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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. (Printed on recycled paper.)



Mayor Warabi Announced the Basic Policy FY2014

AIMING FOR A CITY OF CHOICE

Mayor Warabi gave his policy speech at the regular meeting of the City council, expressing his determination to create a city that motivates and gives hope to its citizens. The following is an excerpt of his speech.

Ensure Safe and Secure Life for Citizens

Enhance self-help and mutual aid efforts,
Re-check and improve the flood control system

- ✓ Accelerate quake proofing of schools and public facilities
- ✓ Increase the rate of voluntary organization for disaster prevention activities
- ✓ Support establishment of Machizukuri Council
- ✓ Continue measuring the radiation levels of foods and air

Create a Comfortable Living Environment via Urban Infrastructure Development

Promote measures against aging infrastructure and
Improve living environment

- ✓ Aim for early openings of the city planning roads
- ✓ Make the sewerage works publicly operated
- ✓ Reduce the amount of garbage and establish a resource-recycling society

Enrich Education and Welfare

Eliminate children's waiting for day-care admission
and Promote welfare and health services

- ✓ Increase the capacity of child-care services by attracting private day-care centers and other means
- ✓ Increase the capacity of after-school care services
- ✓ Develop a dementia friendly community
- ✓ Make School Lunch Centers responsive to disasters
- ✓ Provide educational support ideally matched to the needs of individual child

Develop Regional Economy with an Eye to the Future

Attract companies and Support sports activities

- ✓ Promote agriculture emphasizing on its multifunctional roles
- ✓ Effective and organized use of urbanization control areas
- ✓ Provide support for AC Milan Soccer School and renovate Shigeo Nagashima Memorial Iwana Baseball Stadium
- ✓ Implement the City's 60th anniversary events

Administration and Financial Reform

- ✓ Further implement the fifth administrative reform policy
- ✓ Promote cooperation between citizens and the City



Cherry Festival at Sakura Johshi Koh'en Castle Park

Tue. April 1 to Sun. April 6

(subject to change depends on the timing of bloom)

☎ Sakura City Kankoh Kyohkai (tourist association), 486-6000

Sakura Joshi-Koh'en Castle Park is one of the most popular Hanami spots in Sakura. In the site there had been a castle, which was chosen as one of the greatest 100 castles in Japan. In the park, you can see about 1100 cherry trees in 50 species in total, including the 13 finest cherry species famous since Edo era. Many of them will be in full bloom from late March to early April. A variety of stalls selling cooked foods, produce, sweets, drinks, etc. will be open during the festival.

Kusabue-no-Oka Information

☎ Sakura Kusabue-no-Oka, 485-7821, <http://kusabue.shiteikanri-sakura.jp/>

From April 1, Kusabue-no-Oka ticket price drops for junior high school students and younger children as shown below. At the same time, the Park's open hours change to open from 9:00 to 18:00. Fully enjoy nature with kids and friends !



Handmade Craft Fair for Spring Vacation

Tue. April 1 to Sun. April 6

- ◆ Pinecone Craft (¥100)
- ◆ Making of Stills (¥500)
- ◆ Pressed Flower Craft (¥200)

And lots more! No need for prior application.

Price Change of Admission Ticket

	Previous	From April 1, 2014
Kindergarten children and younger :	150 yen	Free
Elementary school & Junior high school children:	300 yen	100 yen
High school students and over	400 yen	410 yen
Adult with physical disability certificate & One carer	300 yen	Free

SCHOLARSHIP FOR SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

☎ Kyoh' iku-sohmu-ka (General Educational Affairs Section), 484-6182



The city of Sakura grants scholarship for senior high school students who meet all of the following four conditions and have recommendation by the junior high school principal.

- i) Those who live in Sakura
- ii) Those who finished junior high school and are enrolling in senior high school from the next fiscal year or the year after
- iii) Those who had earned a grade point average of three or more on the five level rating system at the time of graduation from junior high school and motivated to learn
- iv) Those who deemed to be in financial difficulties in attending senior high school with family income in the previous year that is less than 1.3 times of the standard income for public assistance eligibility.

Successful applicants will be granted the scholarship up to ¥80,000 per year. **Application deadline is Wednesday, April 30.** Application forms are available at *Kyoh' iku-sohmu-ka* (General Educational Affairs Section) at the City Hall. Or, you can download the form from the City's homepage: <http://www.city.sakura.lg.jp/0000002952.html>



The 26th Sakura Tulip Festa

April 1 to 29 at Sakura Furusato Hiroba



☎ Sakura City Kankoh Kyohkai, 486-6000



Spring has come and again it's the season to enjoy the carpet of tulips at *Furusato Hiroba*. Some 600,000 tulips of 52 different kinds will be blooming in the field beside the landmark Dutch windmill 'De Liefde' and the *Imba-numa Lake*. A lot of stalls will be set up to sell tulips, food, drinks and local products from April 12 to April 20. You can also enjoy various activities as follows:

- **Sale of Tulip Flowers with Bulbs** : Dig up your choice of flowers along with their bulbs! (¥500 for 10 tulips)
- **Experience of Windmill Operation** 11:00, Saturdays, Sundays and National Holidays during the festival
- **Rental Bicycles** (¥500/day, or ¥1000/day for an electric bike)
- **"Yakata-bune" Boat Tour on Imba-numa Lake** (45-minute boarding: ¥1,000/adult, ¥500/child)
..... April 5, 6, April 11 to 20, April 26, 27 & 29
- **Rental Dutch Traditional Costumes** (45-minute rental: ¥1,000, canceled in case of rain)
..... Apr 5, 6, April 11 to 20, April 26 to 29

Access to the Venue

As heavy traffic jam is foreseen around the venue, you are requested to take shuttle bus service if possible. As part of the operation cost for the festival, ¥100 will be collected for one ride of shuttle bus and ¥500 for use of a parking space.

*On foot, it takes about 40 minutes from Keisei Usui station and 60 minutes from Keisei Sakura station



~Have a taste of Netherlands!~

Apr. 12 and 13

Windmill Festival

by Japan Netherlands Society in Sakura

- Sales of Dutch food
- Experience of Kigutsu (Dutch clogs)
- Panel exhibition of windmills



Sakura Tulip Café

Enjoy Dutch & Belgian beer, Dutch cheese, and dishes using local products from Sakura!

Dutch Street Organ Performance

~Enjoy the beautiful sound in a colorful tulip field!~



10:00, 11:00, 14:00, 15:00



Every Day during Tulip Festa
(Subject to cancellation in case of rain)

AC Milan Soccer School opens in Sakura

<http://acmilansoccerschool-chiba-sakura.jp>



A soccer school operated by the famous Italian professional soccer team *AC Milan* opens in Sakura, and an opening press conference was held on March 7 (photo). The school is to start its operation in June this year at Iwana Ball Park, which is to open in the Iwana Sports Park on April 7. Children from kindergarten (aged four at the youngest) to elementary and junior high school (up to the first grade) can enter the school to receive coaching and training.

Mr. Daniele Massaro, a former leading player of AC Milan who once played as a member of Shimizu S-Pulse, attended the conference and expressed his expectation for children to play on the global stage in the future.

POPULATION OF SAKURA CITY

As of the end of February 2014, the Japanese population of Sakura was 175,559 (86,758 males and 88,801 females) in 73,041 households. Registered foreign residents accounted for 2,145. The combined population of Sakura City was 177,704.

DOGS MASS VACCINATION AGAINST RABIES

☎ Seikatsu Kankyo-ka (Environmental Sanitation Section), 484-6148



In accordance with the Rabies Prevention Law, all dog owners are required to register their pets and have them vaccinated against rabies once every year. The city offers mass vaccinations at many locations in Sakura, and vaccination notices will be sent to the owners of registered dogs. Please fill out the form and bring it to the venue.

The rabies shot costs ¥2,950* and the "vaccination completed tag" fee is ¥550. Owners of unregistered dogs can also have their dog registered at the same time with ¥3,000 registration fee in addition to the above vaccination charge. If you are unable to attend any of the mass vaccination, have your dog immunized at an animal clinic.

* Please note that the vaccination charge changes from this year.

NOTES

- Please refrain from visiting by car as parking lots are not available except at Iwana Sports Park.
- In the following cases, no rabies shot can be administered to dogs: ① if your dog is registered at another city and you have not yet completed its moving-in procedures into Sakura ② if it is less than one month since your dog received a different kind of vaccination ③ if serious side effects from vaccination were experienced in the past ④ if your dog is in mating season, pregnant, breast-feeding, or under 91 days of age ⑤ if you are not able to keep your dog under control
- Make sure to carry cleanup bags and utensils so that you can take your pet's droppings home.

You are required to report any change in your dog's registration, such as changes in its owner or addresses. Also, when your dog died, you need to file a death notice to have the record canceled.

SCHEDULE OF MASS VACCINATION		
DATE	PLACE	TIME
4/9 (Wed)	Wada Furusato-kan	9:15 - 9:35
	Sakado Kumin-kan	10:05 - 10:25
	Koma-gaeshi Koh'en Park, Ohsaki-dai 4	11:10 - 11:40
	Matsuyama Koh'en Park, Ohjidai 6	13:25 - 14:20
4/11 (Fri)	Shizu Kohminkan	9:30 - 10:30
	Hoshiba Koh'en Park, Naka-Shizu 1	11:10 - 11:40
	Oise Koh'en Park, Ohji-dai 1	13:20 - 14:30
4/15 (Tue)	Iwana Sports Park (Beside the main parking lot)	9:05 - 9:40
	Ebara-dai 3-goh (No.3) Koh'en Park	10:25 - 11:10
	Usui Johshi Castle Park	12:50 - 13:20
	Tenshi-no-mori Kohen Park, Ohja-machi	14:05 - 14:30
4/17 (Thu)	Tohmasaku Koh'en Park (Minami Yukari-ga-oka)	9:30 - 10:10
	Yukari-ga-oka Kita Park	10:40 - 11:25
	Someino Reservoir Square	13:00 - 14:30
4/19 (Sat)	Yukari-ga-oka Minami Koh'en Park	9:30 - 11:20
	Minami Shizu Koh'en Park, Nishi-Shizu 8	13:00 - 14:00
4/23 (Wed)	Yatomi Minzoku Shuhzohko (Former Yatomi Elementary school)	9:20 - 9:40
	San-noh Koh'en Park, San-noh 2	10:20 - 10:55
	Tohji-dai Nishi Park	11:25 - 11:50
	Shirogane Koh'en Park	13:30 - 14:20
4/26 (Sat)	City Hall (Parking lot)	9:15 - 11:45

* The above schedule is subject to cancellation if a heavy rain warning alarm was sounded by 7:00 on the day.

S.I.E.F. JAPANESE LANGUAGE COURSES

☎/Fax Sakura International Exchange Foundation (S.I.E.F.), 484-6326, <http://www.sief.jp>

The city of Sakura always welcomes you to join the Practical Japanese Classes for foreign residents. All classes are conducted free of charge, except ¥1,000/term for the textbooks and materials used in the class. To apply, please call or send fax to the number shown above, or send email to: info@sief.jp.



PLACE	DAY	TIME	LEVEL	COORDINATOR	BABY SITTING
Shizu Community Center	Thursday	10:30 - 12:00	Intermediate	Takeuchi	Available (for a limited number of kids)
		13:00 - 14:30	Introductory to Intermediate	Jin	
		15:00 - 16:30			
Millennium Center Sakura	Friday	19:00 - 20:30		Yashima	Not available
Rainbow Plaza Sakura	Saturday	10:00 - 12:00	Japanese Salon ~ Free conversation	Sakata	
Chuh'oh Kohminkan	Sunday	9:00 - 10:30	Intermediate	Fuwa	
		10:30 - 12:00	Beginner to Intermediate	Ohta	
Rainbow Plaza		9:20 - 10:20	Introductory to Beginner	Ohta	
10:30 - 12:00		Beginner to Intermediate	Fuwa		



Employment Support Counseling for the Youth

For those who are between 15 and 40

~Reservation required~

Chiba Hokusou Area Youth Support Station dispatches counselors to Sakura Millennium Center to hold consultation sessions for those who are concerned about their employment.

Date	Time
Apr. 08	10:00 to 17:00
May. 13	
Jun. 10	
July. 08	

☎ Workers' Co-op Narita
0476-37-6844
<http://hokusou-saposute.jp>

Youth Support Counseling at Young Plaza
(☎484-6431)

Please call and make an appointment beforehand.

**16:00 to 18:00,
Friday, April 11**

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 INFORMATION FOR MOTHERS & CHILDREN			
Child Health Consultation for	Apr. 2014	Center	Reception
Children of 4 months , born in November 2013	Mon. 21	Kenko KC	9:30-10:30
	Fri. 11	Seibu HC	13:30-14:30
	Mon. 28	Nambu HC	13:30-14:30
Children of 8 months , born in July 2013 ("Mogu-Mogu Class")	Wed. 09	Kenko KC	9:30-9:45
	Fri. 04	Seibu HC	
	Mon. 28	Nambu HC	
Children of 18 month , born in October 2012	Tue. 15	Kenko KC	13:15-14:15
	Wed. 23	Seibu HC	
Children of 3 years of age born in October 2010	Wed. 16	Kenko KC	13:15-14:15
	Thu. 24	Seibu HC	
Dental Check for children born in April or October 2011 or in April 2012	Thu. 10*	Kenko KC	13:15-14:15
	Tue. 22		
	Mon. 14*	Seibu HC	
	Mon. 21		
	Thu. 17*	Nambu HC	
Child Development Consultation for preschoolers ("Suku-Suku Hattatsu Sodan") * Application required	Thu. 17	Kenko KC	9:00-12:00
	Maternity Class (Mom's Class)	Fri. 18	Kenko KC
Maternity Class (Mom's and Dad's Class)	Sun 27	Seibu HC	9:00-12:00



* On the days with * mark, consultation on **Speech Development** is also available.

Holiday & Nighttime

Emergency Medical Services

Nighttime on Sunday & Holiday
(including Dec. 29 - Jan. 3)
19:00 - 21:45, Physician & Dentist
at Kenkoh Kanri Center
☎239-2020

365 Days a Year
Pediatric Emergency

at Kenkoh KC ☎485-3355
for children under age 16
Monday through Saturday:
19:00 - 6:00 (next morning)
Sunday & holiday:
9:00 - 16:45 & 19:00 - 6:00

To Find On-Duty Doctor

On Sunday & Holiday
☎484-2516
(Recorded audio guidance)

- Surgery: 9:00-16:30 & 19:00-21:45
- Internal Medicine & Dentistry: 9:00-16:30
- ENT (ear, nose & throat): 19:00- 21:45

* Medical care is provided at each doctor's office

VACCINATION INFORMATION

Japanese Encephalitis (JE)

For those who have not taken routine JE vaccination due to the government's suspension of recommendation, free vaccination is offered until they reach 20 of age. Those born between April 2, 1995 and April 1, 2007 can be eligible. To obtain a vaccination slip, please call any of the City's Health Centers and visit with BOSHI KENKO TECO.

THE MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH HANDBOOK [BOSHI KENKO TECO]

When pregnancy is confirmed, please notify it to the City to obtain the Maternal and Child Health Handbook (Boshi Kenko Techo). Although this handbook is usually in Japanese, English and other 7 language versions are also available on request. The handbook is used for recording pre- and post-natal checkups, as well as keeping track of the child's vaccinations through elementary school. You must show this handbook each time you or your child gets a health check, including when you go to the hospital to give birth.

HEALTH INFORMATION FOR ADULTS			
Consultation by Public Health Nurse	Fri. 11	Kenko KC	13:15 - 14:15
Mental Health Consultation by Counselor (Application to the Seibu HC is required.)	Tue. 22	Seibu HC	13:50 - 16:00 (40 min/person)

SUBSIDY FOR HUMAN DOCK (人間ドック) OR MEDICAL CHECKUP TAKEN IN FY2014 (APR. 1, 2014 - MARCH 31, 2015)

For health promotion and early detection of diseases, the City provides financial assistance for private medical checkups of those who are aged 20 or over. Upon application, half of the Human dock cost is covered with a ceiling of ¥10,000 if all the items of the "City's Specified Medical Checkup" is included. Those who meet all of the following conditions are eligible to apply for this program:

- 1) Those who are covered by
 - National Health Insurance (*1) or
 - Medical Care System for elderly aged 75 or over (*2)
- 2) Those who do not plan to take the City's "Specified Health Checkup" within FY2014
- 3) Those who have paid insurance tax/premiums without delay

Contact
 (*1): ☎484-1783;
 (*2): ☎484-6136

