

# OKINAWA CITY Newsletter

December 2015 Vol. 15 No. 12

Okinawa-shi Yakusho Bunka Kanko Ka (5F) 26-1 Nakasone-Cho, Okinawa City, Okinawa 904-8501



## Events

**20th Anniversary**  
 20年ドッキドキの  
 スーパーオーロラトラクション  
 沖繩最大級の聖誕節活動  
 オキナワ(沖繩) 최대級のクリスマス イベント  
 巨大サンタ! 湖に出現!

**2015**  
**12.23** Wed **28** Mon  
**OKINAWA ZOO AND MUSEUM**

Adult & high school students: Advance ¥1,800, At Gate ¥2,200  
 Children from (through) junior high school: Advance ¥1,000, At Gate ¥1,200  
 3 years old and younger admission free

各プレイガイドにて12月23日まで前売券発売中!!  
 Available at KADENA ITT/MCCS Tours

お問い合わせ: 沖繩こどもの国 (098) 933-4190  
<http://www.xmas-fantasy.com/>

### Okinawa Zoo Park Christmas Fantasy 2015 December 23 (Wed) ~ 28 (Mon)

**Come in Total-Christmas costume and get food coupon!**

**Adults & High School Students:** ¥1,800 in advance  
 ¥2,200 at the gate  
**Age 4~ JHS Students\*:** ¥1,000 in advance  
 ¥1,200 at the gate \*Must be accompanied by an adult  
**Free for ages 3 & under!**

Advance tickets are available for purchase at the following locations until **December 23**: All CoCo Stores/ All Co-op stores/ Ryubo (Palette Kumoji)/ Yuiwork/ Kadena ITT/ Okinawa Expressway rest areas/ Family Mart (e+)/ Lawson (L code 84159)/ MCCS Tours  
 \*Zoo tickets must be purchased separately.  
 \*Gates to the event open at 16:00.  
 \*Temporary parking will be available at Koza Sports Park and the Okinawa City Hall. Free shuttle bus services will be available from these locations. Please use this free service, as the zoo vicinity is expected to be very crowded.

**Contact:** Okinawa Zoo Park 933-4190  
 Christmas Fantasy Executive Committee 936-0134  
 For more details and information:  
<http://www.xmas-fantasy.com/>

### FY 2015 Okinawa City Disaster Prevention Drill Took Place

~To prepare for emergencies~

The disaster prevention drill was held on November 5 (Thu) for all area in Okinawa City with more than 20,000 participants. This aimed to build awareness for disaster prevention during an earthquake or tsunami. It was conducted under the assumption that there was a strong earthquake throughout Okinawa and giant tsunami alert was announced. Participants tried to evacuate to designated sites at each area with information given through the IP radio.

Total Population: 140,315 [Japanese Population] Male: 67,241 Female: 71,819  
 [Foreign Population (44 Countries)] Male: 737 Female: 518

The Okinawa City Hall's *Bunka Kanko Ka* (the Culture & Tourism Division) selects excerpts from the city's public relations newsletter (*Koho Okinawa*) and published them in English and Chinese in hopes of better serving our community of residents who may have difficulty reading or understanding Japanese. **These articles are translated by the Culture & Tourism Division staff and are provided for reference only. Administrative services are provided in Japanese only (unless otherwise indicated).** For English support, please email: [kokusai@city.okinawa.okinawa.jp](mailto:kokusai@city.okinawa.okinawa.jp). You can also view monthly issues of the newsletters and other information about living in Okinawa City by clicking the ENGLISH/中文 link on the Okinawa City website: <http://www.city.okinawa.okinawa.jp/>

# Administrative Announcements

## ▶ Notice Concerning *Rinji Fukushi Kyufu Kin* (Temporary Welfare Allowance)

Application Deadline: **January 15, 2016 (Fri)**

Application by mail has to be postmarked by the last day of the application period.

■ **Eligibility** :Residents of Okinawa City who are exempted from residential tax for the FY 2015.

However, the exceptions are the following:

- Dependents of a residential tax payer.
- Beneficiaries of public assistance.

\*\*\* **Applicant must have their resident status at the time they are approved to get the allowance.**

■ **Amount of allowance**: 6,000 yen per eligible person (This is a one-time payment allowance.)

■ **Steps to Apply**: The application form will be sent to eligible persons (or those who can be eligible) from Okinawa City Hall. Fill out the form, stamp your *inkan* and attach the documents required. After the application is accepted, the payment will be made to your bank account in order of applicants whose eligibility is confirmed. (It will take about two months.)

Notification regarding *Kosodate Setai Tokurei Kyufukin* (Temporary Allowance for Families with Small Children)

Please apply ahead of time if:

1. You haven't submitted your current status notice.
2. You received the notice of *Kosodate Setai Tokurei Kyufukin* (Temporary Allowance for Families with Small Children) from Okinawa City.
3. You are a government employee.

■ **Application Period**: **December 11, 2015 (Fri)**

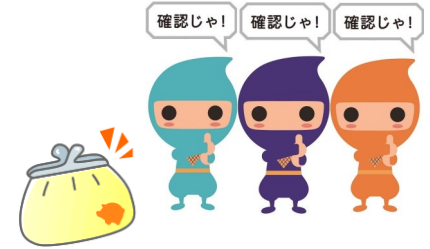
■ **Where to Apply** :If #1 applies to you, visit *Kodomo Katei Ka* (Children's Welfare Division)/ For #2 & #3, visit the **administration office on basement level 2 of Okinawa City Hall**

**For inquiries regarding the Allowance:**

*Rinji Fukushi Kyufu Kin* & *Kosodate Setai Rinji Tokurei Kyufu Kin Tanto*

(Persons in charge of "Temporary Welfare Allowance" & "Temporary Allowance for Families with Small Children")

Basement Level 2 (B2) of Okinawa City Hall Call Center : 098-894-6122 (Direct number)



## ▶ *Furusato Nozei* (Local Town Support Tax)

**A system to support your hometown, Okinawa City.**

**What is *Furusato Nozei*...?**

This system allows you to contribute to your hometown, Okinawa City, by making a voluntary tax donation.

**How does it work?**

If you make a local town support tax donation to any municipality more than 2,000 yen, you will get a deduction on your income tax (for the current year) and residential tax (for the following fiscal year) up to the defined limit. To receive the deduction, you must pay income tax and residential tax to Japan and are required to submit your receipts for local town support tax payments.

**You can choose from specific categories how your support tax will be used in Okinawa City:**

Support for the City of Eisa/ Support for the Children's City/ Mayor's Choice (Support for Education, welfare or urban improvement etc..)

Please contact below for details :

**About the donation system:**

*Zaisei Ka* (Financial Division)  
ext.2332

**About tax deduction:**

*Simin Zei Ka* (Resident's Tax Division)  
ext.3252/3253/3254/3255



## ▶ Regarding National Pension Premium Payment

To make a payment for national pension premium, you can use the payment slip which is sent by Japan Pension Service and pay at your nearest banking facilities, post offices, convenience stores and ATMs. You can also pay by credit card and through the internet.

To prevent from forgetting or getting behind on your payments, you can also make automatic payments using your bank account. This will allow you to make advanced payment at discounted prices as follows:

**Discounted price for advanced payments (FY 2015):**



- Advanced payment for a month  
→ ¥50 discount (for the month)
- Advanced payment for 6 months  
→ ¥1,060 discount (for the 6 months)
- Advanced payment for a year  
→ ¥3,920 discount (for the year)
- Advanced payment for two years  
→ ¥14,800 discount (for the two years)

The National Pension System will support your life financially when you get older and in case of unpredictable accidents. Please make sure you make payments within the given payment due date.

Contact: Koza Pension Agency  
TEL: 933-3437/933-3438/933-3439

*Shimin Ka* (Residential Division)  
ext.2130/2131



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## ▶ Okinawa City Fureai Noen (Interact Farm) is Open For Tenants!

Fureai Noen is open for citizens to provide opportunities to understand agribusiness through cultivation of vegetables.

**Period of Usage:** April 1, 2016 – March 31, 2018

**Location:** 3392-33, 3392-38 Sedobaru, Ikehara, Okinawa City

**Eligibility:**

- Those who are registered as an Okinawa City citizen, and also will continue residing for another two years or longer.
- Those who don't make their living as a farmer.

**Application Period:** January 12 (Tue)- 26 (Tue), 2016

**How to Apply:** Submit the application form with your resident certificate (*Jumin Hyo Shohon* 住民票抄本). \*Application form is available at *Norin Suisan Ka*, Okinawa City Hall (2F) and Nomin Kensyu Center

**Available Plots and the Prices:**

**Dimension (in red) Number of Plots (in green)/Annual Usage Fee (in black)**

100㎡(12)/ ¥6,000, 75㎡(13)/ ¥4,500, 60㎡ (1) /¥3,600, 50㎡ (76) /¥3,000

**Contact:** *Nomin Kenshu* Center (Okinawa City Agricultural Training Center) TEL:938-9121

**Office Hour:** Monday-Friday 9:00—17:00

\*Except for Weekends, Japanese holidays, End-of-the-year holiday and New Year's holiday.



## ▶ Regarding Farmer's Pension

The Farmer's pension is established based on Japanese law for farmers.

You are eligible to enroll in this pension system if you are a category 1 insured person who is under 60 years old and work on a farm for more than 60 days a year. Please contact the division in charge for more details.

**Contact:** Okinawa City *Nogyo linkai* (Agricultural Committee) Ext. 2041



## ▶ 2016 Okinawa City Coming-of-Age Reception



**Date & Time:** January 10 (Sun), 2016  
14:00 (Doors open at 13:30)

**Venue:** Okinawa City Civic Hall (Large Hall)

**Eligibility:** Those who were born between April 2nd, 1995 and April 1st, 1996.

The eligible person residing in Okinawa City will be notified by postcard in December.

\*Even if you are residing outside of Okinawa City, you can attend the reception as long as you are from Okinawa City. Please contact the division in charge for any questions.

**Contact:** *Shogai Gakushu Ka* (Career Planning Division) Ext. 2742

## ▶ Clean Day in Okinawa City



~Let's clean up our city!~

Okinawa City and each neighborhood association got together and held a clean day event on November 8 (Sun).

This event aimed to open people's eyes to build a better environment without littering through cleaning up.

The participants from all ages picked up trash and sorted them out.

The total amount of collected trash for the day turned out to be 4,004Kg!



## ▶ Volunteers Wanted!

Okinawa City International Association is now accepting registration for language support volunteers

This program provides support to foreign residents to lessen the difficulties of the language barrier while living in a Japanese community. If you or your friends can help, please register and become a part of the multilingual/multicultural supporters.

OCIA is looking for volunteers who are bilingual between Japanese and one of the following languages: English/Chinese/ Spanish/ Korean. Any other language skills are welcomed.

**Requirements:**

- 18 years old or older
- Available on weekdays/weekends during the daytime
- Reachable by phone or Email

**Language support may be used in the following areas:**

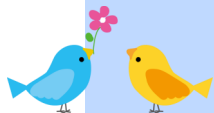
Events organized by Okinawa City/ OCIA/ Koza International Plaza, job-search support, procedures at public organizations such as the chamber of commerce, pension office, government provided health checkups/ home visit program/ individual consultations, and .

\* You will not be asked to do any kind of support related to medical treatment or support which other translation companies can cover.

**How to register:** Contact Okinawa City International Association office and schedule an interview as well as submit the designated application form . Face photo will be required for your registration. (Photo size: 5cm × 4.4cm)

Contact: Okinawa City International Association

Administrative manager: Ms. Makabe (13:00—17:00)



**All services are provided in JAPANESE ONLY (unless otherwise indicated). For postal and emailing services, or any inquiries in ENGLISH, please email: kokusai@city.okinawa.okinawa.jp**

Okinawa-shi Yakusho Bunka Kanko Ka (5F) 26-1 Nakasone-Cho, Okinawa City, Okinawa 904-8501

## ▶ Announcement Regarding the Basic Resident Register Card

### The issuance of Basic Resident Register Card will end.

With the starting of the "Social Security and Tax Number (My Number) System" and individual number to be issued after January 2016, the issuance of **Basic Resident Register Card\*** will end on December 28, 2015. (If identification reference is required, the application has to be submitted no later than Monday, December 14, 2015.)

\*You cannot keep both **Basic Resident Register Card** and **Individual Number Card\*** (your Basic Resident Register Card will be collected at the issuance of your Identification Number Card).

\*If you don't acquire an **Individual Number Card**, you can use your current **Basic Resident Register Card** as long as it's valid.

### The issuance of Electronic Certificate on Basic Resident Register Card will End

With the starting of the "Social Security and Tax Number (My Number) System", the issuance of **Electronic Certificate\*** on **Basic Resident Register Card** will be concluded on December 22, 2015. If you wish to get an electronic certificate newly issued or updated on Basic Resident Register Card, make sure you apply by December 22, 2015, 17:00. This applies to those who has one that expires after January 2016.

After January 2016, the electronic certificate will be issued only on your identification number card but be careful because there is a possibility that the issuance of your My Number Card won't make it on time of the tax filing period.

### Regarding getting the electronic certificate newly issued or updated on the Basic Resident Register Card (Until December 22, 2015)

**Charge of Service: ¥500**

**What to Bring:** Basic Resident Register Card with an electronic certificate to be updated, identification document (an official document with a picture such as driver's license/ passport/ Basic Resident Register Card with a picture)

**Operation Hour: 8:30 – 17:00** (except for 12:00 – 13:00)

Please visit **Shimin Ka (Residential Division)** to apply.

**Contact: Shimin Ka (Residential Division) Ext. 3115/ 3116/ 3117**

### \*\*\* ...Explanation of Terms

*Jumin Kihon Daicho Card (Juki Card)*

**"Basic Resident Register Card"**

with your **Electronic Certificate** is issued.



*Tsuchi Card*  
**"Individual Number Notification Card"**

All residents will receive it at the registered address after October 2015.

This card includes your personal information and notifies your **Individual Number** that you will need for various administrative procedures. Please make sure you keep this with you.



**"Individual Number Card"**  
You can apply for issuance if you wish after you received the **Tsuchi Card (Individual Number Notification Card)**



## Okinawa City Library News

**Book readings & hand games:** Saturdays, Dec, 12 & 19 and 26 starting at 3:00 pm

**Days Closed:** Dec 7(Mon), 14 (Mon), 21(Mon), 23(Wed: The Emperor's Birthday) and 27 (Sun) for inspection day, 28 (Mon),29(Tue) - 31(Thu) for end-of-the-year holiday and January 1(Fri)-3(Sun) For New Year's holiday.

**Place:** Okinawa City Library 2F ※Up to 20 books per person.

**Address:** 2-19-6 Uechi, Okinawa City 098-932-6881



## KIP Event!

### Shodo Workshop~Japanese Calligraphy

**Saturday, January 9, 2016**

**2 pm-4 pm**

Instructor: Ms. Kazuko Miyahira

Open to 10 foreign residents who live or work in Okinawa City

Fee for Materials: ¥200

Reservation Required by December 25

Ink may smear your clothes. Please bring an apron if possible.

**Venue: KIP (Koza International Plaza) Tel: 098-989-6759**



## Consultation Services to Non-Native Japanese Speakers

We provide information and referrals to the relevant offices.

**Mondays → Chinese**

**Thursdays → Spanish**

**Fridays → English**

**1 pm-4 pm**

**\*Appointment Required**

**Koza International Plaza**

**Tel: 098-989-6759**



**Would you like our newsletters emailed or mailed to you? Let us know!**

Email: [kokusai@city.okinawa.okinawa.jp](mailto:kokusai@city.okinawa.okinawa.jp)

You can also visit, call or fax us at:

Okinawa-shi Yakusho Bunka Kanko Ka

**沖縄市役所 文化観光課 (5F)**

26-1 Nakasone-Cho, Okinawa City, Okinawa

Tel: (098) 929-0261 FAX: (098) 939-7341



## Koza International Plaza

Contact KIP for free Japanese classes, legal consultations, fun events and MORE!

1-17-15 Chuo, Okinawa City

TEL 989-6759 FAX 989-6758

Monday-Sunday 10:00~ 21:00

E-mail: [okinawa\\_kip@yahoo.co.jp](mailto:okinawa_kip@yahoo.co.jp)

<https://ja-jp.facebook.com/ociakip>



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