00. The cycling road which runs through the restricted zone will be closed for both pedestrians and vehicles until noon on August 2 (Sun). Regulation of traffic may start earlier than scheduled.

IMPORTANT NOTES

- There is no parking lot at the venue.
- You are urged to take your own garbage home.
- In case of bad weather, the fireworks display will be postponed to the next day.

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



EVENTS COMMEMORATING

THE 400TH ANNIVERSARY OF EXCHANGE BETWEEN THE NETHERLANDS AND JAPAN

EXHIBITION OF DUTCH DESIGN —SIMPLE FORM & UNIQUE COLOR SCHEME

Powerful and the boldest in Europe, Dutch design will be exhibited from August 1 (Sat) till September 23 (Wed), 10:00- 18:00 (no admittance after 17:30) at the City Museum. Closed on Mondays except on Monday, September 21.

Admission fee: ¥400 for elementary/junior high school students; ¥600 for senior high school/college students; ¥800 for others. Call the museum, ☎485-7851 for more information, or visit the English site: <http://www.nihonoranda.jp/en/events/item/627>

MINOES — THE WORLD POPULAR AWARD-WINNING DUTCH MOVIE

This is a fantasy comedy based on a classic children's book about a young woman who is actually a cat (Minoes). The Japanese translator of the original book, Ms. Yumi Nishimura, will give a 30-minute lecture about the movie. The movie will be shown at the City Museum of Art on Saturday, August 8. In the morning session, the screening will be from 10:30 and the lecture from 12:00, and the afternoon session will have the lecture from 13:30 and the screening from 14:05. Free numbered tickets will be distributed to the first 99 visitors for each session from 10:05 on the day of the event at the entrance of the 4th floor hall. Call *Bunka-ka* (the Culture Section), ☎484-6191 for further information.

GLOBAL FESTA CHIBA 2009 -WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR A BETTER WORLD

This will be held on Sunday, August 23, 10:00-16:00 at Keyaki-kaikan, Chiba University (5-minute-walk from JR Nishi-Chiba or Keisei Midori-dai Stations). For more information, call Chiba Convention Bureau & International Center, ☎297-0245 or visit its web site:

http://www.pref.chiba.lg.jp/syozoku/b_kokusai/kyoryoku/festival/09gfbchibakaisai.html



'KAIUN NANDEMO KANTEI-DAN' WILL VISIT SAKURA !

'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 the items put on show. The recording date in Sakura will be Tuesday, November 3 from 13:00 at the City Concert Hall. You are invited to join the fun as part of the audience by sending a prepaid return-postcard with your name (up to two people/card), address, and telephone number to *Shoh'koh-kankoh-ka* <Shuccho! Nandemo Kantei-dan in Sakura, Otakara Boshu-gakari> no later than Wednesday, September 30. A drawing will be held if there are more than the required number of applicants. A response card will be sent to you in early October. Call *Shoh'koh-kankoh-ka* (the Commerce, Industry & Tourism Section), ☎484-6146 for further information.



HAVE SUMMER FUN AT KUSABUE-NO-OKA



Take a fun-ride
on a mini steam locomotive

Enjoy 'just about everything' during summer vacation with your family and friends at Kusabue-no-oka!

The park is open from 9:00 to 17:00 daily (no admittance after 16:00 except for some evening events). Previous booking by phone is necessary for all events/classes except for *bon-odori* dancing on Saturday, August 8. The schedule is subject to change depending on weather conditions. Admission to Kusabue-no-oka is ¥300 for junior high school & elementary school students, ¥150 for preschool children, and



Hercules beetle: Known
as one of the largest
beetles in the world

¥400 for others. **The fees for events/classes do not include park admission fees.**

An insects exhibition featuring rhinoceros beetles (*kabuto-mushi*) from around the world is being held through Sunday, August 16. Call Kusabue-no-oka, ☎485-7821 for further information. As for events before August 11, visit its web-site: <http://www.kusabue.shiteikanri-sakura.jp/natuyasumi.html>

DATES & TIMES in August			EVENTS / CLASSES	FEES FOR EVENTS/CLASSES & REMARKS
11	Tue	10:00	Handicrafts class	¥500
12	Wed	10:00	Watermelon-splitting and seed-spitting contest	¥500
13	Thu	10:00	Bread making in the open air	¥500
14	Fri	10:00	Summer time experiments class	¥200
15	Sat	19:30	Test of courage in the dark	¥500. To be cancelled in case of rain.
16	Sun	11:00, 12:00, 13:00, 14:00	<i>Nagashi-sohmen</i> (flowing <i>sohmen</i> noodles)	¥500/child, ¥700/adult
17	Mon	10:00	Construction of a secret hideout	¥500. To be cancelled in case of rain.
18	Tue	9:00	Treasure hunting and cooking curry & rice	¥700
19	Wed	10:00	Class for <i>origami</i> folding paper	¥300
20	Thu	9:30	Making PET bottle rockets	¥500
21	Fri	9:00	Feeding animals	¥200. To be cancelled in case of rain.
22	Sat	11:00, 12:00, 13:00, 14:00	<i>Nagashi-sohmen</i> (flowing <i>sohmen</i> noodles)	¥500/child, ¥700/adult
23	Sun	19:30	Star-gazing	¥300. In case of rain, only planetarium show will be held. .
24	Mon	10:00	Glass painting	¥800
25	Tue	10:00	Handicrafts class: handmade cars	¥500
26	Wed	10:00	Making pottery crafts	¥500
27	Thu	10:00	Making bookmarks with pressed flowers.	¥500
28	Fri	10:00	Handicrafts class.	¥500
29	Sat	11:00, 12:00, 13:00, 14:00	<i>Nagashi-sohmen</i> (flowing <i>sohmen</i> noodles)	¥500/child, ¥700/adult
30	Sun	11:00	Barbecue	¥800/child, ¥1,000/adult
31	Mon	10:00	Glass painting	¥800

CHILD REARING ALLOWANCE (JIDOH FUYOH TE'ATE) will be granted by the city to any mother who raises her child(ren) by herself as the result of divorce, separation, etc., until the first March 31 after the child's 18th birthday. The allowance does not apply to families receiving public pension benefits (excluding Old-Age Welfare Pension).

ITEMS REQUIRED FOR APPLICATION ●A certified copy of *koseki toh-hon* (Japanese family register) bearing the names of applicant and child(ren) ●A certified copy of *juh'min-hyoh* (certificate of residence) with the names of all the members in the applicant's family who live together ●Health insurance card ●Bankbook in the name of the applicant ●Personal name seal ●Additional items may be needed depending on the eligibility requirements.

REGISTERED FOREIGNERS may avail of this allowance on a case-by-case basis. Inquire personally regarding requirements for application. Be sure to come with someone who interprets your situation in Japanese.

CURRENT RECIPIENTS need to file a *genkyoh-todoke* (update form) once a year to continue receiving the benefits. Update forms are accepted through Monday, August 31 (except Saturdays and Sundays). Details will be informed to those who have been granted.

Call *Jidoh seishoh'nen-ka* (the Children and Youth Section), ☎484-6140 for further information.

TRAINING & EDUCATION BENEFITS FOR INDEPENDENCE OF SINGLE-MOTHER HOUSEHOLDS (BOSHI-KATEI JIRITSU-SHIEN KYOH'IKU KUNREN KYUFUKIN)

Subsidy will be provided when the mother in a single-parent household enrolls in educational course beneficial for employment, or enters training to acquire professional qualifications. There are benefit payment conditions such as the amount of income etc. Prior consultation and application are required at *Jidoh-seishoh'nen-ka* (the Children & Youth Section), ☎484-6140.

SINGLE-PARENT FAMILY MEDICAL EXPENSE SUBSIDY (HITORI-OYA KATEI IRYOH-HI JOSEI)

Subsidy for medical expenses is available for single-parent family which is rearing child(ren) of 18 years of age or under. Child(ren) without both parents and the family in which one parent is severely disabled are also eligible to apply. This is a partial coverage of the medical expenses for treatment covered by health insurance. Income-tested. Those receiving *Juh'do shin-shin shoh'gaisha Iryoh-hi josei* (subsidy for medical expenses for people with severe physical and/or mental disability) or *seikatsu-hogo* (public assistance benefits) are ineligible for this subsidy.

ITEMS REQUIRED FOR APPLICATION ●Either a certified copy of *koseki toh-hon* (Japanese family register), a certificate of *Izoku nenkin* (survivor's pension), or *tohroku-gempyoh kisaijikoh-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, ●If you are not registered as a Sakura citizen on January 1, 2009, you are requested to submit a *shotoku shoh'meisho* (certificate of your income) for the year of *Heisei 21* (2009).

CURRENT RECIPIENTS need to submit *genkyoh-todoke* (update form) as the qualification is lost at the end of July every year. The city mailed update forms to applicable families in late July. Please note that failure to submit the update form will result in termination of the subsidy from August onwards.

Call *Jidoh seishoh'nen-ka* (the Children and Youth Section), ☎484-6140 for further information.

SUMMER FESTIVAL AT USUI: Come and join the 14th *Usui Furusato Nigiwai Matsuri* on Saturday, August 22, 16:00-22:00 on the street in front of Sakura Concert Hall and Lake-pia Usui. You will enjoy various events, such as *Wadaiko* drumming, *rock-sohran* dancing, as well as dashing fellows carrying mikoshi portable shrines. Also, a summer concert by junior high school students of Usui area will be held at the Concert Hall from 13:00 to 15:30. Free of charge. Call the planning committee, ☎461-1871 for more information.



MOVIE FOR FAMILIES: DreamWorks Animation's '**Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa**' will be shown on Wednesday, August 5, 10:30-12:00 (Doors open at 10:00) at the Sakura Concert Hall. No food or drinks allowed. Free of charge on a first-come-first-served basis. Call the Chuoh Koh'min kan, ☎485-1801 for more information.

HUNTING BY SHOT GUN TO CONTROL HARMFUL BIRDS FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS will be carried out during the period of Thursday, August 6 - Sunday, August 23, 8:00-17:00. Please be aware of this while you are outdoors, even though the hunters are instructed to be well-mannered, and take every precaution not to cause an accident. Call *Nohsei-ka* (the Agricultural Administration Section), ☎484-6142 for further 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	AUGUST '09	TIMES	PLACES
Health consultation for children of 4 months born in March, 2009	27	9:30-10:30	Kenkoh Kanri Center
		13:30-14:30	
	10	9:30-10:30	Seibu Hoken Center
13:30-14:30			
<i>Mogu-mogu</i> (munching) Class for children of 8 months born in November, 2008	7	9:30-9:45	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	25	9:30-9:45	Seibu Hoken Center
	3	9:30-9:45	Nambu Hoken Center
For 18-month-old children born in January, 2008	20	13:30-14:30	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	5	13:30-14:30	Seibu Hoken Center
For 3-year-old children born in February, 2006	18	13:30-14:30	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	26	13:30-14:30	Seibu Hoken Center
Dental check for children born in February or August, 2007 or in August, 2006	4	13:30-14:30	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	24		
	6	13:30-14:30	Seibu Hoken Center
	28		
	21	13:30-14:30	Nambu Hoken Center

HEALTH CONSULTATIONS

- **Consultation with public health nurse** is available on ●Wednesday, August 19, 9:30-11:30 at Seibu Hoken Center; ●Friday, August 21, 13:30-15:30 at Kenkoh Kanri Center; ●Tuesday, August 25, 9:30-11:30 at Nambu 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 June 2009, the Japanese population of Sakura was 175,766 (86,725 male and 89,041 female) in 69,589 households. Registered foreign residents accounted for 1,965. The combined population of Sakura City was 177,731.

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