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International Understanding Festival

Time: April 19th (Sun) 2 PM - 5 PM

Place: Seika Exchange Hall (Town Hall 2nd Floor)

Limit: 100 People

Details: Presentations covering a variety of topics including life in Iran, the town's middle school International Exchange clubs, Kyoto Prefecture Coordinators for International Relations, study abroad experiences, a presentation by 2014's Japanese speech contest winner and more.

Sponsor: The Town of Seika, Seika Global Network

Contact: Seika Global Network Representative: Kitano

TEL/FAX: 72-5896

Email: seika-global-net-info@zeus.eonet.jp



Kuririn Bus Adventure

The Seika Kuririn Bus, with two routes through town, one in the north and one in the south, has 41 stops. In this series, points of interest near each stop will be introduced so that you can get to know the Seika Kuririn Bus a bit better. Try hopping off and going for a walk at a stop that you normally would not go to!

AROUND 1 - Housono Icchouda

Before arriving at "Housono Icchouda", the bus turns right at an intersection before crossing the JR railroad tracks. At this intersection there is a stoplight called a "Railroad Crossing Linked Stoplight". This kind of stoplight is made specifically for intersections that are connected to a railroad crossing. When the Railroad Crossing Signal activates, that information is sent to the stop light which changes red as well.

It is only a 40 second walk from the bus stop. If it is when a train is passing, you might even be able to see it from the bus!

HEADLINE :

- Disabled Persons Craft Market on the 9th of April
- International Understanding Festival on the 19 of April



IN REMEMBRANCE OF DR. YOSHIKAZU SASAKI

This March, we parted ways with a very special person. Dr. Sasaki, who was an integral part in establishing the relationship with our sister city, Norman, OK passed away. A graduate of Tokyo University, Dr. Sasaki moved to Norman, OK in 1960 to help found the University of Oklahoma School of Meteorology, now one of the top schools in the United States.

Upon establishing himself in Norman, Dr. Sasaki used his connections in Japan to create exchange opportunities between the two, bringing several businesses from Japan to Oklahoma and paving the way for further exchange, which resulted in Norman and Seika becoming sister cities in 2005.

As someone who continued to act as an ambassador between our two towns even longer after the Sister City Agreement had been signed, Dr. Sasaki is deeply respected and loved both here and in Norman, and he will be missed.



INTERVIEW: MR. WAKITA, SEIKA GLOBAL NETWORK PRESIDENT

Jake: Hello Mr. Wakita. Thank you for agreeing to this interview. Since this is the first version of the newly revised Ichigo, I could not think of a better person to be our first interviewee than the President of Seika's international association, Seika Global Network. Can you start off by telling us a bit about what SGN does?

Mr. Wakita: Hi Jake. Thanks for having me. Seika Global Network's main role in the community is to facilitate exchange and multiculturalism in the Kansai Science City, assist foreign residents living in Seika by providing services like Japanese classes and lifestyle advice, and in the event of emergencies to act as a support center for foreign residents.

Jake: That's a pretty broad range of activities. Have you seen any changes in Seika related to SGN?

Mr. Wakita: Certainly. I have seen an increase in people seeing their own culture

from a new perspective and recognizing each other for their thoughts and personalities regardless of their nationality.

Jake: What is your favorite part of being President of SGN?

Mr. Wakita: Personally, I am always happy to eat delicious food together with our foreign residents, but I also believe that our grassroots efforts to increase international exchange are making the world a more peaceful place to live.

Jake: I believe that is true as well. By the way, your English is really good. Where did you learn it?

Mr. Wakita: In college I studied English at Kyoto University of Education for 18 seminars with Dr. Payne, with a large emphasis on pronunciation, along with some individual lessons as well. After that I studied phonetics, at which point I gained some confidence in my speaking ability.

Jake: That is quite an impressive back-

ground. Now Mr. Wakita, in closing, is there any advice that you can give to foreign residents in Seika?

Mr. Wakita: Of course. First I would like to say that Seika is in an excellent location, close to Kyoto, Nara and Osaka as well as being the center of the science city. It is also home to an extensive culture and history with many temples and shrines. Please stroll around frequently. The second is that the members of the English Guide Course would be happy to give you a tour of Seika anytime!

Jake: Thank you for your time Mr. Wakita.

Seika Global Network does lots of activities so make sure to check them out!

Seika Global Network Website:

<http://www.eonet.ne.jp/~sgn22/>

QUICK LIST

Hello and welcome to the Quick List! Each week we will present a short list of vocabulary that you can quickly put to use in daily life.

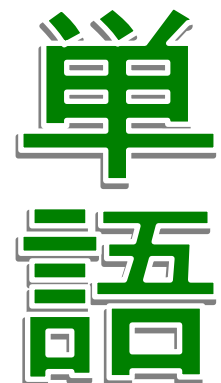
This week's theme is: **Cherry Blossom Viewing**

Next Week's Theme: **The Rainy Season**

Please send me feedback! Is this list at a good level? Too hard? Too easy? Also, if you have topic suggestions please tell me what you want to learn!

Quick List - Restaurants

1. 花見 - はなみ - Cherry Blossom Viewing
2. 見る - みる - To look
3. 咲く - さく - To bloom
4. 散る - ちる - To fall off (leaves, petals)
5. ピンク - Pink
6. お酒 - おさけ - Alcohol (Japanese sake)
7. 春 - はる - Spring
8. 待ち合わせ - まちあわせ - Meet up
9. 公園 - こうえん - Park





THIS MONTH'S EVENTS

Day	Time	Details	Place
7(Tue)	9:00-14:00	Iki Iki Health Walk	Uji City
9(Thu)	16:00-17:15	Disabled Persons Craft Market	Library Exchange Space (Town Hall 2nd Fl.)
19(Sun)	14:00-17:00	International Understanding Festival	Seika Exchange Hall (Town Hall 2nd Fl.)

Mukunoki Center		
Day	Time	Details
8(Wed)	15:00-17:00	Open Arena(Table Tennis)
15(Wed)	10:00-15:00	Open Arena(Table Tennis)
22(Wed)		Closed
26(Sun)	9:00-12:00	Smile Sports
May		
10(Sun)	9:00-	Sports Festival (Table Tennis)

Health Center		
Day	Time	Details
14(Tue)	13:30-15:30	Papa Mama Class Food Edition
15(Wed)	13:00-	3.5 Yr-Old Checkup
17(Thu)	13:00-	1.5 Yr-Old Checkup
21(Tue)	13:00-	2 Yr-Old Dental Checkup
28(Tue)	13:00-	9~10 Month-Old Checkup
30(Thu)	13:00-	3~4 Month-Old Checkup
May		
1(Fri)	13:00-	3.5 Yr-Old Checkup
7(Thu)	13:00-	2 Yr-Old Dental Checkup

KEIHANNA MEMORIAL PARK EVENTS

Cherry Blossom Viewing Concert

Date: April 19th (Sun), 2 PM to 3 PM

Place: Suikeien Kangetsuro - Basement Hall

Details: Enjoy listening to a bit of spring themed music in a relaxed setting.

Fee: Suikeien Entrance Fee

[Park 20th Anniversary Special Event] Celebrate the 20th Anniversary with Sweets!

Date: April 19th (Hol/Wed), 9 AM to 5 PM.

Place: Suikeien

Details: Concert and Ceremony at the Water Front Stage. ※In the event of rain, the schedule will change slightly. ※The Suikeien will be open for free.

Lets Say Aloha Together! Hawaiian Festival 2015!

Date: May 3rd (Sun), 4th (Hol/Mon), 10 AM to 4 PM [Moved to the 5th (Hol/Tue) and 6th (Hol/Wed) if rain]

Place: Shibafu Park

Details: The Shibafu Park transformed into a Hawaiian Luau with soothing music and Hawaii's traditional Hula dance. Enjoy food and goods from Hawaii as well!

Keihanna Plaza Small Concert

In the Atrium Lobby

Dates: 1) 4/15 (Wed), 2) 4/22 (Wed)

Time: 12:15 PM - 12:45 PM

Songs: 1) Haydn: "Piano Sonata Nm. 62 E Flat Major"
Hisatada Otaka: "A Sonatina for Piano"
2) Yoshinao Nakada: Piano Suite "The Four Seasons of Japan" for four hands.

Contact: Keihanna Plaza Puchi Concert Committee
TEL: 95-6128



SEIKA TOWN OFFICE
PLANNING AND
COORDINATION DIVISION

Kyoto-fu, Sōraku-gun, Seika-cho

Minami-Inayazuma, Kitajiri 70

TEL: 0 7 7 4-9 4-1 9 0 0

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EMAIL cir@town.seika.kyoto.jp



SŌRAKU EMERGENCY MEDICAL CLINIC SCHEDULE

Schedule for February and March (PD - Pediatrics, IM - Internal Medicine)

Date	Specialty	Date	Specialty
April 5 th (Sun)	IM, PD	May 3 rd (Hol/Sun)	IM
April 12 th (Sun)	IM, PD	May 4 th (Hol/Mon)	IM
April 19 th (Sun)	IM	May 5 th (Hol/Tue)	IM
April 26 th (Sun)	IM, PD	May 6 th (Hol/Wed)	IM
April 29 th (Hol/Wed)	PD	May 10 th (Sun)	IM

Please call in advance to confirm.

QUESTIONS: Sōraku Emergency Medical Clinic (Sōraku Hall)

そうらくきゅうじつおうきゅうしんりょうじょ そうらくかいかんない

相楽休日応急診療所 (相楽会館内) TEL: 0774-73-9988

What to do if...

You have a question about something in Ichigo:

Call Jacob Biros, Coordinator for International Relations at the Seika Town Office. You may also call if you need an interpreter, as most of the events and classes in Ichigo will be in Japanese.

You have a problem with life in Japan:

If you have any questions or problems concerning life in Japan not related to an article in Ichigo, please contact Jacob Biros, Coordinator for International Relations at the Seika Town Office.

TEL : 0774-95-1900 FAX: 0774-95-3971 E-mail: cir@town.seika.kyoto.jp or kikaku@town.seika.kyoto.jp (Planning and Coordinating Division)

You have an issue with your visa or other questions:

The Kyōto City International Foundation (located at 2-1 Toriichō Awataguchi, Sakyō-ku, Kyōto-shi) , offers advice and consultation on visa issues and general problems. **Visa consultations are available on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of every month (appointment required). Consultations can be done in English, Chinese, Korean, and Spanish.** General counseling is available Tuesday to Sunday from 9:00 to 21:00.

TEL: 075-752-3511 Homepage: <http://www.kcif.or.jp/en>

ONLINE INFO

Facebook



Town Website:



LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

A famous potter named Kawai Kanjirou, in the past used to walk around Seika looking at the vibrant greenery and old houses, enjoying the scenery. Seika is a very beautiful town, isn't it? Now that it is spring, many types of flowers are blooming and that beauty seems to be magnified. This month, please go outside and take a walk in Seika, a town full of nature.

-Jake

Check out the Kyōto CIR blog: <http://tabunkakyoto.wordpress.com/>