



OKINAWA CITY

Newsletter

January 2016

Vol. 16 No. 1

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

Happy New Year to All Residents of Okinawa City!

Leading Okinawa City to a city with hopes and dreams

Season's Greetings and Best Wishes for the New Year Filled with Hope

In 2015, we have recognized the value of peace, a society which is safe for residents and have been appreciative again for our ancestors who had got through the turbulent times in the past and built the prosperous era.

The population of Okinawa City exceeded 140,000 on July, 2015, and we had a baby elephant named "Ryubi" in Okinawa Zoo. They brightened up our city with smiles of children.

In the sports world, we had outstanding performances by athletes from Okinawa City and built up citizens' excitement as a city of sports. Also, Okinawa City was declared the hometown of Ryukyu Golden Kings, as well as FC Ryukyu, which encourages the construction of the multi-purpose arena which can hold an audience of 10,000.

In the coming year of 2016, the projects of the multi-purpose arena and Okinawa Zoo will be accelerated, as well as the redevelopment of Yamazato district, Ageda Public Housing reconstruction, and the expansion of Rt. 330 in Goya district will be off and running!

In addition, we will work on the building of a new city library and better environment for those who are married, going to give birth, and raising a child, as well as work on the approach of educational facilities for the resolution of waiting lists for nursery schools. This also goes for health strategies for citizens with health care support and financial support for regular flu vaccination for the elderly.

I will exert every effort to realize the vision of "Energetic Okinawa City" becoming the cornerstone of central Okinawa, and would deeply appreciate your continued support and cooperation.

I wish you all the best in health and success.

Sachio Kuwae,
Okinawa City Mayor



Total Population: 140,421

[Japanese Population] Male: 67,318 Female: 71,838
[Foreign Population (44 Countries)] Male: 739 Female: 526



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. 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



▶ Tax deduction application for those with a disability

Individuals with a condition equivalent to those approved for a ^{shogaisha techo}障害者手帳 (physical or mental disability certificate) or ^{ryoiku techo}療育手帳 (psychiatric disability certificate) are also eligible to be approved for tax deductions under income tax and local tax laws.

In Okinawa City, if you are at least 65 years old and certified that you apply to a certain level of physical disability or dementia, you can be approved to be issued a ^{shogaisha techo taishosha ninte}障害者控除対象者認定書 (a tax deduction certificate for persons with a disability) which will allow you to receive a deduction from income at the income tax filing process. If you are eligible for this certificate and need it for filing your taxes, please come to the ^{Korei Fukushi Ka}高齡福祉課 (Elderly Welfare Division) window for assistance with the application process.

※ Those who are already ^{shogaisha techo}障害者手帳 or ^{ryoiku techo}療育手帳 holders can submit their disability certificate to receive tax deductions. They do not need to apply for this service.

<What to bring for the application>

-Applicant's *Inkan* (Mitome-in)

-ID (Driver's License or health insurance card etc.)

※ If someone will be applying on your behalf, please prepare a power of attorney.

(The following is a chart showing those who are eligible)

● Disability reason

Disabled	(1) Equivalent to a light to moderate mental disability (2) Equivalent to a degree 3~6 physical disability
Heavily Disabled	(1) Equivalent to a heavy mental disability (2) Equivalent to a degree 1 or 2 physical disability (3) Bedridden elderly (for at least 6 months)

^{Korei Fukushi Ka} 高齡福祉課 ^{Kaigo Kyufu Gakari} 介護給付係

Contact: ^{Korei Fukushi Ka}高齡福祉課 ^{Kaigo Kyufu Gakari}介護給付係 (Elderly Welfare Division Long-term Care Benefits Section) ext. 2085, 3168

^{shogaisha techo}
障害者控除
(tax deductions for persons with a disability)
An individual tax payer, their dependents or spouse who fit the category of disabled or heavily disabled are eligible for income tax deductions.

Please get an application form from the division in charge.

▶ Filing depreciable assets for the FY 2016

This applies if you own any depreciable assets used for business as of January 1, 2016 (the assessment base date), not including land or building establishments (see "Applicable Assets"). (If you own even one depreciable asset, you are still subject to report and file them, whether or not you are taxed.) Please remember to indicate your line of business. For inquiries regarding special measures for each asset, please contact the division in charge.

- Assets acquired or lost between January 2, 2015~ January 1, 2016
- Assets acquired before January 1, 2015 that you currently own.
- Assets utilized up until now, but disposed or transferred as of January 1, 2016.

- Establishments that were bought or sold, donated or inherited have not yet been registered:
^{shoyusha henko gan}
(所有者変更届 — transfer ownership)
 - The owner of the fixed asset has passed away and the inheritance process is not complete:
^{sozoku daihyosha shitei todoke}
(相続代表者指定届 — inheritance notification)
 - You live outside of Okinawa City and have difficulty making tax payments:
^{nozei kanrinin shitei todoke}
(納税管理人指定届 — tax agent notification)
- Submit a proxy letter if a representative applies to issue any documents related to your income or property.

*Please bring your *inkan*.

^{shisan zei ka}
Contact: 資産税課 (Property Tax Division)
ext. 2254/2255/2256/2257/2258



Filing Period
2016 January 4 (Mon)~ February 1 (Mon)

^{shisan zei ka} ^{kaoku gakari}
Where to file / 資産税課 家屋係
(Property Tax Division, Building Establishment Section)
ext. 2256, 2257

^{shisan zei ka}
Important message from 資産税課

Submit a notice in the following cases:

- Establishments you presently own have been torn down:
^{messhitsu shinkoku sho}
(滅失申告書 — disposition of property report)
- New establishments or extensions to already existing ones have not yet been registered:
^{kaoku shinkoku sho}
(家屋申告書 - building establishment report)
- There is a change in your establishment's intent of use:
^{kaoku shinkoku sho}
(家屋申告書 - building establishment report)

▶ Tax Sale of Movable Assets

Okinawa City will hold a tax sale of movable assets which have been seized for tax default.

Tax sale is conducted to sell tax defaulter's asset and devote the benefit to their delayed tax payment. *This tax sale will be held jointly by Okinawa City and Okinawa prefecture. Items for sale: Movable assets (home appliances etc.)

Date: Jan. 29, 2016 (Fri)

Venue: Aeon Hall, Aeon Mall Rycom 3F

Reception opens between 13:00 -13:30

Public bidding will start at 13:30

Contact: ^{Nozei Ka} (納税課 Tax Collection Division)

Ext. 3264- 3274

***Make Sure to bring your ID.**



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

Events

39th Okinawa City Industry Festival

January 23 (Sat)~ 24 (Sun) *Free Admission

The Okinawa City Industry Festival is a two day event full of entertainment and cultural activities built around the theme of Okinawa City brands. It offers an impressive display of products manufactured and handmade in the city, giving a chance for festival goers to see the various goods local citizens and city leaders take pride in. Products include agricultural crops, marine products, wooden crafts, Ryukyu instruments, pottery, awamori, clothing, food, and more! Visitors will also be able to observe how some of these products are manufactured and purchase many of them on the spot.

*Temporary parking and a shuttle bus service to the venue will be available at Awase port.

Date & Time: January 23 & 24 10:00-18:00 *17:00 on Sunday

Venue: Okinawa Comprehensive Athletic Park Gymnasium



More Announcements...

► New 20-year-old Citizens! You Have Reached the Age to Join the National Pension System



Anyone who lives in Japan between age 20 and 60 are obligated to join the National Pension System. Subscribers who join the system early in their life and keep paying the premium will be able to receive their pension benefit when they get old or in case they develop a disability by injury or illness or lose a wage earner from their family.

-Pension can be a big support in the future-

The pension system is managed by the national government and an ensured life-time benefit.

-It is not only for post-retirement years –

The National Pension System can support you not only when you get old but also has these benefits:

<Disability Pension>

This benefit will be provided in case the subscriber becomes disabled as a result of an accident or diseases.

<Pension for the Bereaved>

In case the subscriber becomes deceased, eligible dependents such as their child or their spouse with child will be qualified for this benefit.

Please contact the pension office or *Shimin Ka* (市民課 City Residential Division) for details or questions about the process:

Koza Pension Office 933-3437/3438/3439

Shimin Ka (市民課 City Residential Division) Ext. 2132/ 2134



► Okinawa City Fire Department CPR Classes Information

(Date/ Time/ Location/ Capacity)

Basic life-saving certification (Category 1)

<CPR/AED/Homeostatic method used in Adults>

Jan.16 (Sat)/9:00- noon/FD Misato HQ/ 30

Jan.26 (Tue)/ 14:00- 17:00/ FD Yamauchi Br./ 15

Basic life-saving certification (Category 3)

<CPR/AED/Homeostatic method/ foreign body removal used in infants/kids>

Jan. 21 (Thu)/ 14:00- 17:00/FD Misato HQ/ 30

Advanced life-saving certification

<CPR/AED/Homeostatic method/ foreign body removal/ first aid/ patient carrier methods used in adults/ infants/ kids>

Jan. 10 (Sun)/ 9:00- 18:00/ FD Misato HQ/ 30

Classes are provided in Japanese only.

Fee: Free

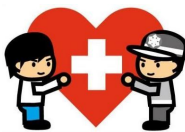
(Certificate will be issued to all participants who complete the class)

Please call below to sign up.

Okinawa shi shobo honbu

Contact: 沖縄市消防本部

Okinawa City Fire Department Headquarter TEL:098-929-0900



► Eisa Expert Class Test will be Open for Challengers

沖縄が世界に誇る伝統芸能
エイサー検定



You can become an Eisa Master!

This test is for people who want to deepen their understanding and familiarity with Eisa.

The detail of the test is as follows:

Date & Time: Jan. 24, 2016 (Sun) 10:30- (90 minutes)

Venue: Okinawa Comprehensive Athletic Park, Gym-Sub arena

Eligibility: Those who passed the 1st grade of Eisa Kentei
*You can take 1st grade examination on the website.
(Examination fee: free)

Examination Fee: ¥1,000

Open for up to 30 people (First come first serve basis)

You can apply by phone, Fax or Email.

Contact: Okinawa City Kanko Bussan Shinko Kyokai
(Tourism & Industry Promotion Association)

TEL: 098-989-5566, **FAX:** 098-989-5567

Email: info@eisa-kentei.info

Website (Japanese only): www.eisa-kentei.info/

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

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▶ Have you received a notification of your “My Number”?

“My Number (Your individual number)” will be officially used for health insurance and tax process after January, 2016.



A notification will be sent to each head of household's registered address as a registered mail/forwarding mail 「転送不要」 with all the household members' notification card (*Tsuchi Card*) enclosed. If you are not at home, an **undeliverable item notice** will be posted and the notification will be stored in the post office for a certain period of time. If you do not claim your notification within the period, it will be sent back to Okinawa City Hall.

If you think this may be your case, please call *Shimin Ka* and confirm your notification is back at the city hall before you come and get it there.

Please follow the direction below

when you come to receive your notification card:

Where to receive the notification card:

Shimin Ka (Citizens Division), 1F Okinawa City Hall

Operation Hour: **Monday – Friday**

(Close on Japanese holidays).

8:30 -17:15 (Except for 12:00 – 13:00)

What to bring:

If you are one of the household members:

Your ID (please follow the required ID chart below)

(Those who live in the same house as the head of household but not registered under the same household will be considered a proxy and must submit separate documents.)

If you are a proxy:

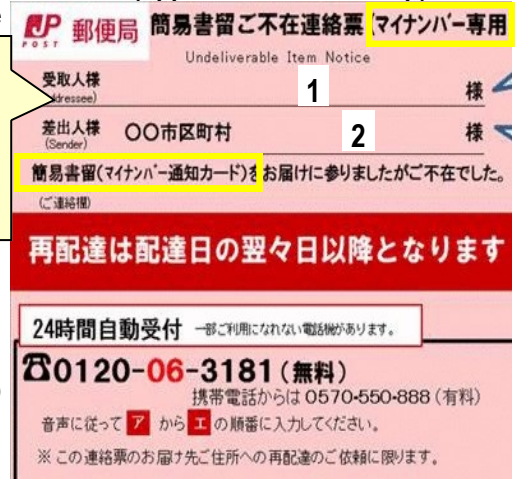
The ID of the registered card recipient (please follow the required ID chart below).

The ID of the proxy (please follow the required ID chart below).

An official document such as “*Koseki Tohon* (Family Register)” which proves the proxy's legal status (This only applies to attorneys. It is not necessary if the attorney has their *Koseki* in Okinawa City and is able to prove their status at Okinawa City Hall).

A document such as a Power of Attorney which proves the status of delegation between the proxy and registered card recipient.

- 1: Your (Head of Household's) name
- 2: Sender
Okinawa shiyakusyo
沖縄市役所
(Okinawa City Hall)



****There are pink / yellow notice slips depends on the delivery area**

The Required Types of ID

(One document out of group **A**, otherwise at least **two** documents out of group **B**)

A: Driver's license/ Passport/ Basic resident register card (with face photo)/ Physical disability certificate/ Psychiatric disability certificate (with face photo)/ Intellectual disability certificate/ Residence card etc.

B: *Keiro Techo* (敬老手帳 “Certificate of the Elderly”) issued by municipal government/ Certificate of public assistance recipient/ Health insurance certificate/ Long-term care insurance certificate/ Pension recipient certificates/ Pension record book/ Recipient certificate of child rearing allowance for single parents/ bank account book/ Employee ID card

Contact: *Shimin Ka* (市民課 City Residential Division) TEL:098-939-1212 (ext. 3127/ 3128/ 3115)

Okinawa City Library News

Book readings & hand games: Saturdays, Jan. 9 & 16 and 23 starting at 3:00 pm

Days Closed: Jan 1-3 (New Year's holiday), 4(Mon), 11 (Mon: Coming of Age Day), 12 (Tue: Makeup holiday), 18 (Mon), 25 (Mon) and 28 (Thu: Inspection day)

* Jan. 5 (Tue): Open between 13:00- 19:00

Place: Okinawa City Library 2F

※Up to 20 books per person.

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



LET'S LEARN JAPANESE

- Make Friends from around the world.
- Discover the culture of Okinawa.
- Learn at your own rhythm and easily the basic Japanese.
- Practice with native speakers, useful expressions for life in Japan.

Saturdays from **2:00 pm to 3:30 pm**

Lugar: **Okinawa NGO Center**
(3-22-52 Ginowan, Ginowan City)

Mail: onc@oki-ngo.org/ Tel: 098-982-4758



Would you like our newsletters emailed or mailed to you?

Let us know!

Email:

kokusai@city.okinawa.okinawa.jp

You can also visit, call or fax us at:

Okinawa-shi Yakusho Bunka Kanko Ka (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
<https://ja-jp.facebook.com/ociakip>



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