



# OKINAWA CITY Newsletter

December 2019 Vol. 19 No. 12

Okinawa-shi Yakusho Bunka Geino Ka (B1) 26-1 Nakasone-Cho, Okinawa City, Okinawa 904-8501

## Events



24th Okinawa Zoo & Museum  
年末・年始イベント  
2019-2020  
12/21~1/5  
Dec. Saturday Jan. Sunday  
開催時間 Time 16:30~21:30  
※12/23、12/26、1/1はお休みです。  
※12/31は開催時間が異なります。

クリスマスファンタジー  
沖縄で里が降るオーロラが観れる。

2019 12/21~30 Christmas Fantasy  
※12/23、26はお休みです。

年末カウントダウン 特別開催時間 20:00-25:00  
12/31  
日本最大級音と光と花火のスーパーオーロラアトラクション  
毎日開催!

雪と光の冬物語  
Snow and light winter story  
2020 1/2~5  
Jan. Thursday Sunday

## Okinawa Zoo & Museum Christmas Fantasy 2019

December 21 (Sat)~ 30 (Mon) 16:30-21:30

\*Closed on Dec. 23 & 26.

Exciting super laser light show, Zombie Street to bring excitement, and more attractions are waiting for you!

\*\*There are more events between [Dec 21\(Sat\)-Jan 5\(Sun\)](#) to entertain your vacation. Please see the link below for more event information! ※[Facility closed on Dec. 23,26 and Jan.3.](#)

<https://www.kozaweb.jp/event/detail.html?&sp=true&id=5128>

### <Tickets>

Adults & High School Students (age 16+):

¥1,800 in advance ¥2,200 at the gate

Age 4~ JHS Students (age 15)\*:

¥1,000 in advance ¥1,200 at the gate

\*Must be accompanied by an adult

Free for age 3 & under!

Advance tickets are available for purchase at the following locations until **December 21**:

Co-op (Naha Shintoshin)/ Ryubo (Palette Kumoji)/ Yui-work/  
Kadena ITT/ Okinawa Expressway rest areas/  
Family Mart (e+)/ Lawson (L code 81833)/ Seven-eleven (Seven Ticket/ )MCCS Tours

\*No foods and drinks allowed to be brought into the event venue.

\*Gates to the event open after 16:30

\*Temporary parking will be available at Okinawa City Hall.

Free shuttle bus services will be available between following facilities and event venue:

Okinawa City Hall <Hour:16:30-22:00>

Please use this free service, as the zoo vicinity is expected to be very crowded.

Contact:

Christmas Fantasy Executive Committee 098-936-0134

Total Population: 142,442

[Japanese Population] Male: 68,008 Female: 72,690

[Foreign Population (55 Countries)] Male: 1,070 Female: 674

The Okinawa City Hall's *Bunka Geino Ka* (the Culture & Traditional Arts 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 & Traditional Arts 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.lg.jp/>

# Administrative Announcements

## ▶ Grants for Home Solar Panel Systems

**Application Period:** Until March 31(Tue), 2020  
**Grant Amount:** ¥50,000 per house (※58 houses left available for grants as of October 2019.)

### Main Terms & Conditions:

1. Your address is registered in Okinawa City.
2. You're not behind on tax payments.
3. You can report information that is required by Okinawa City.  
Eligible Systems for the Grant:
  1. The product is unused.
  2. The product is NOT for lease.
  3. You installed a home solar panel system in the house you live in, and have started or will be receiving services from the electric company since between Apr 1, 2019 and Mar 31, 2020.
  4. Another member of the household is not receiving the same grant.



**How to Apply:** Submit the application and other required documents at the service window below.

**Required Documents:** Application form, copy of contract document and confirmation document of solar panel system electric service.

**Contact:** Kankyo Ka ext. 2227 (Environment Division)

English speaking staff available.

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

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

**Period of Usage:** April 1, 2020 – March 31, 2022

**Location:** Ikehara, Okinawa City (On north from South East Botanical Gardens for 400m and on the right side, 200m short of Kurashiki Dam)

### Eligibility:

- Those who are registered as an Okinawa City citizen.
- Those who don't make their living as a farmer.

**Application Period:** January 14(Tue)- 31(Fri), 2019

**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 after Jan. 14(Tue)

### Available Plots and the Prices:

①Dimension (②Number of Plots) /③Annual Usage Fee

①100㎡(②12)/ ③¥6,000,

①75㎡(②13)/ ③¥4,500,

①60㎡(②1)/ ③¥3,600,

①50㎡(②76)/③¥3,000

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

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

**Selection by lottery:** February, 2020 (tentative)

Contact: Nomin Kensyu Center (Okinawa City Agricultural Training Center)TEL:098-938-9121



## ▶ Your National Pension Contributions are Subject to Tax Deductions as “Social Insurance Contribution”

Your national pension premiums (contributions) are subject to tax deductions as “social insurance contribution” and you may be able to reduce the amount of your taxable income for the year.

**Premiums subject to tax deductions** include the total amount of contributions you paid between January to December 2019. Past payments, additional payments, and payments made on behalf of your dependent family members are also subject to tax deductions.

In order for deductions to apply, you must attach proof of premium payments when you file:

KakuteiShinkoku  
Taxes (確定申告)  
Year-end Adjustment  
Nenmatsu Chousei  
(年末調整).  
shakai hokenryo  
“社会保険料  
kokumin nenkin hokenryo  
(国民年金保険料)  
kojo shomeisho  
控除証明書”  
(deduction certificate)



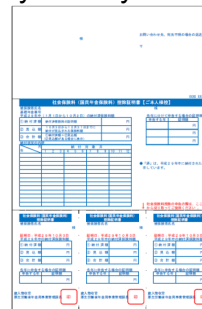
Inside the post card

The post card on the left column will be mailed to you from the Japan Pension Service during the following months:

**If you made payments between JAN 1 and SEP 30:** post cards are sent at the beginning of November

**If you made your first payment between OCT 1 and DEC 31:** they will be sent at the beginning of February 2020

Please be sure to attach this postcard when you file your taxes.



\*If you requested for the re-issuance of the deduction certificate, you will receive another document form in a A4 size envelope. If you receive it, you must attach it when you file.

For details, please contact:

**Koza Pension Office** at 098-933-2267.

**Contact:** *Shimin Ka, Kokumin Nenkin Tanto* (Residential Division, person in charge of National Pension)  
Ext. 2131/ 2133

**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.lg.jp](mailto:kokusai@city.okinawa.lg.jp)

## ▶ **!Have You Received the Pneumococcal Vaccination for the Elderly?—Services Will Be Available No Later Than March 31, 2020!**



If you live in Okinawa City and wish to receive this vaccination, you can receive it for a subsidized rate. **※Please note!** If you have already received the pneumococcal vaccine (23-Valent), you will not be eligible to receive it at the subsidized rate.

### **Vaccination Period:**

Until March 31, 2020 (Tuesday)

**Where you can get vaccinated:** Any designated medical facility. (Fees for vaccinations received at other facilities will not be subsidized.) **Please make sure you bring your resident card.**

**Vaccination Fee:** Covered by government.

\*Those who are between 60 and 64 years old with heart, kidney, respiratory function or HIV related immunity disorder (equivalent to physical disability level 1) are also eligible to this vaccination.

This is a **one time** vaccination.

\*Vaccination types and schedules in foreign countries (including military bases) may differ.

**Please come to the service window in advance with your resident card and your vaccination history.**

**Contact:** *Kodomo Sodan Kenko Ka, Yobo Gakari*

(Child Consultation/ Health Division Vaccination Section) ext. 2232, 2233

Age as of the FY 2019	You are eligible if you were born on or between the days listed below.
65	Born between April 2, 1954~ April 1, 1955
70	Born between April 2, 1949~ April 1, 1950
75	Born between April 2, 1944~ April 1, 1945
80	Born between April 2, 1939~ April 1, 1940
85	Born between April 2, 1934~ April 1, 1935
90	Born between April 2, 1929~ April 1, 1930
95	Born between April 2, 1924~ April 1, 1925
100 and over	Born April 1, 1920 and before

## ▶ **Applications for Premium Vouchers –It Is Approaching Deadline!**

Premium Vouchers are issued to ease the effects that the increase in consumption tax will have on households, while supporting the local economy.

### **Eligibility**

#### **① Premium Vouchers (for Households Exempt from Paying Resident Tax)**

Those registered as an Okinawa City resident as of January 1, 2019, and are exempt from paying Resident Tax for the FY 2019.

However, the following persons are not eligible:

- You are receiving support from someone who is paying taxes.
- You are a receiving social welfare.

### **Process Flow:**

1. Apply for vouchers (between Jun.-Dec.)
2. Get voucher exchange tickets in the mail in the end of Sep.
3. Purchase vouchers with the exchange tickets (by Jan.31 (Fri), 2020)

4. Use the vouchers (by Feb. 29(Sat), 2020)

#### **② Premium Vouchers (for Households with Children)**

Households with children born between April 2, 2016 and September 30, 2019.

### **Process Flow:**

1. Get voucher exchange tickets in the mail (after the end of Sep.)
2. Purchase vouchers with the exchange tickets (by Jan.31 (Fri), 2020)
3. Use the vouchers (by Feb. 29(Sat), 2020)

\*Applications are necessary for ①, not necessary for ②.

\*Households that fall under both ① and ② can apply for both.

**Contact:** *Chuishiijii* Division (Premium Vouchers) 098-923-4300

### **Voucher Price**

A set of ten vouchers, each with a ¥500 value, can be purchased for ¥4,000.

\*One person can purchase up to five sets.

### **Application Deadline:**

**December 27, 2019 (Fri.)**

Effective by postmark date.

Eligible persons should receive applications in the mail in July & November.

\*Eligible persons should receive exchange tickets in the mail around the end of September.

**Where you can get the vouchers:** Bank in the Okinawa City Hall/ Koza Shinkin Bank/ Post Office in Okinawa City

**Where you can get the vouchers:** Supermarkets, convenience stores, gas stations, etc which are joined to this system.



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▶ **Please note:**

December is the payment deadline for the following taxes:

**Real-estate tax** (3rd term): Payment at the bank and also automatic payment due on Dec 25.

**Long-term care insurance premium** (7th term)/ **National health insurance premium** (6th term)/ **Medical care for the elderly insurance premium** (6th term):

Payment at bank and also automatic payment due on Jan 6.

If you use automatic bank transfers, make sure you have enough money in your bank account the day before.



▶ **Subsidies for Home Renovation Construction.**

> A 25% coverage rate (up to ¥250,000);

**Barrier-free or energy-saving construction**

> A coverage up to ¥200,000;

**Block wall removal** -\*This refers to block walls which are facing the road in a school zone, and higher than 1.2m.

**Conditions:**

-The total construction cost must be more than ¥200,000.

-Construction must be able to be completed and reported no later than the end of February 2020.

\*Application will be closed as soon as it fills the budget.

**Contact:** *Shiei Jutaku Ka* (City Housing Management Division) TEL: 098-894-6139 (direct line)



▶ **2020 Okinawa City Coming-of-Age Reception**

**Date & Time:**

**January 12, 2020 (Sun)**

Open: 13:30 Start: 14:00

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

\*Eligible persons residing in Okinawa City will be notified by postcard in mid-November.

\*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. 2743



▶ **2019 Christmas Event at Eisa Museum**

Come visit Eisa Museum for some Christmas entertainment!

-Photo taking with Okinawa City Eisa characters.

-BINGO games.

And MORE...!

Schedule: December 22 (Sun), 23 (Mon) & 24 (Tue)

Venue: Eisa Museum

Visit Eisa Museum Facebook page for more details.

Contact: Eisa Museum

Koza Music Town 1F

1-1-1 Uechi, Okinawa City



▶ **Garbage Collection Schedule During New-year Holiday**

**Burnable/ Non-burnable trash, Recyclables, Plants:**

**Last day to pick-up: Dec. 31(Tue), 2019**

**Pick-up starts on Jan.6(Mon), 2020**

\*Collection time before and after the holiday could change depending on the quantity of trash.

**Bulk Trash:** Call by **Dec 27(FRI)** for pick-up. The trash will be picked up **in the morning of Dec 31(Tue)**.

\*Bulk trash pick-up may be after holiday due to the number of applications.

Trash pick-up and sign-up by phone will start on **Jan 6(Mon)**.

**Contact:** Environment Division (Ext.2223-2226)



▶ **Okinawa City Library News**

**Book readings & hand games:** Saturdays, Dec. 14 & 21 starting at 3:00 pm

**Days Closed:** Dec. 2(Mon), 9(Mon), 16(Mon), 23(Mon), 28(Sat:Inspection), and 29 (Sun)-Jan3 (Fri) for New-year's Holiday.

※Up to 20 books per person.

**Address:** 2-28-1 Chuo, Okinawa City Korinza Mall (1F) TEL: 098-929-4919



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



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