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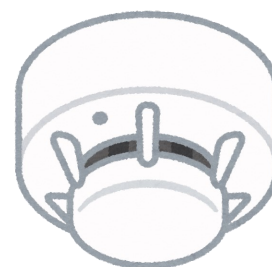
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Checking Your Home Fire Alarm

The average battery life for a fire alarm is approximately 10 years. Be sure to check your home fire alarm to see if it's in working order or if the alarm's batteries or the alarm itself needs to be replaced. It could be the difference between life and death!

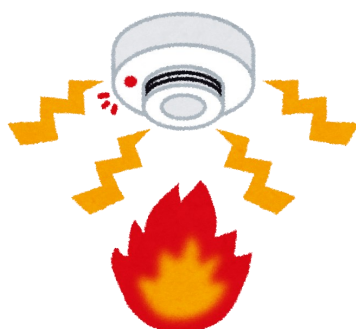
Where to Place Your Fire Alarm

It is imperative you place fire alarms in your kitchen as well as your bedrooms or where you sleep so you can be alerted to fires even if you're asleep. If your bedroom is on the second floor, we recommend installing a fire alarm on the ceiling above the stairs as well.



Inspect Your Fire Alarm Regularly

Fire alarms in Japan are outfitted with an inspection button you can push or a cord you can pull to check if your alarm is working. Perform inspections on your alarm on a regular basis and change the batteries or the alarm itself when necessary.



70% of Home Fires Result in Death

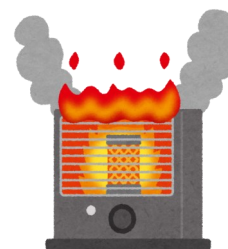
While only 30% of fire accidents occur in the home, 70% of home fire accidents result in death. Home fire alarms are very effective in alerting residents of a fire early, which allows them to make a timely escape. Install a fire alarm in your house to protect your and your family's lives.

Seika Town Mascot
Kyōmachi Seika

"Put fire alarms in your bedrooms so you can be alerted to a fire even if you're asleep!"

Think About What You Can Do to Prevent Fires

Home fires that have led to the death of a resident are often started by stoves, cigarettes, and home heaters. Think about what you can do in your own home to prevent fires from happening.



January 26 is Cultural Property Fire Prevention Day

On 1949 January 26, the Main Hall of Horyu-ji Temple in Nara was heavily damaged by fire and many priceless and historic artifacts were lost. The date is memorialized through the celebration of Cultural Property Fire Prevention Day, a day dedicated to promoting the protection of important cultural artifacts from fires and other disasters, and increasing cultural property awareness throughout the country.



Mayor's Column

Kaname's Monthly Introspection

Akemashite omedetou gozaimasu and Happy New Year to you all.

I would like to thank each of you for your daily understanding and cooperation with the local government of Seika Town.

Last year, Seika Town celebrated the 30th anniversary of the Seika Matsuri festival along with the 2018 Seika Town Children's Festival. We also saw the realization of the elementary school air conditioner installation project, one that was based on ensuring the further protection of the health and wellbeing of the town's children.

Everything considered, 2018 was a banner year for the children of Seika as they took home medals from numerous, prefecture-wide and country-wide contests. Students from Higashi Hikari Elementary School won gold at the National Band Festival, and three of our junior high schools also brought home gold medals from the Kyoto Prefecture Band Ensemble Competition, performing above and beyond our expectations.

This year, as we stand at the precipice of a new era, I look to tackle the issues related to making the important school lunch program in our junior high schools a reality, and commence the operation of our town's emergency broadcasting system to better equip ourselves against natural disasters.

In lieu of the 2025 World Expo in Osaka, I look also to provide momentum to the Keihanna Shinsen train line extension proposal to further open up the Keihanna Science City region to even more activity.

In closing, I wish for all of you a year full of happiness and good health. Have a wonderful New Year.



Seika Town Mayor
Kaname Kimura

Help Us Make Medals for the 2020 Olympics!

Since 2013, Seika Town has collected used, small electronics for recycling. As of last year, Seika has cooperated with the Tokyo 2020 Medal Project by providing the gold, silver, and copper extracted from these electronics for use in the production of medals for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics.

To help the Tokyo 2020 Medal Project with their mission to create medals from 100% recycled content, Seika Town has set up seven locations where you can dispose of your small, used electronics.

Below is a list of items that can be recycled:

Cellphones, PHS phones, laptops, home telephones, FAX machines, radios, digital cameras, video cameras, BD recorders, HDD recorders, audio equipment, USBs, external hard drives, E-readers, electronic dictionaries, calculators, blood pressure machines, electric thermometers, electric clippers (for hair cutting), hair dryers, electric toothbrushes, electronic flashlights, clocks, gaming machines, car GPS machines, ETC units, car speakers, remote controllers, cables, etc.

Items can be recycled at the following locations:

Seika Town Hall, Seika Town Community Town Hall, Kashinokien, Mukunoki Center, Apita Seikadai store, Kyoto Coop Hosono Station, Keihanna Plaza

Refrain from depositing used, dry cell batteries or any items other than the ones listed above into the collection boxes as they may cause harm to the companies that are in charge of the recycling process. Dispose of batteries in the designated battery disposal boxes located at Seika Town Hall, local assembly halls, and other locations.





Allies for the Environment December 1

The K.K.T. event, an event focused on educating children about the environment, took place at the Seika Town Hall Exchange Hall. At the event, ceremonies were held recognizing the efforts of a select few elementary school students who kept diaries and wrote daily entries for three months regarding the environment, and young artists who created the winning pieces for the Kizugawa River Beautification Committee's summer art exhibition event.

In addition, with the cooperation of the Kyoto Center for Climate Actions, participants of the K.K.T. event were educated about global warming and took part in putting together their own solar-powered rainbow trees.



Thank You for All Your Hard Work! November 22

In preparation for Labor Day on November 23, children from Seika's preschools and kindergartens visited Seika Town Hall between November 14~22.

The children expressed their feeling of thanks to the mayor and others that work hard for their well-being. Along with their message of thanks, they brought gifts of flowers and hand-made crafts.



The Inviting Sounds of Fall November 23

Over 100 people came to enjoy the music event entitled "Autumn Breeze Harmonies." The fall concert consisted of pipe organ, vocal, and woodwind ensemble performances by Doshisha University students and graduates, and was held at the Seika Town Exchange Hall.

The audience joined in on the fall music making by singing along with the encore song "Furusato." Many attendants expressed their thanks for making their Labor Day holiday a fun one.





Working Together for Human Rights

December 3

In lieu of Human Rights Week (December 4 ~ December 10), local residents woke up bright and early on December 3 to promote community development that is respectful of human rights at every train station in Seika Town.

The local Chamber of Commerce, welfare association, JA Kyoto Yamashiro, and other groups participated in raising awareness by passing out informational goods and calling for a deeper understanding and recognition of human rights problems in Seika.



Promoting Fair Elections

A children's poster contest promoting fair elections was recently held by the Kyoto Prefecture Election Administration Commission and the Kyoto Prefecture Fair Election Promotion Committee. Two local children from Seika Town received recognition for their submissions.

5th grader Sotaro Kaiden from Higashi Hikari Elementary School and 6th grader Hanako Wakiya from Yamadasho Elementary School received special Commission Chairman Awards for their illustrations promoting fair elections. Congratulations!



By Sotaro Kaiden
5th grade Higashi Hikari Elem.



By Hanako Wakiya
6th grade Yamadasho Elem.

Putting a Stop to Drunk Driving

If you know you will be driving the next day, refrain from drinking too much and cut yourself off earlier rather than later.

Make sure you have a designated driver to take you home or use a driving service if you plan on drinking. Riding a bicycle while intoxicated is also dangerous and is considered driving under the influence. Don't ride your bicycle after drinking!

Be aware that drunk driving is considered a crime. Take the necessary steps and create a proper environment to prevent yourself and others from driving under the influence.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation, and let's start the New Year off healthy and accident free!





Seika Town Events

13th Park Photo Exhibition

An annual park photo exhibition held at Keihanna Commemorative Park. Photos of the park throughout the seasons taken by both professions and amateur photographers will be available for viewing

Date: 1/26 (Sat.) ~ 2/24 (Sun.), 9:00AM ~ 5:00PM (closing at 4:00 on last day)

Place: Suikeien Kangetsuro ground floor

Fee: Suikeien park entrance fee (200 yen)



Hina-ningyo Ornamental Doll Exhibition

Dolls used in the celebration of Girls' Day to pray for the healthy growth of girls will be displayed for public viewing.

Date: 2/4 (Mon.) ~ 3/3 (Sun.), 9:00AM ~ 5:00PM

Place: Suikeien Kangetsuro ground floor

Fee: Suikeien park entrance fee (200 yen)



QUICK LIST

Welcome to the Quick List, a short list of vocabulary words in both English and Japanese.

This month's theme: The Chinese Zodiac

Please send us feedback! Is this list at a good level? If you have topic suggestions please let us know.



**2019 is the
Year of the Pig!**

1. 亥年 (いとしね) — Year of the Boar (2019)
2. 子年 (ねとし) — Year of the Rat (2020)
3. 丑年 (うしとし) — Year of the Ox (2021)
4. 寅年 (とらとし) — Year of the Tiger (2022)
5. 卯年 (うとし) — Year of the Rabbit (2023)
6. 辰年 (たつとし) — Year of the Dragon (2024)
7. 巳年 (みとし) — Year of the Snake (2025)
8. 午年 (うまとし) — Year of the Horse (2026)
9. 未年 (ひつじとし) — Year of the Sheep (2027)
10. 申年 (さるとし) — Year of the Monkey (2028)
11. 酉年 (とりとし) — Year of the Rooster (2029)
12. 戌年 (いぬとし) — Year of the Dog (2030)

単語



Seika Town Events

Setsubun Bean Throwing and Fun with Origami

Chase out the demons and welcome fortune into your home by celebrating Setsubun with us! The first 100 people will be able to participate in the traditional bean throwing that takes place during Setsubun. There will also be an origami corner where event goers can fold Setsubun origami decorations. Oni wa soto, fuku wa uchi!

Date: 2/3 (Sun.) 2:00PM ~ 4:00PM

Place: Suikeien Kangetsuro ground floor (Keihanna Com. Park)

Fee: Suikeien park entrance fee (200 yen)



Valentine's Day Concert – Flute and Keyboard performance

Come listen to the lovely sounds of the duo Ripple as they perform their annual Valentine's Day concert at the beautiful Kangetsuro Gallery in Suikeien at Keihanna Commemorative Park.

Date: 2/10 (Sun.), 2:00~3:00PM

Place: Suikeien Kangetsuro ground floor (Keihanna Com. Park)

Fee: Suikeien park entrance fee (200 yen)



Tamatebako Treasure Box of Sounds Vol. 17

Join Chiaki Fujimoto as they perform a variety of songs for the 17th edition of the Tamatebako entitled "Let's Enjoy Jazz!"

Date: 2/3 (Sun.), 1:30PM (venue opens at 1:00PM)

Place: Seika Town Hall – Exchange Hall (Koryu Hall)

Sponsor: Seika Town Cultural Association



Keihanna Plaza Puchi Concert in Takayama

The Puchi Concert series takes to the road with a performance at the Takayama Science Plaza located in Ikoma City, Nara. Themed "Poland On My Mind," the concert will consist of performances of Chopin's Ballade No. 3, Op. 47, 4 Polish Dances by Szymanowski, and other pieces.

Date: 1/15 (Tues.), 12:15PM ~ 12:45PM

Place: Takayama Science Plaza (Nara-ken, Ikoma-shi, Takayama-cho 8916-12)





Seika Town Events

Keihanna Plaza Puchi Concert

Mini classical music concerts held in the Keihanna Plaza atrium lobby.

Set-list (by session):

- ① Humoresques – Dvorak,
Violin Sonata No. 5 “Spring” 1st Movement –
Beethoven
- ② Sapho Act III: O ma lyre immortelle – Gounod,
Andante spianato – Chopin

Date:

- ① 1/16 (Wed.) 12:15~12:45PM
- ② 1/30 (Wed.) 12:15~12:45PM



Seika Town Facility Schedules

Sōraku Emergency Medical Clinic Schedule

Date	Specialty	Date	Specialty																														
1/1 (Hol./Tue.)	Internal Medicine	2/3 (Sun.)	Pediatrics																														
1/2 (Wed.)	Internal Medicine	2/10 (Sun.)	Internal Medicine · Pediatrics																														
1/3 (Thur.)	Internal Medicine	2/11 (Hol./Mon.)	Internal Medicine																														
1/6 (Sun.)	Internal Medicine · Pediatrics	2/17 (Sun.)	Pediatrics																														
1/13 (Sun.)	Internal Medicine	2/24 (Sun.)	Internal Medicine · Pediatrics																														
1/14 (Hol./Mon.)	Internal Medicine · Pediatrics	<div>Health Center</div> <table><tr><th>Date</th><th>Time</th><th>Details</th></tr><tr><td>1/7 (Mon.)</td><td>1:30~3:30PM</td><td>Papa & Mama Class - Baby Food</td></tr><tr><td>1/9 (Wed.)</td><td>1:00PM~</td><td>3.5 yr. Old Health Check-up</td></tr><tr><td>1/10 (Thur.)</td><td>1:00PM~</td><td>2 yr. old Dental Check-up</td></tr><tr><td>1/11 (Fri.)</td><td>1:00PM~</td><td>1.5 yr. Old Health Check-up</td></tr><tr><td>1/15 (Tues.)</td><td>1:00PM~</td><td>9-10 mon. Old Health Check-up</td></tr><tr><td>1/17 (Thur.)</td><td>1:00PM~</td><td>3-4 mon. Old Health Check-up</td></tr><tr><td>2/3 (Sun.)</td><td>9:30AM~12:00PM</td><td>Papa & Mama Class - Parenting</td></tr><tr><td>2/5 (Tues.)</td><td>1:00PM~</td><td>3.5 yr. Old Health Check-up</td></tr><tr><td>2/7 (Thur.)</td><td>1:00PM~</td><td>2 yr. old Dental Check-up</td></tr></table>		Date	Time	Details	1/7 (Mon.)	1:30~3:30PM	Papa & Mama Class - Baby Food	1/9 (Wed.)	1:00PM~	3.5 yr. Old Health Check-up	1/10 (Thur.)	1:00PM~	2 yr. old Dental Check-up	1/11 (Fri.)	1:00PM~	1.5 yr. Old Health Check-up	1/15 (Tues.)	1:00PM~	9-10 mon. Old Health Check-up	1/17 (Thur.)	1:00PM~	3-4 mon. Old Health Check-up	2/3 (Sun.)	9:30AM~12:00PM	Papa & Mama Class - Parenting	2/5 (Tues.)	1:00PM~	3.5 yr. Old Health Check-up	2/7 (Thur.)	1:00PM~	2 yr. old Dental Check-up
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1/27 (Sun.)	Internal Medicine · Pediatrics																																

※Please call in in advance to confirm visit

Sōraku Emergency Medical Clinic (TEL: 0774-73-9988)

Mukunoki Center

Date	Time	Details
1/9 (Wed.)	15:00~17:00PM	Table Tennis Day
1/16 (Wed.)	15:00~17:00PM	Table Tennis Day
1/23 (Wed.)	-	Closed
1/27 (Sun.)	9:00AM~12:00PM	Hohoemi Sports Arena
1/30 (Wed.)	15:00~17:00PM	Table Tennis Day
2/6 (Wed.)	15:00~17:00PM	Table Tennis Day

Sister City News



Visitors viewing the Science on a Sphere exhibit at the National Weather Center

Cooperating to Understand the Atmosphere

The National Weather Center (NWC) in Norman is a large research center that hosts students from Oklahoma University, government agencies, research scientists and other parties interested in researching topics regarding weather science. Opened in 2006, the five-story, 23,225 m² research center is home to many researchers that study Earth's atmospheric events, and conduct various experiments to further our understanding of Earth's weather. Visitors to the center can view the Science On a Sphere, a spherical, digital projection display system suspended in mid-air that is used to help simply explain complex atmospheric events. Be sure to stop by the NWC if you are interested in weather science!

(Picture courtesy of FEMA)

About our Sister City - Norman, Oklahoma

Seika Town has maintained a sister city relationship with Norman, a city located in Oklahoma, USA, since 2005, and a friendly relationship through Kyoto Prefecture's sister state connection since 1985. The two municipalities work together to promote international exchange and cultural understanding to create more globally-minded communities.

Seika Town Hall

Planning and Coordination Division

Kyoto-fu, Sōraku-gun, Seika-cho

Minami-Inayazuma, Kitajiri 70

TEL: 0774-95-1900

FAX: 0774-95-3971

EMAIL: cir@town.seika.lg.jp

What to do if...

You have a question about something in Ichigo:

Call the Coordinator for International Relations at the Seika Town Hall. 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 the Coordinator for International Relations at Seika Town Hall.

TEL: 0774-95-1900 FAX: 0774-95-3971 EMAIL: cir@town.seika.lg.jp or kikaku@town.seika.lg.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>

Find us online!

Facebook



Town Website



いちふじ にたか さんなすび
一富士、二鷹、三茄子
Mt. Fuji, eagles, and eggplants

In Japanese culture, it is said that seeing Mt. Fuji, eagles, and eggplants in your first dream of the New Year means you will have particularly good luck. What did you see in your first dream this year? Have a safe and healthy New Year!

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