



いちご

No. 203

Seika Town News and Events Guide

March 2012

3

Contents

もくじ 目次

Important Information

おもなじょうほう 2

General Information, Notice

くらしのじょうほう 3

Upcoming Events

こんげつのイベント 4,5,6

Cooking

クッキング 7

Transportation to Kansai Airport

かんさいくこうまでのこうつう 7

Yojjukugo Corner

よじじゅくごコーナー 7

Note from the Editor

へんしゅうしゃのこたば 7

Festivals & National Holidays

さいじつ・ぎょうじ 8

Seika Growth Watch

じんこうのうごき 8

Ichigo Corner/Aim

いちごコーナーもくてき 8

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Seika Town Office General Affairs
Department, Planning and
Coordinating Division.

〒619-0285

70 Kitajiri Minamiinayazuma

Seika-cho, Soraku-gun, Kyoto-fu

せいちょうやくばそうむぶきかくちょうせい
精華町役場総務部企画調整課

〒619-0285

きょうとふ そうらくぐん せいちょう みなみいなやづま
京都府 相楽郡 精華町 南稲八妻
きたじり
北尻70

Tel. 0774-95-1900

Fax. 0774-95-3971

Email: cir@town.seika.kyoto.jp

30th Sports Festival: Looking for Participants

だい かいそうごう さんかせんしゅ ぼしゅう
第30回総合スポーツフェスティバル：参加選手を募集

The Seika sports festival will be held from April to October, with 15 different events for residents to take part in!

Specific sports will take place during the following months.

- **April-** Youth Baseball, Soft Baseball, Soft Volleyball, Softball (E.S. students)
- **May-** Gateball, Tennis, Soft Tennis, Table Tennis, Ground golf, Golf, Softball
- **June-** Volleyball, Badminton, Basketball (middle school students)
- **August-** Bowling
- **October-** Karate

Youth Baseball

When Saturday, April 1st
(Alternate date : Sunday, April 8th)

Where Higashi Hikari Elementary Grounds

Who Elementary students who live in Seika

Deadline March 13th to the 23rd

Fee ¥2000 per team

*Operated by the Seika Youth Baseball League

Soft Volleyball

When Sunday, April 15th
From 9 a.m.

Where Mukunoki Center Arena

Who People who live or work in Seika

Divisions Womens/ Mixed

Deadline March 13th to the 30th

Fee ¥2000 per team

*Operated by the Seika Soft Volleyball League

※Mixed teams must field 2 men and 2 women. Try to register 6 or more players.

Soft Baseball

When Sunday, April 8th
(Alternate date : Sunday, April 15th)

Where Uchikoshidai Grounds

Who People who live or work in Seika (middle school students and up) and members of the Seika Soft baseball league.

Divisions Teams

Deadline March 13th to the 29th

Fee ¥3000 per team

*Operated by the Seika Soft Baseball League

Softball (Elementary Students)

When Sunday, April 22nd
(Alternate date : Sunday, April 29th)

Where Uchikoshidai Grounds

Who Elementary Students who live in Seika

Deadline April 3rd to the 13th

Fee ¥2000 per team

*Operated by the Seika Softball League

※Please field 2 girls or students in the 4th grade or younger. Bring your own gloves and hats. This is a qualifier for the Souraku softball tournament, and the top 2 teams will advance.

Application forms are available at the Mukunoki Center and online at the town homepage. To register, fill out the necessary information and turn in the form along with the registration fee to the Mukunoki Center front desk.

Applications/Questions

Seika Athletics Association Office (In the Mukunoki Center)

せいちょうたいいくきょうかいじむきょく
精華町体育協会事務局 (むくのきセンター内)

TEL:0774-98-0200, FAX: 0774-98-0118 E-mail: kikaku@town.seika.kyoto.jp

Important Information

おもなじょうほう

Think about the Future of Seika

みらいかんが
まちの未来 考えよう

As the Seika town office is currently working on plan to lay out how the town should grow in the next 20 to 30 years, we are looking for any kind of opinions and ideas about what you want Seika to be like in the future.

Application Period:

Applications must be received by Friday, March 30th.

The Seika town office is open from 8:30a.m. to 12:00p.m., and 1:00p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

How to Apply:

Send in the completed application form by fax, post or e-mail to the location listed below.

Other Information:

Application forms are available at the Planning and Coordinating Division on the 5th floor of the Seika town office. They are also available to download from the Seika town homepage.

- Your opinions and suggestions will be used as reference materials when discussing future plans.
- When the results of the recruitment are made public, everything besides your opinions and suggestions (name, address, etc.) will not be announced.
- We will not directly respond to your opinions or ideas
- We may not use demands or opinions that are not directly related to the topic at hand.

○Submissions • Questions

〒619-0285 (Individual postal code. No address necessary)

Seika Town Office, Planning and Coordinating Division, Planning Section

せい かちょうやくばきかくちょうせい かきかくがかり
精華町役場企画調整課企画係

TEL:0774-95-1900 FAX:0774-95-3971 E-mail: kikaku@town.seika.kyoto.jp

A Message from the Kizu Police

きづけいさつしょ
木津警察署ホットメッセージコーナー

- Please help in the search for the final suspects in the Aum Shinrikyo Cult's sarin gas attack

Seventeen years have passed since members of the Aum Shinrikyo Cult launched a sarin gas attack on a Tokyo subway. Police are looking for any information that will help them in their search for remaining suspects. If you see someone resembling one of these suspects, please call the number listed below.

*There is up to a 10,000,000 yen reward for information leading to the arrest of any one of these suspects

CONTACT NUMBER: Free 24 hour hotline

Kizu Police Office きづけいさつしょ
木津警察署

TEL: 0120-006-024

TEL: 0774- 72-0110



Katsuya Takahashi
53 years old
Height: ~173 cm



Naoko Kikuchi
39 years old
Height: ~159cm



General Information

くらしのじょうほう

March

Date	Time	What	Where
4 (Sun)	9:30-10:30, 10:30-11:30	Parent・Child Arts and Crafts Class	Seika town library
〃		7th Annual Sports Sunday	
6 (Tue)	13:30 - 15:30	Parenting Class (Child Raising)	Health Center
9 (Fri)	13:00 ~	Health Check-up for 1 and a half year olds	Health Center
11 (Sun)	9:30 - 12:00	Parenting Class	Health Center
14 (Wed)	13:00 ~	Health Check-up for 9 to 10 month olds	Health Center
15 (Thu)	13:00 ~	Health Check-up for 3 to 4 month olds	Health Center
〃	13:15 - 14:15	BCG Vaccination	Health Center
19 (Mon)	13:30 - 15:00	Training Room Orientation	Mukunoki Center
20 (Tues)	10:00-12:00	Beginner's Badminton Class	Mukunoki Center
22 (Thu)	13:00 ~	Dental Check-up for 2 year olds	Health Center
23 (Fri)	13:00 ~	Health Check-up for 3 and a half year olds	Health Center
25 (Sun)	9:00 -12:00	Smile Sports Arena	Mukunoki Center
28 (Wed)		Mukunoki Center Closed	

April

1 (Sun)		Sports Festival (Youth Baseball)	Uchikoshidai Grounds
2 (Mon)		Mukunoki Center Closed	

What to do if...

You have a question about something in Ichigo:

Call Kai Wiesner-Hanks, 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.

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 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 first contact Kai Wiesner-Hanks, 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 Kyoto Prefectural International Center, located on the 9th floor of Kyoto Station, offer advice and consolation on Visa issues and general problems. Visa consultations are available on the 4th Sunday of every month from 1 p.m.-4 p.m. Please make a reservation beforehand by phone or from the center's homepage. General counseling is available in English (Monday and Tuesday), Spanish (Wednesday), Portuguese(Thursday), Tagalong(Thursday), Chinese(Friday) and Korean (Saturday) from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

TEL: 075-342-5000 Homepage: <http://www.kpic.or.jp/english/index.html>



Upcoming Events

こんげつのイベント

Strawberry Picking

イチゴ狩り

Hanayagi Tourist Farm

はな かんこうのうえん
華やぎ観光農園

WHEN: Open until Wednesday, May 30th

-Open Tuesday, Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday

-Sessions start at 10:00a.m., 12:30p.m., and 2:30p.m.

FEE:

(Until May 6th) Adults-¥1300 Children (elem. students)-
¥1200, Toddlers (ages 3 - 5)-¥1000

(May 7th to May 30th) Adults-¥1100, Children (elem.
students)-¥1000, toddlers (ages 3 - 5)-¥800

Groups of 20 or larger qualify for a 10% discount.

You may make reservations up to one month in
advance

QUESTIONS/RESERVATIONS: TEL: 93-4811, FAX:

93-4822 WEB: <http://www.hanayagifarm.com/>

(Online reservations available)

Kawanishi Strawberry Gardens

せいかわしょうかわにしかんこういちごえん
精華町川西観光苺園

WHEN: Open until Sunday, May 27th

-Open Everyday

HOURS: 10 a.m.- 4 p.m.

FEE: Adults (middle school and above)¥1100

Children (elem. students) ¥900

Toddlers (ages 3 - 5) ¥600

Extra ¥200 fee on Saturdays, Sundays and
holidays.

Groups of 20 or more qualify for a 10%
discount.

QUESTIONS/RESERVATIONS:

TEL: 0774-94-5230, FAX: 0774-94-5260

<http://www16.atpages.jp/kawanisiichigoen/>

World's Largest Sundial: Commemorative Laser Firing Event

よる ひかり よみがえ
3月9日夜、あの光が蘇る

On Friday, March 9th, the Keihanna Plaza will celebrate the restoration of the laser attached to the Keihanna Plaza Sundial, registered as the world's largest sundial in the Guinness Book of World Records.

The sundial was completed in 1993 and to celebrate, the laser, aimed directly at the North Star, was fired off. Unfortunately soon after that, the machine suffered a breakdown, and due to the high costs of repair could not be fixed until recently.

The event is free and no registration necessary.

WHEN: Friday, March 9th, 6p.m. - 9p.m.

WHERE: Keihanna Plaza Sundial Area

WHAT: - Commemorative Laser Firing Ceremony
- Concert
- Food and Drink for sale

QUESTIONS: Association for Renewal of the Keihanna World's Largest Sundial Laser (Inside the Nippon

Shinshyukukan Co., Ltd) けいはんな世界一の日時計レーザー光線を復活させる会 (日本伸縮管(株)内)

TEL:0774- 95-3900



Keihanna Commemorative Park Upcoming Events and Activities

けいはんな記念公園の催し物

Gardening Class "Technique!" - Pruning and Planting Trees in your Garden ★**第19回庭園講座(技術編) 庭木の剪定・手入れ**

WHEN: March 3rd(Sat)(Moved to the 4th in case of rain) 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. WHERE: Suikeien 水景園

FEE: ¥2000 WHAT: A class on gardening technique from the Suikeien landscaper.

Antiques and Crafts Market: Pocket Marche ★ アンティーク&雑貨マーケット Pocket Marche

WHEN: March 4th (Sun) 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (canceled in case of storms) WHERE: Shibafu area 芝生

ひろば 広場 WHAT: A market filled with flowers, handmade goods and all kinds of food.

The Coming Spring! Free Seedlings to Help Welcome Spring! ★ はるよせ企画!! 春を感じる花の苗プレゼント

WHEN: March 4th (Sun) from 9 a.m. (until supplies run out) WHERE: Suikeien Front Desk 水景園 受付前

WHAT: To celebrate the coming of spring on the traditional Chinese calendar, we will be handing out presents!

World Heritage Photo Show: The Eurasian Continent ★ 三田崇博 世界遺産写真展 ユーラシア大陸

WHEN: March 7th(Wed) to the 11th (Sun) 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. WHERE: Suikeien Tsuki no Niwa Gallery 水景園ギ

ャラリー月の庭 WHAT: A photo show of famous world heritage sites by photographer Takahiro Sanda, resident of Ikoma City.

Suikeien Ikebana Classroom ★ 水景園のいけばな教室

WHEN: March 8th (Thu), 22nd (Thu) 1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. WHERE: Suikeien Kangetsurou 水景園観月楼

FEE: ¥2000(includes park entrance fee) WHAT: Study the ancient art of Ikebana, flower arranging in our Japanese garden. (Contact the Keihanna Commemorative Park Management Office at least 2 days prior)

The Enchanted Mebuki Forest: Forest Play Date ★ あつまれ! 芽ぶきの森のこびとたち 森あそびの日

WHEN: March 11th (Sun) 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. (cancelled in case of rain) WHERE: Suikeien Mebuki Forest

水景園 芽ぶきの森 FEE: Adults:¥100 Elementary and Middle schoolers: ¥50 WHAT: Come out and have fun playing in the Mebuki forest on our hammocks and swings. (3rd grade elementary students and below must be accompanied by a parent)

17th "Tsuchi no Kai" Art Show: The Fate of the Earth ★ 特別企画展 第17回土の会展 一つのえにしー

WHEN: March 17th (Sat) to the 31st (Sat) 10:00a.m. to 5:00p.m. WHERE: Tsuki no Niwa Gallery 水景園ギ

ャラリー月の庭 WHAT: Founded 35 years ago in the Kaseyama region of Kizu, the group "Tsuchi no Kai" has created many different types of pottery and carvings which will be on display.

Pre-Spring Concert: Taishogoto Performance ★ はるまちコンサート~大正琴の調べ~

WHEN: March 18th (Sun) 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. WHERE: Suikeien Kangetsurou 水景園 観月楼

WHAT: A Taishogoto concert by the group "Hanamizuki"

(Continued on page 6)



(Continued from page 5)

The Forest's Tests of Strength★森の体力測定

WHEN: March 25th (Sun) 1 p.m. - 4 p.m., (cancelled in case of rain) WHERE: Suikeien Mebuki Forest 水景園 芽ぶきの森 WHAT: Test yourself with a forest walk, yoga, and exercises, and use a machine to measure your physical power!

Support: Fitness Club Pinos Keihanna

Starry Night Café Special: Winter Constellations and Spring Constellations★星空カフェスペシャル～冬の星座と春の星座～

WHEN: March 31st (Sat) 6 p.m. - 8 p.m., (cancelled in case of rain or clouds) WHERE: Suikeien Kangetsurou 水景園 観月楼 WHAT: Star-gazing in the park.

Sakura Nighttime Light-up★夜桜ライトアップ

WHEN: March 31st (Sat), April 1st (Sun), 7th(Sat), 8th(Sun) From sunset to 9 p.m. (Entrance until 8:30 p.m.) WHERE: Suikeien 水景園 WHAT: The Suikeien will be opened late for the special event, an light up in the Japanese garden.

PARK INFORMATION: Entrance to Suikeien and Shizenrin: Adults: ¥200, Middle and E.S. students: ¥100 (Discount for groups of 25 and over.)

HOURS: 9:00 - 17:00

QUESTIONS: Keihanna Commemorative Park Mgmt. Office けいはんな記念公園管理事務所

TEL: 0774-93-1200,

FAX: 0774-93-2688 <http://www.keihanna-park.jp>**Keihanna Plaza Upcoming Events**

けいはんなプラザの催し物

Keihanna Movies けいはんな映画劇場**“Confessions”**

「告白」

(2010, Japan)

When her daughter is found dead, junior high school teacher Moriguchi knows it was two of her own students who were responsible. Determined to have vengeance, she begins to enact her plan to destroy the boys' lives, no matter the cost.

**WHEN:**

March 2nd (Fri), 10:30a.m., 2:00p.m., 7:00 p.m.

March 3rd (Sat), 10:30a.m., 1:00 p.m., 3:30 p.m.

March 4th (Sun) 10:30a.m., 1:00 p.m., 3:30 p.m.

WHERE: Keihanna Plaza Main Hall

General Admission:.....¥1,000

J.H.S. students or younger.....¥700

Senior citizens aged 60 or older.....¥700

Keihanna Tomonokai Members.....¥700

QUESTIONS: Keihanna Convention Department, けいはんなコンベンション事業部

TEL: 0774-95-5115

Fire Brigade Parade 精華町消防団パレード

The Seika fire department recently received a special award, the “Matoi” from the Japan firefighting association. To celebrate, there will be a parade on Tuesday, March 20th starting at the Western side of Hosono station.

The “Matoi” is the highest honor the Seika fire department has ever received, and this is the first time a fire department in the Yamashiro region has won the award. The awards ceremony was held on Friday, February 23rd at the Japanese firefighting headquarters in Tokyo.

The parade will start at Seika Garden City at 10 a.m. before making it's way to the Seika town office. Then, at 10:30 a.m., the commemoration ceremony will be held on the second floor of the Seika town office.

QUESTIONS: Seika Fire Department 精華町消防団 TEL: 0774-94-5119



Cooking

クッキング

Honey Ginger Jelly

① Sprinkle the gelatin into a tablespoon of water and let sit.

② Put the grated ginger in a heat resistant container, cover, and heat in a 500 watt microwave for 1 minute.

③ Add the honey to the ginger and stir.

④ Put the 140ml of water and sugar in a pot and heat over a flame. Once the sugar melts, add the mixed honey and ginger, bring to a boil, then remove from heat.

⑤ Add the gelatin and mix in till it melts, then run water over it. After the jelly has cooled, put it in a refrigerator until it cools and solidifies.

⑥ Remove from the bowl, add honey to flavor and enjoy.

Ingredients-
(2 servings)

Grated ginger.....3g
Honey.....1 tsp
Gelatin powder 1 tsp
Sugar.....2tsp
Water.....140ml

Yojjukugo Corner 四字熟語コーナー

Howdy everyone and welcome to the Yojjukugo Corner! Yojjukugo are Japanese idioms made up of four Kanji.

四字
熟語

きょうそんきょうえい
共存共栄



Kyouson Kyouei

“Coexistence and coprosperity”

The number of foreigners living in Japan is on the rise, and from here on out both foreigners and Japanese will be going to school, working, and playing in Japan. But I think that Japanese and foreigners living together will, in the end, help both groups grow and prosper. This month's *Yojjukugo*, “*Kyouson Kyouei*” means “co-existence and co-prosperity.”

Transportation to Kansai Airport かんさいくこうまでのこうつう

Kansai Airport Bus

かんさいくこう
関西空港エアポートリムジンバス

You can take the Nara Kotsuu Airport Bus to Kansai International Airport from Keihanna Plaza, available seven days a week (one way fare ¥2000). Bookings are available. See the telephone number below to reserve a seat:

Departing	Arriving
5:50a.m.	7:30a.m.
6:50a.m.	8:25a.m.
7:50a.m.	9:30a.m.
9:50a.m.	11:30a.m.
10:50a.m.	12:30a.m.
11:50a.m.	1:30p.m.

Departing	Arriving
12:40p.m.	2:20p.m.
3:40p.m.	5:20p.m.
4:40p.m.	6:20p.m.
5:40p.m.	7:20p.m.
6:40p.m.	8:20p.m.

For more information or to reserve a seat:

Nara Kotsuu Bus Reservation Center

ならこうつう 予約センター
奈良交通バス予約センター

TEL: 0742-22-5110 (Hours: 9:00 -19:00)

Note From the Editor へんしゅうしゃのことば

Now that it's finally March, I'm excited to be mostly done with winter, and ready to welcome spring. Though Kyoto winters aren't the coldest, they can certainly drag on. But now that spring is coming, I've decided to do something I've been putting off, travel!

Though I've been in Seika for a year and half now, I still have yet to get out of Kansai. So I'm resolving to try and see more of Japan while I can. Hiroshima, Nagoya, Hokkaido; there are all kinds of places I want to go, that are sure to show a completely different side of Japan. Hopefully all of you will be able to get out and travel as well!



- Kai

I have a blog about my life in Seika that everyone should check out!

<http://seikalife.blogspot.com>



Festivals and National Holidays **さいじつ・ぎょうじ**

Vernal Equinox Day

しゅんぶん ひ
春分の日March 20th

The Vernal Equinox marks the day when daytime and nighttime are exactly the same length. From this day on, daytime gradually grows longer and the nights become shorter. Many people consider Vernal Equinox Day the start of spring, and it is said that this is the day when “the chill of winter finally disappears.” It is also a time when many people pay respects to their ancestors, cleaning family graves and leaving offerings.

Places to Visit **おもしろいところ**

Cherry Blossom Viewing

はなみ
花見

At the end of March and the beginning of April, the entire landscape will turn pink as Japan's famous cherry trees bloom. During this time, many people gather with friends and family to picnic under the trees while looking at the beautiful sights of the blossoming *sakura*. The tradition, called *hanami*, makes for a great time, and if you want to try it yourself here's a list of some of the best places to go nearby.

Kyoto City- Kyoto is famous for having many places to view *sakura*, and two of the most famous are the Philosopher's Path and Maruyama park.

The Philosopher's Path connects the famous Nanzenji and Ginkakuji, and runs along a small canal, ensuring a beautiful setting to enjoy your nice stroll under the cherry trees. To get there, take the number 5 bus from Kyoto station to the Nanzenji-Eikando-michi stop.

Maruyama Park is a much more festive atmosphere, with food stalls and makeshift restaurants set up. The centerpiece is a giant weeping cherry tree, which is lit up at night. To get there, take the 100 or the 206 bus from Kyoto station and get off at the Gion stop.

Nara Prefecture- Nara has lovely *hanami* spots as well in Mount Yoshino, a mountain to the south of Nara city and Nara Park.

Mount Yoshino, with more than 30,000 cherry trees, is one of Japan's most famous *Hanami* spots, and great for someone looking to get a little hike and exercise along with their *hanami*. To get there, take the Kintetsu line from Shinhosono station to Yoshino Station.

Nara Park, famous for the deer that roam the area, also has a round 1700 cherry trees, and is great for relaxing picnic close to home. The park is just a 5-minute walk from the Kintetsu Nara station.

Seika- Seika has its own *hanami* spots, and if the crowds at the more famous destinations prove to be too much for you, relaxing at one in Seika can prove to be just as rewarding. The Keihanna Commemorative Park is one of the best known, but Takeuchi Shrine to the north of the Town Hall, and Kannonji Temple, just to the south of the Doshisha University Campus are both nice places to relax and enjoy the sights.

Seika Population Growthじんこう うご
人口の動き

Population as of February 1st:

(Number in brackets is change from last month)

Total:	36,887 (-26)
Male:	17,806 (-14)
Female:	19,081 (-12)
Households:	13,620 (+6)

Ichigo Corner

いちごコーナー

The Ichigo Corner is a place for readers to express their opinions on Seika, life in Japan, or anything else anyone wishes to say.

Submissions can be sent in either by mail or e-mail.

Ichigo's Aim

いちごの目的

Since the advent of Kansai Science City, the town of Seika, along with its foreign population, has been growing rapidly. In an effort to make the lives of foreign residents easier, the Seika Town Office produces this newsletter monthly. The newsletter's name, “Ichigo,” means strawberry, Seika's most famous product.

かんさいぶんかがくじゅつけんきゅうとし けんせつ
関西文化学術研究都市の建設
すす せいけいちょう ひと ふ
が進み、精華町にすむ人が増
え、その中で外国人の人口も増
えています。精華町内に住む
がいこくじん みな く
外国人の皆さんが暮らしやす
いように、精華町は毎月この
じょうほうし はつごう
情報紙を発行しています。この
じょうほうし
情報紙のニックネーム「いち
ご」（苺、精華町の一番有名な
もの）は、みんながわかるよう
にひらがなでつけました。

Ichigo on the Internet

[http://www-e.town.seika.kyoto.jp/h
tmls/english.html](http://www-e.town.seika.kyoto.jp/h
tmls/english.html)

