



# いちご 3

No. 215

Seika Town News and Events Guide

March 2013

## 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
Giseigo Corner	
ぎせいごコーナー	7
Note from the Editor	
へんしゅうしゃのことば	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 Department of  
General Affairs, Planning and  
Coordinating Division

〒619-0285

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## Consultations for Foreign Residents

がいこくせきじゅうみん      せいかつそうだんかい  
外国籍住民のための生活相談会



### ▼Description

An opportunity for foreign nationals in Japan to ask experts questions regarding residency issues and life in Japan.

### ▼Eligibility

Foreign nationals living, working, or studying in Kyoto Prefecture

### ▼Date

Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup> 15:00-17:30

### ▼Location

Seika Town Office Meeting Room 201 (2F)

### ▼Description

Private consultations (up to 30 minutes apiece)

Residency issues, entering and leaving the country, and other issues living in Japan

\*There will be two experts to answer questions

### ▼Applications

Applications necessary (please include consultation topic and whether or not you need an interpreter)

Applications accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis (up to 4 people)

Please apply through the Kyoto Prefectural International Center website.

### Questions

Kyoto Prefectural International Center

TEL: 075-342-5000    FAX: 075-342-5050    <http://www.kpic.or.jp/>

## Important Information

## おもなじょうほう

Bicycle Etiquette じてんしゃ 自転車のマナー

Bicycles are known as a convenient, environmentally-friendly way of getting around. Without proper adherence to the rules, however, they can also be a source of danger. For instance, leaving bicycles parked on sidewalks is dangerous for the visually impaired. People with such disabilities use the yellow strips on the sidewalks to find their way, so parking bicycles on the strips may cause them injury. Please park in parking lots, not on the sidewalks.

**Questions**

General Affairs Division, Administration and Safety Section TEL: 0774-95-1910

Filing Tax Statements ぜい しんこく 税の申告

Filing of certain statements will be accepted at Seika Hall (Seika Town Office 2F) for a limited time.

▼**Dates** Weekdays through Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup> 9:00-11:00, 13:00-16:00 (9:00-11:00 only on the 15<sup>th</sup>)

▼**Statements That May Be Filed**

- Municipal tax statements (not needed for those who have filed income tax statements)
- Prefectural tax statements (not needed for those who have filed income tax statements)
- Income tax statements (simplified)
- Agricultural income statements

▼**Statements That May Not Be Filed**

The following statements may not be filed at Seika Hall. Please file them at the Uji Tax Office instead.

- Capital gains statements (capital assets sold including land, real estate, stock shares, golf club memberships, etc.) including statements of loss from transfer of capital assets
- Special deductions for home loans, etc. (loan deduction)
- Statements of miscellaneous loss deduction
- Statements of death (semi-final statement)
- Blue tax statements
- Statements of (and consultations regarding) inheritance taxes, gift taxes, and consumption taxes

▼**Filing Statements at the Uji Tax Office**

Weekdays through Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup> 9:00-17:00 ※Also on Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>

※May end early depending on number of people filing statements

**Questions**

Seika Town Office, Tax Division, Municipal Tax Section TEL: 0774-95-1916

※Please direct questions regarding income tax to the Uji Tax Office (TEL: 0774-44-4141).

## General Information

## くらしのじょうほう

## March

Date	Time	What	Where
7 (Thu)	13:00~	Dental Checkup for 2-year-olds	Health Center
8 (Fri)	13:00~	Checkup for 18-month-olds	Health Center
"	13:00~	International Education Lecture Series: "The Real America"	Seika Town Office 201 (2F)
9 (Sat)	11:30~15:00	International Exchange Program 2013	Mukunoki Center
15 (Fri)	13:30~15:30	Parenting Class – Nursing	Health Center
17 (Sun)	15:00~	Seika Hall Concert: 10 <sup>th</sup> PAT Krangel Concert	Seika Hall (Town Office 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor)
19 (Tue)	13:00~	Checkup for 3-and-a-half-year-olds	Health Center
"	13:30~15:00	Training Room Orientation	Mukunoki Center
23 (Sat)	9:30~12:00	Parenting Class – Parents	Health Center
24 (Sun)	8:30~17:00	Keihanna Science City Bus Tour	Science City
26 (Tue)	13:30~15:00	Healthy Seniors: Exercise, Nutrition, Oral Care	Seika Hall (Town Office 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor)
27 (Wed)	13:00~	Checkup for 9- to 10-month-olds	Health Center
28 (Thu)	13:00~	Checkup for 3- to 4-month-olds	Health Center
"	13:15~14:15	Tuberculosis Vaccinations	Health Center

## April

1~2 (Mon~Tue)		Mukunoki Center Closed	
6 (Sat)	9:30~15:30	13 <sup>th</sup> Hometown Discovery Journey – Spring	Yamada, Inuidani, Zakuro
9 (Tue)	13:30~15:30	Parenting Class – Eating	Health Center

## What to do if...

**You have a question about something in Ichigo:**

Call Steven Pelcovits, 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 first contact Steven Pelcovits, 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, offers advice and consultation on visa issues and general problems. Visa consultations are available on the 4th Sunday of every month from 13:00-16:00. 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), Tagalog (Thursday), Chinese (Friday) and Korean (Saturday) from 13:00 to 17:00.

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

## Upcoming Events

## こんげつのイベント

## 13<sup>th</sup> Hometown Discovery Journey – Spring Walking the *Sakura* Hill Road: Yamada, Inuidani, Zakuro

だい かい はっけん たび はる  
第13回ふるさと発見の旅～春～  
さくら さ おおさかみち ある やまだ いぬいだに さくろ  
桜 咲く大坂道を歩こう！～山田・乾谷・柘榴～

Come experience *sakura* by taking a walk through Seika's Yamada, Inuidani, and Zakuro neighborhoods. There will be two walks. English interpreters from Seika Global Network will be available for the first walk.

## ▼DATE:

① Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> ② Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>

※In case of rain, ① will be delayed to Sunday the 7<sup>th</sup> and ② to Thursday the 11<sup>th</sup>.

Meet at 9:30 in front of Kintetsu Yamadagawa Station

Walk finishes at 15:30 in front of the Hikaridai 4chome bus stop

## ▼ITINERARY:

Kintetsu Yamadagawa Station – Shinden Shrine – Hill Road Guidepost – Ryuoh Shrine – Inuidani Daishi Hall – Hinode Shrine – Gokurakuji Temple – Zakuro 33 Kannon Statues – Okawa Center (~8 kilometers)

## ▼LIMIT:

First 30 applicants per walk

## ▼WHAT TO BRING:

Lunch, tea, towel, rain gear, etc.

## ▼FEE:

¥300 ※Pay on the day of the event

## ▼WHEN TO APPLY:

Weekdays from Monday, March 11<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>

Application Hours: 9:00-17:00

## ▼HOW TO APPLY:

Please contact the Senior Citizens' Employment Center by telephone, fax, or e-mail.

## APPLICATIONS/QUESTIONS

(Japanese only)

Seika Senior Citizens' Employment Center TEL: 0774-98-0510 FAX: 0774-98-0670 E-mail: [seika@sjc.ne.jp](mailto:seika@sjc.ne.jp)

(English OK) Seika Town Office, Planning & Coordinating Division, Coordinator for International Relations

TEL: 0774-95-1900 FAX: 0774-95-3971 E-mail: [cir@town.seika.kyoto.jp](mailto:cir@town.seika.kyoto.jp)

## Keihanna Commemorative Park Upcoming Events and Activities

### けいはんな記念公園の催し物

#### Saganaka Cotton Goods Exhibition 2012★相楽木綿作品展2012

WHEN: Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup> 10:00-17:00 WHERE: Suikeien Kangetsuro Tsuki no Niwa Gallery  
WHAT: New goods from 2012, goods from weaving classes, etc. FEE: Suikeien admission fee

#### Suikeien Flower Arrangement Class★水景園のいけばな教室

WHEN: Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, March 21<sup>st</sup> 13:30-16:00 WHERE: Suikeien Kangetsuro Study Room  
WHAT: Come learn about the 500-year-old art of *ikenobō* flower arrangement. FEE: ¥2,000 (please apply at least two days in advance)

#### Points of Interest Tour: Types of Plums★みどころガイドツアー～梅の品種めぐり～

WHEN: Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup> 11:00-noon (canceled in case of rain) WHERE: Suikeien (meet at Satotanada) WHAT: A tour of the Suikeien, including a discussion of interesting seasonal features. FEE: Suikeien admission fee

#### Katsuyasu Nakata Photo Exhibition: Thought and Design in Japanese Garden Rock Arrangements Throughout the Ages★中田勝康写真展 日本庭園の石組み 時代思想と造形

WHEN: Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup> 9:00-17:00 (9:00 to 16:00 on the 24<sup>th</sup>) WHERE: Suikeien Kangetsuro Tsuki no Niwa Gallery  
WHAT: An introduction of forms of the Japanese garden across different generations. FEE: Suikeien admission fee

#### Katsuyasu Nakata Photo Exhibition: Gallery Talk★中田勝康写真展 ギャラリートーク

WHEN: Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup>; Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>; Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup> (holiday); Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>; Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup> 13:00-13:30 WHERE: Suikeien Kangetsuro Tsuki no Niwa Gallery  
WHAT: An event introducing Japanese gardens. FEE: Suikeien admission fee

#### Katsuyasu Nakata Photo Exhibition: Lecture★中田勝康写真展 講演会

WHEN: Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> 14:00-15:30 WHERE: Suikeien Kangetsuro Study Room  
WHAT: An event introducing Japanese gardens. FEE: Suikeien admission fee

#### 43rd Great Flower Operation: Planting for Summer and Fall★第43回花いっぱい大作戦～夏から秋にさく花の種まき、植えつけ～

WHEN: Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup> 10:00-noon (postponed to Saturday the 23<sup>rd</sup> in case of rain) WHERE: TBD (meet in front of Suikeien reception area)  
WHAT: Park beautification with flowers and plants. FEE: Free (reservations necessary, limit 30 people)

#### Children of the Mebuki Forest: Fun in the Forest★あつまれ! 芽ぶきの森のこびとたち～森あそびの日～

WHEN: Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup> 13:00-16:00 (canceled in case of rain) WHERE: Suikeien Mebuki Forest  
WHAT: Come play in the forest! There will be swings, hammocks, and ropes to swing around on. FEE: ¥100 for general participation, ¥50 for elementary/middle school children (Suikeien admission fee separate)

Continued on Page 6

**Astronomy Club Copernicus: Winter and Spring Constellations**★天文クラブ「コペルニクス」～冬の星座と春の星座～

WHEN: Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> 19:00-21:00 (canceled in case of overcast weather) WHERE: Suikeien WHAT: Observe planets and make new discoveries. FEE: Suikeien admission fee

**Exercising in the Forest**★森の体力測定

WHEN: Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup> 13:00-16:00 (canceled in case of rain) WHERE: Suikeien Mebuki Forest Yamatanada WHAT: Test your physical prowess with walking, yoga, etc. FEE: Suikeien admission fee

**Children's Art Exhibition Ko-mo-do Vol. 6**★こども絵画教室 アトリエ・こ・も・と作品展vol.6

WHEN: Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup> 10:00-17:00 (10:00-16:00 on the 31<sup>st</sup>) WHERE: Suikeien Kangetsuro Tsuki no Niwa Gallery WHAT: Children's art exhibition FEE: Suikeien admission fee

**Spring Tea Ceremony**★春のお茶席

WHEN: Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup> 13:30-16:00 (canceled in case of rain) WHERE: Suikeien WHAT: Sip tea and nibble sweets while enjoying the spring garden. FEE: Suikeien admission fee

**PARK INFORMATION:** Entrance to Suikeien and Shizenrin: Adults: ¥200, Middle and E.S. students: ¥100 (Discount for groups of 25 or more) **HOURS:** 9:00-17:00

**QUESTIONS:** Keihanna Commemorative Park Mgmt. Office 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

“Anata e” 「あなたへ」

(2012, Japan)

One day, Eiji Kurashima receives a letter that had been written by his late wife, requesting that her ashes be scattered over the sea by her hometown. He sets out to honor her request and, along the way, meets with many people with stories of their own.



**WHEN:**

March 15th (Fri), 10:30, 14:00, 19:00

March 16<sup>th</sup> (Sat), 10:30, 13:00, 15:30

March 17<sup>th</sup> (Sun), 10:30, 13:00, 15:30

**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

### Keihanna Plaza Petit Concert

けいはんなプラザプチコンサート

▼WHEN Every Wednesday 12:15-12:45 (except March 20<sup>th</sup>) ▼WHERE Keihanna Plaza Atrium Lobby

▼PROGRAM: ◆March 6<sup>th</sup>

Flute & Piano Spring Breeze Concert Marcello: Sonata for Flute in F Major, Op. 2-1; others

◆March 13<sup>th</sup>

The Melody of Beethoven Beethoven: Piano Trio in B-flat Major, Op. 97 (Archduke Trio); others

◆March 27<sup>th</sup>

piano Duo ♪ concert vol.2: Fantasy Schubert: Fantasy, Op. 103; others

◆April 3<sup>rd</sup>

Dance of Spring – The song of Cello – Popper: Hungarian Rhapsody, Op. 68; others

QUESTIONS: Keihanna Plaza Petit Concert Committee けいはんなプラザプチコンサート実行委員会 TEL: 0774-95-5105

## Cooking

## クッキング

## Spinach Clam Stir-Fry

1. Cut spinach into pieces of 4cm in length and separate leaves and stems.

2. Cut carrot into 4cm pieces, then remove mushroom heads and pull mushrooms apart.

Chop ginger finely.

3. Remove sand from clams, then rub shells together and wash thoroughly. Place into strainer.

4. Combine (3) and wine in a pot and cook, then take out the clam meat.

5. Add dashi to (4) and stir-fry ginger, spinach stems, and carrot.

6. When (5) becomes soft, add spinach leaves, mushrooms, and (4), then continue to fry.

7. Serve (6).

**Ingredients** (Serves 2)

Komatsuna spinach--100g  
 Carrot-----10g  
 Asari clams-----24g  
 Ginger-----2g  
 Shimeji mushrooms---40g  
 White wine-----30g  
 Dashi-----30g



## Giseigo Corner

## 擬声語コーナー

Hello and welcome to the Giseigo Corner! Giseigo are Japanese words describing sounds or conditions.

ぎせ  
いご

じゃんじゃん

*Jan jan*

“Happening repeatedly and vigorously”

※Informal expression

March is graduation month. Whether new grads go to the next level of schooling or start work, they are sure to have new experiences in a *jan jan* manner.



## 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 Kotsu 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	Departing	Arriving
5:50a.m.	7:30a.m.	12:40p.m.	2:20p.m.
6:50a.m.	8:25a.m.	3:40p.m.	5:20p.m.
7:50a.m.	9:30a.m.	4:40p.m.	6:20p.m.
9:50a.m.	11:30a.m.	5:40p.m.	7:20p.m.
10:50a.m.	12:30a.m.	6:40p.m.	8:20p.m.
11:50a.m.	1:30p.m.		

For more information or to reserve a seat:

Nara Kotsu 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: 09:00 -19:00)

## Note from the Editor

### へんしゅうしゃのことば

At long last, March is here! Though the final remnants of winter weather still linger, March is the month when spring arrives. The *sakura* (cherry blossoms) will be on their way soon, and people will be going outside to take advantage of the blossoming flowers and improving weather. Students will be finishing the academic year, and some will graduate and move on to middle school, high school, college, or even the working world. March is truly a month of new beginnings.

Aside from all of that, I personally love March because it's the month of my birthday. Looking forward to a day of friends, food, and fun!

- Steven

Check out the Kyoto CIR blog!

<http://tabunkakyoito.wordpress.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 20<sup>th</sup>

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 beginning 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

## Hanami

はなみ  
花見

The end of March and beginning of April are known as the season of pink cherry blossoms. Around this time, many people go out with friends and family in order to observe the beautiful blossoms. This pastime is known as *hanami*. Recommended areas for *hanami* are as follows.

**Kyoto** Kyoto has many good *hanami* areas, the most famous of which are the Philosopher's Path and Maruyama Park.

The Philosopher's Path is a two-kilometer road between Ginkakuji (Temple of the Silver Pavilion) and Nanzenji. A small river runs alongside the path, making a leisurely stroll the perfect way to take in the beauty of the cherry blossoms. To get there, take the 5 bus from Kyoto Station, get off at Nanzenji-Eikandomichi

Maruyama Park offers a more festive atmosphere. There are many food stalls surrounding the large weeping cherry blossom tree in the center of the park. At nighttime, this tree is illuminated. To get there, take the 100 or 206 buses from Kyoto Station and get off at Gion.

**Nara** South of Nara is Mount Yoshino, known for the beauty of its cherry blossoms. With approximately 30,000 cherry blossom trees, it is one of the most famous *hanami* locations in all of Japan and is particularly recommended for those who would like to partake in *hanami* while hiking. To get there, take the Kintetsu Line to Yoshino Station.

Nara Park, famous for its deer, is also another good *hanami* spot. It has approximately 1,700 cherry blossom trees and is good for people who want a relaxed atmosphere. Nara Park is a 10-minute walk from Kintetsu Nara Station.

**Seika** There are also good *hanami* locations right here in Seika. The most well-known is the Suikeien in Keihanna Commemorative Park, but Takeuchi Shrine (located north of the Seika Town Office) and Kannonji (located south of Doshisha University) are also nice.

## Seika Population Growth

じんこう うご  
人口の動き

Population as of February 1st:

(Number in parentheses is change from last month)

<b>Total:</b>	<b>36,996 (+9)</b>
<b>Male:</b>	<b>17,847 (+17)</b>
<b>Female:</b>	<b>19,149 (-8)</b>
<b>Households:</b>	<b>13,800 (+21)</b>

## 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ゆつけんきゅうとし けんせつ  
関西文化学術研究都市の建設  
すす せいにかちょう 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 ほうこう  
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」(いちご せいにかちょう いちばんゆうめい  
ご) (莓、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/htmls/english.html>