January 2015

SHELLO 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 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.)



~ 2015 New Year Message from Mayor of Sakura City~ Creating a city that is selected



On this first day of the New Year, I cordially wish each and every one of the citizens of Sakura a happy new year.

Last year, Sakura City marked the 60th anniversary of establishment of a municipal system and took a new step toward an even brighter future, with a lot of hopeful events such as the opening of Iwana Ball Park and Katsutadai-Nagakuma Line, issuance of Lupin the 3rd license plate, etc.

However, amid the continued severe conditions of municipal finance, there still are challenges need to be considered and tackled on a long-term basis; declining population, aging society, and aging public infrastructure such as roads, bridges, and water and sewerage systems. Through advanced welfare and childcare support system, enhanced safety and security, and revitalized industry and economy, we strive to maintain residential population and increase productive-age population as well as number of visitors, and thus create a city that is selected by people.

We would like to ask for your continued cooperation and support.

Again, I extend my greetings and best wishes to all citizens, and hope this year will be filled with joy and success for you and your loved ones.

Kazuo Warabi, Mayor of Sakura City

SEIJIN-SHIKI. CELEBRATION CEREMONY FOR NEW ADULTS

MONDAY, JANUARY 12 (NATIONAL HOLIDAY)

AT SHIMIN ONGAKU HALL (CITY CONCERT HALL)

1 Jidoh Seishohnen-ka (The Children & Youth Section), 484-6190

Sakura City offers the coming-of-age ceremony to those who were born between April 2, 1994 and April 1, 1995. The ceremony is divided into three sessions (30-minutes each) by the new adults' residential area. Starting time for each session is as follows:

•Usui/Chiyoda: 10:00 •Shizu: 11:30 •Sakura/Negoh/Wada/Yatomi: 13:30

- Doors open 30 minutes before opening of each session
- Please present your invitation card at the reception desk
- \circ Those who do not have the invitation card (who have moved out or moved in the City recently, or not received or lost the card, etc.) could get the card re-issued at the venue

FUN-FILLED NEW YEAR CELEBRATION at KUSABUE-NO-OKA

 Kusabue-no-Oka (open 9:00-16:30)

 485-7821
 Fax: 486-1854



♦ Jan. 2: Free admission celebrating the first opening day of the new year! Amazake (a hot sweet non-alcoholic drink) and green tea will be served for free.

- Jan. 2 (10:30-): Kite making and flying (300 yen) (13:30-): Top spinning games (free)
- Jan. 2-4 (11:30- & 14:00-): Mochi (rice cake) pounding and Zohni (rice cake soup) making (100 yen)

♦ Jan. 3 (13:30-): Hanetsuki (Japanese badminton) games (free)

- ♦ Jan. 4 (10:30-12:00): Takeuma (bamboo stilts) making (500 yen) (13:30-): Takeuma walking competition
- ♦ Jan. 6-7*: Karuta (traditional Japanese card) games (free) *On Wed. 7, Nanakusa Gayu will be served for free.) Please be noted that Kusabue-no-Oka will be closed on Mon. 5.

Please use public transportation whenever possible to reduce traffic jams.

TAKOAGE CONTEST 🔁 Jidoh Seishohnen-ka, 484-6190

9:30 - 11:30 SUNDAY, JANUARY 25 at IWANA ATHLETIC STADIUM

Takoage (kiteflying) is a traditional new year pleasure in Japan. Kites may be of any size or design, handmade or purchased from stores, although a kite with a fishing rod is forbidden. Prizes will be awarded for kites that are judged to be unique, or those that fly relatively high. Free of charge. No need to register in advance. For inquiries on the event day, please call the stadium at 484-0131.

MUNICIPAL HOUSING ACCEPTS APPLICATIONS

☎ Kenchiku Juhtaku-ka (Construction Guidance Section), ☎484-6168

Application forms are available at the City Hall, City branch offices and City Service Centers, and accepted from January 15 through January 30. Eligible citizens are those who meet all the following:

- Living in Sakura city for more than one year and have paid city tax without delay 1.
- 2. Living or going to live together with at least one relative (Single use is possible under certain conditions.)
- 3. Having obvious and actual housing difficulty
- Total income is within the prescribed limitation 4.
- With a joint guarantor whose income is about the level of the applicant or more 5.
- Neither the applicant nor his/her relatives are members of gangster organization 6.
- For detailed conditions of eligibility, please call the number above.

TOMISATO LOCAL WORKPLACE VISIT

 \sim Great opportunity for the youth to encounter local businesses \sim

Canagyoh Shinkoh-ka (Industry/Tourism Promotion Section), 484-6145

Participants learn business manners and obtain knowledge on the local companies that are recruiting new employees, then visit the companies by bus. Direct conversations with recruiters and employees will bring participants to a deeper understanding of the local businesses and jobs.

- 10:00 to 18:00 (AM: Business seminar, PM: Workplace visit) •Time:
- •Date: Wednesday, January 21, 2015
- •Meeting at: Tomisato Hokubu Community Center
- •Companies to visit: Taisan Industrial Co., Ltd. (in Tomisato) and Yamanaka Eng Co., Ltd. (in Sakura)



•Eligible applicants: Job seekers aged 15 to 39 who are able to start to work immediately, and Students expected to graduate in March 2015 (excluding high school students). Up to 12 persons.

JOB-SEARCH CONSULTATION

FOR THE YOUTH

at Millennium Center

🔁0476-24-7880

* Reservation required. Free of charge.

- **Consultants dispatch service** by Chiba Youth Support Station (http://hokusou-saposute.jpn.org/)
- Those who are looking for a job aged 15 to 39, and their guardians
- 10:00 17:00, Tuesday, January 13 (& Every second Tuesday)

FREE CONSULTATION FOR FOREIGN RESIDENTS

 \sim Specialists help you on legal matters, immigration, visa, business start-ups, pension, insurance, labor problem, etc. \sim

> 297-0245, Fax:297-2753 Saturday, January 17, 2015 13:00 to 16:00

At Chiba International Center

•Free •Reservation required •Interpreters available* on prior request (*Need to be applied no later than Friday, January 8)

•E-mail: kobayashi@ccb.or.jp Place: 14th Fl., Marive East, World Business Garden (WBG) 2-6, Nakase, Mihama-ku, Chiba

(5-minute walk from South Exit of Kaihin Makuhari Station)

CONGRATULATION MONEY FOR SINGLE-PARENT FAMILIES with Children Entering Schools or Workforce

Jidoh Seishohnen-ka (Children & Youth Section) 2 484-6140

To single-parent families with children entering elementary, junior, or senior high school in April 2015, or start to work after completing junior high school in March 2015. Families where people other than parents are bringing up the child are also entitled to this gift of ¥10,000 per child. In January, application forms were sent out to the households that are recipients of Child Rearing Allowances for Single Parents or Medical Expense Subsidies for Single Parent Households. Please contact Jidoh Seishohnen-ka if you have not received the application form yet, or if you have not received those allowances. Please submit the application form no later than Friday, February 27 without fail, since any delay results in no pay.



Haikibutsu Taisaku-ka **C**484-6149

Regular collection starts on Monday, January 5.



The volume of burnable garbage tends to be very high at the year's first collection. Please help us by splitting your garbage into separate collection days in the first week of the new year.

~ POPULATION OF SAKURA CITY

As of the end of November, the population of Sakura was 177,536 (87,560 males and 89,976 females) in 74,468 households. 2,251 registered foreign residents are included in the above. <u>,</u>_____ 2



SHICHIFUKUJIN (SEVEN GODS OF GOOD FORTUNE) STAMP RALLY



THURSDAY, JANUARY 1 TO MONDAY, JANUARY 12

Sakura Shichifukujin−kal (in Caf é Ichioka) ☎/Fax: 308-7072

Shichifukujin, which literally means "Seven Gods of Good Fortune," are

said to bring wealth, happiness, and long life. The shrines/temples of the seven gods invite visitors to a Stamp Rally from January 1 through January 12 (and on the 10th day of every month) from 10:00 to 16:00. The seven shrine/temples are: Jindaiji, Soh'enji, Reinanji, Shohrinji, Myohryuhji, Makata Jinja, and Daishoh'in. Stamping sheets for vermilion seals are available for 400 yen at any of the shrine/temples and at Kankoh Kyohkai (closed January 1 to 3, 1-minute walk from the south exit of Keisei Sakura Station). 200 yen will be charged per vermilion seal to be stamped on the sheet (at Makata Jinja and Daishoh'in, 300 yen for two seals), or you can just purchase a fully stamped sheet for 2,000 yen at Ichioka, a Japanese style café (closed on Sunday).

Shichifukujin Guided Tour

Sakura Shichifukujin-kai (in Café Ichioka) Fax: 308-7072

10:00 - 12:30 SUNDAY, JAN, 4 (RAIN OR SHINE) STARTS FROM SHINMACHI OHAYASHI-KAN (100 yen required for insurance)

A guided tour is offered to up to 30 people on a first-come, first served basis. Participants will enjoy a stroll while visiting the Seven Gods of Good Fortune and learning about the culture of Sakura and the history of its temples and shrines. To apply, please send fax with your name, address and telephone number.

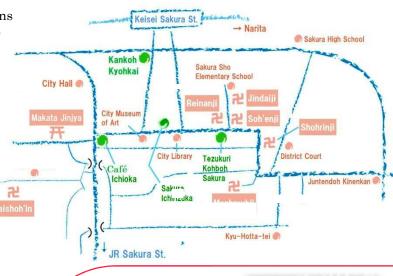
OPENING OF KATSUTADAI-NAGAKUMA LINE ARTERIAL ROAD CONNECTING ROUTE 16 AND ROUTE 51

Shizu Reien Taisaku-shitsu, 23484-6298



On November 27, 2014, the Shizu Reien-related section, that hindered the full opening of the Katsutadai -Nagakuma Line, finally opened after a long deadlock. This opening is expected to improve safety

in the surrounding areas and reduce traffic congestion in Route 296 and eventually vitalize the regional



Kimono Rental & Dressing

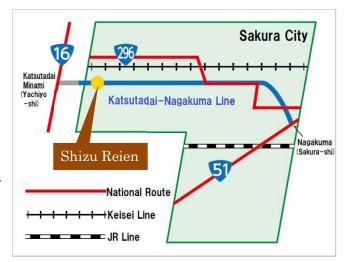
Sakura Ichirizuka (Non-profit organization) 8 484-3535



10:00 - 15:00 AT SAKURA ICHIRIZUKA

Won't you wear Kimono and take a stroll through castle town Sakura? Rental Kimono is available on the days:

JAN. 17. FEB. 21 & 28. MAR. 1 TO 3. MAR. 21 & 28 Rental fee is ¥2000 per person (including dressing and a picture of yourself wearing Kimono). Also, Maccha (powdered green tea) and Japanese sweets are served. Please call to apply in advance.



Lupin the 3rd license plate for motor bicycles

The last day of issuance is March 31, 2015

🛱 Shiminzei-ka (Taxation section), 484-6114

佐倉市 る33333

Sakura city issues local unique license plates to the owners of a motorcycle that is 50cc or less and registered in the city. When you get a new motorcycle, you can select this cool design for no additional fee. Or, you can replace this Lupin plate with a standard license plate you already have. Vehicle registration fee is not required, but selection of desired number is no longer possible. Lupin license plate is issued only until March 31. Do not miss it!

HEALTH INFORMATION



HEALTH INFORMATION FOR I				— 🔆 Holiday & Nighttime ** 🕽
Child Health Consultation for	Jan. 2015	Center	Reception	Emergency Medical Services
Children of 4 months ,	Fri. 23	Kenkoh KC	9:30-10:3	30
born in August 2014	Wed. 07	Seibu HC	13:30-14:30	Nighttime on Sunday & Holiday 19:00 - 21:45
	Tue. 13	Nambu HC	13:30-14:3	Dentistry & Internal Medicine at Kenkoh KC
Children of 8 months,	Fri. 09	Kenkoh KC		₿239-2020
born in April 2014	Thu. 29	Seibu HC	9:30- 9:4	45
("Mogu-Mogu Class")				365 Days a Year
Children of 18 month, born in July 2013	Tue. 20	Kenkoh KC	13:15-14:15	Pediatric Emergency
	Wed. 14	Seibu HC		15 at Kenkoh KC 23485-3355
	Wed. 28	Nambu HC		for children under age 16
Children of 3 years of age born in July 2011	Wed. 21	Kenkoh KC	13:15-14:15	Monday through Saturday:
	Thu. 15	Seibu HC		19:00 - 6:00 (next morning) 5 Sunday & holiday:
	Tue. 27	Nambu HC		9:00 - 16:45 & 19:00 - 6:00
				To Find On-Duty Doctor
Dental Check for children born in January or July 2012, or in January 2013 * On the days with * mark, consultation on Speech Development is also available.	Thu. 08*	Kenkoh KC		Recorded audio guidance available
	Fri. 16		9:00-22:00 on Sunday & Holiday	
	Mon. 19*		13:15-14:15	1 5 Deuting treatment of
		Seibu HC	10.10 14.	•Daytime treatment of Internal Medicine, Surgery, Dentistry
	Mon. 26			Nighttime treatment of
	Thu. 22*	Nambu HC		Surgery, ENT (ear, nose & throat) * Treatment is provided at each
		Kenkoh KC		doctor's office
Child Development Consultation for preschoolers ("Suku-Suku Hattatsu Sohdan")	Thu. 22	Application	9:00-12:	Health Consultation for Adults
preschoolers (Suku-Suku Hallalsu Sondan)		required		
Mom's and Dad's Class		Kenkoh KC		Consultation by public health nurse available on:
for expectant parents due in Apr. or May, 2015	Sat. 24	Application required	9:00-12:0	• Thu, Jan. 22 at Seibu HC (*Application required
		MATION FOR		
FREE MENTAL HEALTH CONSULTATION by PSYCHIATRIST - Reservation can be made from January 5 through January 28 - • Reservation can be made from January 5 through January 28 - • Time Date • 13:50 - 16:00 Thu. Jan. 29 Nambu HC Nambu HC				
SUBSIDY FOR <i>NINGEN DOCK</i> (MEDICAL CHECKUP)				
Kenkoh Hoken-ka 23484				
	84-6136 (E	iderly aged 7	5 or over)	
"Ningen Dock" means a full physical examination. For a "Ningen Dock" that include <u>all</u> the checkup items of the "City's Specified Medical Checkup" taken between April 1, 2014 and March 31, 2015 (FY2014), half of the cost can be covered by the City with a ceiling of ¥10,000. Those who are aged 20 or above and haven't taken "City's Specified Medical Checkup" in FY2014, and subscribe to National Health Insurance or Medical Care System for Elderly Aged 75 or Over are eligible to apply for this subsidy. When you are going to take a Ningen Dock, please submit the application form to Kenkoh Hoken-ka at City Hall (by postal mail or bring-in in person) at least two weeks before the checkup date. Application forms for this subsidy can be obtained at Kenkoh Hoken-ka in the City Hall. Please note that for FY2014 subsidy, your application must arrive by March 31, 2015 at the latest.				
Kenkoh Kanri Center		loken Cente		Nambu Hoken Center
2 485-6712		63-4181		2 483-2812
Seirei Sakura Citizen Hopital P Citizen Hopital Citizen Hopital Center	P Seibu		s	Sakura Nambu
	loken Senter	Shopping Center Mae		Higashikanto Expressivay

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Seirei Sakura Citizen Hospital Sakura →