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This is a free monthly English newsletter for foreign residents of Sakura city that carries excerpts from Koh'hoh Sakura, the Japanese newsletter published by Koh'hoh-ka. Free subscription by postal mail and/or email is available. Please send your request via email or fax to the above address/number. In principle, inquiries over the phone can be answered only in Japanese at the city hall or other city facilities. If you do not speak Japanese, please be accompanied by someone who speaks Japanese when you make inquiries. (Printed on recycled paper.)

## ~ 2016 New Year Message from Mayor of Sakura City ~

### Creating a city with Bright Prospects



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

In the four years of my third term of office, I'm committed to further implementing the well-supported measures to create a city with bright prospects for the future.

Last year, countermeasures in response to the decreasing and aging population were designated as our key measures in the city's general plan. Accordingly, we will actively promote measures to increase resident and non-resident population as well as birthrate in the city this year.

As Sakura city has a lot of advantages such as historical properties, rich natural environment and excellent medical care, we aim to utilize them effectively. For example, we plan to improve the attractiveness of Imbanuma Lake by using the Yakatabune houseboats, and to ensure visitor circulation, enhance its continuity with surrounding tourism resources such as Kusabue-no-Oka and Sunset Hills.

Also, a new support center for the child-rearing generation is planned to open in order to offer continuous and contiguous support for pregnancy, child delivery and childcare.

I would like to ask for your continued cooperation and support. Again, I extend my greetings and best wishes for the New Year to each one of you and your family.

Kazuo Warabi, Mayor of Sakura City

## SEIJIN-SHIKI, CELEBRATION CEREMONY FOR NEW ADULTS

MONDAY & NATIONAL HOLIDAY, JANUARY 11 AT SHIMIN ONGAKU HALL (CITY CONCERT HALL)

Jidoh Seishonen-ka (The Children & Youth Section), ☎ 484-6190

Sakura City offers the coming-of-age ceremony to those who were born on and between April 2, 1995 and April 1, 1996. 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
- Those who do not have the invitation card (who have moved out or moved in recently, or not received or lost the card, etc.) could get the card re-issued at the venue



Please use public transportation whenever possible to reduce traffic jams.

## Ai-Ai Hoikuen Yukarigaoka En (Certified Day-Care Center) Opens!

Kosodate Shien-ka (Child-rearing Support Section), ☎ 484-6245

On February 1, Ai-Ai Hoikuen Yukarigaoka En, a new certified day-care center, opens at Johza 700 to look after children from six months of age until their entrance to elementary school.

Application accepted from January 5 through 15 for entrance in February, March, and April.



## Services for Foreign Citizens

- On every first day of the month, English/Spanish/Chinese excerpts of Koh'hoh Sakura, the city's Japanese newsletter, is issued and become available at city branch offices, kohminkan and other public facilities as well as city hall. If you would like free subscription via postal mail or email, please contact Koh'hoh-ka (please refer to the letterhead).
- Japanese Classes and Life Counseling Service in English, Spanish and Chinese are offered by SIEF, a city contractor for international services. Please contact SIEF, ☎484-6326 or [info@sief.jp](mailto:info@sief.jp) for details.

## Free Legal Consultation for Foreign Residents

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

☎297-0245, Fax:297-2753

Saturday, January 16, 2016

13:00 to 16:00

At Chiba International Center

●Free ●Reservation required

●Interpreters available\* upon prior request

(\*Need to be requested no later than Friday, January 6)

●E-mail: [kudo@ccb.or.jp](mailto:kudo@ccb.or.jp)

Place: 14<sup>th</sup> Fl., Marive East, World Business Garden (WBG)  
2-6, Nakase, Mihama-ku, Chiba

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



## Accepting Applications for Municipal Houses

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



There are four municipal houses available for rent. Application forms can be found at the City Hall, City branch offices and City Service Centers, and will be accepted from **January 15 through January 29**. Eligible citizens are those who meet all the followings:

1. Living in Sakura city for more than one year and have paid city tax without delay
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
4. Total income is within the prescribed limitation
5. With a joint guarantor whose income is about the level of the applicant or more
6. Neither the applicant nor his/her relatives are members of a gangster organization

For details, please call Kenchiku Juhtaku-ka.

Location	411-40, Ohja-machi Horinouchi-kyutaku		232, Ohja-machi Ohja-kyutaku
Type	General	For households with many children	General
Number of Houses Available	1	1	2
Floor Plan	3DK	4DK	2DK



## Congratulation Money For Single-Parent Families with Children Entering Schools or Workforce

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

Congratulation money is offered to single-parent families with children entering elementary, junior, or senior high school in April 2016, or start to work after completing junior high school in March 2016. Families where a person other than parents is bringing up the child are also entitled to this gift of ¥10,000 per child. In January, application forms are to be sent out to the households that are receiving "Child Rearing Allowances for Single Parents" or "Medical Expense Subsidies for Single Parent Households."

Please contact *Jidoh Seishohnen-ka* if you don't receive the application form, or if you are not receiving those allowances. Application period is from **February 1 to February 29**. Please apply before deadline, since any delay results in no pay.



## Job-Search Consultation For the Youth at Millennium Center

☎0476-24-7880

**10:00-17:00, Tuesday, January 12  
(& every second Tuesday)**

**\* Free of charge, reservation required \***  
Consultants dispatch service is offered by Chiba Youth Support Station, for those who are looking for a job aged 15 to 39, and their guardians!  
(<http://hokusou-saposute.jp.org/>)

The first open date of Buke-yashiki, Kyuh Hotta-tei and Jyuntendoh Kinenkan is Tuesday January 5, not January 6. We apologize for the misinformation in the last issue.



## List of Persons who Require Special Assistance during Evacuation

Shakai Fukushi-ka (Social Welfare Section) ☎ 484-6135  
Bohsai Boh'han-ka (Crime Prevention & Disaster Management Section) ☎ 484-6131

In order to provide more effective evacuation support and other assistance to the foreign residents, elderly, disabled, and other people with special needs, Sakura City is preparing two types of "List of Persons who Require Special Assistance during Evacuation" starting this fiscal year. "The list for evacuation in the event of a disaster (**List A**)" is to be used only in the event of a disaster, whereas "The list for evacuation for ordinary times (**List B**)" is to be used for developing evacuation plans through visits and interviews with the registered persons and watching them over in the normal times. The information to be recorded on the lists includes: name, birth date, address, and phone number of the registrant, and the reason for the need of special assistance. The lists shall consist of the persons with any of the conditions in Table ① and ② below.

- **Persons in Table ① are to be:**
  - **Registered on List A automatically**
  - **Registered on List B upon request**  
All such persons shall have been notified last year.
- **Persons in Table ② can make requests to be registered on both List A and B.**  
Such requests are being accepted since last November.

Please do not hesitate to make a request!  
Request forms are available on the city's website:  
<http://www.city.sakura.lg.jp/0000013745.html>

\* The both lists will be shared with: Board of education office, Water & sewerage service managers, Chiba prefectural police, Sakura-shi, Yachimata-shi, and Shisui-machi Firefighting Association, Social workers, Social welfare council, Community associations, etc., when necessary.

**Table ① Persons to be registered automatically on List A**

Persons with certification of long-term care need (Level 3 to 5)
Persons with certain levels of various disabilities

**Table ②: Persons eligible to be registered on List A & B**

Persons aged 65 or over who live alone or belong to an aged household, and need long-term care or special assistance but not included in Table ①
Patients with intractable disease who are certified as critically ill
Infants (upon their parents' request)
Expectant and nursing mothers
<b>Foreigners who have communication difficulty</b>
Others (Persons who don't meet any of the above, but have equivalent need for special assistance)



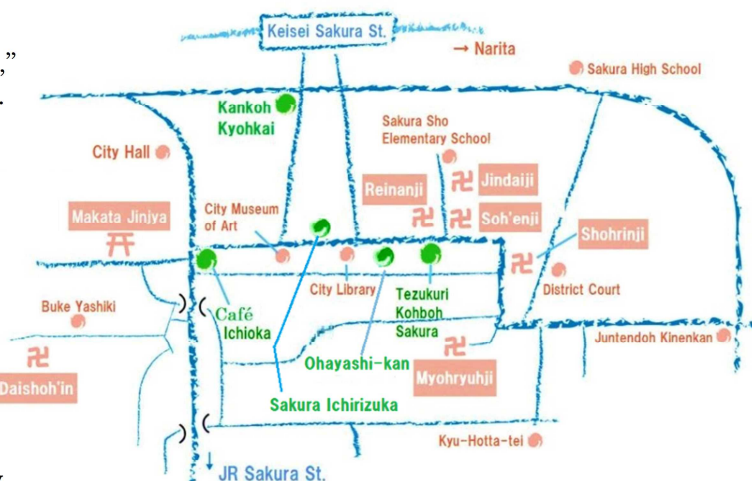


## SHICHIFUKUJIN (SEVEN GODS OF GOOD FORTUNE) STAMP RALLY

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1 — MONDAY (NATIONAL HOLIDAY), JANUARY 11

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

Shichifukujin, which literally means “Seven Gods of Good Fortune,” are said to bring wealth, happiness, and long life. From 10:00 to 16:00 from January 1 through January 11 (in addition to the 10th day of every month), the shrines/temples of the seven gods invite visitors to a Stamp Rally to collect vermilion seals of all the seven gods. Stamping paper is available for 400 yen at the temples, the shrine, Kankoh Kyohkai, Tezukuri Kohboh Sakura (closed January 1 to 3), and Café Ichioka (closed January 6 to 9). 200 yen per stamping of vermilion seal on the paper (300 yen for two seals of Makata Jinja shrine and Daishoh'in), or you can just purchase a fully stamped paper for 2,000 yen at Café Ichioka.



## KIMONO RENTAL & DRESSING AT SAKURA ICHIRIZUKA

Sakura Ichirizuka (10:00–16:00 on Wed, Thu, Sat & Sun) ☎ 484-3535

Won't you wear Kimono and take a stroll through castle town of Sakura? Rental Kimono is available on the days: **FEB. 13 & 27, MAR. 3, 5, 6, 19, 20 & 26.** Rental and dressing fee is ¥2000/person (¥1500/elementary school children and younger and ¥1000/person when participated by group) including a souvenir picture.

All participants will be served with matcha green tea and tea cakes for free. Prior application is required.

*\*Beautiful Hina dolls will be displayed along the Shinmachi Dohri street from Feb. 11 through Mar. 6!*



## Let's celebrate New Year at Kusabue-no-Oka

Kusabue-no-Oka (9:00–16:30, closed on Jan. 1 & 4)  
☎ 485-7821 Fax: 486-1854

### Events at Kyuh Masudake (Old Residence of the Masuda family)

- ✧ On Jan. 2, free admission is offered celebrating New Year
- ✧ Mochi (rice cake) pounding (Zohni is offered for 100 yen/bowl.)  
Jan. 2 & 3, 11:00–, 14:00–
- ✧ Let's have fun with Japanese old play! (Jan. 2 – 11, free of charge)  
Jan. 3 (13:00–): Takeuma (bamboo stilts) riding  
Jan. 5 (13:00–): Karuta competition  
Jan. 6 (11:00–): Top spinning tournament  
Jan. 6 (13:00–): Hanetsuki (Japanese badminton) competition
- ✧ Takeuma making & riding (500 yen, reservation required)  
Jan. 3 & 10 (10:00–). Up to 20 children per day.
- ✧ Kite making and flying (500 yen, reservation required)  
Jan. 3 (13:00– & 14:00–). Up to 20 children per session.
- ✧ Free Offering of Nanakusa Gayu and Amazake hot drink  
Jan. 7 (Amazake: 11:00–, Nanakusa-Gayu rice porridge: 13:00–)
- Setsubun-sai Festival (at the square in front of the gymnasium)**  
Jan. 31. Giveaways & amazake offered in Mame-maki event!



## Takoage (Kite Flying) Competition

Jidoh Seishonnen-ka, ☎ 484-6190

9:30 – 11:30

Sunday, January 17

at Iwana Athletic Stadium

Takoage (kite flying) is traditionally a 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 flew highest. Participation is free of charge.

No need for prior registration. On the event day, please call the stadium directly at 484-4375.



## New Year Garbage Collection

Haikibutsu Taisaku-ka, ☎ 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.



## “My Number” Starts to be Required

Kikaku Seisaku-ka, ☎ 484-6017

Please be reminded that starting this month, provision of “My Number” is required for administrative procedures related to tax, social security, and disaster management. At the same time, “Number Notification” or other identification card with a face photographic image will be required for identity verification.

## POPULATION OF SAKURA CITY

As of the end of November, the population of Sakura City is 177,026 (87,329 males and 89,697 females) in 75,224 households. 2,387 registered foreign residents are included in the above.

# HEALTH INFORMATION



Health Information for Mothers& Children				Holiday & Nighttime Emergency Medical Services	
Health Check-ups	Jan. 2016	Center	Reception	<b>Nighttime on Sunday &amp; Holiday</b> (incl. Dec. 29-Jan. 3) 19:00 - 21:45 Dentistry & Internal Medicine at Kenkoh KC ☎239-2020	
Children of <b>4 months</b> , born in August 2015	Fri. 22	Kenkoh KC	9:30—10:30		
	Tue. 12	Seibu HC	& 13:30—14:30		
	Mon. 25	Nambu HC	13:30—14:30		
Children of <b>8 months</b> , born in April 2015 ("Mogu-Mogu Class")	Tue. 26	Kenkoh KC	13:30—13:45		
	Fri. 08	Seibu HC	9:30—9:45		
Children of <b>18 months</b> , born in July 2014	Wed. 13	Kenkoh KC	13:15—14:15		
	Wed. 20	Seibu HC			
	Wed. 27	Nambu HC			
Children of <b>3 years</b> of age, born in July 2012	Thu. 14	Kenkoh KC	13:15—14:15		
	Thu. 21	Seibu HC			
	Thu. 28	Nambu HC			
<b>Dental Check</b> for children born in January or July 2013, or in January 2014  * On the days with * mark, consultation on <b>Speech Development</b> is also available.	Fri. 15*	Kenkoh KC	13:15—14:15		
	Tue. 19				
	Mon. 18*	Seibu HC			
	Fri. 22				
	Thu. 07*	Nambu HC			
<b>Child Development Consultation for preschoolers</b> ("Suku-Suku Hattatsu Sohdan")	Thu. 07	Kenkoh KC Application required	9:00—12:00	<b>To Find On-Duty Doctor</b> Recorded audio guidance 8:30-22:00 on Sunday & Holiday ☎484-2516 •Daytime treatment of Internal Medicine, Surgery, Dentistry •Nighttime treatment of Surgery * Treatment is provided at each doctor's office	
<b>Mom's and Dad's Class</b> for expectant parents due in April or May 2016	Sun. 24	Seibu HC Application required	9:00—12:00		
<b>Mom's Class</b> for expectant parents due in May or June 2016	Tue, Feb. 9		9:00—14:30		
Health Consultation for Adults				<b>Child Abuse Consultation/Reporting</b>	
<b>Mental Health Consultation by psychiatrist</b>	Thu. 21	Nambu HC Reservation required	13:50—16:00 (40 min./person)	<b>Children &amp; Youth Section (Daytime):</b> ☎484-6263 (Night time, Weekends & Holidays): ☎484-1111	
<b>Consultation by public health nurse</b> *Application required	Thu. 14	Seibu HC	9:30—11:30	<b>Chiba Child Abuse Hotline (2):</b> ☎252-1152	
<div><div><div>⚠</div><div>For those who have received HIB, Pediatric Pneumococcal, or HPV vaccinations</div><div>●Relief System for Injury to Health with Vaccination ☎0120-149-931</div><div>●HPV vaccine consultation counter ☎03-5524-8137</div></div><div>If you have any symptom and visited a doctor after getting any of the above vaccinations, the cost and medical benefit can be paid under certain conditions. If that's the case, please contact the numbers above immediately.</div></div>				<div><div><div>START OF SUBSIDY FOR BRAIN DOCK</div><div>Kenkoh Hoken-ka, ☎ 484-6604 (National Health Insurance) ☎ 484-6136 (Medical insurance for the elderly)</div></div><div>To encourage its citizens to get medical checkup of brain, Sakura City starts subsidizing half of the cost. Eligible person must meet all the following conditions: 1) 20 years of age or over and is insured by National Health Insurance or Insurance for the Latter-Stage Elderly Healthcare System, 2) Eligible for FY2015 subsidy for Ningen Dock, 3) With no delinquency in premium payment, and 4) Plan to take brain dock using both MRI and MRA in a period from January 1 to March 31, 2016. The amount of subsidy should be half of the expense or 10,000 yen, whichever is less. Application form is available at Kenkoh Hoken-ka (Health Insurance Section) of City Hall and every branch office. Acceptance of application must be received no later than March 31, 2016. Please submit the application form in person or by post to: Kenkoh Hoken-ka, City Hall, 〒285-8501.</div></div>	
<b>Kenkoh Kanri Center</b> ☎485-6711		<b>Seibu Hoken Center</b> ☎463-4181		<b>Nambu Hoken Center</b> ☎483-2812	