



SHIBUKAWA CURRENT

Shibukawa International Association

202nd Edition, August 2009



Dear Readers,

Have you tried eel? There is an old saying that when you eat eel 18 days before the first day of autumn (土用の丑の日) you won't suffer from summer fatigue!! But, it's still not too late!!

Shibukawa is very busy with its Ikaho Hawaiian Festival, local festivals and many other summer events. Ikaho Hawaiian Festival will start on Monday August 2nd (Sun) - 6th (Thu). You can enjoy many activities and festivities surrounding the Ikaho Hawaiian festival site. Firework displays are also one of the main attractions of summer, although some places are cutting back on their displays because of current economic conditions. When planning to see the fireworks, it is best to go early so that you can find a good spot to spread out a sheet and view the fireworks. This summer is going to be unbearably hot and muggy and the sunshine will be strong. There are many swimming pools around Shibukawa city and going to these swimming pools is good way to cool off.

Somen Noddles

(そうめん)

Somen is a kind of Japanese noodle that is especially popular in summer because it tastes great when chilled.

Why don't you try to find some place where you can eat nice somen -- just perfect for the hot summer!!



Skyland Park (市民特別無料券プレゼント)

Free entry coupons were distributed in the July 15th issue of the monthly Shibukawa Kouho. The holder can use the entry pass until October 31st. The main attractions are the grand fireworks displays on August 1st (Sat) and 15th (Sat) from 7:15pm - 8:15pm. There are also lots of events for kids such as bug-collecting, bingo games, watermelon cracking, children's shows, etc. Call for more information: 0279-20-1589. (parking lot with ample parking spaces)



Contents:

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- ★ Family Support Center
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Tachibana Furusato Festival

(たちばなふるさとまつり)

It will be held on August 2nd in Atagoyama park. People parade dressed in ancient attire and watch large fireworks displays near Makabe lake.



Counselling Service for Foreigners

(がいこくじんせいいかつそうだんまどぐち)
(外国人生活相談窓口)

If you've ever got a problem and need some advice -- or even just an impartial opinion -- feel free to call or come to Shibukawa City Hall (1st floor). This service is available on Thursday of every week from 1pm - 3pm. This counselling service is confidential. Tel: 0279-22-2396 (for more information).



Living Guide (生活ガイド)



Legal Consultation for Foreigners

(外国人のための法律相談)

When: September 6th, 2009 (Sunday) 10am-3pm

Where: Kiryu-shi Shimin Bunka Kaikan 4F
(Orihime-cho 2-5, Kiryu City)

Tel: 027-243-7271 (Reservations Recommended)
(090-1215-6113 on consultation days only)

Useful Telephone Numbers

(役立つ電話番号)

Police	(toll free)	110
Fire,	"	119
Rescue	"	"
Inquiry into busy lines		114
Inquiry of times		117

Driving Test in English (英語による自動車学科試験)

An English written test has been started from July 1st. Those who wish to take the test in English must notify the Gunma Roads and Traffic Department driver's license reception desk. The explanation about written tests and driving tests will be in Japanese.

Type of test:

- (1) For First-class License (Regular motor vehicles, regular motorcycles)
- (2) For Learner's Permit (Regular motor vehicles)

Place: Gunma General Driving Traffic Bureau, Driving school designate
(Test for Learner's Permit, Regular motor vehicles)

Inquiry: Examination room, Gunma Prefectural Police

80-4 Motosouja-machi Maebashi-City Gunma Prefecture. **Tel:** 027-252-1010



Shibukawa Family Support Center

(渋川ファミリーサポートセンター)

The Shibukawa Family Support Center is offering support for families on the following occasions:

- ★ Cannot send or pick up their children from the day-care center on time.
- ★ Difficulty caring for children because of family nursing/hospital visits.
- ★ Child-care for attending ceremonial functions
Child-care for those who have slight illnesses such as a cold.
- ★ Attending wedding parties of relatives and/or friends
- ★ Taking a break to see a speech or concert
- ★ Trying to get certifications while raising a child
- ★ For family nursing/hospital visits

Japanese Lessons

(日本語教室)

Shibukawa International Association provides a Japanese lessons for foreign residents from May to March of each year at Chuo Kouminkan (1st, 2nd and 3rd Tuesday of each month). The 2009 program is still going on until March 16 2010. If you are interested, you can visit the remaining classes. (It's free to visit). Call for details at **22-2396**



Coming Events (イベント)



Grape Picking Bus Tour

(ブドウお楽しみコース)
たの

Take advantage of the one day bus tour which includes grape-picking, a visit to the Konnyaku factory, and Kuroimine relics. Reservations will be accepted from August 3rd - 25th by return postcard. Please include your name, address, age, gender, and telephone number to Shibukawa Tourism

Department 〒 377-8501, Ishihara 80.

Limit: 40 people

Charge: ¥3000 (including lunch)
(children 15 and under are ¥2500)

Please call 22-2873 for more information.

Sewing Class (古布の部屋)

Turn your old kimono into a new house dress!! You can learn how to make it by using an old kimono. Come join us! This class will be held on August 26th and September 9th at Shibukawa Kouminkan (in the 2nd City Office building) from 1:30pm - 4:30pm. Please bring sewing set, writing utensils, an old kimono and thread (the same color as the kimono cloth).

Limit: 16 people

Charge: Free

Sign-up: from August 12th

Tel: 22-0999



Potted Flowers

(アートフラワー)

The Shibukawa Toubu Kouminkan will hold an artificial flower arrangement class. It will be held on August 21st and September 4th from 1:30pm - 3:30pm. **It's fun!! So come join us!**

Please bring apron, scissors and tweezers.

Limit: 16 people

Charge: ¥900

Sign-up: until August 18th

Tel: 22-4321 (for more information).



Picture-book reading to children

(萌えの子おはなし会)

It's free!! So come with your children.

When: August 15th from 2pm ~

Where: City Library

Tel: 22-0644 (for details)



Free Computer Course (県民パソコンチャレンジ講座)

These classes will be held on September 3rd (Thu) and 4th (Fri) from 9:30am - 4:30pm at Chuo Kouminkan. You have to choose one of the above days. You can learn how to use a computer and surf the Internet. Please bring your own lunch.

Limit: 20 people (participants will be selected by lottery if there are more than 20 people)

Sign-up: until August 14th (by phone, fax or post card to the Public Relations and Information Division, 〒 377-8501, Ishihara 80 Tel: 22-2320 Fax: 24 - 6541)



Health Information (健康情報)

けんこうじょうほう



Useful Telephone Numbers

やくだ でんわばんごう
(役立つ電話番号)

- ★ Shibukawa Health Center 25-1321
- ★ Ikaho Health Center 72-5777
- ★ Onogami Health Center . . 59-2621
- ★ Komochi Health Center . . 22-7791
- ★ Akagi Health Center 56-3557
- ★ Hokkitsu Health Center . . 52-4151

On-duty Holiday Doctor

きゅうじつとうばんい
(休日当番医)

An on-duty doctor will provide medical care during the daytime on Sundays and National Holidays. The doctor will vary. Please check the Shibukawa Kouho (news letter in Japanese from the City Office) or call at **22-2111**.



Swine Flu 24 Hour Hot Line

しんがた じかんでんわそうだん
(新型インフルエンザ24時間電話相談)

Swine flu is very slowly and quietly spreading throughout Gunma. So in order to prevent this disease, please take the necessary precautions of washing your hands frequently, wearing a flu mask and trying to avoid big crowds. It is also advised to keep a storage of food and basic necessities in case there is an outbreak near you. If you have symptoms of sudden attack of fever please call the hot line for information or consultation before going to the hospital. Tel: 0279-22-4166

Cancer Diagnosis

がんけんしん
(がん検診)

Cancer can be treated if it is discovered early enough. Early diagnosis is very important, so please get a check-up once a year after you turn 40. Women who are over 30 years old should get womb, breast, and thyroid gland check-ups. In Shibukawa, health checks for stomach, womb, breast and thyroid gland are carried out once a month. If you'd like to get a check-up please contact to your nearest Health Center by phone.

Useful Medical Terms

いがくようご
医学用語

Japanese	Roman	English
はなみず 鼻水	hanamizu	a running nose
くしゃみ くしゃみ	kusyami	sneeze
いたみ 痛み	itami	pain
しびれ しびれ	shibire	numbness
せき 咳	seki	cough
おうと 嘔吐	outo	vomiting
ねつ 熱	netsu	fever

Information (お問い合わせ)

Shibukawa City Office Planning Division 80 Ishihara, Shibukawa shi
TEL: 0279-22-2396 FAX: 0279-24-6541

Email: sia-kikaku@city.shibukawa.gunma.jp

Staff: Mr. Igarashi, Mr. Sakuma, Mr. Kato, Mr. Ooyama, Mrs. Sarwar

