



OKINAWA CITY Newsletter

March 2016 Vol. 16 No. 3

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

Events

14th Okinawa City KOU GEI Fair 2016



Famous workshops and their crafts from all over the island will gather together for this four-day craft fair, and it'll be your chance to look at, experience and purchase unique works of art and crafts created by local artists.

Okinawa City's unique textile "Chibana Hanaori" is at the center of the exhibit. Its heritage was completely lost for a 100 years due to the war and other circumstances, but in August 2000, the attempt to revive the once lost textile culture for the purpose of its restoration and reconstruction began with Okinawa City playing a central role.

Parking will be limited. A free shuttle service will run from the Okinawa City Hall parking lot to Plaza House Shopping Center on the 12th (Saturday) and 13th (Sunday).

Date & Time: March 10 (Thu) ~ 13 (Sun) 10:00~ 20:00

Admission is FREE!

Venue: Plaza House Shopping Center

Contact: Okinawa City Kou Gei Fair Executive Committee Office 934-2213

<http://kozaweb.jp/event/detail.html?&sp=true&id=2815>

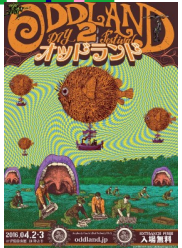
<http://ockf2013.ti-da.net/>

<https://ja-jp.facebook.com/okinawasi.kougeifea>

DIY Outdoor Music Festival ODDLAND 2

The earliest summer festival in Japan ODDLAND is coming back this year with 100 groups of indie-label bands! You will be surprised with the wonderland within the site! Cloths, sundry goods and foods are available in the market area!
Date & Time: April 2(Sat)& 3(Sun), Starting at noon.

Venue: Koza Athletic Park **Admission Free!**
Contact: ODDLAND Executive Committee 090-8292-9666 (Mr.Tamanaha) or Bukna Kanko Ka (Culture & Tourism Division) Ext. 3555



Japan Open Roller Derby Tournament 2016

The first women's official international tournament in Asia held in Okinawa City! This is a skating on tracks competing against each other with a lot of blocking and tangling which ensure audiences to get excited!

This time 10 teams from five different countries will gather in Okinawa City for this big competition! Feel free to come and watch the games which are free-admission!

Date & Time: March 25(Fri) & 26(Sat), 2016 @9:00 am-
Venue: Okinawa Comprehensive Athletic Park Gymnasium, Okinawa City
Admission: Free



Games will be available live at YouTube and *NikoNiko Doga* (video site) See the following website for detailed information:
<http://www.jrda.jp/english.html> (English)



Total Population: 140,641

[Japanese Population] Male: 68,201 Female: 72,440
[Foreign Population (44 Countries)] Male: 762 Female: 520

The Okinawa City Hall's *Bunka Kanko Ka* (the Culture & Tourism 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 & 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



▶ The outsourcing contractor of water meter reader will change after April.

Meter readers should carry the waterworks department issued ID with them. We would like to ask you for your understanding.

New contractor: *Okinawa Shi kankoji Kyodo Kumiai* (Okinawa City Plumbing Constructors' Association) TEL: 933-3006
Contact: Okinawa City Waterworks Department, Billing Division TEL: 937-3637 ***English available.**

▶ Notice from the National Health Insurance Division: Your insurance certificates must be renewed in March.

New certificates will be mailed to the following households

1. Households who have completed making insurance premium payments by January 1 and are not behind on any payments. Households that pay by account transfer must have completed payments for the past years and up to the 7th payment term in the current fiscal year.

- New certificates will be sent **late February**.

2. Households with no record of late payments and have completed payments by February 29.

- New certificates will be sent between mid to **late March**.

*Your new insurance certificates will be enclosed in the mail. If you are not at home, a claim notice will be left in your mailbox. Please contact the number on the notice. (Claim notices will be mailed **after March 18**.)

Following households have to receive their new certificate at the National Health Insurance Division service counter.

Households who have made payments after the deadline or have overdue payments, or have addresses within a military base, please come to the National Health Insurance Division service counter **between March 17 (Thu)~ 31 (Thu)** to receive your new insurance certificate.

* Households who are not able to complete their payments can receive their new insurance certificate after receiving a payment consultation.

What to bring to the service counter to receive your new insurance certificate:

*The postcard you received notifying you to renew your insurance certificate, your current insurance certificate and the head of house's inkan (seal).

* Your ID (driver's license, etc) and inkan.

* National health insurance premium bills (to confirm receipts)

* Dependents who will move outside of Okinawa City to attend school must provide a certificate of school registration.

Contact: *Kokumin Kenko Hoken ka* (National Health Insurance Division Benefits Section) ext. 2112, 2107

▶ National Pension System ~ Please submit a notification if the following applies to you~

All registered residents of Japan between the ages of 20 and 60 must be enrolled in Japan's National Pension System

There are three categories of insured persons under this system.

◎**Category 1 Insured Persons:** People who are self-employed, agricultural and fishery employees and their spouses, and students who are 20 years old and older.

◎**Category 2 Insured Persons:** People who are covered by employees' pension insurance or mutual aid society.

◎**Category 3 Insured Persons:** People who are the dependent spouse of a Category 2 insured person.

※You must notify your category at the time of enrollment, as well as in the following situations:

○**You are under 60 years old** and have retired, are not receiving pension benefits, and have resigned from the employees' pension system or mutual aid society (this does not apply if you become your spouse's dependent and become a Category 3 insured person).

○**You are 59 years old or younger** and are the dependent spouse of a person who are to resign from their employees' pension system or mutual aid society due to retirement.

Please do not forget to notify your category status. If you forget, the amount of benefits you may be eligible to receive could decrease, or benefits may not be provided at all.

※For questions about your pension benefits or its process, please visit your nearest pension office or the division in charge at your municipal government office.

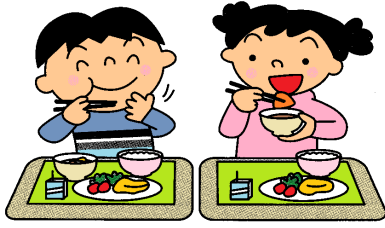
Contact: *Shimin Ka, Kokumin Nenkin Tanto* (Residents Division, persons in charge) ext. 2131~ 2134
Koza Nenkin Jimusho (Koza Pension Office) TEL: 933-3437/3438/3439



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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▶ FY2015 Okinawa City Schools Lunch Fee Aid



In order to support parents with multiple children, Okinawa City provides financial support for school lunch fees. This aid is provided to the

third child and every child born after. You must apply for this service every year. Please make sure you don't forget to apply.

Eligible Children: Children in the family who are enrolled at an elementary or junior high school in Okinawa City and are the third child or younger.

Requirements to receive aid: Children must be Okinawa City Citizens. They must not be receiving public assistance or meet the standards to receive public assistance.

Application period: March 1 (Tue) – April 28 (Thu)

Application form: You can get it at your children's school or you can also download it from the Okinawa City website. *You need to apply for the aid each year.

Where to apply:

Your children's school office

Contact:

Okinawa City Gakko Kyushoku Center (School Lunch Center)
TEL: 929-4776



▶ Koto Gino Kunren Sokushin-hi-to Jigyo (Financial Aid Project for Higher Skills Training)

This program supports single parent households and will provide financial aid for a certain period to approved applicants who will be studying at a training institution for more than two years to acquire advantageous licenses to find employment (e.g. nurse, child care provider, physical therapist, work therapist, etc.).

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

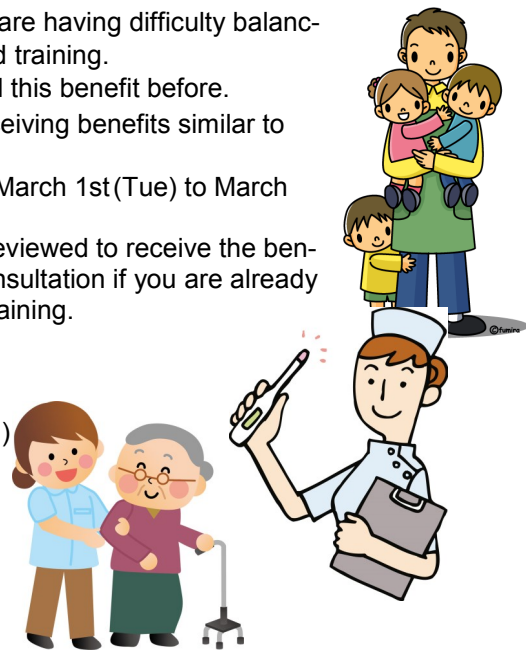
- ① You are a recipient of Child Rearing Allowance for Single Parents, or your amount of income meets the standard requirement to receive an allowance.
- ② You have been studying at a training institution for more than two years and are expected to acquire some form of qualification on the training .
- ③ It is recognized that you are having difficulty balancing work, parenting and training.
- ④ You have never received this benefit before.
- ⑤ You are not currently receiving benefits similar to this one.

Application Period: 2016 March 1st(Tue) to March 25th (Fri)

*All the application will be reviewed to receive the benefit. Please visit us for a consultation if you are already under training or will start training.

Contact:

Kodomo Katei Ka (Children's Welfare Division) ext. 3196/3197



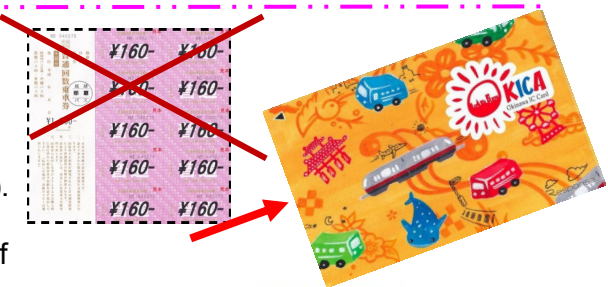
▶ Regarding the valid period of bus coupons.

With introducing OKICA (pre-paid IC card for transportation charge), the valid period of bus coupon will end on March 31(Thu). Reimbursement will be provided as usual, however, please mind that it can be impossible to reimburse depending on the number of coupons.

The bus coupon is valid until March 31(Thu)
Reimbursement is available until June 30(Thu)

Please contact the bus company that you bought your coupon from for more information:

Ryukyu Bus TEL: 852-2510
Naha Bus TEL: 852-2500
Okinawa Bus TEL: 862-6737
Toyo Bus TEL: 947-1040



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▶ You must make an appointment to receive your Individual Number Card.

You should receive Individual Number Card Issuance Notice as soon as it is ready. Please call the number printed on the post card to make an appointment and to clarify what you need to bring.

*Recipients have to come in person to the service counter.

What to bring:

1. Individual Number Card Issuance Notice
2. Driver's license etc. to identify the recipients.
- 3*. Notification Card
- 4*. Juki Card (Resident Registry Card), if you have it.

* Basically, the Individual Number Card is to be handed in person. Or if the person is under age of 15, they have to be accompanied by a legal representative.

* You have to set a three 4-digits-PINs(numbers only) and a 6-digits-PIN(numbers and letters mixed) so please be prepared for them.

* Please understand that it will take about 30 minutes in average to get through all the process.

* Notification Card or Juki Card will be redeemed into your Individual Number Card.

English website:

<https://www.kojinbango-card.go.jp/en/index.html>

You will receive the postcard shown below if your "Individual Number Card" is ready.



*3. Notification Card



*4. Juki Card



Toll-free number for English, Chinese, Korean, Spanish and Portuguese support regarding:

Individual Number System **0120-0178-26**

Notification Card and Individual Number Card **0120-0178-27**

Contact: *Shimin Ka* (Residential Division) Ext. 3127/3128/3115

沖縄防災情報ポータル ハイサイ! 防災で~びる

The Okinawa Disaster management Information Portal

“ハイサイ! 防災で~びる(Haisai! Bosai Debiru)” offers information regarding disaster management and updates in Okinawa Prefecture in Japanese, English, Chinese and Korean.
Disaster Management Information Email Distribution Service



For Smart Phone



Registration for Email Services

Okinawa City Library News

Book readings & hand games:

Saturdays, March 12, 19 & 26 starting at 3:00 pm

Days Closed: March 7 (Mon), 14 (Mon), 20 (Sun: Spring Equinox Day), 21 (Mon), 24 (for inspection) and 28 (Mon).

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

FREE BOOK GIVEAWAYS

The library gives away books that need to be removed, expired magazines, and donated books they can't keep, for FREE!

Date & Time: March 26(Sat) & 27(Sun) 10:00-17:00

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



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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