



# OKINAWA CITY Newsletter

January 2019

Vol. 19 No. 1

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

## New Year's Greeting From Mayor

### Happy New Year to All Residents of Okinawa City!

I am optimistic that you began your new year full of hope and comfort.

I deeply appreciate all your understanding and cooperation for our government administration during the past year.

Last year was the beginning of my second term as the mayor of Okinawa City. I thank all of the citizens and other various quarters from the bottom of my heart for the support. I will do my best to accomplish the government improvement in response to the hope and trust from all of you.

We had more outstanding performances by Okinawa City citizens. Brilliant achievements were established by Bito Junior High School Girls' Handball for the All Japan Championship, and Ryo Kiyuna and Arata Kinjo for the Karate Championship inspired Okinawan people with pleasure and sensation.

With those energy from our people, we also made a giant leap forward to create a new appeal to our city. We opened the indoor facility called "Okinawa City Green Field", and "Pache Yamazato" along with the urban development project. We also hit the start of our other big projects—the groundbreaking ceremony for the Multi-purpose Arena which will have a capacity of 10,000, and decided the name "Shiono-Mori" for the land created by the East-Coast Development Project.

We have also opened the "Miyazato Jido (Children's) Center", "Place for the Early Aged Pregnant Moms", and "Okinawa City Childcare Generation Comprehensive Support Center: Yui Port" to promote a childcare-friendly city. We raised the eligible age of medical care support for children and its in-kind issuance as well.

In 2019, the milestone year as the last year of Japan's "Heisei Generation", FC Ryukyu based in Okinawa City accomplished to win a championship in the J3 league and will move on to J2 as their new stage. In the same way, we will promote our city into a new era and build an attractive city. To achieve this goal we will construct the "Multi-purpose Field for Motor Sports" (tentative name), and promote the expansion of the Okinawa Zoo and build new houses for the animals. We will welcome a second white lion, and hold its unveiling ceremony in the near future for everyone. Please anticipate our political dynamism towards the future.

We would like to ask for your understanding and cooperation in our efforts to build a "City of Full of Dreams and Hope" where we can work together with one another. Finally, my sincerest wishes to you and your family for health and happiness this year.

Sachio Kuwae  
Okinawa City Mayor



Total Population: 142,211

[Japanese Population] Male: 68,022 Female: 72,599  
[Foreign Population (51 Countries)] Male: 966 Female: 624



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 publishes 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.okinawa.jp/>

# Administrative Events & Announcements

## 42nd Okinawa City Industry Festival \*Free Admission

January 26 (SAT) & 27 (SUN), 2019 10:00-18:00 \*17:00 on Sunday

Venue: Okinawa Comprehensive Athletic Park Gymnasium and its vicinity

Get to know unique brands of Okinawa City!

Attracting a large crowd each year, the Okinawa City Industry Festival exhibits agricultural and marine produce, arts and crafts, traditional Ryukyu musical instruments, pottery, awamori and many more local specialty goods. The event also includes exhibition of technologies with drone demonstration, and lots of fun for the whole family. Get to know your community by visiting the Okinawa City Industry Festival ♪



## ► Tax Deduction Application For Those With A Disability

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 may be approved to be issued a

shogaisha kojo taishosha nintei sho

障害者控除対象者認定書 (tax deduction certificate for persons with a disability), which will allow you to receive a deduction during the income tax filing process. If you are eligible for this certificate

Korei Fukushi Ka

and need it for filing your taxes, please come to the 高齡福祉課 (Elderly Welfare Division) window for assistance with the application process.

shogaisha techo

ryoiku techo

※If you already have a 障害者手帳 (for physical/mental) or 療育手帳 (for intellectual), you can submit your disability certificate to receive tax deductions. You do not need to apply for this service.

<<What to bring for the application>>

-Applicant's *inkan* ("mitome-in")

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

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

(Please get an application form from the division in charge.)

Korei Fukushi Ka

**Contact:** 高齡福祉課 (Elderly Welfare Division ) ext. 2085, 3146



## ► 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 have the obligation to join the National Pension System. If you join the system early in your life and continue paying the premium, you will be able to receive your pension benefit when you get old, or if you develop a disability as a result of injury or illness, or lose an income earner in your family.

### -A Big Support in the Future-

The National Pension System is managed by the national government. This is an ensured life-time benefit.

### -Not Only for Post-Retirement Years –

The National Pension System supports you not only when you get old, but it also has the following benefits:

#### <Disability Pension Benefit>

Provided if you become disabled as a result of an accident or disease.

#### <Pension Benefit for the Bereaved>

Eligible dependents, such as your child or spouse, will be qualified to receive this benefit when you pass away.

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

**Koza Pension Office** : 098-933-2267

**Shimin Ka** (市民課 Residential Division) Ext. 2133/ 2134



## ► Tax Deduction Certificate for Medical Expenses Spent on Adult Diapers

If you are bedridden and are certified as "long-term-care-need" in Okinawa City, you can issue this tax deduction certificate for medical expenses spent on adult diapers at the city hall if this is your second year or more to apply for medical deductions.

**Eligibility:** You have a doctor's statement of "Bedridden Level B1~C2" and "Possibility of Incontinence." (For those who are certified as "long-term-care need" for another 13 months, the doctor's statement from the previous year is acceptable).

\*If this is the first time you are applying for the deduction, please consult with your doctor to receive a "Certificate of Diaper Use."

**Contact:** 高齡福祉課

(Elderly Welfare Division ) ext. 3167



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## ▶ Educational Training & Self-Reliance Support Benefits For Single Parents

This program assists single parents by providing support for eligible vocational training/certificate course expenses (up to ¥200,000).

**Eligibility:** Single parents who are currently living in Okinawa City and also satisfy all the requirements listed below:

- ① You are single parent and have a will to find a job with their acquired vocational skills or certificate after their training course.
- ② You are a recipient of Child Rearing Allowance for Single Parents, or your amount of income meets the standard requirement to receive an allowance
- ③ You have never received this benefit before.

**Eligible Training:** Designated classes offered under the educational training benefit of the Employment Insurance Act, and has a high potential of finding a job with the acquired skills. The training which costs ¥12,000 or more.

**\*Please visit us for a consultation/application before you start training.**

**Contact:** *Kodomo Katei Ka* (Children's Welfare Division) Ext. 3195/ 3196

## ▶ JA Okinawa Koza Branch Festival

You can see the demonstration of brown sugar lump making, fresh vegetables, flowers and processed foods are for sale, and chance to win a raffle etc. during the festival!

Date & Time: **February 9 (Sat) & 10 (Sun) 10:00-17:00** (close at 16:00 on Sunday)

Venue: Koza Music Town 1F

Temporary Parking: Okinawa City Central Public Parking (Across from Korinza Mall.)

\* Shuttle service available between the parking lot and venue.



## ▶ Health Promotion Trial Class

Measurement of physical fitness and smoothie tasting.

Date & Time: **January 17 (Thu), 2019 10am-noon.**

Venue: Okinawa City Welfare Culture Center

Eligibility: Those who live/ work in Okinawa City

Capacity: 15 (First come first serve basis)

Fee: Free

\*Please come to the class with a casual wear for the fitness.

**Application Deadline:** January 15 (Tue), 2019

**Contact:** *Shimin Kenko Ka* (市民健康課 Residents Health Division) Ext.2243

## ▶ Cooking Class

**<Sweets with Chocolate>**

Date & Time: **February 2 (Sat), 2019 13:30-15:30**

Venue: Okinawa City Social Welfare Center

Eligibility: 6 to 12 years old (6th grade in ES) and their parents who live in Okinawa City

Capacity: 6 pairs

Application Deadline: **January 23 (Wed) 15:00**

**<Okinawan Traditional Cuisine>**

Date & Time: **February 22 (Fri), 2019 18:30-20:30**

Venue: Okinawa City Welfare Culture Center

Eligibility: 20s to 40s who live in Okinawa City

Capacity: 16

\*Free child care is available for children from 12 months old. Call for sign-up in advance.

Application Deadline: **February 12 (Tue) 15:00**

**Items in Common:**

**Fee: Free** (attendants will be chosen by lottery when application exceeds the capacity)

**Contact:** *Shimin Kenko Ka* (市民健康課 Residents Health Division) Ext.2242

## ▶ Filing Depreciable Assets for the FY 2019

This applies if you own any depreciable assets used for business as of January 1, 2019 (the assessment base date), not including land or building establishments. (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. Also, you must file if you installed a solar power generator for business use because it is also considered as a depreciable asset.

**\*Please bring your inkan.**

**Assets To File:**

- Assets acquired/ lost between 01/02/2018~ 01/01/2019
- Assets acquired before 01/01/2017 that you currently own.
- Assets utilized up until now, but disposed or transferred no later than 01/01/2019.

**Filing Period: 2019 January 4 (Fri) ~ 31 (Thu)**

**Where to File: Property Tax Division Ext. 2252/ 2253**

\*The assets have to be reported at the municipal office where they are located in.



### [Other Notes Regarding the Filing]

1. Submit a proxy letter if a representative applies to issue any documents or certificates regarding "income (when representative under different household) "or "asset (proxy letter has to be signed by the asset owner)".
2. Please 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)
  - Establishments that were bought or sold, donated or inherited 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: shoyusha henko gan ( 所有者変更願— 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)

**Contact:** *Shisan Zei Ka* (Property Tax Division) Ext. 2252/2253



### Reductions for Solar Power Generators, etc.

Solar power generators, or assets acquired by small companies to improve business may be eligible for reductions if they meet the requirements. For more information about reductions (and special exceptions), please contact the division in charge or visit our website (Japanese only).

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

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▶ Please note:

January is the payment deadline for the following taxes:

Residential Tax (4th term)/Long-term Care Insurance Premium (8th term)/National Health Insurance Premium (7th term)/

Medical Care for the Elderly Insurance Premium (7th term). If you use automatic bank transfers, payments will be withdrawn on January 31. Make sure you have enough money in your bank account the day before.

▶ Disaster Management Exhibition

Panel exhibition, showing video on the Great East Japan Earthquake, free-giveaway disaster management brochures and emergency food etc. \*video and emergency food giveaways are not provided on Saturday & Sunday. Period: January 15 (Tue)-21 (Mon) 8:30-17:15

\*On 15 (Tue) start at 13:00

On 21 (Mon) close at 14:00

Venue: Okinawa City Hall 1F

Contact: Bosai Ka

(Disaster Prevention Division) Ext. 2349

▶ Warning On PM2.5 Effects

This is an announcement from the Environmental Protection Division, Okinawa Prefectural Government:

The density of PM2.5 tends to get higher during the winter towards spring. If you see that the air is smoggy, please make sure you protect yourself by wearing a face mask or by staying inside unless its necessary and urgent to go out.

▶ Preliminary Recruitment By Labor Management Organization for USFJ Employees

Application opens 24 hours on the website/ 9:00-17:30 at the office.

Eligibility: Okinawa Prefecture residents who are 18 years old and older .You can apply through LMO website or with the form at the office. Website: https://www.lmo.go.jp/index.html

Labor Management Organization for USFJ Employees, Incorporated Administrative Agency Okinawa Branch Office TEL: 098-921-5532



まいにち にほんご Daily Nihongo

住民税 申告 (Jumin Zei Shinkoku) Residential Tax Return

Residential tax is used for public services such as disaster management, road maintenance, education, welfare, and etc. All residents have to file their income at their residing city office (as of January 1, 2019 or of the current year). But if you file your income tax return, you don't have to file your residential tax return.

If you need to file your residential tax return, please visit Okinawa City Hall during the following period:

2019 February 18-March 15 9:00-16:00

\*Closed on weekends, Japanese holidays except for March 10 (Sun).

If you miss this period, you have to wait to do this until

Middle of June (Date to be determined)

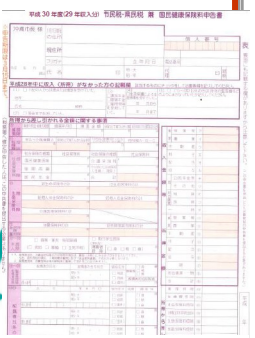
If you visit the city hall to file your residential tax return, try this Japanese to tell the administrator, or to ask at the information desk :

“Jumin Zei Shinkoku ni kimashita.

住民税申告 に きました。”

I'm here for residential tax return.

A tax return form on the right will be mailed. Even if you don't receive it, if you think you need to file please visit the city hall.



平成31年度(30年収入分) 市民税・県民税 兼 国民健康保険料申告書



Okinawa City Library News

Book Readings & Hand Games: Saturdays, January 12 (offered by JICA themed "New Years Day" in China, Japan and Okinawa), 19 & 26 starting at 3:00 pm.

Days Closed: 1 (Tue)- 3 (Thu) for New Year's Holiday, 7(Mon), 14 (Mon: Coming of Age Day), 15 (Tue: makeup holiday), 21 (Mon), 24 (Thu: inspection) and 28 (Mon).

※Up to 20 books per person.

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



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 Geino Ka (B1)

26-1 Nakasone-Cho, Okinawa City, Okinawa

Tel: (098) 929-0261



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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