

The city where everyone wants to live

広報 ひこね (英訳版)

Community

Newsletter,

Koho

HIKONE



No.1388-89

Date: December 1st, 2017

Published by:

Multicultural Coexistence  
Human Rights Policy Division  
Hikone City Hall

Tel:

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Multicultural Coexistence  
Human Rights Policy Division

2017.12

### FEATURES

- Schedules of Government Services During New Year Holiday (P.3 - 4)
- Please Give your Opinions or Views about our Municipal Government (P. 9 - 10)
- Natalia's Room (P.16)
- Christmas Concert (P.12)



(Abridged Edition) <http://www.city.hikone.shiga.jp/english/index.html>

| Name of Division                                      | Telephone Number                     |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| Hikone City Hall (Representation)                     | 0749-22-1411 (Main Number)           |
| Hikone City Hall (JINKEN SEISAKU KA)<br>彦根市役所 (人権政策課) | 0749-30-6113 (Direct Number)<br>直通番号 |

You can ask English Interpreter Service at the reception in Hikone City Hall.

Please say "English Interpreter please" in Japanese, "EIGO TSUUYAKU ONEGAI SHIMASU".

●Koho Hikone “foreign language version” is issued every month.

This newsletter is available at:

- |                                  |                                  |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| * Shiga University               | * Welfare Center                 |
| * University of Shiga Prefecture | * Shiga Bank (Oyabu Branch)      |
| * Seisen University              | * “Gyomu Super Market”(Toga-cho) |
| * Hikone City Hall 3F            | * Beisia Hikone                  |
| * AEON TOWN Hikone               | * Hikone City Hospital           |

## Various Services

●Interpreters are available if you request this service at the reception desk.

Please say this Japanese sentence “*eigo-tsuyuyaku-onegai-shimasu.*”

(It means “please get me an English interpreter”.) **えいご つうやく おねがいします。**

We might change the interpreter’s availability.

Hikone City Hall: Weekdays **8:30 a.m.to 12:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.**



## Japanese Classes



| Day   | Hour  | Location, Place  | Organization Name to Contact  | Cost   |
|---|---|--|---|--|
| Wednesday<br><b>水曜日</b>                       | 7:00 p.m.to 8:30 p.m.   | Shimin kaikan<br><b>市民会館</b>                           | Hikoneshi Kokusai Kyoukai<br><b>彦根市国際協会</b> Tel (0749)-22-5931<br>(Not available from Dec. to Feb.)                 | 100yen / lesson<br>100 <b>円</b> / 1 <b>回</b> |
| Saturday<br><b>土曜日</b>                        | 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.  | Naka-chiku<br>Kouminkan<br><b>中地区公民館</b>               | Hikone Kokusai Kouryu-kai VOICE<br><b>ひこね国際交流会 VOICE</b><br><b>なえむらさん(NAEMURA)</b><br>Tel 090-7118-5250             | 100yen / lesson<br>100 <b>円</b> / 1 <b>回</b> |
| Sunday<br><b>日曜日</b>                          | 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.  | Nishi-chiku<br>Kouminkan<br><b>西地区公民館</b>              | Volunteer Nihongo Kyoushitsu SMILE<br><b>ボランティア日本語教室スマイル</b><br><b>よしおかさん (YOSHIOKA)</b><br>Tel (0749)-24-7241      | 100yen / lesson<br>100 <b>円</b> / 1 <b>回</b> |
| Monday~<br>Friday<br>(Except for<br>holidays) | ①9:30 a.m. to 10:50 a.m.<br>②11:00 a.m. to 12:20 p.m.<br>③1:30 p.m. to 2:50 p.m.<br>④3:00 p.m. to 4:20 p.m. | Innovation Office<br>“NAYASHICHI”<br>Shiro-machi1-7-16 | “Smile s Satellite”(Weekday Class)<br>NAYASHICHI Tel.(0749)-46-5377<br>or <b>みずのさん(MIZUNO)</b><br>Tel 070-5661-7345 | 100yen / lesson<br>100 <b>円</b> / 1 <b>回</b> |
| <b>げつようび~きんようび</b>                            |   |  |   |  |

【Hikone International Lounge News】

Computer use is free in the Hikone International Lounge. We are waiting for your use!!

# INFORMATION

## ☆City Business

### Business schedule during the Year End and New Year Holiday

|   |                                       | 29<br>Fri                  | 30<br>Sat                  | 31<br>Sun | 1<br>Holi | 2<br>Tue | 3<br>Wed | Inquiries   |
|---|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|---|
| Sanitation center   | Garbage collection                    | ○<br>(*1)                  | ○<br>(*1)                  |           |           |          |          | (*1) only burnable garbage<br>9:00~12:00<br>13:00~16:15   |
|   | Accepting Garbage by direct drop-off  | Large garbage Only Morning | Large garbage Only Morning |           |           |          |          | Tel:0749-22-2734  |
|   | Burnable garbage recyclable waste(*2) | Only afternoon             | Only afternoon             |           |           |          |          |   |
| Nakayama abandonment Site   | Landfill garbage                      | ○                          | ○                          |           |           |          |          | 9:00~16:30<br>Tel: 0749-26-5250   |
| crematorium   |                                       | ○                          | ○                          | ○         |           | ○        | ○        | <i>Shiun —en</i> Tel:0749-48-1318   |
| Sewage service  |                                       | ○                          | ○                          |           |           |          |          | Hikone city public service Tel:0749-23-4135   |
| Water supply service<br>(acceptance of the application for starting and stopping water supply)<br>(payment of charge) |                                       | ○                          | ○                          | ○         |           |          |          | Water supply and sewage service customer center (asahi-machi 1-22 nenmei building 2 F)<br>9:00~17:00<br>Tel:0749-27-2802 Fax:0749-27-2803 |
| Emergency clinic for Sundays and holidays<br>( Kusunoki center1F)<br>Internal Medicine & Pediatrics                   |                                       | ○                          | ○                          | ○         | ○         | ○        | ○        | 10:00~19:00<br>(Reception closes at 18:30)<br>Tel:0749- 22-1119   |
| Municipal hospital<br>(For emergency )  |                                       | ○                          | ○                          | ○         | ○         | ○        | ○        | Emergency room<br>Tel:0749-22-6050  |

The Sanitation Center will be very crowded with cars for direct drop-off toward the end of year.

Please check the garbage collection calendar of your school district and put out your garbage at your community's designated collection place on the proper day as much as possible.

You should separate garbage correctly into each category (Burnable, Plastics, Cans and Metal, Glass Bottles). Regarding the large garbage, please drop them off as early as possible during weekdays toward the end of year.

When you bring garbage to the sanitation center, please show your ID card.

Recycle waste ...Plastics, Cans and Metal, Glass Bottles, Waste paper, Waste cloths

※ Regarding the landfill garbage (ceramics and other items), Nakayama abandonment Site does the handling. Be sure to get certification at the Sanitation Center, City Life Environment Division in City Hall or City Branches in advance and carry the landfill garbage to the Site.

※ Sewage service is available by December30. Please apply to Hikone city public service by December28.

※ Regarding other than the above, please call to *Touchoku* (the official on duty).  
Tel: 0749-22-1411

※ Hikone City Hall will have a Year End and New Year Holiday **from Dec.29 to Jan.3.**

※ Issue of certificate at convenience store is stopped from **Dec. 29 to Jan.3.**

※ If you need any documents from City Hall, please come no later than **Dec.28.**

※ During the holiday, notification of births, deaths and marriages will be accepted by *Touchoku* (the official on duty). Tel: 0749-22-1411

※ Concerning the payment of Inhabitant Tax, National Health Insurance, Sewage Service, Water Supply and Sewer usage charge, please use the financial institutions designated by the city (the name of the financial institutions are written on the back of the bill and pay attention to the business days of each financial institution) also, if the bill can be handled at convenient stores, it is possible for you to pay them there.

※ For other business , please ask City Hall **Tel:0749-22-1411**

### ☆Schedule of Dental Clinics during the Year-end & New –year Holiday

During the holiday between December 29th(Fri) and January 3rd (Wed), dental clinics, listed in the table below, are scheduled to open in turn.

| Date                       | Dental Clinic          | Address                         | Tel          |
|----------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|
| 2017 December 29 (Fri)     | Nakajima Dental Clinic | Hikone Moto- machi 3-12         | 0749-23-3907 |
| December 30 (Sat)          | Takii Dental Clinic    | Hikone Tahara- cho 365-1        | 0749-43-2400 |
| December 31 (Sun)          | Ikeda Dental Clinic    | Hikone Takamiya-cho 702-5       | 0749-27-1717 |
| 2018 January 1 (Mon · Hol) | Tsutsumi Dental Clinic | Hikone Hara-machi 850-175       | 0749-24-2363 |
| January 2 (Tue)            | Yasuzawa Dental Clinic | Hkone Koizumi-cho 106-9         | 0749-22-6191 |
| January 3 (Wed)            | Kitamura-Dental Clinic | Hikone Shiro-machi 2 Chome 15-7 | 0749-22-0622 |

※Operating hours are from 9:00.a.m to 3:00.p.m each day.

### ☆Direct Waste Drop-off on Holidays

#### ● Year End & New Year Holidays

Direct Waste Drop-off at the Sanitation Center (Dec 29 (Fri) / Dec 30 (Sat))

|                                 | 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.                                       | 1:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.   |
|---------------------------------|--|---|
| December 29 <sup>th</sup> (Fri) | Large-Size (Including Small Appliances)<br>Fluorescent Tubes | Burnable Waste<br>Plastic Containers & Wrappers<br>Cans, Metal, Glass Bottles<br>Newspapers, Magazines, Cardboard |
| December 30 <sup>th</sup> (Sat) |  |   |

• Directly Bringing Garbage into the Sanitation Center (Dec 29<sup>th</sup> Fri & 30<sup>th</sup> Sat).

- 1, Bringing into large-size garbage is **available only in the morning.**
- 2, Bringing into burnable waste, recyclable material (cans, metal, glass bottles, plastic containers, newspapers, used paper) is **available only in the afternoon.**
- 3, Any type of garbage is not accepted outside business hours.
- 4, You will be asked to show your ID card to check your address in Hikone.
- 5, The Sanitation Center is closed from December 31<sup>st</sup> through January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

• Garbage collection of burnable waste will be carried out on December 29<sup>th</sup> (Fri) and 30<sup>th</sup> (Sat).

For information of garbage collection areas, please consult with the garbage collection calendar.

#### ● January 8<sup>th</sup> Monday (Public Holiday)

Garbage collection is scheduled as usual on January 8<sup>th</sup> Monday. However, please bear in mind that direct garbage drop-off at the Sanitation Center is not accepted.

**Inquiries: Sanitation Center: Tel 0749-22-2734**

## **☆The City Collects Home Appliances Free of Charge**

With respect to home appliances the city used to collect as large-size waste before, the city, since 2014, has been initiating separate collection of home appliances following the Japanese Home Appliance Recycling Law, grounded on the fact that some raw material to build home appliances are valuable.

The home appliances mentioned here are described as machines that are within 1 meter in length, width and depth and have an electric cord.

- **List of Major Home Appliances**

Fan Heater, Electric Fan, Rice Cooker, Hair Dryer, Hair Iron, Sewing Machine, Microwave, Toaster, Hot Plate, Electric Kettle, Electric Shaver, Phone, \*Digital Camera, \*Video Camera, \*Mobile Phone, Printer, Game Console, etc.

\*Please make sure to delete all the data before disposal.

\*It is recommended that mobile phones should be returned to mobile phone stores.

- **When you wish a direct garbage drop-off at the Sanitation Center**

You will be charged for directly bringing large-size waste into the Sanitation Center, but as for the home appliances, they are collected free of charge.

- **Individual Garbage Collection Request**

When you make a request to have the home appliances picked up by the city, you will be charged for a collection payment, however, if you make a garbage collection request for the home appliances together with large-size garbage, there will be no handling charges required for the home appliances. (You are allowed to have maximum 5 items picked up by the city at a time.)

In terms of TVs, refrigerators(freezers), washing machines(dryers) and ACs, they all need to be collected by each electronic corporation by law. Therefore, the city will not collect any of them. Please contact either a store you purchased an appliance from or a store where you are going to buy a new one to replace an old one. In case you do not remember from what store you purchased appliances you want to get rid of, get a recycling ticket at a postal office and bring it to the designated recycling office. The name of the closest designated recycling office is Takayama Unyu Cooperation Hikone Office (Inukami-gun, Taga-cho, Nakagawara, 454-2/Tel 0749-21-3540).

**The more separation waste collection is promoted, the more valuable metal can be extracted, which can lead to reduction in the final amount of waste.** Please cooperate with us for home appliance recycling.

**Inquiries: Living Environment Division**

**Tel 0749-30-6116, Fax 0749-27-0395**

## **☆Request during the Snowy Season**

The snowy season has come. From December 1 to March 20 in 2018, from the middle of the night through the early morning, we will remove snow and work to prevent the main roads from freezing after the deep snow. Do not park the cars on the roads. We will remove snow after the roads are closed to traffic.

When the inhabitants in the area and PTA members remove snow the sidewalks to school and the lanes with the snowplows, we subsidize to their work.

We ask your cooperation.

**Inquiries: The City Road & River Division**

**Tel 0749- 30-6122**



## **☆The Year-end Traffic Safety Campaign December 1<sup>st</sup> (Fri) ~31(Sun)**

\*Though we have many opportunities to drink at the end of year, drinking and driving is prohibited.

\*The daylight hours are very short in winter.

When you drive, please turn on the car light earlier.

\*when you walk or ride a bike after sunset, please put on bright colored clothes.

\*when you ride a bike, please put on a helmet and setting bicycle light.

(Shiga prefecture gives encouragement children and senior citizens to put on helmet.)

**Inquire: Traffic Control Division  
Tel:0749-30-6134 Fax: 0749-24-5211**

## **☆Pay Heed to the Use of Home Heaters! Prevent Home Heating Fires Beforehand!**

Have you finished cleaning up your home heaters in prior to a real taste of winter?

Every year, a spate of fire outbreaks are reported, but the home heaters are among the biggest culprit.

Reasons for the fire outbreaks caused by the home heaters are, for example, that combustibles are touching or somehow get into the inside of the heater, the inappropriate use, leaving the heater on, filling up the fuel tanks while the heater is on, etc.

As the real winter temperatures are just around the corner, chances you use your home heaters are expected to increase. For the sake of fire prevention, please bear the following in your mind and implement it in your day-to-day life.

### **Nota Bene**

When you use home heaters:

- Never ever use gasoline to run a kerosene (paraffin) heater.
- Avoid putting anything flammable; papers, clothing, etc, close to a home heater.
- Make sure your home heater(s) is well-ventilated to prevent carbon monoxide.
- Stabilize your home heater(s) against earthquake tremors. (As for home heaters with stovepipes, fasten them with metal fittings, wires and so on)

When you fill up fuel tanks of the kerosene (paraffin) heaters:

- Turn off the heater and ensure that you do not see any fire coming out of its wick.
- Double-check if you tightly closed a fuel cap of the cartridge tank.

Tips of turning on and turning off home heaters:

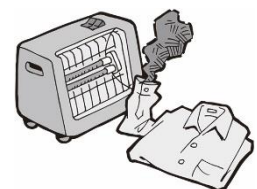
- Adjust the heat and check if the fire is properly being lit.
- Make certain that you turned it off when you leave home.

Tips of how to handle fuel:

- Containers to retain fuel must be made of metal or polyester and be certified with safety labels.
- Keep the fuel containers away from places where you use fires, and store them in a shady and airy place.
- The containers must be stored properly. Do not leave them anywhere unstable or susceptible to falling objects.

When you use an electric *kotatsu*:

- Do not try to get the laundry dry under a *kotatsu*.
- Check that cushions and the *kotatsu* cover (normally futon or heavy blanket) are not touching an electric heater attached to the underside of the table.
- Do not damage an electric cord by leaving it overly bent or caught under the table. If the cord seems funny, stop using the *kotatsu*.
- See if there is any dust or things that could catch fires inside the electric heater of the *Kotatsu*.
- Switch off the *Kotatsu* and unplug it from the outlet, particularly in the case of you being out of the house for a long time.



**Inquiries: Hikone Fire Department, Prevention Division  
Tel: 0749-22-03332, Fax: 0749-22-9427**



## ☆Promoting “Labor Insurance”

Labor Insurance(Worker's Accident Compensation Insurance and Employment Insurance) is an insurance Japanese government manages and administrates for worker.

Business owners hiring workers (including part-time workers) are supposed to join Labor Insurance regardless the size of business (except some part of agriculture, forestry of fishery industry).

To business owners who have not joined the Labor Insurance, please apply for Labor Insurance at the Labor Inspection Bureau or at the Public Employment Office.

**Inquiries: Shiga Labor Bureau Tel 077-522-6520**  
**Hikone Labor Inspection Bureau Tel 0749-22-0654**  
**Hikone Public Employment Security Office Tel 0749-22-2500**

## ☆Insurance Can Be Checked with Internet

Your pension report can be checked and the amount of your future pension can be estimated with “*Nenkin-net*, Pension Internet”. “User-D” is necessary for the purpose; please apply with the home-page of Japan Pension Organization, <http://www.nenkin.go.jp/>.

**Inquiries: *Nenkin*(pension) Dial: Tel 0570-058-555 or 03-6700-1144(IP Telephone PHS PHONE)**  
**Hikone Pension Division, Hikone Pension Office: Tel 0749-23-1114 Fax 0749-23-9038**

## ☆We have the Baby Station

To support families with infants, we have set up the Baby Station where parents can stop by to change diapers or to breast-feed their babies while being outside.

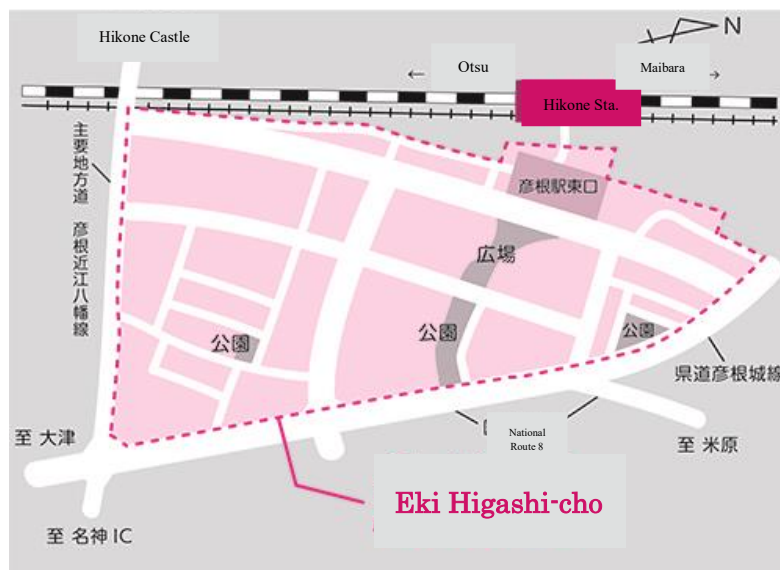


← The Logo of the Baby Station

We are also welcoming more facilities and stores for the registration of the Baby Station.  
For more information, please contact the given number below.

**Inquiries: The Child & Adolescent Division**  
**Tel: 0749-49-2251, Fax: 0749-26-1768**

## ☆New “Cho” in Hikone



**Inquiries: Station Area Development Division: Tel 0749-30-6126**

## **☆To Build a City Which Cares about People with Dementia**

### ● **Register Citizens Who are At-Risk**

Owing to its symptoms, people with dementia will become disoriented when they do not precisely comprehend what is going on with surroundings and themselves.

The number of missing people with dementia stands at 15,432 nationwide (as of 2016). In the city of Hikone, in order to find a missing person due to dementia as quickly as possible, we take the following measure.

#### • Pre-registration & Stickers

By registering a family member who could go missing beforehand, the family can provide his/her personal data smoothly in case of emergency. Moreover, the city offers stickers with registration numbers at the request of pre-registered persons or their family members. Attaching the sticker, for example, to an inner shoe sole can lead to finding a missing person.



Registration Sticker

### ● **Develop Caring Neighbourhoods**

Building a cooperative relationship with neighbours, by informing your neighbours of circumstances about your elder family member(s) with dementia and asking them to talk to him/her and contact the family member, can expedite finding your missing elderly family member.

In your local area, when you see a person walking barefoot, in pajamas, etc. at night, please gently talk to that person after getting into his/her sight. Your small act of kindness could save that person's life.

**Inquiries: Medical Welfare Promotion Division: Tel 0749-24-0828**

## **☆Human rights week December 4(sun)~10(sat)**

### **Stand up for someone's right today!**

Consider others' situation, respect each other's differences

Build the good society without prejudice and discrimination!

It is important for us to think about human rights.

Please have time to talk about human rights with your family and friends.

Inquiry: Tel 0749-30-6115 Fax 0749-24-8577 Human Rights Division

We accept all consultation about human rights.

- Human rights counseling dials Tel: 0570-003-110
- Human rights for women Tel: 0570-070-810
- Human rights for children Tel: 0120-007-110
- Human rights counseling dials for foreigners Tel: 0570-090-911
- Otsu legal affairs bureau Hikone branch Tel: 0749-22-0242

Time: Monday ~Friday 8:30~17:15

\*We firmly protect your secret. Please feel free to contact us.

## **☆Circle Support Project — Let's Play Together!**

Hikone city supports the parenting circle and the people who are raising their child.

There are various circles in Hikone city.

Here is a good opportunity to meet new people who have children of the same age and to share parenthood experience.

Date & Time: Monday, December 11 10:30~11:30

Place: Hikone City & Welfare Center Annex 2F

Eligibility: Pre-kindergarten child and their guardian

Fee: Free

Application: unnecessary

What to bring: Drinks

**Inquiries: Child & Youth Affairs Division  
Tel 0749-49-2251, Fax 0749-26-1768**



のりしろ

料金受取人私郵便

彦根局承認  
1059

差出有効期限  
平成30年6月  
30日まで

5 2 2 8 7 9 0

彦根市元町4番2号

彦根市役所

企画振興部 まちづくり推進室

「市政への意見・提言」

係 行



やまおり

### 次のとおり封筒を作ってください

- ①キリトリ線(破線)に沿って切り、中央をやまおりにしてください。
- ②のりしろにのりをつけて貼り合わせてください。
- ③切手は貼らずにそのままポストへ投かんしてください。

### 個人情報の取り扱いについて

個人情報については適正に管理し、連絡や回答の場合を除き、他の目的に利用することはありません。

## ☆Please Give your Opinions or Views about our Municipal Government

Hikone-shi has made a system to listen to opinions or views about the municipal government. Please give your opinions or views on the policies or the projects of our municipal government.

※We reply by document and telephone as much as possible

※It may take one month to receive an answer

※In case of anonymity, no reply will be sent

You can also submit them on the municipal government website (Japanese). Please click "Opinion and suggestion for the municipal administration" in administrative information, and write your opinion in the exclusive input form and send it.

**Inquiries: Community Relations Division**

**Tel.0749-30-6117 Fax.0749-22-1398**

**E-mail:machizukuri@ma.city.hikone.shiga.jp**

**How to make an envelope.**

- ① Cut along the dotted line and fold in half.
- ② Attach glue to the edge of paper, and put sides together
- ③ Mail it without a stamp.

**Count Result from April (2017)  
to September (2017)**

| Position   | Number     |
|--|------------|
| Department of Urban Construction                 | 47         |
| Department of General Affairs                    | 34         |
| Department of Citizens' Affairs and Environment  | 24         |
| Department of Policy Planning and Area Promotion | 23         |
| Board of Education                               | 18         |
| Department of Industry                           | 15         |
| Department of Welfare and Preservation of Health | 13         |
| Municipal Hospital                               | 6          |
| Department of <i>Kodomo-mirai</i>                | 2          |
| Department of Waterworks and Sewer               | 2          |
| Casher's Office                                  | 1          |
| Assembly Secretariat                             | 1          |
| <b>Total</b>                                     | <b>186</b> |

について

----- たにおり -----

住所

フリガナ

氏名

|      |                                |   |
|------|--------------------------------|---|
| 電話番号 | 性別                             | <input type="checkbox"/> 男 <input type="checkbox"/> 女 |
| 年齢   | <input type="checkbox"/> 20歳未満 | <input type="checkbox"/> 20歳代                         |
|      | <input type="checkbox"/> 30歳代  | <input type="checkbox"/> 40歳代                         |
|      | <input type="checkbox"/> 50歳代  | <input type="checkbox"/> 60歳以上                        |

|                                |                                |  |  |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Address                        |                                |  |  |
| How to pronounce               |                                |  |  |
| Name                           |                                |  |  |
| Phone Number                   | Gender                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Male<br><input type="checkbox"/> Female |  |
| Age                            |                                |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ~20   | <input type="checkbox"/> 20~29 | <input type="checkbox"/> 30~39                                   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 40~49 | <input type="checkbox"/> 50~59 | <input type="checkbox"/> 60~                                     |  |

## ★Trouble with Contracts of Smart Phones is On the Rise

Mobiles phones have become our essential everyday items, but the number of cases where consumers are expressing wishes to “cancel their mobile phone contracts” has been skyrocketing.

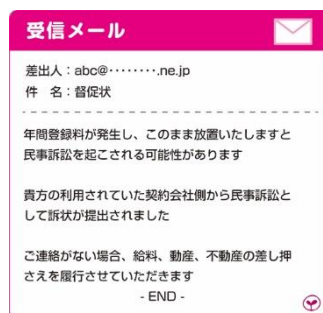
- List of Main Cases
  - Technological bugs are frequently detected despite of the fact that a contract has been made lately.
  - Even though a consumer was told that monthly bills would be lower, it has become higher with unwanted optional services.
  - The Internet speed has become slower after switching to an supposedly better and faster mobile company.
  - A consumer has been billed for a payment of a tablet PC that was supposed to be a freebie.
  - Cancellation fees are too much.
- Things to Think About Before Signing a Contract
  - Compare terms and conditions of the current contract to the previous one.
  - With regard to a contract to change mobile phone providers, always double-check its construction cost, process fee, cancellation fee & remaining payment of the current contract, etc.
  - Do not fall into unexpected special deals promoted at a store.

**Inquiries: Hikone Consumers' Affairs Center Tel 0749-30-6144, (Weekdays) 9:00 - 12:00 & 13:00 – 16:15  
Consumers' Hotline “188”**

## ★Beware of Scam Emails

Having wondered things like “Am I having any outstanding bills for online shopping?” or “Could it be that the clips I watched were not free?”, you gave a phone call at numbers given in bills you had received by email or mail in order to confirm the authenticity. Then you purchased prepaid cards or did a wire transfer as directed to fulfill the payments. What you found out next was that you have fallen victim to the money scam. To avoid becoming a victim like this, please try not to call any numbers inadvertently.

There is no way you will receive a genuine notice from any courts by regular mail or email. If you see the lines implying something about the courts or legal offices in a letter or email you have received, you will never face any trouble ignoring it. Even so, when you cannot help but worry about it, please contact the Consumers' Affairs Center specified below.



- Hikone Consumers' Affairs Center  
Tel: 0749-30-6144 (Weekdays 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., 1:00 p.m. – 16:15 p.m.)  
\*When you make a phone call at this number, for the purpose of making better consultation services in the future calls, we ask your personal information, such as your name, address, phone number, sex, age, occupation. Please cooperate with this policy as far as you feel comfortable.
- Consumers' Hotline  
Tel: 188  
\*By following a voice command, please type the post code of your current address. You will be transferred to the nearest Customers' Affairs Center.

# EVENTS

## ☆Information from the Children Center

### **Baby Salon**

Contents: Exchanging experiences about child-raising and making friends

Date&Time: Tuesday, Dec 5 10:00~11:30 (Acceptance 9:45~10:00)

Eligibility: 2~6-month old infants & their guardians

Things to bring: A bath towel

### **A Class for the Child**

Contents: Let's enjoy the making Christmas tree with plastic bottles and LED lights.

Date & Time : Sunday, Dec 17 13:30~15:00

Target: Elementary and Junior high school students.

Fee: 200 yen

Capacity: 10 (first come, first served)

Application period: Saturday, Nov 25~Wednesday, Dec 13

Application and Inquiries: Children's Center Tel 0749-28-3645 Fax 0749-28-3646

※Please apply by phone or come to the counter directly.

## ☆Christmas Concert

Place: "KODOMO" Center (Children Center) (Hinatsu-cho)

※Each Performance is approximately 30 minutes.

INAE boys and girls Choir

Date & Time: Sunday, December 3 ① 13:30~ ② 15:00~

HIKONE JIDOU Choir

Date & Time: Sunday, December 10 ① 13:30~ ② 15:00~

Inquiries: Children Center Tel 0479-28-3645 Fax 0749-28-3646

## ☆Hikone Eco (Ecological) Market "YUMEBATAKE"

Please make a lucky find from reused and recycled goods.

※If it rains, the event will be called off.

Date & Time: Sunday, December 3 9:00~12:00

Place: Hikone general district wholesale market (Anjikinaka cho) ※In the event of "NICHIIYOU-ICHI"

Inquiries: The Living Environment Division Tel.0749-30-6116 Fax 0749-27-0395

## ☆"Hikone De Asaichi" (The Fresh Morning Market in Hikone)

Selling local fresh vegetable, bean curd, local lake sea foods, local *SAKE*, and handcrafted general goods under the concept "Safety food" "Local production for local consumption" "Handmade".

Date & Time: Sunday, December 17 8:00~12:00

Place: GOKOKU-*JINJYA* (shrine) (Osue- cho)

Inquiries: "HIKONE DE ASAICHI" Executive Committee Tel 0749-24-4461 hikonedesaichi55@gmail.com

## ☆The Night of Old Tales

Let's enjoy talking about old tales with students and teachers at the Japan Center of Michigan University.

Date: December 6 (wed) 19:00~20:30

Place: The Japan Center of Michigan University.

Target: those who live in Hikone city (high school students and younger need to be accompanied by guardians)

Capacity: 30 people (first come first served)

Application: Japan Center of Michigan University

Tel:0749-26-3400 fax: 0749-24-936

E-mail: michigan@jcmu.net

Homepage: <http://www.jcmu.net>

\*please download an application form at the homepage, and apply by fax, e-mail or at the window.

(Up to 3 people per one sheet)



# Consultation

|  | Date & Time  | Place  | Contents  |
|--|--|--|---|
| Human-Rights Counseling                      | December 6 & 20 (Wed)<br>13:00 ~ 15:00   | Consultation Room (AL PLAZA Hikone 4F)                 | Counseling about bullying and all acts of discrimination<br>Tel 0749-22-0242  |
| Alcohol Consultation                         | December 1 (Fri)<br>14:00 ~ 16:30<br>(by reservation)  | Public Health Center (Wada-cho)                        | Issue of alcoholism<br>Tel 0749-21-0283 Fax 0749-26-7540  |
| Consultation for Troubled Minds              | December 21(Thu)<br>13:30 ~ 15:30<br>(by reservation)  |  | Medical instruction. Introduction of a medical institution and facilities<br>Tel 0749-21-0283 Fax 0749-26-7540  |
| Consultation for Depression                  | December 15 (Fri)<br>14:00 ~ 15:30<br>(by reservation)                                       |  | Supporting a patient with depression and its family from the side of medical care health and the welfare<br>Tel 0749-21-0283 Fax 0749-26-7540   |
| Child-care Advice                            | December 14(Thu)<br>10:30 ~ 12:00  | Children's Center                                      | A control dietician advises on infant raising<br>Tel 0749-28-3645 Fax 0749-28-3646  |
| Law Consultation                             | December 22 (Fri)<br>13:00 ~ 16:00<br>(by reservation)                                       | Community Relations Division (AL PLAZA Hikone 3F)      | *Consultation fee: 5400 yen per 30 minute session<br>(Please pay on the consultation day)<br>*The first 6 people from 8:30 on December 13<br>*Only those who live or work in Hikone<br>Tel 0749-30-6117 Fax 0749-22-1398  |
| Human-Rights Counseling by Multiple Language | Every Mon. ~ Fri. (except holidays)<br>9:00 ~ 17:00  | Otsu Regional Legal Affairs Bureau                     | Consulting telephone for the trouble of human rights<br>Exclusive telephone for consultation:<br>0570-090-911   |
| Synthetic Consultation for Child & the Young | Every Mon. ~ Fri. (except holidays)<br>① 9:00 ~ 12:00<br>② 13:00 ~ 17:00                     | Child & the Young Consultation Center (Welfare center) | Consultation for person 39 years old and younger who has troubles in social life (neet or unsociable person etc).<br>Tel 0749-47-3001 Fax 0749-26-1768  |
| Child・Family Consultation                    | Every Mon. ~ Fri. (except holidays)<br>8:30 ~ 17:15  | Consultation Room for Children (Welfare center)        | Consultation for Child care issues, child abuse, domestic violence etc<br>Tel 0749-23-7838 Fax 0749-26-1768   |
| Developmental Disorder Consultation          | Every Mon. ~ Fri. (except holidays)<br>① 9:00 ~ 12:00<br>② 13:00 ~ 16:00<br>(by reservation) | Welfare Center for the Disabled                        | 4 years old and older person who has a developmental disorder or feels uneasy about it or it's family.<br>Only person living in Hikone.<br>Tel 0749-26-8282<br>*Health Promotion Division advises for a child who is 3 years old or younger<br>Tel 0749-24-0816 |
| Consumer Life Consultation                   | Every Mon. ~ Fri. (except holidays )<br>① 9:00 ~ 12:00<br>② 13:00 ~ 16:15                    | City life Environment Division (Al Plaza Hikone 3F )   | Consultation about the trouble of consumer life, contracts, etc<br>Tel 0749-30-6144   |
| Consultation for Bullying/Hot Line           | Every Mon. ~ Fri. (except holidays)<br>9:00 ~ 17:00  | School Support Room (Board of Education)               | The experienced person in the education advises you<br>*You can consult on the municipal government website<br>Exclusive telephone for consultation: 0749-24-7977   |
| Traffic Accident Consultation                | Every Tue. & Thu.<br>① 9:00 ~ 12:00<br>② 13:00 ~ 16:00                                       | Koto Joint Government Building 2F                      | Consultation by telephone is also available from Monday to Friday except holiday Tel 0749-27-2230   |
| Worries Counselor's Office                   | Every Wed. & Fri. (except second Wed. & holidays)<br>13:00 ~ 16:00                           | Welfare Center (Hirata-cho)                            | Consultation about various worries in your life<br>Exclusive telephone for consultation:<br>0749-22-0294  |
|  | Second Wed. of even month (except holidays )<br>13:00 ~ 16:00                                | Northern Elderly Welfare Center (Baba-cho)             |   |
|  | Second Wed. of odd month (except holidays )<br>13:00 ~ 16:00                                 | Southern Elderly Welfare Center (Tawara-cho)           |   |

**Information from the Health Promotion Division, Kusunoki Center (Hassaka-cho)**

**Tel 0749-24-0816, Fax 0749-24-5870**

**★Health Check-ups for Infants**

**December**

*Kusunoki Center 1F(Next to Hikone Municipal Hospital ) / 13:00~14:00*

|                     |         |                                  |
|---------------------|---------|----------------------------------|
| 4-Month-Old Babies  | 12(Tue) | Born between Aug 1 and 15, 2017  |
|                     | 19(Tue) | Born between Aug 16 and 31, 2017 |
| 10-Month-Old Babies | 13(Wed) | Born between Feb 1 and 15, 2017  |
|                     | 20(Wed) | Born between Feb 16 and 28, 2017 |

*Kusunoki Center 1F( Next to Hikone Municipal Hospital ) / 13:00~14:00*

|                               |          |                                  |
|-------------------------------|----------|----------------------------------|
| 18-Month-Old Babies           | 8 (Fri)  | Born between May 1 and 15, 2016  |
|                               | 15 (Fri) | Born between May 16 and 31, 2016 |
| 2-Year & 6-Month-Old Children | 14(Thu)  | Born between May 1 and 15, 2015  |
|                               | 21 (Thu) | Born between May16 and 31, 2015  |
| 3-Year & 6-Month-Old Children | 11(Mon)  | Born between May 1 and 15, 2014  |
|                               | 18 (Mon) | Born between May 16 and 31, 2014 |

\*As individual notification of Health Check-ups is for 4 month-old babies only, please check the Suku-Suku book for what contents and items to bring.

\*For Health Check-ups for 18- month-old-babies, a toothbrush is necessary. There will be a class on the correct way of brushing your child's teeth.

\*For Health Check-ups for 2-years & 6-month –old children, please fill out the result of hearing test to the questionnaire.

\*For Health Check-ups for 3-years& 6 –month-old children, there is a urinalysis. Please bring a first morning urine sample in a clean bottle.

\* If you are unable to come on the date specified or if you have any questions about the Health check for infants, contact The Health Promotion Division Tel:24-0816、 Fax:24-5870

**★Class for New Parents**

Contents: Guidance & experience about baby care (how to bathe, change a diaper, and hold your new baby )

Date & Time: Saturday, Dec 23 9:30~12:00 (Acceptance 9:15~9:30 )

Place: Hikone City Health & Welfare Center Annex2F

Eligibility: Pregnant Women, over 24 weeks pregnant and their partners having a resident registration in Hikone City

Capacity: 18 couples- Mothers who expect their first child delivery sooner have a priority

Things to Bring: Your Maternal or Paternal and Child Health Handbook

Application: Friday, Dec 1~Thursday, Dec 14

Call the Health Promotion Division Tel 24-0816 or Fax 24-5870

※There is no nursery



### **☆Eating Habit Consultation**

※Advice about your eating habits by a dietitian manager with your health checkup result for the pregnant woman.

Date & Time : Friday, Jan 19 ① 9 : 00 ② 10 : 30

Capacity: 1 person each time slot (Reserved)

Place: Kusunoki Center 2F (Next to Hikone Municipal Hospital)

※Any consultations concerning your meals are also available at any time.

Inquiry: Health Promotion Division Tel: 24-0816 Fax: 24-5870

### **☆Kosodate Hotline(Child rearing consultation)**

Health counselor will advise about child care and vaccination etc.

Please feel to call us.

Tel:0749-26-0192 Mon to Fri: 8:30~17:15 (except holiday and new year )

### **☆Nyuyoji Kobetsu Sodan(Individual consultant for infants)**

Please bring your Maternal and Child Health Handbook,

Date & Time : Thursday, Dec 14 & 28 9:30~11:00

Place: *Kusunoki* Center 1F (Next to Hikone Municipal Hospital)

\*Consultation by a nutritionist is available on Thursday, Dec 28

### **☆Weaning Period Consultation**

\* Let's give food twice a day.

Date & Time: Friday, Dec 1 10:00~11:30 (Acceptance 9:45~10:00)

Place: *Kusunoki* Center 2F (Next to Hikone Municipal Hospital)

Eligibility: 7~8 months old infant & their guardians

Things to bring: your Maternal and Child Health Handbook

### **☆"Piyopiyo Salon"**

Let's talk freely about the enjoyment and the problem of childcare with a guest midwife.

Date & Time: Friday, Dec 22 10:00~11:30 (Reception : 9:45~10:00)

Place: Kusunoki Center 1 F

Eligibility: 2~3month old infants and their guardians who have resident registration in Hikone city.

What to bring: Maternal and Child Health Handbook, Bath Towel (The baby wrapper is also ok.)

### **☆Rakuraku Kin-en (Quit Smoking Easily ) Consultation**

A smoking habit is nicotine dependence. If you try to quit smoking, we support your challenge.

Date & Time: Wednesday, Dec 13 9:00~ 10:00~ 11:00~

Place: Kusunoki Center 2F ( Next to Hikone Municipal Hospital )

Capacity: 1 person / each time slot (Reserved)

Contents: • Check for your lung's contamination (Measure the carbon monoxide density in your exhalation.)

• Check for your addiction to cigarettes (Measure nicotine density in your urine)

• Consultation on how to quit smoking

Inquiry: The Health Promotion Division Tel: 24-0816 Fax: 24-5870

## ☆Natalia's Room (No.41)



### What is your *ETO* (12-year animal zodiac sign)?

When I contacted a credit card company by phone to change the password of my credit card, I got one very unusual question. After the call center employee asked me some credit security questions, the employee said “As the last question, can you tell me your *ETO* (animal zodiac sign)?” That question was totally unexpected, and for this reason, it took me a few minutes to get my head around the intention of asking my animal zodiac sign. From the credit company’s point of view, they thought I was supposed to know my own zodiac sign and could respond to the question quickly as a matter of course.

Fortunately enough, I happened to know a little about the 12 animal zodiac signs and managed to answer the question; however, I could not stop asking myself, “What if this happens to foreigners who are not familiar with the word of *ETO*?” for a while.

In some Asian countries, the twelve zodiac signs are well-known among a majority of people, yet there are few westerners who are aware of them. When I shared this unique moment with my families and friends, saying “As part of the credit security practice, I was asked what my zodiac sign was,” they reacted like “For real? Why the heck did they ask you that?” and some of them even expressed doubt that the guy over the phone was a genuine credit card company employee in the first place.

In the continents of North and South America, horoscopes based on the 12 monthly star constellation zodiac signs that repeat every year are more well-known than the 12 animal zodiac signs that repeat every 12 years. In Japan too, there are segments of “Today’s Horoscope” in morning TV shows. In addition to your luck of the day based on the constellation, many Brazilians like to do some research on compatibility with others, what personal traits each constellation stands for, and so forth.

However, generally speaking, horoscopes are considered as just someone’s hobby, and for this, unlike a birthdate, etc., no official person will ask you what your constellation zodiac sign is. Popular blood type personality tests in Japan and Korea are not understood in the western countries either, which assures you that interviewers or anyone will not want to know your blood type. These kinds of popular fortune-telling things are seen as a unique part of foreign custom, and since they are not scientifically proven, a number of people are greatly skeptical of its credibility.

Henceforth, more and more foreign residents are expected to sign up for credit card services. During a wide range of credit card procedures, questions like the animal zodiac signs may make foreigners puzzled. It is inevitable for Japanese industries to keep an eye on this globalizing cultural trend and offer services accordingly.

“Natalia’s Room” is a monthly column published in the Japanese version of Koho Hikone Newsletter since June 2014. Natalia is from Brazil and has been working as Coordinator of International Relations of Hikone since coming to Japan in 2014. This column features topics related to multicultural coexistence, such as difference of cultures and living in Japan as a foreigner.

