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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 the Sakura City Hall.



SAKURA-NO-AKI-MATSURI



Sakura Autumn Festival
15:00 to 22:00
October 11 to October 13

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 historical assets dating back to the *Edo* era, are carried or pulled by residents clad in happi coats in a procession along the designated route of the

CLOSED TO VEHICLES
15:00 - 22:00
Oct.11 to Oct.13

old Sakura castle town. Please check the following *Dashi* and *Mikoshi* schedule.

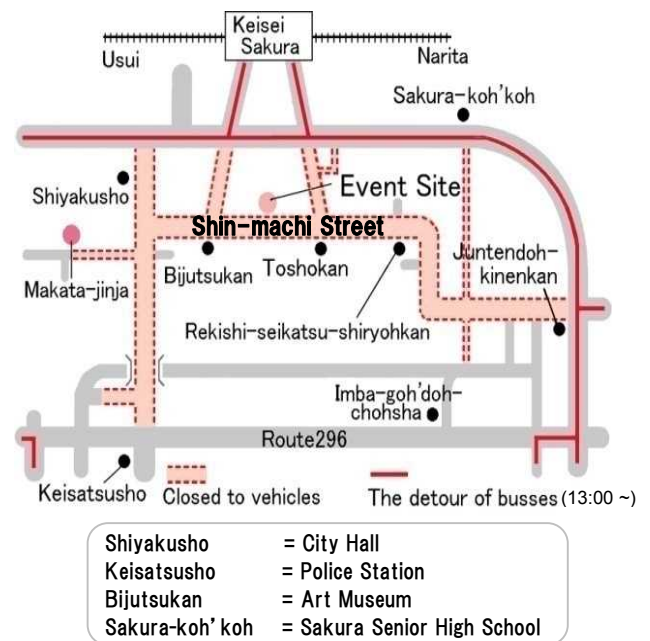
Fri., October 11: *Oh-mikoshi* (A great portable shrine) comes out from *Makata-Jinja Shrine* at about 15:00. *Dashi* (Parade Floats) held by each town will be carried around the old part of Sakura City, surrounded by the residents dancing.

Sat., October 12: All the *Dashi* move to the event site of the festival and will make a procession one after another along the *Shin-machi* street.

Sun., October 13: *Dashi* will be carried around the old part of Sakura City. *Oh-mikoshi* returns into *Makata-Jinja Shrine* at about 21:40. A lot of vendors will be setting up stalls selling food and drink, souvenirs and local merchandise, games and so forth to entertain and cater for a large crowd of spectators during the 3-day festivities. You just couldn't pass up the opportunity to enjoy this historic event!

(Note) As it happens every year, 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 cars during the three-day festive opening hours.

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



DISASTER PREPARATORY DRILL

Sunday, October 20 at Negoh Elementary School

Boh'sai-boh'han-ka (Disaster Prevention & Security Section), ☎484-6131



During a large disaster such as an earthquake, life lines including gas, electricity, drinking water services might be interrupted and roads might be closed. Possible life-saving activities by disaster prevention organizations can be very limited due to responses to multiple and simultaneous fires. It will be very important that each and every one of us prepares on a regular basis and cooperates with each other when hit by a major disaster. A preparatory drill allows us to prepare against damage and minimize losses by life-saving and fire-fighting activities. The City of Sakura will conduct a post-disaster preparatory drill as shown below focusing on emergency relief/treatment activities, training for initial fire-fighting and soup kitchen, and learning on how to operate an evacuation center. We look forward to everyone's participation.

- 9:00 to 12:20, Sunday, October 20 at Negoh Elementary School
- To be held rain or shine, but subject to cancellation in a stormy weather
- No application required
- You are requested to refrain from driving to the venue. Please use public transportation, because there is no parking at the school.



INFLUENZA VACCINATION FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

Kenkoh Kanri Center, ☎485-6711



Influenza vaccination for senior citizens is available at 1,000 yen from October 1 at medical institutions in Sakura City. To protect yourself during the peak flu season, an early shot is highly recommended because it takes about two weeks for antibodies to develop in your body.

Period October 1 to December 31, 2013 (with appointment)

Location Vaccination cooperative medical institutions in Sakura City (Please make sure you call *Kenkoh Kanri Center* in advance if you are going to get a shot at institutions out of the City.)

Eligible persons

- 1) Citizens who are 65 years of age or above. Vaccination slips were sent out to applicable persons in late September. Please fill in the slip and bring it to the medical institution.
- 2) Citizens who are 60-64 years of age and possess a "First Degree Identification Booklet for the Physically Handicapped" because of heart, kidney, or respiratory diseases. Please call *Kenkoh Kanri Center* to consult.

Fee 1,000 yen. Free for citizens on welfare if Welfare Recipient Certificate is presented, which can be obtained in advance at *Shakai-Fukushi-ka* of the City Hall.



SUPPORTS FOR BUSINESS STARTUPS

Sangyo Shinko-ka, ☎484-6145

Sakura City is promoting business startups across the City through variety of programs. Check the new programs shown below and do not miss your opportunities!

1. Low-interest loans with subsidy for business founders:

- NEW** ➤ For business founders, up to 15 million yen (not exceeding the amount of one's own funds)
- NEW** ➤ For women and the youth who starts a new business, up to 5 million yen (no own funds is required)
- NEW** ➤ Aiming at shopping mall revitalization, up to 15 million yen (for startups of a retail store or restaurant business at a vacant lot in a shopping mall in Sakura City)

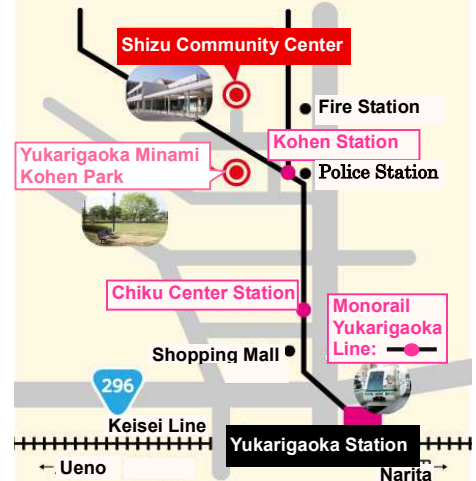
2. Guidance and advice by financial institutions, certified tax accountants and public accountants registered as supporting agency

3. Free consultation for startups and management, and periodic seminars (3. is offered by chamber of commerce, ☎ 486-2331)

Sakura International Festival 12:15 to 15:30, Saturday, October 19 At Shizu Community Center



S.I.E.F, ☎484-6326 or <http://www.sief.jp>
Please see the enclosed flyers for details.



Moonlight Concert at Kyu-Hotta-Tei



Friday, Oct. 25
Saturday, Oct. 26
☎ *Bunka-ka*, 484-6192

Won't you enjoy the beautiful sound of *Yangqin** admiring the autumn moon at *Kyu-Hotta-Tei* (former residence of feudal lord *Hotta*)? Two sessions are held in each evening at 18:00 & 19:00. Admission fee is 150 yen for students and 310 yen for others.

Reservation can be made by sending a reply-paid postal card (up to four tickets per one card) with your name, address and telephone number. The closing date for application is October 15. If the number of applicants exceeds the limit of 50 persons for each session, a drawing will be held.

SAKURA COSMOS FESTA At Furusato-Hiroba

Sat. Oct. 5 to Sun. Oct. 27

The season of Cosmos Festival has come again. During the festival, Sakura *Furusato-Hiroba* Park beside *Imba-Numa* Lake will be flooded with roughly 500 thousand cosmoses surrounding the wind mill. Feel the cool autumn breeze in a sea of pink! You can also rent a bicycle (¥500) and enjoy picking cosmoses (¥100 for one rootstock). On October 19, you can also enjoy shopping at stalls selling local products at the festival site (9:00 – 16:00). Call Sakura City Kankoh Kyohkai (tourist association), ☎486-6000 for inquiries.

Obukai Cosmos Festival

10:00 to 14:00, Sat. October 26

Obukai Cosmos Festival will be held at *Obukai Tokimeki-mura*, the field along *Kami-taguri-gawa* river underneath the athletic field of *Sakura-Nishi* Senior High School. Local hospitality welcomes you rain or shine.



* *Yangqin* is traditional Chinese instruments played by bamboo quills.



Kindergarten Application for April 2014 Enrollment

To be accepted soon!



Applications for kindergarten enrollment in April 2014 will be accepted on the following schedule.

Please note that some of the private kindergartens often reach their capacity very quickly.

Public kindergartens

- ① **4 year-old children** (born between April 2, 2009 and April 1, 2010) for 2-year education
- ② **5 year-old children** (born between April 2, 2008 and April 1, 2009) for 1-year education

Application and registration will be done at the same time from: **November 5 to November 8**

Please take the enrolling child with you when you apply. During the above application period, each

kindergarten offers overtime nursing for its pupils. Make sure to bring your *in-kan* (family seal) and *juh'min-hyoh* (certificate of residence) containing information on the relationships of all family members to the householder. These certificates are available at *Shimin-ka*, City Hall.

Public Kindergarten	Address	Phone Number
Sakura Yoh'chien	934, Kaburagi-machi	486-1533
Wada Yoh'chien	59-6, Naoya	498-1571
Yatomi Yoh'chien	145, Iwatomi-machi	498-0603

Private kindergartens

- ① **3-year old children** (born between April 2, 2010 and April 1, 2011) for 3-year education
- ② **4-year old children** (born between April 2, 2009 and April 1, 2010) for 2-year education
- ③ **5-year old children** (born between April 2, 2008 and April 1, 2009) for 1-year education

Guidelines and application forms are distributed at the respective kindergarten on and after: **Tue. October 15**

Please submit a fully-completed application form to the kindergarten on and after **Friday, November 1.**

Call each kindergarten to learn detailed application procedures.

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



HEALTH CHECKS BEFORE ENTERING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Kyoh'iku-Shidoh'ka (the School Guidance Section), ☎484-6193

"Notice for a health checkup for children entering elementary school next April" has been sent to each householder of relevant children's family. Children born between April 2, 2007 and April 1, 2008 are required to go through health checks before entering elementary school in April 2014. The health check schedule for each school is as shown below. Please call *Kyoh'iku-Shidoh'ka* in case you have not received the notice.

Place: Your child's designated* elementary school

Time: To be indicated on the "Notice for a health checkup"

* During the checkup, a lecture meeting on home education for parents is held.

* In Sakura City, the elementary/junior high school in which your child is to enroll is decided based on the address of the child. If you wish to enroll your child in a school other than the designated one for particular reasons, please contact the section in charge.

Elementary School	DATE	Elementary School	DATE	Elementary School	DATE
Sakura	Nov. 19	Minami-Shizu	Oct. 31	Manodai	Nov. 27
Uchigoh	Oct. 10	Negoh	Nov. 19	Ohji-dai	Oct. 30
Usui	Oct. 17	Wada	Oct. 09	Aosuge	Oct. 17
In'nari	Oct. 31	Yatomi	Nov. 20	Terasaki	Oct. 15
Chiyoda	Oct. 08	Ino	Nov. 26	San'noh	Oct. 30
Kami-Shizu	Oct. 09	Sakura-Higashi	Oct. 28	Someino	Nov. 14
Shizu	Nov. 14	Nishi-Shizu	Nov. 21	Shirogane	Oct. 24
Shimo-Shizu	Oct. 24	Odake	Nov. 26		



Have fun with your family and friends!

Sakura Sports Festival

9:00 to 13:00

October 14

(Reception starts at 8:30.)

Canceled in case of heavy rain

At Athletics Stadium of
Iwana Undoh Koh'en
(Iwana Sports Park)

- Various lessons
- Recreation sports for parents & kids
- New sports experience
- 50- & 100-meter sprint (limited to the first 100 people each)
- Training for better health
..... and lots more!

Shoh'gai-Sports-ka (Lifelong Sports Section), ☎484-6742



POPULATION OF SAKURA CITY

As of the end of August 2013, the Japanese population of Sakura was 175,460 (86,753 males and 88,707 females) in 72,614 households. Registered foreign residents accounted for 2,089. The combined population of Sakura City was 177,549.

HEALTH INFORMATION

Contacts: Kenkoh Kanri Center (Health Management Center) ☎485-6712;
 Seibu Hoken Center (Seibu Health & Welfare Center) ☎463-4181;
 Nambu Hoken Center (Nambu Health & Welfare Center) ☎483-2812.



HEALTH CHECKS FOR CHILDREN			
AGE OF CHILDREN	OCT '13	ACCEPTANCE TIME	PLACE
Health consultation for children of 4 months, born in May 2013 	Fri. 25	9:30-10:30 / 13:30-14:30	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	Tue. 01		Seibu Hoken Center
	Wed. 09	13:30-14:30	Nambu Hoken Center
<i>Mogu-mogu</i> (munching) Class for children of 8 months, born in January 2013	Tue. 22	9:30-9:45	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	Thu. 03		Seibu Hoken Center
	Wed. 09		Nambu Hoken Center
For 18-month-old children born in April 2012	Thu. 17	13:15-14:15	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	Wed. 23		Seibu Hoken Center
For 3-year-old children born in April 2010	Wed. 16	13:15-14:15	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	Thu. 24		Seibu Hoken Center
Dental check for children born in October 2010 or in April or October 2011 * On the days with * mark, Consultation on Speech Development is also available. 	Wed. 02*	13:30-14:30	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	Fri. 18		
	Tue. 08*		Seibu Hoken Center
	Mon. 21		
	Thu. 10*		



FREE ANTENATAL CLASSES

-Prior reservation required-

For expectant mothers and fathers to have a baby in February and March 2014 (October classes) or April and May 2014 (November classes), free antenatal classes will be held as shown below.

CLASS	TIME	DATE	PLACE
Mom's*	9:15-14:20	Tue. Oct. 8	Kenkoh Kanri Center
		Wed., Nov. 27	Seibu Hoken Center
Mom's & Dad's*	9:15-12:15	Sat. Oct. 26	Kenkoh Kanri Center
		Sun., Nov. 10	Seibu Hoken Center

- **Mom's class** gives instructions on how to lead a healthy life during pregnancy, including nutrition and oral hygiene education.
- **Mom's and Dad's Class** gives instruction on life with a newborn baby, baby bath practice, experience of pregnancy simulation to fathers, etc. Parents in their first pregnancy have priority. Application required. Please call and book at the respective center.

SUKU-SUKU HATTATSU SOHDAN

-Application required-

Child development consultation for preschoolers:
9:00 to 12:00, Thu. Oct. 17 at Kenkoh Kanri Center

If you feel distressed about your child's developmental or behavioral disorders, such as attention deficit disorder, do not suffer alone!

MEDICAL CHECKUPS FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS & INFANTS

By using the coupons issued as a separate volume of *Boshi Kenko Techo*, a part of the medical checkup fees for pregnant women (for 14 times during pregnancy) and infants (1 time at the age of 3-6 months and 1 at 9-11 months) are borne by public funds. **To use coupons after you moved in the City, please contact us.**

HEALTH CONSULTING SERVICES FOR ALL AGES - APPLICATION REQUIRED

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE CONSULTATION

13:30 - 15:30	Mon. Oct 7	Kenko Kanri Center
9:30 - 11:30	Fri. Oct 25	Seibu Hoken Center
9:30 - 11:30	Mon. Oct 28	Nambu Hoken Center

Consultation on health-check results and how to live a healthier life, nutritional guidance, and health checks including blood-pressure measurement can be provided.

BONE DENSITY CHECK --- AVAILABLE ONLY ONCE IN FIVE YEARS!

Reservation required. Application accepted at each health center.


Residents who are 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, & 70 years of age as of March 31, 2014 can get a free check. Do not miss the opportunity! Call 485-6711 for inquiries.

9:30 - 11:00	Oct 9	Nov 30	Dec 4	Kenko Kanri Center
	Oct 17	Nov 22		Seibu Hoken Center
13:30 - 15:00			Dec 2	Nambu Hoken Center
		Nov 15		Shizu Community Center

HOLIDAY & NIGHTTIME EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Always be sure to bring your health insurance certificate!

Nighttime on Sundays & Holidays (19:00 - 21:45, Physician & Dentist) ☎485-6711 at Kenkoh Kanri Center



365 days a year Pediatric Emergency for children under 16
 ☎485-3355 at Kenkoh Kanri Center
 Monday through Saturday: 19:00 - 6:00 (next morning)
 Sundays & public holidays: 9:00 - 16:45 & 19:00 - 6:00

To Find On-Duty Doctor — Call ☎484-2516
 Daytime on Sundays & Holidays (9:00 - 22:00, recorded audio guidance)

- Surgeon, Physician, and Dentist on the day's duty
- Surgeon and ENT on the night's duty

* Medical care is provided at each doctor's office