



SHIBUKAWA CURRENT

Shibukawa International Association

229th Edition, November 2011



Hi Everyone!

When do you feel that winter has arrived in Japan? For me, there are a lot of things that make me feel the arrival of winter, like the beautiful fallen leaves, the strong wind from the north, jingle-bell music from the department stores. But the most impressive thing that makes me feel winter is when I can see many persimmons hanging out on the balcony of many houses, mainly in the countryside. Hanging persimmons is a seasonal tradition in Japan and is one of my favorite fruit. Fortunately, I had the chance to hang them myself last November. After only a few weeks they became really an elegant and sweet taste in the cold and dry air and I enjoyed this natural treat. Check the next page. I am including a dry persimmon recipe for you! Why don't you try it once! The beginning of November is the best time to hang them outside.



みなさんは冬の訪れを感じる瞬間がありますか？色づいた落ち葉、強い北風そして
 お店から流れてくるジングルベルの音が私に日本の冬の訪れを感じさせてくれます。
 でも、一番冬を感じる瞬間は多くの家（とくに田舎地方）で、ベランダに干し柿がつる
 してあるのを見たときです。冬の初めに柿を干すのは日本の伝統的な風物詩の一つです。
 干し柿は私が日本に来てから一番最初に好きになった食べ物です。ありがたいことに
 去年の11月に自分で干し柿を作ることができました。冷たくて乾いた風の中、たった
 の数週間で、上品でほんのり甘い味を楽しめました。レシピを下に載せてありますの
 で、みなさんもぜひ一度干し柿作りに挑戦してみませんか？

Making Dry Persimmon

(干し柿の作り方)



- (1) Use astringent persimmon.
- (2) Cut the fruit from the trees, leaving a little 'handle' to hang it from.
- (3) Peel them.
- (4) Tie with string one by one. Soak in boiling water in a large pot so they don't become moldy.
- (5) Hang them, in a shady place with plenty of dry air circulating.
- (6) After two or three weeks you're ready to enjoy the natural treat

Free Legal Consultation

(法律相談)

11th December 10am - 3pm

Feel free to visit this to discuss any legal issues you may have. There are lawyers, insurance experts, labor or administrative consults available to advise you. It will be held at Isesaki City Hall, Higashi-kan 5F, (Isesaki -shi Imaizumi-cho 2-410.

● **Reservation recommended**
Call 027-243-7271 to book a meeting

Learn Japanese Calligraphy 外国人のための日本文化教室 (書道)

Calligraphy is one of the unique arts drawing characters using a brush which is made of wool or badger hair and bamboo. It is said that practicing calligraphy makes your concentration strong! You can't miss it!! It will be held on Dec 20th (Tue) 10am - 11:30am at Chuo Kominkan (2nd floor).

Limit: 20 people, (First-come, first-served) **Charge:** 300 yen **Contact:** 0279-22-2396





Learning to Sharpen a Knife (包丁研ぎ体験教室)

It's free and is a good chance to learn how to sharpen and keep in good condition a knife. So feel free to join. It will be held on November 29th (Tue) 9:30am-noon at Shibukawa Kominkan. Bring your knife (2 knives for one person), a small towel and a sharpening stone (if you have). Sign-up by November 15th.

Limit: 15 people (randomly selected if more than 15 people apply)

Tel: 22-4321 (for details)



Seal Making Class

(消しゴムハンコで年賀状)

The Shibukawa Kominkan will hold a seal-making class for elementary age children. It is a good chance to learn how to make a seal using an eraser for making New Year's cards. It will be held on November 26th (Sat) from 9:30am-noon. Bring your writing utensils. Sign-up will be held by November 10th.

Limit: 15 children (children under 8 years old must be accompanied by parents)

Charge: 300 yen

Call 22-0999 for more information



Ueno-yama Park

(上ノ山公園)

The beautiful nature park located up on the mountain changes its look depending on the season. If you ride the Ikaho Ropeway the whole city can be viewed while the ropeway takes you up the mountain.

There are also Wanpaku Hiroba (Kid's Square), Momiji Hiroba (Maple Square). **Tel: 72-3155**

Address: 587-10 Ikaho Machi

New Year Decor

(しめ縄飾りづくり)

Learn how to make Japanese New Year decorations using rice straw. This class will be held on December 15th (Thu) 1:30pm-3:30pm at Shibukawa Kominkan. Sign-up will be held by November 24th

Limit: 20 people

Call 52-2102 for sign-up

Year end Noodles Making

(初心者のそば打ちに体験)

Learn how to make buckwheat noodles. It will be held on December 6th (Tue) 10am-1:30pm at Shibukawa Kominkan. Bring a small towel, head cover and apron. Sign-up will be held by November 15th. Call 22-0999 for more details.

Limit: 15 people (Randomly selected if more than 15 people apply and give high priority to new comers)

Charge: 500 yen



A Glimpse of South Africa (想像以上! 南アフリカ共和国)

Let's take a look at the South Africa's life-style over sausages and rooibos teas with Mr. Nayalan Moodley Dark from South Africa, who will tell us stories of his hometown. It will be held on November 27th (Sun) from 2pm - 4pm at the Shibukawa Kominkan and no admission fee is required. Please sign-up by November 17th.

Limit: 50 people (Randomly selected if more than 50 people apply)

Tel: 22-2396 for more information



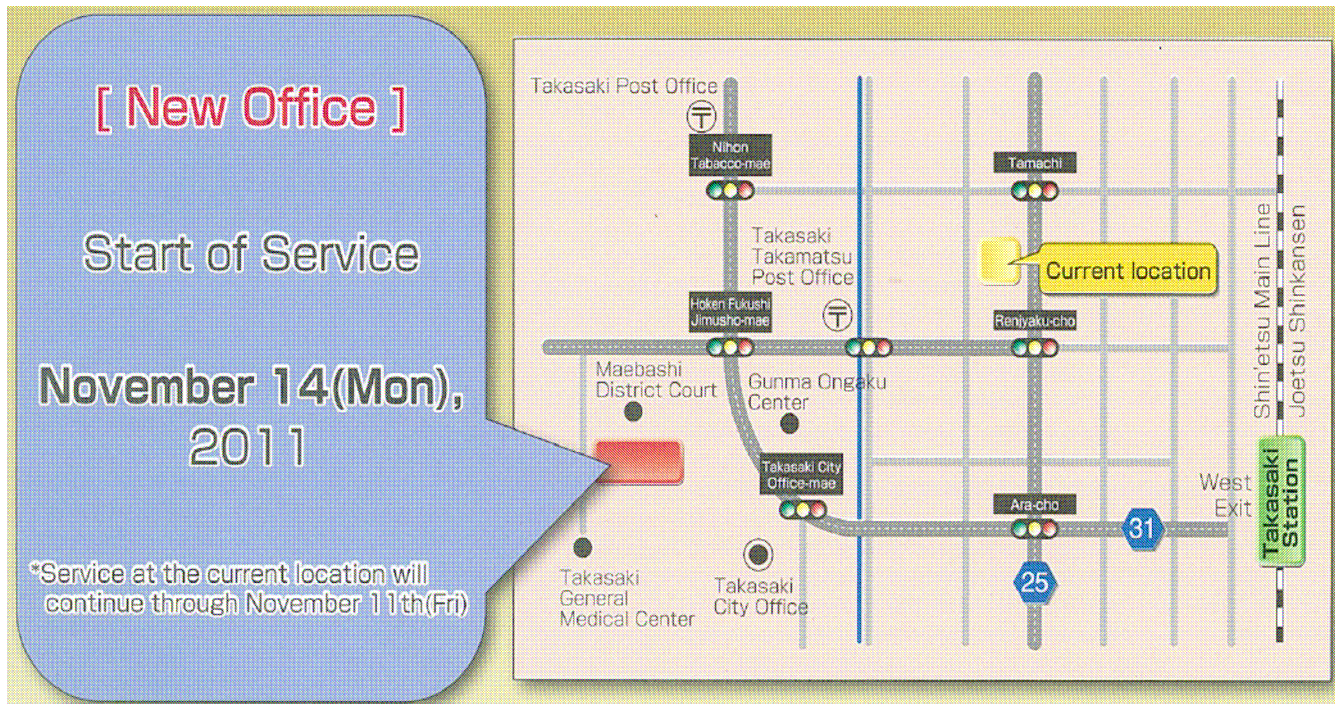
Relocation of Immigration Office

とうきょうにゆうこくかんりきよくたかさきしゅつちようじよ いどう
 (東京入国管理局高崎出張所の移動)

The Tokyo Regional Immigration Bureau, Takasaki Branch Office will be relocated. Note that there is nowhere to purchase revenue stamps at the new office location; so purchase revenue stamps at a post office or other location prior to visiting the Takasaki Branch Office.

New Location: Takasaki Ministry of Justice General Office, 1st Fl., 26-5, Takamatsu-cho, Takasaki City 370-0829 (twenty minutes on foot from JR Takasaki Station, West Exit).

Tel: 027-328-1154



Labor Thanksgiving Day

きんろうかんしゃ ひ
 (勤労感謝の日)

November 23rd is a second national holiday. It became a holiday in 1948 as a day for citizens to express gratitude to one another for work done throughout the year and for the fruits of those labors. Labor Thanksgiving Day is actually a modern name for an ancient ritual called Niinamesai or Harvest Festival. In the ritual, the Emperor made the season's first offering of freshly harvested rice to the gods and then partook of the rice himself.

Renting a Place for Meeting

こうみんかん りよう ととき
 (公民館を利用したい時に)

If you want to hold a community group meeting or a gathering to celebrate a festive day in your home country, you can rent a room for free or at a low cost by applying to the meeting place in your housing complex or to such facilities as the local community center. The rental fee differs depending on the time of use, space rented, equipment used and purpose. You must apply early if you want to use a place with good transportation access at the weekend. When you do rent such a place, pay close attention to the facility's rules of use and instructions on how to clean up and obey them.



On-duty Clinics on Weekends and National Holidays

がっ きゅうじつとうばんい
(11月の休日当番医)

	Internal Medicine		Surgery	ENT	Dentistry
11/3	Otani-naika-Clinic Tel: 20-1881	Itamino-clinic-Hasegawa-iin Tel: 30-5055	Takai-iin Tel: 22-0076		Fukushima Shika-iin Tel: 22-0154
11/6	Kosei-iin Tel: 22-1060	Akagi Kaisei Clinic Tel: 20-6500	Otaki Clinic Tel: 30-5800		Ishikita-shika-iin Tel: 22-0235
11/13	Sato-iin Tel: 54-2756	Hirakata-naika-shika-iin Tel: 22-2233	Kato Seikeigeka-iin Tel: 20-1007	Mori-iin Tel: 23-8733	Miyashita-shika-iin Tel: 24-1939
11/20	Ishikita-iin Tel: 22-1378	Iriuchijima-naika-iin Tel: 60-7322	Shibukawa-Sogo-Byouin Tel: 22-4111		Fukuda-shika-iin Tel: 23-6677
11/23	Yuasa-naika-Clinic Tel: 20-1311	Ikaho Clinic Tel: 72-4114	Sekiguchi-iin Tel: 55-5122		Seki-shika-iin Tel: 25-0530
11/27	Koono-iin Tel: 22-0171	Harasawa-iin Tel: 72-2503	Hojogeka-Ichouka-iin Tel: 54-6870	Kawashima-iin Tel: 22-2421	Ishida-shika-iin Tel: 25-0411

☆ Don't forget to take your Health Insurance Card and be sure that the doctor for ENT and Dentistry sections will be available only by noon



Night Emergency Clinic

やかんきゅうかんしんりょうしよ
(夜間急患診療所)



This emergency treatment service is available for minor first-aid and medicines, surgery and pediatric problems between 7 pm - 11pm every day.

Place: Shibukawa Hot Plaza

Tel: 23-8899

Emergency Numbers

きんきゅうでんわ
(緊急電話サービス)

Police	けいさつ 警察	110
Fire	かき 火事	119
Ambulance	きゅうきゅうしや 救急車	//



Information (お問い合わせ)

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