

## Gotemba Newsletter

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★The Gotemba Newsletter can be viewed on the GIA Internet site:

<https://gia-gotemba.com>

★Copies of this Newsletter are available at the City Hall, the City Branch Offices, Library, Health Care Center and GIA.

### 1. Celebrate New Elementary and Jr. High School Students with Fuji-san G Coin

As part of child-rearing support and as a celebration for children and students entering their 1<sup>st</sup> of elementary/ Jr. high school, we will present a digital local currency, Fuji-san G coin.

#### Eligible students:

Resident registries children and students entering elementary and Jr. high schools as of April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

\*Including students enrolled in private school.

Entering elementary school: Children born between April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016 and April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017.

Entering Jr. high school: Students born between April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2010 and April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011.

Payment amount: 10,000 dollars

(10,000yen worth, the expiration date is Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

#### How to apply:

Please apply with the dedicated form by Wednesday, May 31<sup>st</sup>. (QR code is below)

\*You can also fill in the necessary information on the mailed leaflet/ application form, and submit it directly to the child care support.

Inquiry: Child care support at (82)4124, commerce and industry promotion division at (82)4683.



\*Dedicated form

## 2. 21<sup>st</sup> Gotemba Cherry Blossoms Festival

### ★Event:

- Chichibunomiya Memorial park  
Date: April 1<sup>st</sup> (Sat) and 2<sup>nd</sup> (Sun)
  - Cherry blossom tree sapling distribution only on April 1<sup>st</sup>. (It will end as soon as supplies run out)
  - Various food/ drink stands, cherry blossom tea party and Kimono experience, Koto stage (some charged)
  - If you dress in a Kimono, you will get a gift (Limited number of gifts to be given away)
  - Cherry blossom Mini tour with souvenir.
- Date: From April 3<sup>rd</sup> (Mon) to 10<sup>th</sup> (Mon)
  - Cherry blossom calligraphy exhibition
- Date: April 8<sup>th</sup> (Sat) and 9<sup>th</sup> (Sun)
  - Spring MIYATEI FESTIVAL
- Higashiyama Kannon-do: Cherry blossom tea party  
Date: April 2<sup>nd</sup> (Sun)  
\*Ends as soon as the sweets run out.
- Higashiyama & Ninooka Walking map Stamp Rally  
Date: From March 25<sup>th</sup> (Sat) to April 9<sup>th</sup> (Sun)

### ★Night light-up:

#### ◎Gotemba Kogen TOKINO SUMIKA:

Till April 16<sup>th</sup> (Sun), from sunset to 10:00pm.

#### ◎Gotobara loop line (along the street around Chichibunomiya's front gate)

From sunset to 8:30pm, starting from the end of March to the beginning of April.

#### ◎Chichibunomiya Memorial Park

From March 31<sup>st</sup> (Fri) to the 9<sup>th</sup> (Sun), from sunset to 8:30pm.

#### ◎Higashiyama Kannon-do: From sunset to 8:30pm, starting from the end of March to April 9<sup>th</sup> (Sun), from sunset to 8:30pm.

#### ◎Fuji-san Juku-no Mori

April 8<sup>th</sup> (Sat) and 9<sup>th</sup> (Sun), from sunset until 8pm

### \*Parking:

- ① Chichibunomiya memorial park
- ② SBS my home center parking (only night time)
- ③ Outlet parking places (P15)

※② is only April 1<sup>st</sup> (Sat) and 2<sup>nd</sup> (Sun), and ③ is only April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>.

### Inquiries:

Tourism Exchange Division at (82)4622, Tourism Association at (83)4770, Chichibunomiya memorial parki at (82)5110, Fuji-san Juku-no mori at (80)3776

It may be canceled or changed due to weather and cherry blossom conditons.

## 3. Let's Protect Children from Accidents

Elementary and Jr. high schools in Gotemba have their entrance ceremonies on Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup>. Each freshman starts commuting to school with high hopes and a little bit of tension.

Let's be considerate when driving, and pay special attention to children, as they tend to jump out of nowhere as they commute to school; especially in and around a designated school zone.

Inquiry: Kurashi-no-Anzenka at (82)4123

## 4. Please Submit a Student National Pension Insurance Premiums If You Are Student Over 20 years-old

All residents (including internationals) in Japan who are between 20 years old to 59 years old must join a national pension and are responsible for paying it. The national pension not only ensures your retirement life, but it also supports you or your family if you become physically disabled by disease or injury or if you lose your main income earning family member.

Students can receive a deferment of payment of national pension insurance premiums by applying for special payment for students.

An application can be submitted once you turn 20 years-old, students need to apply every year.

In addition, the period during which the student national pension insurance premiums are approved will be added to the eligibility period for receiving the old age basic pension in the future, but it will not be added to the amount of the received. In order to receive a full old age basic pension in the future, you can pay an additional national pension insurance premium within 10 years after applying for a special student payment.

- Objects:

Registered students (at university, 2 years college or special school etc.) older than 20 years-old. Also, that person's income was less than approximately 1,280,000 yen as of last year.

- The approval periods: From April of Applicable year to March in the next year.

- How to apply:

- 1) New applicant

Apply at city hall or the nearest pension office after April 1<sup>st</sup> with the following.

(Things you need)

- A copy of your student identification card (Front and back) or student registration certificate (Original)
- "My number" or "Things including basic pension number".

- 2) For renewal applicants

\* For students whose payment exemption is approved in 2022, an application postcard will be sent by the beginning of April. You will need to fill in the necessary information, and please send it back. If you have not received a postcard, please apply with a normal application after April 1<sup>st</sup>.

\* Those who have extended their school period to pursue a higher education or etc. will need to apply again.

Inquiries: National pension division at (82)4122 or the Numazu Pension Office at 055(921)2201.

## 5. School Attendance Assistance System

This support is provided to the guardians of children having a difficult time attending school due to financial reasons so that all children attending elementary school or high schools can study equally.

In order to receive certification, there are certain requirements such as the situation of household income, and an application is required. The application period for 2024 is until the end of December.

Object: School supplies, commuting supplies, school lunches, school excursions, etc.

How to apply: Please contact each school directly.

Inquiry: Education general affairs division at (82)4520.

## 6. ECOHOUSE INFORMATION / Inquiry: (88)3337

\* FREE ITEMS: Bookcase, Japanese chest of drawer, Karosine stove

\* DONATIONS NEEDED: Child seat (from new born), vacuum, Water heater

(NEGOTIABLE ITEMS): Mini 4WD circuit Jersey, P.E. uniform (top & bottom) for Fujioka Jr. high school

※ Fax and Telephone answering machine service are not available.

※ We only introduce re-useable items. No items are stored in the office.

(As of 2/14<sup>th</sup>)

## 7. City Library News / Inquiry: (82)0391

○ Hours of Operation: 9:00 am - 9:00 pm

○ Closed: 3<sup>rd</sup> (Mon.) and 10<sup>th</sup> (Mon.), 17<sup>th</sup> (Mon.), 24<sup>th</sup> (Mon.)

○ Book Start: 5<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> (Wed.)

\* First-time reading for mothers with 6 months-old Infants at the Hoken Center (Health Care Center).

○ OHANASHI HIROBA: Every Saturday from 2:30 pm (Picture-book reading by volunteers)

○ OYAKO OHANASHI-NO-KAI: 12<sup>th</sup> (Wed) & 26<sup>th</sup> (Wed) from 10:30am (Picture-book reading by librarians)

\* **Home reading day: 19<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month)**

- Internet library search (WEB OPAC)



Let's search books by PC and smartphone.

(Pick-Up)

Management and operation of the library by the designated management begins.

Until now, we have been directly managing and operating the library, but from April 1<sup>st</sup>, management and operations will be handled by the designated companies.

Sidax Daishinto and Human Service Co., Ltd., which currently operate the library's counter, have been selected as designated administrators through an open call for participants. The designated period is three years until 2025.

Utilizing the wealth of know-how and ingenuity possessed by private business, we will strive to enhance attractive projects and various events, and provide better service to users.

### 8. April's Calendar of Events

DATE	EVENTS/TIME	LOCATION	DATE	EVENTS/TIME	LOCATION
1 (SAT)	OHANASHI HIROBA (2:30pm)	Library	19 (WED)	Health Checkup for Babies 6 months old (1:10pm)	Health Care Center
2 (SUN)				Book Starts	Health Care Center
3 (MON)	Legal Counseling (1:00pm)	City Hall	20 (THU)		
4 (TUE)	Health Checkup for Infants 18 months old (1:10pm)	Health Care Center	21 (FRI)	Workshop for Pregnant Women and husband (1:00am)	Health Care Center
5 (WED)	Health Checkup for Babies 6 months old (1:10pm)	Health Care Center	22 (SAT)	OHANASHI HIROBA (2:30pm)	Library
	Book Starts		23 (SUN)		
6 (THU)			24 (MON)	Health Consultation for Babies and Children (9:20am)	Health Care Center
7 (FRI)			25 (TUE)	Health Checkup for Toddlers 3 years old (1:00pm)	Health Care Center
8 (SAT)	OHANASHI HIROBA (2:30pm)	Library	26 (WED)	OYAKO OHANASHI NO KAI (10:30am)	Library
9 (SUN)				Health Consultation for 2 and half years old (1:10pm)	Health Care Center
10 (MON)	Mother support consultation (9:30 am)	Health Care Center	27 (THU)	Adult Health Consultation (9:30am)	Library
11 (TUE)	Health Checkup for Toddlers 3 years old (1:00pm)	Health Care Center	28 (FRI)	Mental Health Consultation (10:00am)	City Hall
12 (WED)	OYAKO OHANASHI NO KAI (10:30am)	Library	29 (SAT)	OHANASHI HIROBA (2:30pm)	Library
13 (THU)	Baby Food Class (9:45am)	Health Care Center	30 (SUN)	(Tax payment) Payment due date: May 1 <sup>st</sup> (Mon.)  ●For the property tax and urban planning tax 1 <sup>st</sup>	
	Mental Health Consultation (10:00am)	City Hall			
14 (FRI)	Health Consultation for Toddlers 2 years old (1:10pm)	Health Care Center			
15 (SAT)	OHANASHI HIROBA (2:30pm)	Library			
16 (SUN)		Health Care Center			
17 (MON)	Legal Counseling (10:00am)	City Hall			
	Vaccination Shots (BCG) (1:15pm)	Health Care Center			
18 (TUE)	4 Months Baby Class (9:45am)	Health Care Center			
	Health Checkup for Infants 18 months old (1:10pm)	Health Care Center			

☆Translated by KH of GIA volunteer

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