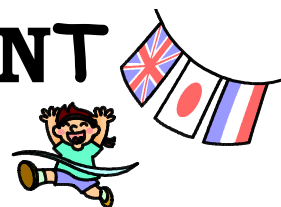




SHIBUKAWA CURRENT

Shibukawa International Association

228 Edition, October 2011



Hi Everyone!

In Japan, people called October "Kan'nazuki" "Godless Month". October is considered the month of sports and the 2nd Monday of this month is a national holiday. Many schools and communities have sports festivals during this time. You can enjoy delicious fruits such as apples, grapes, peaches and other local products. Outdoor enthusiasts can enjoy hiking and mountain courses along the Kanto Fureai Road. Bungalows and barbecue pits are available at the Maple Village Komochi and Akagi campsite. Also, the Miyukida area is host to the beautiful white Buckwheat flower in full bloom. Check out the rest of the current for daily living information and other community activities. Have a nice Autumn!

日本では 10 月のことを神無月と言いま
す。10 月はスポーツの月として知られ、10 日
は「体育の日」で国民の休日です。多く
の学校や地域では運動会が行われます。
この季節はリンゴ、ブドウ、桃などのおい
しい果物や地域の旬の食材が楽しめます。
アウトドアが好きな方は、関東 1 都
6 県にまたがる「関東ふれあいの道」で
ハイキングを楽しめます。市内にある「メ
ープルヴィレッジこもち」と「赤城キャン
プ場」ではバーベキューを楽しめます。
また、市内の行幸田地区にあるそば畑で
は、美しい白いそばの花を楽しむびつた
りな季節ですよ。

One Day Bus Tour (小さな秋を散策コース)

A one day bus tour will be held on November 4th and will include a visit to Akagi Shizen Park, a stroll around the Ikaho Stone Steps site, a soak in a hot spring or open air bath, and a visit to the Tokutomi Roka Memorial Museum. Meet at the Excel-inn Shibukawa (in front of Shibukawa Station car park, parking spaces available.) Please bring a towel. Reservations will be accepted until October 14th by return postcard. Please include your name, address, age, gender, telephone number and send it to: Chiisana Akino Sansaku Ko-su, Shibukawa Tourism Department, 〒 377-8501, Shibukawa-shi, Ishihara 80.

Limit: 40 people (randomly selected if more than 40 people apply)

Charge: 3000 yen, including lunch (2500 yen for children under 15)

Call 22-2873 for more information

Akagi Fureai Festival (赤城ふれあいまつり)

The Festival will be held at the Akagi Kominkan from 9am-4pm on October 29th, on October 30th from 9am-3pm at Akagi Kominkan and from 9am-noon at the Akagi Sports Center.

Enjoy many tasty local foods, performances and many other events. **Call 56-9216 for more information**

Komochi Furusato Festival (こもちふるさとまつり)

When: October 22nd (Sat) 10am-8pm **Where:** Komochi Fureai Koen

Contents: Flea market, Games, Fireworks display, etc. **Call 23-8845 for more information**





Hiking in Ikaho (ヘルシーハイキング さんかしゃほしゅう 参加者募集)



Enjoy the great natural beauty of Kenritsu Ikaho Shinrin Kouen (Gunma Prefectural Ikaho Forest Park) Located in the middle is Futatsudake mountain. The park is also an historic district with beautiful seasonal views of trees and flowers. Reservations will be accepted by October 14th by return postcard. Include name of each person, address, telephone number and send it to: "Ikaho Sogo Shisho, Keizai Kensetsu ka" "Herushi Haikingu", Shibukawa-shi, Ikaho Machi, Ikaho 116-1, 〒 377-0192. **Call 72-3155 for further information**

Limit: 120 people (randomly selected if more than 120 people apply)

When: Sunday 30th October, 2011

Meet: 9:30am sharp at Gunma Prefectural Ikaho Forest Park parking lot

Cost: Free!



Recycling

(リサイクル)

Before throwing away something, consider if it can be recycled or not. There are many recycle shops, community bazaars or flea markets around the city. You can make a contribution to the wide variety of markets for your used goods.

Japanese Lessons

にほんごきょうしつ
(日本語教室)

Classes are going to be held until March 13th, 2012 at Chuo Kouminkan. It is a good opportunity for you to learn basic Japanese conversation, Hiragana, Katakana and Elementary Kanji as well as various things about Japan and make friends.

Morning Session: 10 - 11:30am (every Tuesday)

Evening Session: 7 - 8:30pm (every Tuesday)

Cost: 2000 yen (from September 2011 - March 2012)

Call 0279-22-2396 for more information



Ikaho Green Bokujo Autumn Fair

(ハロウィンオータムフェア)

Ikaho Green Bokujo Autumn Fair is taking place from September 1st to October 31st. Entry fee will be free for elementary age children and under wearing a Halloween costume. A special free entry coupon for Ikaho Green Bokujo will be given to guests of Ikaho Onsen. The holder can use the entry pass until December 31st. You can also find a lot of Halloween events such as:

- ☆ Exciting pumpkin hunt
- ☆ Make a Halloween candle
- ☆ Weigh the jumbo pumpkin
- ☆ Strawberry jam making classes

Cal 0120-81-5335 for more information

The park is open all year round. You can also enjoy playing with animals, various outdoor sports, milking cows, and sheepdog races.

Community Activities こうみんかん かつどう (公民館活動)



There is always something to do or a skill to learn at the local community centers. There are many activities going on every week. It is a perfect opportunity to make new friends and learn something about the community



Child Allowance (子ども手当)

A new child allowance system will begin in October 2011 replacing the previous system. Child allowance is paid by the government to families for the development and support of their children. The allowance will be paid for children until March 2012. Children of foreign nationality who have legal residence status in Japan can also receive the allowance.

Application forms will be sent from Shibukawa City Hall (Children's Division) for families who received child allowance until September to re-apply. Please contact your local municipal office or call 22-2415 for further information. (Children's Division)

Monthly amount:

15000yen for a child under the age of 3

10000yen for 1st and 2nd child age from 3-12

15000yen for 3rd child age from 3-12

10000yen for junior high school age



National Pension Plan (国民年金制度)

The National Pension Scheme is a system whereby everybody receives a common "basic pension".

It provides income security in old age, in the event you acquire a disability or in the event of your death. Everyone including foreign nationals between 20 and 59 years old must join the National Pension Scheme. People who have joined the Employee's Pension Scheme or a Providential Society's Scheme are not necessary to apply.

Required Items:

1. Alien Registration Card
2. Name Seal, if you have one

Insurance Premiums and Payment of Benefits

As a rule, in order to meet the benefit requirements, you must live in Japan for at least 25 years prior to reaching your 65th birthday and pay the monthly premium during this period. After you reach the age of 65, a pension will be paid to those satisfying the above conditions. If you meet the certain requirements, the pension will be paid in case you are injured, sick or your family becomes a single-parent family.

Withdrawal

If you leave Japan before meeting the benefit requirements. It is possible for you to obtain a refund of your pension contributions if they meet certain conditions, such as having paid the monthly premium for six months or more, and having applied for the refund within two years of leaving Japan.

Where to Apply: Shibukawa City Office, Citizen Department (1st Floor)

Phone: 0279-22-2429





Polio vaccine (ポリオワクチンの^{とうよ}投与)

Babies between 3 months old to 7 years and 6 months can receive their polio vaccine provided free of charge courtesy of the local municipal government. Dosing will be held from October 4th - November 2nd at the Shibukawa Hoken Center. **Call 25-1321 for more information.**

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



Useful Telephone Numbers

(^{やくた 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

Health Consultation 24 Hour Hotline

(^{じかんけんこうそうだん}24時間健康相談)

Shibukawa city now provides free physical health, mental health and child welfare consultations 24 hours a day.

Take advantage of this opportunity to ask about any of your or your family's physical or mental problems.

Toll free number 0120-377-240 (Japanese only)



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	^{かじ} 火事	119
Hospital	^{びょういん} 病院	//
City Hall	^{しやくしよ} 市役所	22-2111



Useful Japanese Phrases

(^{やくだ にほんご ひょうげん}役立つ日本語の表現)

<u>Japanese</u>	<u>Roman</u>	<u>English</u>
そうです	So-desu	Yes
そうですか？	So-desu-ka?	Oh, really?
そうですね	So-desu-ne	Well (yes)
それはいいですね	Sorewa-ii-desune	That's good, isn't it.



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

Staff: Mr. Kuwajima, Mr. Sakuma, Mr. Machida, Mr. Oyama, Mrs. Sarwar

