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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 10 to October 12

Enjoy the excitement and thrill of processions made up of gorgeous floats and mikoshi!

The Sakura Autumn Festival has a long history of almost 330 years, dating back to the Edo era (the samurai period). You won't miss the expert techniques shown by the *dashi* (traditional festival floats) operators as the floats go past each other on the narrow, twisting streets in old castle towns like Sakura. Moreover, the dynamic transfer of the *Oh-mikoshi* (great portable shrine) of Makata-Jinja Shrine is a must-see.

Please check the following *dashi* and *mikoshi* schedule.

◆**Fri., October 10:** *Oh-mikoshi* comes out from *Makata-Jinja Shrine* at about 15:00. *Dashi* will be pulled through the town, accompanied by drum/flute music and dancing.

◆**Sat., October 11:** All the *mikoshi* and *dashi* move to the event site of the festival and will make a procession one after another along the *Shin-machi Street*.

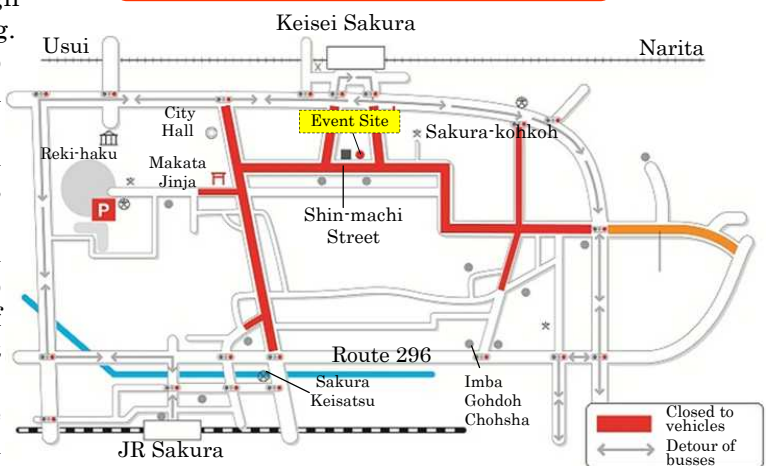
◆**Sun., October 12:** *Mikoshi* and *dashi* will be carried around the old part of Sakura City. *Oh-mikoshi* returns into *Makata-Jinja Shrine* at about 21:40.

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-Kyohkai* (the Tourism Association), ☎486-6000 for further information.

CLOSED TO VEHICLES
15:00 - 22:00, Oct.10 to Oct.12



Sakura Keisatsu = Sakura Police Station
Sakura-kohkoh = Sakura Senior High School
Rekihaku = National Museum of Japanese History

DISASTER PREPARATORY DRILL

Sunday, October 19 at Negoh Elementary School

Bohsai-boh'han-ka (The Disaster/Crime Prevention Section), ☎484-6131



In times of disaster such as an earthquake, essential utilities 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 12:30, Sunday, October 19 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 (the Health Management Center), ☎485-6711



Influenza vaccination for senior citizens is available at a reduced cost of 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, 2014 (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 older. Vaccination slips were sent out to applicable persons in late September. Please fill out 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" due to heart, kidney, or respiratory diseases. Please call *Kenkoh Kanri Center* in advance.

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* (the Social Welfare Section) of the City Hall.



SAKURA MUSIC FESTIVAL

10:00 - 16:35, Sat., Oct. 25 at Sakura Concert Hall
commemorating the 60th Anniversary of Municipalization

In 1954, six towns and villages including two towns of Sakura and Usui, and four villages of Shizu, Negoh, Yatomi, and Wada were merged to form Sakura City. A ceremony will be held to mark the 60th anniversary of the merger, as well as a music festival performed by Sakura residents. Admission is free of charge, and on a first-come-first served basis. For inquiries about the commemorative ceremony, call Hisho-ka (the Secretaries Section), ☎484-6100; about music festival, Sakura Concert Hall, 461-6221.

SAKURA INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

12:15 - 15:30, Sat., Oct. 18
At Shizu Community Center

Sakura International Exchange Foundation (SIEF) will offer an international friendship meeting for foreign and Japanese residents of Sakura on Saturday, October 18. 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 *wa-daiko* drumming, hula dance, tea ceremony, calligraphy, Halloween parade, fortune telling, and lots more. Food and drinks are sold there. Admission free. Call SIEF, ☎484-6326 for more information, or visit its website: <http://www.sief.jp>



Temporary Special Benefit for Households with Children Temporary Welfare Benefit



The application deadline is coming near - Friday, Oct. 24

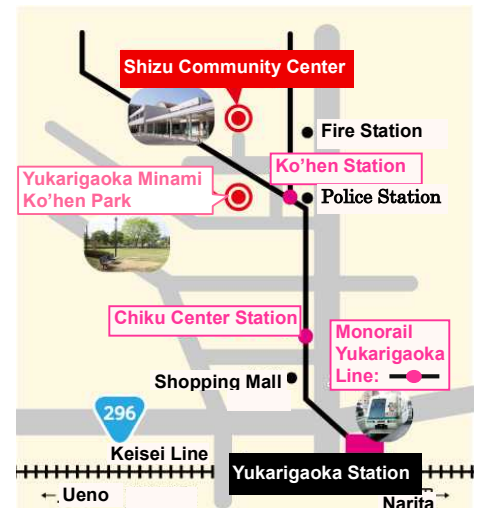
Don't miss the deadline for submitting applications for these benefits. Application forms were sent, last July, to households that meet the eligibility conditions. After the deadline, you cannot receive the benefit.

For inquiries, call *Shakai-Fukushi-ka* (the Social Welfare Section), ☎484-6021/484-6034.



Autumn Rose Festival at Kusabue-no-oka Rose Garden Sat., Oct. 18 - Mon., Nov. 03

Autumn roses are at their best until early November. It is also the season of lovely rose hips. Enjoy a relaxing time at the Rose Café. Admission to Kusabue-no-oka, including the Rose Garden, is ¥100 for junior high school & elementary school students, and ¥400 for adults. No admission will be charged for preschool children. Call Kusabue-no-oka, ☎485-7821 for further information.



Cosmos Festivals in Sakura

➤ **Sakura Cosmos Festa** will be held from Saturday, October 11 through Sunday, October 26, at the *Sakura Furusato Hiroba* (the Tulip Field), where approximately 500,000 cosmos flowers will delight the eyes of visitors with various colors. Also you will enjoy sales of cut cosmos flowers, local agricultural and horticultural products. Bicycle for rent is available at ¥500 (¥1,000 for E-bicycle). Furusato Hiroba is 30 minutes on foot from Keisei Usui Station. Call Sakura-shi *Kankoh-kyohkai* (the Tourism Association) at ☎486-6000 for more information.



➤ **Obukai Cosmos Festival**: You can also enjoy the Obukai Cosmos Festival held on Saturday, October 25 from 10:00 to 14:00 at the field along *Kami-taguri-gawa* (river), which is underneath the athletic field of Sakura-nishi Senior High School. Call Mano, ☎487-3369 for further information.



Kindergarten Application for April 2015 Enrollment

To be accepted soon!



Applications for kindergarten enrollment in April 2015 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, 2010 and April 1, 2011) for 2-year education
- ② **5 year-old children** (born between April 2, 2009 and April 1, 2010) for 1-year education

Application and registration will be done at the same time from **Tue., November 4 to Fri., November 7**. Please take the enrolling child with you when you apply. Make sure to bring your *inkan* (family seal) and *juhmin-hyoh* (certificate of residence) containing information on the relationships of all family members to the householder. These certificates are available at *Shimin-ka* (the Registration & Certification Services Section), City Hall, as well as at city branch offices.

Public Kindergartens	Addresses	Phone Numbers
Sakura Yohchien	934 Kaburagimachi	486-1533
Wada Yohchien	59-6 Naoya	498-1571
Yatomi Yohchien	145 Iwatomimachi	498-0603

Private kindergartens

- ① **3-year old children** (born between April 2, 2011 and April 1, 2012) for 3-year education
- ② **4-year old children** (born between April 2, 2010 and April 1, 2011) for 2-year education
- ③ **5-year old children** (born between April 2, 2009 and April 1, 2010) for 1-year education

Guidelines and application forms are distributed at the respective kindergarten on and after **Wed., October 15**. Please submit a fully-completed application form to the kindergarten on and after **Saturday, November 1**. Call each kindergarten to learn detailed application procedures.

Private Kindergartens	Addresses	Phone Numbers	Private Kindergartens	Addresses	Phone Numbers
Shizu Yohchien	1362 Ino	487-6717	Usui Tampopo Yohchien	1-10-7 Ohjidai	461-5105
Sakura Yohchien	2-23-19 Nishi-Shizu	487-1747	Sakura Johnan Yohchien	1-5 Kaburagimachi	484-0551
Shizu Wakaba Yohchien	874 Kami-Shizu	487-1787	Sen'nari Yohchien	3-11-15 Sen'nari	485-3755
Odake Yohchien	795-1 Odake	487-1784	Jikoh Yohchien	54 Motomachi	484-2444
Usui Yohchien	2435 Usuida	487-5462	Sakura Kurumi Yohchien	551-1 Ishikawa	485-8425



HEALTH CHECKS BEFORE ENTERING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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, 2008 and April 1, 2009 are required to go through health checks before entering elementary school in April 2015. The health check schedule for each school is as shown below. Please call *Shidoh-ka* (the School Guidance Section) 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 will be 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 Schools	Dates	Elementary Schools	Dates	Elementary Schools	Dates
Sakura	Oct. 20	Minami-Shizu	Oct. 30	Manodai	Nov. 13
Uchigoh	Oct. 16	Negoh	Nov. 11	Ohjidai	Oct. 28
Usui	Oct. 29	Wada	Nov. 20	Aosuge	Oct. 28
In'nan	Nov. 18	Yatomi	Nov. 07	Terazaki	Oct. 16
Chiyoda	Nov. 06	Ino	Nov. 18	San'noh	Nov. 19
Kami-Shizu	Oct. 27	Sakura-Higashi	Oct. 27	Someino	Oct. 14
Shizu	Nov. 06	Nishi-Shizu	Nov. 12	Shirogane	Oct. 23
Shimo-Shizu	Oct. 15	Odake	Oct. 31		



Have fun with your family and friends!

Sakura Sports Festival

9:00 - 13:00

October 13

(Reception starts at 8:30.)

Canceled in case of heavy rain)

At Athletic 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!

Shohgai-Sports-ka (Lifelong Sports Section), ☎484-6742

POPULATION OF SAKURA CITY

As of the end of August 2014, the population of Sakura City was 177,634 (87,581 males and 90,053 females) in 74,375 households. 2,199 registered foreign residents are included in the above.

HEALTH INFORMATION



HEALTH INFORMATION FOR MOTHERS & CHILDREN				Holiday & Nighttime Emergency Medical Services	
Child Health Consultation for	Oct. 2014	Center	Reception		
Children of 4 months , born in May 2014 	Mon. 20	Kenkoh KC	9:30—10:30	Nighttime on Sunday & Holiday (including Dec. 29 – Jan. 3) 19:00 - 21:45, Physician & Dentist at Kenkoh Kanri Center ☎239-2020	
	Thu. 09	Seibu HC	13:30—14:30		
	Wed. 01	Nambu HC	13:30—14:30		
Children of 8 months , born in January 2014 (“Mogu-Mogu Class”)	Fri. 17	Kenkoh KC	9:30—9:45		
	Fri. 10	Seibu HC			
	Wed. 01	Nambu HC			
Children of 18 month , born in April 2013	Thu. 07	Kenkoh KC	13:15—14:15	365 Days a Year Pediatric Emergency at Kenkoh KC ☎485-3355 for children under age 16 Monday through Saturday: 19:00 - 5:45 (next morning) Sunday & holiday: 9:00 – 16:45 & 19:00 – 5:45	
	Wed. 15	Seibu HC			
Children of 3 years of age born in April 2011	Wed. 08	Kenkoh KC	13:15—14:15		
	Thu. 16	Seibu HC			
Dental Check for children born in April or October 2012, or in October 2011 * On the days with * mark, consultation on Speech Development is also available.	Thu. 02*	Kenkoh KC	13:15—14:15		To Find On-Duty Doctor Recorded audio guidance available 8:30-22:00 on Sunday & Holiday ☎484-2516 ●Daytime treatment: Medicine, Surgery, Dentistry ●Nighttime treatment: Surgery, ENT (ear, nose & throat) * Treatment is provided at each doctor’s office
	Tue. 28				
	Mon. 06*	Seibu HC			
	Mon. 20				
	Thu. 23*	Nambu HC			
Child Development Consultation for preschoolers (“Suku-Suku Hattatsu Sohdan”) *Application required	Thu. 02	Kenkoh KC	9:00—12:00		
Maternity Class for expectant mothers due in Jan. or Feb., 2015 *Application required	Fri. 03	Seibu HC	9:00—14:30	Health Information for Adults Consultation by public health nurse is available on these days: ●Tue., Oct. 14 at Kenkoh KC ●Fri., Oct. 31 at Seibu HC ●Fri., Oct. 03 at Nambu HC *Application required	
Mom’s and Dad’s Clas for expectant parents due in Jan. or Feb., 2015 *Application required	Sat. 18	Kenkoh KC	9:00—12:00		

VACCINATION INFORMATION

From October 1, varicella (chicken pox) vaccination for children and pneumococcal vaccination for the elderly will become one of the routine vaccinations. For target beneficiaries, vaccination slips were sent out in late September.

Varicella (chicken pox) vaccination

Target Beneficiaries	Children aged from one - under three
Vaccination Schedule	Two shots of freeze-dried live attenuated varicella vaccine (more than three months’ interval required)
Transitional measure (FY2014 only)	One shot for children aged from three to under five

Pneumococcal vaccination

Target Beneficiaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Elderly people who become 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95 or 100 of age or above by March 31, 2015. *Those who took the pneumococcal vaccination by September 30, 2014 are excluded. ●Those who are aged from 60 to 64 and have Physical Disability Certificate (Level 1) due to cardiac, kidney, respiratory, or HIV-associated diseases. *Vaccination slips were not sent to them. Those who wish to receive the vaccination are requested to call Kenkoh KC for checking their eligibility.
Schedule	One shot of pneumococcal vaccine in the period from October 1, 2014 to March 31, 2015
Fee	3,000 yen (Free for those who are living on social welfare)

Kenkoh Kanri Center
☎485-6712

Seibu Hoken Center
☎463-4181

Nambu Hoken Center
☎483-2812