



# SHIBUKAWA CURRENT

Shibukawa International Association

223rd Edition, May 2011



## Hello Everyone!

We are getting ready for a busy Holiday Season! The Golden week starts on April 29 and ends on May 5 this year. There are four national holidays during this period: April 29th, which was the birthday of the former Emperor of Japan. May 3rd is Constitutional Memorial Day. May 4th is also called Greenery day. May 5th is Children's Day.

May is a pleasant season to enjoy the outdoors. Many people take a vacation and travel around the country or abroad. In Shibukawa city you can find many great places to visit. You can also enjoy the Peony Festival at Shorenji Temple from late April through early May.

Mother's Day is coming soon!. It falls on the second Sunday in May and is called Haha-no-hi. Carnations are the most popular gift for Japanese mothers on Mother's day. What are your plans for your mother? It might be a wonderful surprise to do something special rather than just buy a gift. How about giving your mother a shoulder massage? Have a nice Golden Week!



楽しいゴールデンウィークがやってきましたね！ゴールデンウィークは、29日から5日までで、4つの休日が含まれています。29日は前天皇の誕生日、3日は憲法記念日、4日はみどりの日、そして5日は子どもの日です。

5月は出かけるのに良い季節です。多くの人が日本国内や海外に出かけます。渋川市でも楽しめる場所がたくさんあります。市内にある正蓮寺では、5月上旬までたくさんのポタンの花を楽しめます。

5月の第2日曜日の「母の日」ももうすぐです。ギフトにはカーネーションの花が一番喜ばれます。みなさんは何をあげるか決まっていますか？もしかするとお店で買う物よりも何か特別な物のほうが喜ぶかもしれません。たとえば、お母さんの肩を自分であげるのはいかがでしょうか？

楽しいゴールデンウィークを！

## Enjoy Trekking Tour (春のソフトトレッキング)

Time: May 25th 8am

Enjoy a bus tour to Mt. Tenran in Saitama Prefecture which is famous for cherry blossoms in spring. You can view the entire cityscape from the mountaintop. You have also a chance to take in a hot spring. Take advantage of this opportunity. Please bring your lunch, drinks, raincoat and a towel.

**Limit:** 17 people

(randomly selected if more than 17 people apply)

**Charge:** 700 yen (including insurance and bath charge)

**Sign-up:** Between May 10th-12th

**Contact:** 22-0999 for more details



Meet at the 2nd  
Shibukawa City Office  
building car park.  
Parking spaces available





## Cooking Class (旬のレシピ)

Learn how to cook white fish, spring onion soup and fruit compote. The class will be held on May 19th (Thu) from 9:30am - noon at Shibukawa Kominkan (the number two building).

**Limit:** 15 people

**Charge:** 500 yen

**Sign-up:** Between May 6th-10th

**Contact:** 22-0999 (for details)



## Transportation (交通)

- ★ Gunhoku Dai-ichi Taxi  
Tel: 0279-22-2245
- ★ Kanetsu Taxi  
Tel: 0279-22-2538
- ★ Nihon Chuo Taxi  
Tel: 0279-23-1828
- ★ JR Timetable, ticket fares, etc.  
Tel: 050-2016-1600



## Exercise Class (健康づくり教室)

The classes will be held on May 23, June 20 and July 11, from 6pm - 7:30pm (every Monday, 3 times) at Komochi Shakai Taikukan. Feel free to join us! Please call 22-7780 for more information.

**It's free!**



## Ikaho (伊香保)

Ikaho town is located at the eastern slopes of Mount Haruna with an awesome view. At its center it has 365 stone steps, several souvenir shops and Japanese inns. Ikaho Onsen is one of the four most famous hot spring resorts of Gunma Prefecture. Its thermal waters are characterized by a high concentration of iron. Ikaho is best known for its stone stairs, which lead up through the town center and are lined by ryokan.

## Free Sport's Facilities (市民家庭スポーツの日)

On May 8th (Sun) 10am to 4pm The Sogo Kouen (indoor and outdoor sport's facilities (except baseball ground) will be open for public use. This facility is available on the second Sunday of each month.

**Tel: 22-2104** (for details)

## Free Movie for Kids

(子ども会)

**When:** May 14th (Sat) from 2pm

**Where:** Shibukawa City Library

**Content:** Cartoon movies

**Tel: 22-0644** (for details)



## For Movie Fans

(映画鑑賞会)

On May 15th (Sun) from 2pm Shibukawa City Library will show a movie. It's free and no space limitation so anyone can enjoy.

**Content:** Milou en Mai, (starring Michel Piccoli (1990)

**Tel: 22-0644** (for details)





## Vehicle Tax (自動車税)

All vehicle owners who own an automobile as of April 1 must pay this tax. You will receive a Tax Payment Notice from the Prefectural Government around the middle of May. This sum must be paid by the end of the month. For vehicles registered after April 1st, or registered vehicles brought into the prefecture from another prefecture, tax is paid at the time of registration.

Vehicle Type	Annual Tax Fee
Over 1000 cc - 1500 cc	34500-yen
Over 1500 cc - 2000 cc	39500-yen
Over 2000 cc - 2500 cc	45000-yen
Over 2500 cc - 3000 cc	51000-yen
Over 3000 cc - 3500 cc	58000-yen

### Light Motor Vehicle Tax (軽自動車)

Those who own a motorbike, light vehicle, small sized specialist vehicle or a two-wheel small sized vehicle must pay this tax. Examples of tax payable for light motor vehicles:

- ◆ Less than 50 cc Engine ⇒ 1000-yen
- ◆ Four Wheel Passenger Vehicles ⇒ 7200-yen



### Garbage Collection (ゴミ収集)

- Pet bottles will be collected twice a month ●

☆ Important Point ☆

Remove Cap

Caps are burnable garbage

#### ☆ Pet Bottles (ペットボトル) drink, liquor, and sauce

Take off the cap, and wash the inside. You don't need to crush the bottles or remove the labels. Put into the designated container.



#### ☆ Used Oil Collection (廃食用油)

Used cooking oil will be collected every day from Monday to Friday at the main City Office, the Second City Office and each General Branch Office building from 8:30am to 17:15pm. Before putting the oil in any container, filter out any particles.

### Shibukawa Health Center (渋川保健センター)

Shibukawa has established a Health Promoter Program that carries out check-ups for cancer and general health throughout the city. The regional emergency medical service system will continue to improve with Shibukawa General Hospital functioning as the core hospital. The city provides conscientious day care services for children by improving nursery schools, Family Support Centers and After-school clubs for children, and it subsidizes medical costs for infants. The city helps the elderly and those facing various physical challenges to live in their own homes and to lead a fulfilled life. You can find the schedule of health check-ups for babies in the yearly health calender which is distributed in March. You can also find this information in Shibukawa Koho (information paper). If you have just moved in, and don't have the yearly health calender, please come to your nearest Municipal Health Center. **Tel: 25-1321**



## On-duty Clinics on Weekends and Golden Week Holidays

がつかきゅうじつどうばんい  
(5月の休日当番医)

Internal Medicine		Surgery		ENT	Dentistry
5/1	Tsukagoshi Clinic Tel: 60-7700	Takeuchi Shonika Tel: 30-5151	Kitajo Geka Ichouka-iin Tel: 54-6870	Mori-iin Tel: 23-8733	Ishida Shika-iin Tel: 25-0411
5/3	Ko-ono-iin Tel: 22-0171	Harasawa-iin Tel: 72-2503	Sato-iin Tel: 52-3003		Fukuda Shika-iin Tel: 23-6677
5/4	Saito Naika Geka Clinic Tel: 22-1678	Shibukawa Chuo Byoin Tel: 25-1711	Kato Seikeigeka-iin Tel: 20-1007		Hirakata Shika-iin Tel: 22-0953
5/5	Nakano-iin Tel: 22-1219	Iguchi-iin Tel: 25-1100	Sekiguchi-iin Tel: 55-5122		Ishioka Sika-iin Tel: 56-3535
5/8	Kose-iin Tel: 22-1060	Akagi Kaisei Clinic Tel: 20-6500	Takai-iin Tel: 22-0076	Kawashima-iin Tel: 22-2421	Funaoka Shika-iin Tel: 23-8211
5/15	Yuasa Naika Clinic Tel: 20-1311	Ikaho Clinic Tel: 72-4114	Ootaki Clinic Tel: 30-5800		Shimizu Shika-iin Tel: 54-3413
5/22	Nishizawa-iin Tel: 22-2324	Oi Naika Clinic Tel: 30-5575	Tomaru Clinic Tel: 26-7711		Miyashita Dental Clinic Tel: 53-4701
5/29	Miukida Naika-iin Tel: 60-6070	Shinto Wakaba Clinic Tel: 20-5531	Arima Clinic Tel: 24-8818		Mitake Shika-iin Tel: 72-3430

☆ Please be sure that the doctor for ENT and Dentistry sections will be available only by noon

### Food Poisoning (食中毒)

しよくちゆうどく



According to the Health Ministry, food poisoning cases usually occur in summer, but in recent years they appear in our daily lives throughout the season. You can protect yourself from food poisoning by heating food properly, washing and wrapping food in plastic, consuming food quickly and adjusting the freezer temperature.

### Free Consultations

がいこくじんせいかつそうだん  
(外国人生活相談)

We offer free advice for foreigners living in Shibukawa. Advice sessions are available every Thursday 1-3pm at the City Hall. Call: 22-2396

### Information (お問い合わせ)

Shibukawa City Office Planning Division 80 Ishihara, Shibukawa City

TEL: 0279-22-2396 FAX: 0279-24-6541 Email: [sia-kikaku@city.shibukawa.gunma.jp](mailto:sia-kikaku@city.shibukawa.gunma.jp)

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