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This is a free monthly English newsletter carrying excerpts from the Japanese newsletter published by Sakura City for its foreign residents. For free subscription by postal mail and/or email, please send your request via email or fax to the above address/number. In principle, inquiries will be answered only in Japanese at the City Hall and 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.)



THE 56th SAKURA CITIZENS' FIREWORKS SHOW

19:00, AUGUST 6 (Sat), at around Imbanuma Lake

(To be postponed to August 7 in case of bad weather,)

 Citizens' Fireworks Executive Committee, ☎486-6000
<http://www.city.sakura.lg.jp/sakura/hanabi/>

Come and enjoy a summer spectacle of sound and light in the beautiful setting of Imbanuma Lake! One of the special features of this year is the four massive shells of two feet in diameter, the biggest you can see in Kanto region. Another special feature is the 6000-shot barrage for 10 minutes in a row, which should be tremendously impressive. Opening ceremony is held at 19:00 and the show starts at 19:10 with the arm-held fireworks (*Tezutsu Hanabi*, can be seen only from S Site). Then, skyrocket fireworks starts at 19:20. You'll be fascinated by its magnificent beauty again this year!

Traffic Restrictions Roads leading to the show site are closed to vehicles on the day of the event from 17:30 to around 21:30. The cycling road which runs through the restricted zone will be closed to both pedestrians and vehicles from 9:00, Friday, August 5 through noon, Monday, August 8.

❗ No parking is allowed at the venue. Please walk from the stations (30 minutes from Keisei Usui Station, 40 minutes from Keisei Sakura Station, and 60 minutes from JR Sakura Station).

Tickets are on sale until 19:00, August 6 (might be sold out earlier) through **Lawson Ticket Service**, ☎0570-084-003 (automated booking service by recorded voice) or **Loppi** machine at **Lawson & MiniStop**

■ **Ticket for S Site** for up to five people with chairs with armrest:

¥12,000, ¥13,000, ¥14,000, or ¥17,000 per space depending on the condition. An on-the-day ticket costs additional ¥3,000 each.

■ **Ticket for Kashima Site (former Site A & B):** ¥1,000, ¥2,000, ¥10,000, or ¥15,000 depending on the condition.



SIEF International Speech Contest

9:30-16:30, Sunday, October 23, at Millennium Center Sakura

 SIEF (Tel/Fax) 484-6326; email: form@sief.jp; HP: <http://www.sief.jp>

Applications for the annual International Speech Contest sponsored by Sakura International Exchange Foundation (SIEF) will be accepted in the period:

Elementary school pupils: Sept. 1 to Sept. 20

Junior high students and non-Japanese: Sept. 1 to Sept. 30



The application form is now in preparation. Each applicant needs to send an individual application form that carries one's email address with which an email with attachment(s) can be sent/received (e.g. PC email address). If you have no such address, please contact SIEF. Application must be made through SIEF's website or by sending an email with the necessary information to: form@sief.jp.



Cool Study Room for Summer Vacation

Chuh'oh Kohminkan, ☎485-1801

Need a study room for your summer vacation? At Chuh'oh Kohminkan (198-3, Kaburagimachi), the study room #1 is open to the public until August 31 (Close on August 8 & 22) for citizens' homework, exam preparation, self-study, etc. Open hours are 9:00AM to 5:00PM. No application is required, but registration of your use at the reception desk is required.

Heat Shelters for Prevention of Heatstroke

Kenkoh Zohshin-ka, ☎485-6712

In order to protect citizens from heatstroke, "Public Heat Shelters (涼み処)" are offered to the public until September 30 on a corner of the following city facilities: ▶City Hall ▶Millennium Center Sakura ▶Nishishizu Fureai Center ▶Shizu Community Center ▶Shizu Shimin Plaza ▶Wada Furusato-kan ▶Sakura Library ▶Sakura Minami Library ▶City Art Museum ▶Young Plaza ▶All the Kohmin-kan and Hoken (Health) Centers



COSTUME PLAYERS WANTED
for the 18th Jidai Matsuri (Festival of the Ages)
Saturday, November 12
 (Subject to cancellation due to bad weather)

Sakurashi Kankou Kyohkai (Tourist Association): ☎486-6000



The 18th Jidai Matsuri is now in preparation. Setting the *Shinmachi* street as the main venue of the festival, a virtual town of the *Edo* period will be recreated on November 12. Currently the Association is accepting applications from people who wish to take part in the festival in a costume of the *Edo* period. Participants will walk through the venue on the festival day dressing up with one of the various *Edo* costumes of one's choice. The rents shown below include dressing and makeup fees as well as wig rental fees, set much less than usual because the festival committee bears a large part. If you wish to play a *Hime* or an *Edo* princess, please send your photo for our selection. The selected person(s) shall participate in the festival dressed up as a *Hime* for free. Won't you join and make a lasting memory?

① Karo (chief retainer)	¥40,000	⑧ Tedai (assistant manager)	¥20,000
② Koshimoto (waiting maid)	¥30,000	⑨ Samurai	¥20,000
③ Geisha	¥30,000	⑩ Rohnin (lone samurai)	¥20,000
④ Yamabushi (mountain priest)	¥20,000	⑪ Machi musume (town girl)	¥20,000
⑤ Gyoh-Shoh-nin (street peddler)	¥20,000	⑫ Chohnin (town people)	¥20,000
⑥ Ohdana-nushi (large-store owner)	¥20,000	⑬ Tabi musume (traveling girl)	¥20,000
⑦ Bantoh (chief manager of a store)	¥20,000	⑭ Machi isha (town doctor)	¥20,000

How to apply Please send an email, fax, or postcard with your preferred costume number and your personal particulars (name, gender, age, address, and telephone number) to the address below.

Your application must be post-marked or received no later than **September 9**.

Fax: 486-6063; **Email:** sakurashi-kankou@catv296.ne.jp;

Post: Sakura Jidai-matsuri secretariat of Sakurashi Kankou Kyohkai, 8-7 Sakaemachi, Sakura, 285-0014

EDO FOOD STALL OPERATORS WANTED!

Operators are wanted to run Sushi, Tempura, Unagi, Soba or other food stalls made in imitation of ones of the *Edo* period. Operating fees will be paid. Please contact the association.

PERFORMERS OF EDO PERFORMING ARTS WANTED!

Performers are wanted to perform *Nankin-Tamasudare*, *Kyohgen*, *Rakugo* or other street performance from the *Edo* period to produce the atmosphere of an old castle town. Please contact the association.

Sunday Issuance of My Number Card

My Number Card Issuance Site, ☎311-1001



Having difficulties in receiving your My Number Card after you have applied for its issuance? For those who can't make it on a weekday, the issuance windows have been open on the second and fourth Sundays in addition to weekdays. Since much of originally available Sundays are already reserved, the open Sundays are expanded to include: August 7, September 4, October 2 and 30, November 6, and December 4. Please note that for a Sunday issuance, you must make a reservation.

ACCEPTING APPLICATION FOR SENIOR HIGH STUDENTS SCHOLARSHIP

Kyoh' Iku Sohmu-ka, ☎484-6182

The City grants scholarship for senior high school students who meet all the prescribed conditions. Successful applicants are granted a scholarship of up to 80,000 yen (no need to be repaid) per one fiscal year. Please note that the grant will not be paid retroactively. Application forms can be downloaded from the City website <http://www.city.sakura.lg.jp/0000013390.html>.



Please submit the Current Status Report or "GENKYOH-TODOKE"



to Receive Child Rearing Allowance ("JIDO FUYOH TEATE") & Medical Expense Allowance for Single-parent Families

Jidoh-seishohnen-ka, ☎ 484-6140

Genkyoh Todoke is accepted from August 1 through August 31, except for weekends and national holiday. Failure in its submission may result in a termination of the allowance payment.* Genkyoh Todoke must be submitted in person to the City Hall unless you are qualified only for the Medical Expense Allowance for Single-parent Families. Please also submit the green paper for *TEKIYOH JYOGAI JIYUH TODOKED-CHO* and the attached document if you have received it.

* Payment schedule may differ depending on individual conditions.

* Child Rearing Allowance for four months is paid three times a year:

April to July⇒paid in August; August to November⇒paid in December;
 December to March⇒paid in April



Bird Pest Control

Eight days between August 2 & 27

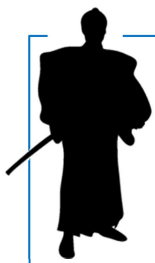
Nohsei-ka (the Agricultural Administration Section)
 ☎484-6142



In order to minimize the damage to crops caused by birds, bird-hunting by shotguns is conducted for the total **eight days between**

August 2 and 27, 8:00AM to 5:00PM.

The closest attention will be paid so as never to harm humans and their properties. The shooting areas are farm-lands and their surroundings across the city excluding urban areas, mainly in Sakura, Negoh, Wada and Yatomi districts. We ask for your kind understanding and corporation.



Hokuso Region Designated as a "Japan Heritage" Site

Bunka-ka (Culture Section), ☎484-6192

"Japan Heritage" is designated by the Agency for Cultural Affairs with an aim to promote our unique cultural traditions, encourage use of our national cultural properties, and to revitalize regional economies. In 2016, four cities in *Hokuso* region (Sakura, Narita, Katori, Choshi) has been recognized as the first "Japan Heritage" site in Chiba Prefecture for their retained cultural assets and the atmosphere of the *Edo* Period. Sakura's Castle Park, Samurai houses and *Akimatsuri* (Autumn Festival) are among the site's "cultural assets." In celebration of this recognition, **Sakura Quiz Rally** is held and guidebooks for walking in the castle town are offered through August 31 at City Art Museum and the city's three cultural facilities (Old samurai houses, Former residence of feudal lord *Hotta*, and *Juntendoh* Memorial). **Junior high students and younger children are offered free admission at the three facilities through August 31!**



Chiyoda Someino Fureai Center Opens

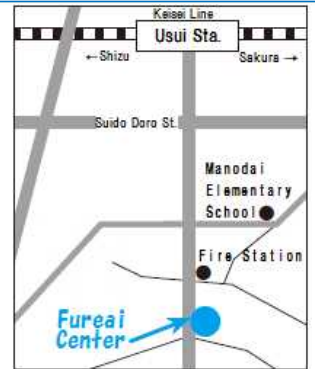
Chiyoda Someino Fureai Center ☎464-0072

On August 1, a new community center opens in the Someino district. In this center, three meeting rooms (capacity of 60, 25, and 15 people, can be used upon reservation and fee payment) and a free space with tables and chairs are offered for citizens' use. **For reservation for September and October use, a lottery is held on 10:00, August 10** (reception from 9:30) and then, the rooms that remained non-reserved can be reserved in order of application on and after August 11.

Center open hours: 9:00 to 21:00 including weekends
(Reservation can be accepted only until 17:00)

Closed: The second and fourth Mondays every month

Please call the center for more detailed information.



**Summer Holiday Free Screening
for Kids & Parents
at Sakura Shimin Ongaku Hall
(Citizen's Concert Hall)**

"SpongeBob SquarePants"

Chuh'oh Kohmin-kan ☎485-1801

Wednesday, August 3

10:00-11:35 (Doors open at 9:30)

Up to 500 kids & parents on a first-come, first served basis. Infants must be accompanied by a guardian. No application required.

Young Plaza Bus Excursion for students from elementary to senior high school age



Young Plaza ☎484-6431

In the course, a **milk factory tour** and a visit to the **Ibaraki Nature Museum**, a big prefectural museum that encompasses five exhibition rooms (Space, Earth, Ecosystem, Life, Global environment) and a large nature park are included. Application required.

- **Thursday, August 18 (8:00-17:30)**
- Meeting/Dismissal place: Young Plaza
- ¥1,300/senior high students; ¥1,000/others
- Up to 30 students
(A lottery will be held in case of more applications)
- Application must be made by phone no later than **Sunday, August 7.**

LET'S HAVE SUMMER FUN AT KUSABUE-NO-OKA

Kusabue-no-Oka, ☎485-7821

Open 9:00 to 18:00

<http://www.kusabue.shiteikanri-sakura.jp/>



Enjoy the series of events offered at Kusabue-no-Oka for kids' summer vacation! Throughout August, a lot of fun activities such as interactions with animals, variety of craft workshops and nature watching sessions are waiting for you. (◆: Reservation required, ●: No reservation required)

- ◆ **Pressed Flower Art — Let's draw fireworks!** August 6, 10:00 & 13:00, ¥300, 4 years of age and older
- ◆ **Paper Craft — Let's make Insects!** August 6 & 27, 11:00 & 14:00, ¥400, up to 20 people per session, children of elementary school age and older
- ◆ **Nature Watching** August 7, 10:00 & 13:00, ¥500, up to 20 people/session, elementary school age and older
- **Watermelon Splitting Game in a Traditional Japanese Farmhouse** August 13 & 28, 11:00 & 14:00
- **Twig Craft — Let's make Insects!**
Every day through August 28, 10:00 & 13:00, ¥300, elementary school age and older
- ◆ **Let's Learn about Railways!**
August 30, 10:00, ¥200, up to 20 people, elementary school age and older

Kusabue-no-Oka Admission Fees

Children of kindergarten age and younger	Free
Children of elementary and junior high school age	100 yen
Adults and the youth of high school age	410 yen
Adult with physical disability certificate & One carer	Free

POPULATION OF SAKURA CITY

As of the end-June, the population of Sakura City is 176,924, consisting of 87,212 males and 89,712 females in 75,710 households. 2,509 registered foreign residents are included in the above.



To those who are covered by NHI or *Kohki Kohreisha* (Latter-Stage Elderly) Healthcare Insurance (KKHI):

Please be prepared for unexpected medical cost while you are abroad !

Kenkoh Hoken-ka, ☎484-1783 (NHI)
☎484-6136 (KKHI)



The medical cost you have paid overseas can be refunded if the claim was made within two years after the payment. Please obtain the formats for the documents required for making a claim (itemized receipt, certificate of medical treatment and a Japanese version of each) at *Kenkoh Hoken-ka* before you go abroad. The refund is made based on the amount that would have costed if you took the same treatment in Japan.

HEALTH INFORMATION



HEALTH INFORMATION FOR MOTHERS & CHILDREN				Holiday & Nighttime Emergency Medical Services	
Health Check-ups		Aug. 2016	Center	Reception	
Children of 4 months , born in March 2016		Mon. 29	Kenkoh KC	9:30—10:30	
		Thu. 04	Seibu HC	13:30—14:30	
		Fri. 19	Nambu HC	13:30—14:30	
Children of 8 months , born in November 2015 ("Mogu-Mogu Class")		Tue. 30	Kenkoh KC	13:30—13:45	
		Fri. 05	Seibu HC	9:30— 9:45	
		Fri. 19	Nambu HC		
Children of 18 months , born in February 2015		Thu. 18	Kenkoh KC	13:15—14:15	
		Wed. 24	Seibu HC		
Children of 3 years of age born in February 2013		Wed. 17	Kenkoh KC	13:15—14:15	
		Thu. 25	Seibu HC		
Dental Check for children born in August 2013, or in February or August 2014 * On the days with * mark, consultation on Speech Development is also available.		Tue. 09*	Kenkoh KC	13:15—14:15	
		Tue. 23			
		Mon. 08*	Seibu HC		
		Mon. 22			
		Thu. 04*	Nambu HC		
Child Development Consultation for preschoolers ("Suku-Suku Hattatsu Sohdan")		Thu. 04	Kenkoh KC Application required	9:00—12:00	
 Maternity Class for expectant mothers due in Nov. or Dec.2016 Moms' and Dads' Class for expectant parents due in Nov. or Dec. 2016		Wed. 10	Kenkoh KC	9:00—14:30	
		Sat. 06	Application required	9:00—12:00	
HEALTH CONSULTATION FOR ADULTS					
Consultation by public health nurse	Reservation required	Mon. 08	Kenkoh KC	13:30—15:30	
		Fri. 26	Seibu HC	9:30—11:30	
Mental Health Consultation by a Counselor (Reservation accepted from Aug. 1)		Tue. 30	Seibu HC Reservation required	13:50—16:00	
 Start of Mouth Cancer Screening Kenkoh Kanri Center, ☎485-6712 The City starts to subsidize mouth-cancer screening for its citizens from October 1, 2016 for the first time. You can make a reservation for an individual check at the cooperating dentists in Sakura City, or a mass screening session on October 30 at a dental health fair held at the Wishton Hotel Yukari. The cure rate of mouth cancer is high if detected early. Please do not miss this opportunity! Quota: 300 people for individual screening, 150 for mass screening (on a first-come, first-served basis) Method: Interview, visual examination, palpation (& cytodiagnosis* if necessary) Fee: ¥300 (or ¥700 if cytodiagnosis was necessary) Free for those ①aged 70 and over ②covered by KKHI ③belong to households receiving social welfare ④with exemptions from city residence tax. *Cytodiagnosis can be given only at an individual screening.			JE Vaccination for Children Kenkoh Zohshin-ka, ☎485-6711 Japanese Encephalitis (JE) is an infection transmitted by a mosquito, and one case has been found in Chiba Prefecture in FY2015. Mothers are recommended to have their children vaccinated against JE soon after they reach 6 months of age. Free vaccination is offered by the City. The standard schedule for the JE vaccination Phase I (3 times in total) is as follows: 2nd shot: 6 to 28 days after the 1st shot 3rd shot: 1 year after the 2nd shot		
Kenkoh Kanri Center ☎485-6711		Seibu Hoken Center ☎463-4181		Nambu Hoken Center ☎483-2812	