

Public Relations Section, Sakura City Hall, ☎(043) 484-1111, Ext.2275 or

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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 can be answered generally on Mondays and Tuesdays through Koh'hoh-ka (the Public Relations Section) at Sakura City Hall.



SAKURA-NO-AKI-MATSURI



SAKURA AUTUMN FESTIVAL

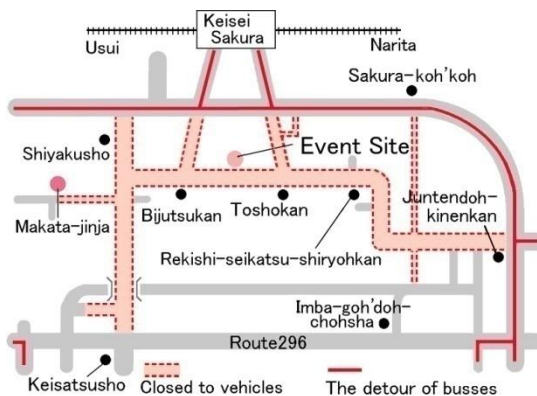
15:00-22:00, OCT.14(FRI), 15(SAT) & 16 (SUN)

The Sakura Autumn Festival is the biggest cultural event of our city. *Mikoshi* (lavishly decorated portable shrines), and *Dashi* (traditional festival floats), some of which are cultural assets dating back to the *Edo* era (the samurai period), are carried or pulled by residents clad in happi coats in a procession along the designated route of the old Sakura castle town.

THE 290TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OH-MIKOSHI CONSTRUCTION

This year marks the 290<sup>th</sup> year since the construction of the *Oh-Mikoshi of Makata-jinja*, and the previous *Mikoshi*, which was handed over to *Jyo Makata-jinja* at the construction of new *Mikoshi* 290 years ago, is to visit its home shrine in celebration of the anniversary. It is the first time in history that these two *Mikoshis* compete with each other. On Saturday, all the *Dashis* will move to the event site of the festival and will make a procession one after another along the *Shin-machi* street. You just could not miss it!

Many vendors will be setting up stalls selling food and drinks, souvenirs and local merchandise, games and so forth to entertain and cater for a large crowd of spectators during the 3-day festivities. As usual, traffic jams are foreseen around the festival site, so you are requested to refrain from visiting the festival by car, bicycle, or motorcycle. Roads leading to the festival site and the parade route will be closed to traffic during the 3 festive opening hours. Call Sakura-shi *Kankoh-Kyoh'kai* (Tourism Association), ☎486-6000 for further information.



- Shiyakusho = City Hall
- Keisatsusho = Police Station
- Bijutsukan = Art Museum
- Sakura-koh'koh = Sakura Senior High School

CITY EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The following job openings are available for the period between November 1, 2011 and March 31, 2012 . Send or bring your resume (with your photo) and a copy of relevant certificate to Kosodate-Shien-ka (Child-rearing Support Section) **no later than Friday, October 14**. Call ☎484-6415 for further information.

Job openings	Qualification requirements
Instructors at after-school care centers: 4	Childcare, Kindergarten teacher, or Teaching certificate
Nursery staff at a public nursery school: 2	Childcare certificate

OFFICE CLERK WANTED AT CHALLENGED OFFICE SAKURA

One office clerk is wanted at the Challenged Office Sakura. Person eligible to apply for the job is a mentally challenged person who has willingness to work, Mental Disability Certificate, and a Hello Work Card. The successful applicant will work 10:00 to 15:00, five days a week from Monday to Friday, January to March 2012, at the City Hall. Hourly wage is 800 yen. Apply **no later than Friday, Oct. 28** by submitting the applicants' resume with photo and copies of the above certificate and card, by mail or bringing to *Sohmu-ka* (General Affairs Section), ☎484-6208, at the City Hall.

POST-DISASTER PREPARATORY DRILL

A chance for all of us to become better prepared for the next big one!

The city of Sakura will conduct a post-disaster preparatory drill from 9:00 to 0:30, Sunday, October 9, 2011 at **Sakura Junior High School**, focusing on emergency relief / treatment activities and how to use water fire-extinguishers. The drill will be held rain or shine, cancelled in stormy weather. We look forward to everyone's participation. Call *Koh'tsu-boh'sai-ka* (the Transportation & Disaster Preparedness Section), ☎484-6131 for further information.

# Sakura International Festival

Sakura International Exchange Foundation (SIEF) will offer an international friendship meeting for foreign and Japanese residents of Sakura on Sunday, October 23, 12:30–15:30, at Shizu Community Center. Foreign residents are especially requested to attend this social event to engage in friendly exchanges, casual talks, or to express your experiences living in a foreign country. You will enjoy African dance, Halloween parade, t'ai chi ch'uan, and lots more.



Participation is free of charge except for lottery game (¥100). Call SIEF, ☎484-6326 for more information, or visit its website: <http://www.catv296.ne.jp/~s.koryukikin/>.

## CHANGES TO CHILD ALLOWANCE (KODOMO-TEATE)

As of October 1, 2011, details of the Child Allowance system have been changed. As a result, allowance can be paid to eligible guardians by applying **on or before March 31, 2012** for the period between October 2011 and March 2012. **Monthly Pay per Child is:** 15,000 yen for children aged under 3 years; 10,000 yen for children aged 3 and up to school age (15,000 yen for the third and subsequent children); 10,000 yen for junior high students. There is no income cap. Application forms and/or information leaflets are to be mailed to relevant persons late October. For further information, call *Jidoh-Seisyohnen-ka* (Children & Youth Section), ☎484-6140.

## KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT APPLICATION

To enroll coming spring, application needed coming November



**PUBLIC KINDERGARTENS** accept ① **4 year-old children** (born between April 2, 2007 and April 1, 2008) for 2-year education, and ② **5 year-old children** (born between April 2, 2006 and April 1, 2007) for 1-year education. Application and registration will be accepted at the



same time from **Friday, November 4 through Thursday, November 10** except Saturday and Sunday (Wada Yoh'chien will be closed on Monday, November 7). Bring the child you are registering with you when you apply for a kindergarten. During the application period, each kindergarten provides nursing services. Be sure to bring your *in-kan* (family seal) and *juh'min-hyoh* (certificate of residence) or "*gaikokujin-tohroku-gempyoh kisai-jikoh shoh'meisho* (certificate of confirmation of foreign resident registration)" containing information on the relationships of all family members to the householder. These certificates are available at *Shimin-ka* (the Citizens Section), City Hall.

PUBLIC KINDERGARTENS	ADDRESSES	☎
Sakura Yoh'chien	Kaburagi-machi 934	486-1533
Wada Yoh'chien	Naoya 59-6	498-1571
Yatomi Yoh'chien	Iwatomi-machi 145	498-0603

**PRIVATE KINDERGARTENS** will accept applications of ① **3-year old children** (born between April 2, 2008 and April 1, 2009), ② **4-year old children** (born between April 2, 2007 and April 1, 2008), and ③ **5-year old children** (between April 2, 2006 and April 1, 2007). Guidelines and application forms will be distributed **from Monday, October 17**, at the respective kindergartens. Submit a fully-completed application form to the kindergarten **on/after Tuesday, November 1**. Call each kindergarten or *Gakumu-ka* (School Affairs Section), ☎484-6186 for further information.

PRIVATE KINDERGARTENS	ADDRESSES	☎	PRIVATE KINDERGARTENS	ADDRESSES	☎
Shizu Yoh'chien	Ino 1362	487-6717	Usui Tampopo Yoh'chien	Ohji-dai 1-10-7	461-5105
Sakura Yoh'chien	Nishi-Shizu 2-23-19	487-1747	Sakura Johnan Yoh'chien	Kaburagi-machi 1-5	484-0551
Shizu Wakaba Yoh'chien	Kami-Shizu 874	487-1787	Sennari Yoh'chien	Sennari 3-11-15	485-3755
Odake Yoh'chien	Odake 795-1	487-1784	Jikoh Yoh'chien	Motomachi 54	484-2444
Usui Yoh'chien	Usuida 2435	487-5462	Sakura Kurumi Yoh'chien	Ishikawa 551-1	485-8425

## RADIATION TEST RESULTS

### NEW RICE HARVESTED THIS YEAR

- On August 31, Chiba prefecture announced the results of the new rice radiation tests. In Sakura City, **no** radiocesium was detected at all the test sites. In accordance with the prefecture-wide test results, Chiba prefecture issued a declaration of safety of rice in Chiba on September 1.
- Since the safety of new rice was confirmed, the voluntary ban on the sale and shipment of rice has been lifted now. Please feel at ease with eating tasty new rice in Sakura.  
Call *Nohsei-ka* (the Agricultural Administration Section), ☎484-6142 or Imba Agricultural Cooperative Association, ☎485-6188 for further information.

### INGREDIENTS USED FOR PREPARATION OF SCHOOL MEALS

Radiation tests were conducted for five kinds of vegetables from around the City used for preparation of school meals. The results of these tests were; **No** radiocesium was detected with Yamato-imo, Ha-negi (Green onion), Potato, and Sato-imo (Taro); and **4.5 Bq/kg** of radiocesium was detected with Pear. Since these results were far below 500 Bq/kg, the temporary legal limits for radiation in food and beverages in Japan set by the Food Sanitation Act, the above ingredients continue to be used in school meals. Call *Shidoh-ka* (the School Guidance Section), ☎484-6193 for further information.

## OPENINGS OF MUNICIPAL HOUSES

Two rooms at Ohja-jyutaku (apartment); Two rooms at Horinouchi-jyutaku; and One room at Fujisawa-jyutaku are currently available. Applications are to be accepted from **Monday, October 3 to Friday, October 14**. You are eligible to apply for them if: you live in Sakura for 1 year or more; you are not delinquent in payments of your city tax; and you have one or more relatives to live together\*. There are additional requirements and qualifications to be a tenant, such as income limitation and co-signer. (\*Those who are age 60 years or above can apply without a relative to live together.) Call *Kenchiku-shidoh-ka* (the Construction Guidance Section), ☎484-6168 for further information. Application leaflets are available at *Kenchiku-shidoh-ka* at the City Hall, City branch offices, and Nishi-shizu/ Sakura Service Centers.

## HEALTH CHECKS BEFORE ENTERING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

“Notice about Health Check-up for children entering elementary schools” has been sent to each householder of relevant children’s family. Children born between April 2, 2005 and April 1, 2006 are required to go through health checks before entering elementary school in April 2012. The health check schedules are as shown below. Please call *Shidoh-ka* (the School Guidance Section), ☎484-6193 in case you do not receive the notice, and for further information.



(Note) · The health check should be taken at the school one plans to enroll.

- The time schedule is indicated on the “Notice about Health Check-up.”
- During the check-up, a lecture meeting on home education for parents is to be held.

SCHOOL NAME	DATE	SCHOOL NAME	DATE	SCHOOL NAME	DATE	SCHOOL NAME	DATE
Sakura	Oct.27	Shizu	Nov.17	Ino	Nov.07	Aosuge	Oct.25
Uchigoh	Nov.17	Shimo-Shizu	Nov.16	Sakura-Higashi	Nov.22	Terasaki	Oct.18
Usui	Oct.13	Minami-Shizu	Oct.27	Nishi-Shizu	Oct.21	San’noh	Nov.15
In’nan	Nov.04	Negoh	Nov.07	Odake	Oct.12	Someino	Nov.08
Chiyoda	Nov.18	Wada	Oct.20	Manodai	Oct.19	Shirogane	Oct.13
Kami-Shizu	Oct.26	Yatomi	Nov.22	Ohji-dai	Oct.19		

## MASS EXAMINATION OF OSTEOPOROSIS (BONE DENSITY CHECK)

I apply for the osteoporosis test (bone density test).

Date of Application: year/month/day

My 1st choice : month / day  
(AM PM)

My 2nd choice : month / day  
(AM PM)

My 3rd choice : month / day  
(AM PM)

ADDRESS :

NAME :

DATE of BIRTH : year/month/day

AGE : \_\_\_\_\_

TEL : \_\_\_\_\_

The city of Sakura offers annual osteoporosis test for Sakura residents who are/will be 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, & 70 years of age between April 1, 2011 and March 31, 2012. The first 1,000 applicants will be accepted for the test for ¥500. We are now accepting your applications.

**<Dates & places of the test>**: Oct. 27 (Thu) at *Shizu Community Center*; Nov. 25 (Fri) at *Nambu Hoken Center*; Nov. 26 (Sat) and Dec. 7 (Wed) at *Kenkoh Kanri Center*; and Dec. 5 (Mon) at *Seibu Hoken Center*.

**<Booking is required>**: You can fill out and submit an application form at either one of the following health centers: *Kenkoh Kanri Center*, *Seibu Hoken Center*, or *Nambu Hoken Center*. Or you can send a fax or postcard with necessary information

(Application Example)

as indicated in the application example, to *Kenkoh Kanri Center* (Fax: 485-6714, ☎285-0825, 2-27, Ebara-dai, Sakura-shi). Do not forget to write your first to third choices of the date and the choices of AM (9:30-10:30) or PM (13:30-14:30). Call *Kenkoh Kanri Center*, ☎485-6711 for further information.



## INFLUENZA VACCINATION FOR SENIOR CITIZENS



Influenza vaccination is available for senior citizens from October 1 at medical institutions in Sakura City, and at associated institutions in Chiba prefecture. From April 1, 2011, H1N1 flu is no longer considered a new influenza but a seasonal flu by the Ministry of Health,

Labour and Welfare (MHLW). Therefore, the 2010 -2011 flu vaccine is against regular seasonal flu.

**Eligible persons** 1) 65 years old or older, for whom the city sent vaccination slips by mail at the end of September. Recipients should fill out the slip and bring it to a designated medical institution. 2) 60-64 years old who possesses a First Degree Identification Booklet for the Physically Handicapped, due to heart, kidney, or respiratory diseases. Please call *Kenkoh Kanri Center* to receive the vaccination.

**Scheduled period** **Saturday, October 1, 2011 to Saturday, December 31, 2011**. It takes about two weeks after vaccination for antibodies to develop in the body and provide protection against influenza virus infection. We recommend that all the elderly people receive an annual vaccination **before early December**.

**Vaccination sites** Vaccination cooperative medical institutions in the City and the Prefecture

**Number of shots** One shot during the scheduled period.

**Cost** **1,000 yen. Free** for citizens on welfare if application is made along with presentation of a Welfare Recipient Certificate. In this case, please apply for a Welfare Recipient Certificate to *Syakai-Fukushi-ka* (Social Welfare Section) in advance.

\*The vaccination subsidy for households which are not required to pay city taxes is not available this year. Call *Kenkoh-Zoh’shin-ka* (the Health Promotion Section), ☎485-6711 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	OCTOBER '11	TIMES	PLACES
Health consultation for children of 4 months born in May, 2011	5	9:30 – 10:30	Kenkoh Kanri Center
		13:30 – 14:30	
	14	9:30 – 10:30	Seibu Hoken Center
		13:30 – 14:30	
	21	13:30 – 14:30	Nambu Hoken Center
<i>Mogu-mogu</i> (munching) Class for children of 8 months born in January, 2011	3	9:30 – 9:45	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	7		Seibu Hoken Center
	21		Nambu Hoken Center
For 18-month-old children born in April, 2010	24	13:15 – 14:15	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	11		Seibu Hoken Center
For 3-year-old children born in April, 2008	25	13:15 – 14:15	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	27		Seibu Hoken Center
Dental check for children born in April or October, 2009, or in October, 2008	4	13:30 – 14:30	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	21		
	13		Seibu Hoken Center
	19		
	26		

### HEALTH CONSULTATIONS

- **Child development consultation for preschoolers (*Suku-suku Hattatsu Sohdan*)** is available on **Thursday, October 20**, 9:00-12:00 at Kenkoh Kanri Center. If you feel distressed about your child's developmental/behavioral disorders, such as attention deficit disorder, do not suffer alone. Application required.
- **Consultation with public health nurse for all ages** is available on ●**October 12**, 13:30-15:30, at Kenkoh Kanri Center, ●**October 18**, 9:30-11:30, at Seibu Hoken Center, and ●**October 20**, 9:30-11:30, at Nambu Hoken Center. Public health nurse will help you to develop a healthier lifestyle. Application required.
- **Telephone counseling with public health nurse or nutritionist** is available at each center, 8:30-17:00, Monday - Friday. **Dental hygienist** or **speech therapist** are also available at Kenkoh Kanri Center.

**FREE ANTENATAL CLASSES** will be held at Kenkoh Kanri Center in October & November for expectant mothers and fathers to have the first babies between January and March 2012. The program will include maternity exercises, instructions on how to raise a healthy child, preparation of nutritious baby food, etc. There is a limit of 35 people in a class. To attend, application is required by calling Kenkoh Kanri Center.

LESSON	DATES	TIMES
1 <sup>st</sup>	Oct. 28	9:00-15:00
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Nov. 13	9:00-12:30

### HOLIDAY & NIGHTTIME EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Always be sure to bring your health insurance certificate !

**HOLIDAY & NIGHTTIME CLINIC FOR CHILDREN'S DISEASES IN ACUTE & EARLY STAGE (Pediatrics)**  
For children under 16 years old or younger. 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 (reception is available until 16:45) & 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 22:00 (reception is available until 21:45.). Call ☎485-6711 for further information.

### THE POPULATION OF SAKURA CITY

As of the end of August 2011, the Japanese population of Sakura was 176,178 (87,087 male and 89,091 female) in 71,365 households. Registered foreign residents accounted for 2,074. The combined population of Sakura City was 178,252.

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