Seika's English Language Newsletter

もくじ目次



No. 210

Contents

Seika Town News and Events Guide October 2012

Pension System Notice 年金制度のお知らせ

The national pension system allows residents of Japan to receive pension money from

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 7 クッキング Transportation to Kansai Airport かんさいくう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 7 へんしゅうしゃのことば **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 Published By: Seika Town Office General Affairs Department, Planning and Coordinating Division. 〒619-0285 70 Kitajiri Minamiinayazuma Seika-cho, Soraku-gun, Kyoto-fu 精華町役場総務部企画調整課 〒619-0285 京都府相楽郡精華町南稲八妻 **北**尻70 Tel. 0774-95-1900 Fax. 0774-95-3971

Email: cir@town.seika.kyoto.jp

the government upon payment of 40 years' pension taxes from age 20 to age 60. Failure to pay pension taxes or submit proper paperwork may lead to pension money being reduced or withheld. Currently, it is only possible to pay two years' worth of back pension taxes. However, between October 1st of this year and September 30th of 2015, it will be possible to pay up to 10 years' worth.

Ex) Back taxes for October 2002 can be paid through October 2012

% Those who wish to pay back taxes must submit an application. For back tax rates, please see the chart below.

%This announcement does not apply to those who are already receiving pension money or those who are age 65 or over and qualify for pension money.

Period	Pension Tax Owed (per month)
October 2002 – March 2003	¥14,940
April 2003 – March 2004	¥14,720
April 2004 – March 2005	¥14,510
April 2005 – March 2006	¥14,560
April 2006 – March 2007	¥14,610
April 2007 – March 2008	¥14,640
April 2008 – March 2009	¥14,760
April 2009 – March 2010	¥14,840
April 2010 – March 2011	¥15,100

The amount of pension money for FY 2012 is ¥786,500. Those who have paid at least 25 years' worth of pension taxes (including welfare pension and mutual aid pension) are eligible. Time spent under the following categories will be counted towards the 25-year minimum.

 $(\ensuremath{\mathbb l})$ Period of Complete Exemption, Period of Partial Exemption (based on taxes paid during this period), Period of Deferment, Period of Special Student Status

2 Opt-out Period during residence outside of Japan (since April 1961)

③ Opt-out Period between April 1961 and March 1986 (as a dependent of a spouse enrolled in welfare pension or mutual aid pension)

④ Opt-out Period while enrolled in school (between 20th birthday and March 1991)

5 Any time during which one received retirement payments from welfare pension

QUESTIONS:

Japan Pension Service, Kyoto Minami Branch Office, Nat'l Pension Division 荒都 南年金事務所 国民年金課 075-643-2547

Seika Town Office General Services Division, Nat'l Pension Section 精華町役場総合 窓口課年金係 0774-95-1915

Important Information

おもなじょうほう

Homestay Experience ホームステイに参加しましょう

Homestay participants are wanted for the following program. Limit 20 people.

DATE: Saturday, November 17th and Sunday, November 18th (two days and one night)

SCHEDULE: Saturday, November 17th: Meet at Seika Town Office at 13:00; crop harvest; go home with host family in the evening

Sunday, November 18th: Seika Town Festival

- ▼ Lunch and tea ceremony at Suikeien
- ▼ International Exchange Corner
- Disaster Preparedness Corner for International Residents (including disaster preparedness materials for rent and presents)

FEE: Free

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Friday, October 26th

QUESTIONS/APPLICATIONS

Seika Global Network Office (Inside the Planning and Coordinating Division) せいかグローバルネット事務局(企画 調整課内) TEL: 0774-95-1900 FAX: 0774-95-3971 E-mail: kikaku@town.seika.kyoto.jp

Service Corner Hours Extended サービスコーナー時間を長く

Starting Monday, October 22nd, the hours for the certificate delivery machines at the Seika Residential Service Corner located at Sakuragaoka 3chome Esperoma Takanohara will change. Currently, the machines are only available from 9:00 to 16:30 on weekdays, but the new schedule will allow for use on weekends as well. Furthermore, the weekday closing time will be extended from 16:30 to 18:00.

◆Service Corner Hours (starting Monday, October 22nd) Weekdays: 9:00-18:00

Weekends and Holidays: 9:00-15:30

The Service Corner will be closed between December 29th and January 3rd.

Certificates Available at Service Corner

Residency Certificate (copy), Personal Seal Registration Certificate, Income Certificate, Tax Certificate, Tax Payment Certificate, Fixed Assets Valuation Certificate

Other

The machines will not accept 2,000 yen bills, 5,000 yen bills, or 10,000 yen bills.

The recycling boxes for batteries and fluorescent lamps will be removed. Please use the following locations instead.

Batteries: Regional assembly hall recycling centers

Fluorescent lamps: Recycling center locations (north parking lot of Seika Town Office, Mukunoki Center, Kashinokien); can also be disposed of as non-combustible waste (collected twice monthly). QUESTIONS

General Services Division, Family Registry Section 総合窓口課 戸籍住民係 0774-95-1915

Environmental Promotion Office, Environmental Affairs Section 環境推進室環境係 0774-95-1925 For Pet Owners ペットのマナーについて

Recently, there have been a large number of inquiries and complaints regarding dogs. Those who own a pet should be aware of the following rules.

OPlease be careful to train your dog properly. There have been complaints regarding dogs barking loudly. Lack of proper training and exercise may contribute to this problem. Please be sure to train your dog not to bark and to take it for a walk every day in order to relieve stress.

OPlease do not let your pets out on their own, as they may bite people or destroy lawns and fields. Furthermore, dog owners may have trouble controlling their pet when using a long leash, so please keep your dog on a short leash.

OPlease dispose of your pet's waste. There have been many complaints regarding animal waste on the streets. When taking your pet for a walk, be sure to bring along a scoop and a bag.

QUESTIONS

Environmental Promotion Office,

Environmental Affairs Section 環境推進室 環境係 0774-95-1925

General Information

くらしのじょうほう

Date	Time	What	Where
5 (Fri)	13:00~	Checkup for 18-month-olds	Health Center
7 (Sun)	8:45~	30 th Sports Festival – Karate	Mukunoki Center Arena
9 (Tue)	13:30~15:00	Training room orientation	Mukunoki Center
10 (Wed)	13:00~	Checkup for 3-and-a-half-year-olds	Health Center
11 (Thu)	13:00~15:30	Parenting Class – Eating	Health Center
19-20		Mukunoki Center closed	
(Fri-Sat)			
20 (Sat)	9:00~15:00	10 th Annual Seika Children's Festival	Mukunoki Center
22 (Mon)	13:30~15:00	Training room orientation	Health Center
23 (Tue)	13:00~	Checkup for 9- to 10-month-olds	Health Center
24 (Wed)		Mukunoki Center closed	
]]	13:00~	Checkup for 3- to 4-month-olds	Health Center
//	13:15	Tuberculosis vaccinations	Health Center
28 (Sun)	9:30~	Reusing Books and Magazines Day	Town Library Assembly Room

October

November

10:00~16:00	Seika Cultural Association Exhibition	Seika Hall (Town Office 2 nd
(Fri: 13:00~)		Floor)
8:00~	5 th Annual Seika Marathon	Mukunoki Center – along
		Kizugawa River
13:30~15:00	Training room orientation	Mukunoki Center
13:00~	Checkup for 18-month-olds	Health Center
	(Fri: 13:00~) 8:00~ 13:30~15:00	(Fri: 13:00~) 8:00~ 13:30~15:00 Training room orientation

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

11th Baroque Concert ^{だい かい} 第11回バロック音楽の楽しみ

Held every year, the Baroque Concert gives everyone a chance to enjoy some great classical works of music. The concert is free to attend, but you must apply in advance. There are only 100 spaces, so sign up now! (If there are too many entries, a lottery will be held.)

▼WHEN Wednesday, November 28th

Doors open at 18:30, concert starts at 19:00

▼WHERE Seika Hall (Town Office 2F)

▼WHO Doshisha Women's College Faculty of Liberal Arts, Department of Music

▼PROGRAM

- Pipe Organ Solo
 - Bach: "Zion Hears the Watchmen's Voices"
 BWV645 from the Schübler Chorales
 - Bach: Fantasia in G Major BWV572
 - Bach: Organ Concerto in A Minor BWV593
- Oboe and Organ Ensemble
 - Telemann: Sonata in A Minor
- Trombone and Organ Ensemble
- Soprano Solo and Organ Ensemble
 - O Holy Night

%The program may be subject to change.

APPLYING

♦ Application period: Until October 26th (Fri) ※
 Postmarked on or before October 26th

♦ How to apply:

Please fill out a return postcard with your name, address, telephone number, and the names of all other attendees in your party, and send it to the address below. Clearly state that the letter is for the 11th Annual Baroque Concert 「第11節バロック警察 の薬しみ」. You can make reservations for up to five people.

APPLICATIONS/QUESTIONS:

こんげつのイベント

English *Rakugo* Lecture ^{えいごらくごこうえん} 英語落語講演

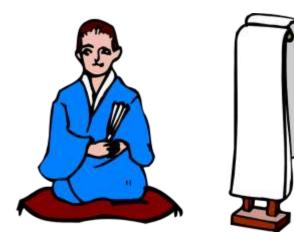
As part of its English Guide Lecture series, Seika Global Network is inviting Harumichi Inoue to give a talk about English-language *rakugo* (Japanese-style comedy). All are welcome to attend. There will be a lunch party after the talk. No application is necessary to attend.

▼WHEN Sunday, October 14th 10:00 to 13:30▼WHERE Mukunoki Center 3F Study Room

▼SCHEDULE

- Opening
- Rakugo DVD (20 minutes)
- ♦Lecture
- Lunch Party (bring your own lunch)
- ▼FEE ¥500 (General)

Free (Seika Global Network members)



QUESTIONS

Seika Global Network President, Masatoshi Wakita TEL: 090-2191-9864 E-mail: m.wakita@aria.ocn.ne.jp

Keihanna Commemorative Park Upcoming Events and Activities

けいはんな記念公園の催し物

Points of Interest Tour: Autumn Fields and Spider Lilies★みどころガイドツアー~萩の笛描とヒガンバナ~

WHEN: Saturday, October 6th 11:00-12:00 (canceled in case of rain) WHERE: Suikeien Satotanada WHAT: Discussion about spider lilies, rice plants, woodlands, etc. FEE: Suikeien admission fee

ARTCOMZO1Z

WHEN: Wednesday, October 10th to Sunday, October 21st 10:00-17:00 (10:00-17:00 on the 21st) WHERE: Suikeien Kangetsuro Tsuki no Niwa Gallery WHAT: Come view an exhibition of paintings, sculptures, etc. made by students. The theme is "Environment and Expression." FEE: Suikeien admission fee

Keihanna Autumn Workshop Market★けいはんな教室工房市

WHEN: Saturday, October 13th and Sunday, October 14th 10:00-17:00 WHERE: Shibafu Area WHAT: Many different artists will gather to sell their crafts. There will also be delicious food. QUESTIONS: TEL 090-4494-3953

Make Your Own Phone Strap and Collages of Autumn Leaves★「オリジナルストラップをつくろう!」&「落ち葉 でコラージュ!」

WHEN: Sunday, October 14th 13:00-15:00 WHERE: Suikeien Kangetsuro WHAT: Workshop for ARTCOM2012. FEE: ¥100 plus Suikeien admission fee for straps, Suikeien admission fee only for collages

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

WHEN: Thursday, October 18th 13:30-16:00 WHERE: Suikeien Kangetsuro Study Room WHAT: Come learn about the 500-year-old art of flower arrangement. FEE: ¥2,000 (please apply at least two days in advance)

41st Great Flower Operation: Field Mustard★第41回花いっぱい大作戦~葉の花花壇をつくろう~

WHEN: Saturday, October 20th 10:00-12:00 (postponed to following week in case of rain) WHERE: Shibafu Area (meet in front of Suikeien reception area) WHAT: Park beautification with flowers and plants. WHO: Anyone capable of hiking FEE: Free (limit 30 people, application necessary)

Creature Patrol: Plants of Autumn★いきものパトロール隊~秋の植物調査~

WHEN: Sunday, October 21st 9:00-12:00 (postponed to following week in case of rain) WHERE: Suikeien Mebuki Forest (meet in front of the Suikeien reception area) WHAT: Study the natural environment of the park. FEE: Free (limit 10 people, application necessary)

Great East Japan Earthquake Charity Market★東日本大震災支援チャリティーマーケット@レインボーママン

WHEN: Sunday, October 21st 10:00-15:30 WHERE: Shibafu Area WHAT: Buy handmade goods and enjoy live outdoor music. QUESTIONS: E-mail rainbowmaman@gmail.com

Autumn Breeze Concert: Nale Duet Harmony★教園コンサート~第声デュオのハーモニー~

WHEN: Sunday, October 21st 14:00-15:00 WHERE: Suikeien Kangetsuro WHAT: Beautiful music that will speak to your soul. Come out and enjoy! FEE: Suikeien admission fee

Continued on Page 6

3rd Fierce God and Friends Exhibition★第3回 鬼神と * 神間たち展

WHEN: Tuesday, October 23rd to Sunday, October 28th 10:00-17:00 (10:00-16:00 on the 28th) WHERE: Suikeien Tsuki no Niwa Gallery WHAT: Exhibitions of ceramics, paintings, glasswork, photographs, and more! FEE: Suikeien admission fee

2nd Family Nature Observation Event: Leaf Crafts and Nicroscope Observation★第2回 親子で築しむ親子首然 観察会in Hいはんな記念公園「葉っぱでクラフト& 顕微鏡で観察」

WHEN: Saturday, October 27th 13:00-16:00 (canceled in case of rain) WHERE: Suikeien (meet in front of the Suikeien reception area) WHAT: Observing nature from a scientific viewpoint. Fun for you and your child! WHO: Elementary school students between grades 3 and 6 and their parents FEE: ¥500 (limit 20 people, application necessary)

PARK INFORMATION: Entrance to Suikeien and Shizenrin: Adults: ¥200, Middle and elementary students: ¥100 (Discount for groups of 25 or more) HOURS: 09:00-17:00 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 "Postcard"「^{いちまい}のハガキ」 (2011, Japan)

At the end of World War II, Sadazo Morikawa is conscripted into the army. Realizing he will not survive, he asks Keita to tell his wife that he read the postcard she sent him. After the war, Keita visits Sadazo's wife with the postcard in hand, leading to a sequence of events.



WHEN:

October 26th (Fri), 10:30, 14:00, 19:00 October 27th (Sat), 10:30, 13:00, 15:30 October 28th (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 Theater "Shiki Theatrical Company Family Musical: The King has Donkey Ears" けいはんな劇場「劇団四季ファミリーミュージカル『王様の耳はロバの耳』」

▼WHEN Sunday, November 4th, 3:00p.m. (Doors open from 2:30p.m.)

▼WHERE Keihanna Plaza Main Hall

▼ TICKETS ¥4800 (All seats assigned / Keihanna Plaza Tomonokai Members: 4600 円・Tickets on the day of: ¥5500)

◆Tickets sold at reception window on the third floor of Keihanna Plaza, weekdays from 10:00-17:30.

 $\%\ensuremath{\mathsf{If}}$ you would like your tickets mailed to you, please call and reserve by telephone.

※Tickets are also on sale at the Electronic Ticket Pia, TEL 0570-02-9999 (P-code422-118) QUESTIONS: Keihanna Convention Department, けいはんなコンベンション事業部 TEL: 0774-95-5115



「語コーナー

Cooking

Shiokoji Chicken Rice Bowl

クッキング

- Wash rice and soak in water for 20-30 minutes. Dice ginger.
- Put all ginger rice ingredients in rice cooker and cook.
- Let chicken soak in shiokoji for 7 hours beforehand. Grill or fry chicken until cooked, then turn heat to medium and cover.
- Cut (3) into bite-size pieces. Cut lettuce and green shiso into thin strips.
 Put ginger rice in bowl, lay lettuce on rice, and put chicken on lettuce. Add green shiso and sesame.

Ingredients (Serves 2) *Ginger Rice* Rice-----140g Dashi-----200cc Ginger----15g Thin soysauce12g Sake-----10g

Shiokoji Chicken C h i c k e n breast----120g Shiokoji-----10g Lettuce-----40g Green shiso----2g Sesame-----3g



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

Kansai Airport Bus がんきいくうこう 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
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 Kotsu Bus Reservation Center 奏覧交通バス学約センター TEL: 0742-22-5110 (Hours: 09:00 -19:00)

describing sounds or conditions.

Giseigo Corner

Hello and welcome to the Giseigo

Corner! Giseigo are Japanese words





Kasa koso "Sound of dead leaves brushing against each other"

This word refers to the sound of dead leaves rustling. The word *kasa koso* has an association with autumn. Now that fall is around the corner, it's time to enjoy the changing colors and falling leaves.



Note from the Editor へんしゅうしゃのことば

Finally, the hot Kyoto summer is coming to an end. I actually generally think of summer as a fun season when everyone goes outside, plays in the pool, and eats ice cream, but I don't think I'll miss the oppressive heat.

Say, what better way to enjoy the cooler weather than watching the changing leaves? I'm personally planning to go to Arashiyama in Kyoto to catch a beautiful view of the fall colors. My home region in America is actually quite renowned for its autumn leaves, so perhaps it will give me a little taste of home.

Steven

Check out the Kyoto CIR blog! http://tabunkakyoto.wordpress.com/

Festivals and National Holidays さいじつ・ぎょうじ

Health and Sports Day たいいくの 体育の日 October 8th

Health and Sports Day was first held in 1966 to commemorate the 1964 Tokyo Summer Olympics. The Olympics that year were held in October, an unusually late time, in order to avoid the Japanese rainy season. If you want to become active, or even if you already are, Health and Sports Day is a great time to go out and get some exercise.

Kyoto Festival of the Ages 京都時代祭 October 22nd

This festival commemorates the founding of Kyoto, Japan's imperial capital from 794 to 1869. Participants dressed in traditional costumes from different historical periods parade through the streets of Kyoto on horseback from the Imperial Palace to Heian Shrine. The parade begins at 12:00 pm, but the best opportunity to view the costumes and take pictures is on the grounds of the Imperial Palace from about 9:00 am to 12:00 pm, as participants prepare.

Kurama no Hi Matsuri ^{くらま}の火祭 October 22nd

This festival commemorates the transfer of Yuki Shrine from the Imperial Palace to Kurama in AD 940, during which reed torches were used to light the way. The festival starts when the fires are lit at 6:00 p.m. First, young boys and girls in kimonos carry small torches of fire throughout the streets, followed by middle and high schoolers with larger torches, then adults carrying huge torches. Some of the torches can be over 5 meters long and weigh 50 kilograms! The procession arrives at Kurama Temple at around 8:00 p.m. The festivities continue until midnight, though you'll want to leave earlier than that to make the last train home.

Kameoka Matsuri ^{かめおかまつり} 亀岡祭 October 23rd – 25th

This festival very closely resembles Kyoto's famous Gion Matsuri and features floats, taiko drums, and all kinds of street food vendors. Since there are fewer people than at Gion Matsuri, you can relax and enjoy at your leisure. If you missed out on Gion Matsuri, then head on up to Kameoka, accessible from Kyoto on the JR Sagano Line.

<u>Seika Population Growth</u> しての動き			
Population as of September 1st:			
(Number in	parentheses is		
change from last month)			
Total:	36,961 (+45)		
Male:	17,847 (+28)		
Female:	19,114 (+17)		
Households:	13,730 (+28)		

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.

物はいちんが考くじゃっけんきゅうとしのけます。 関西文化学術研究都市の建設 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 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 情報紙を発行しています。この 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