

◆Governor's Column

This month's column, *Kiso (Minamoto) Yoshinaka and the Hokuritsu Shinkansen*, can be viewed via the following link:
<http://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/a0306/english-top/column-e.html>

◆Saitama Prefecture News

Stay Safe While Traveling Abroad: Sign Up for Tabi-Regi (Trip Registry)!

The Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) has created a "Tabi-Regi" (たびレジ), a trip registry system, to help Japanese-speaking travelers abroad. If you will be traveling abroad on leisure or business for less than three months, you can register the details of your trip (travel plans, accommodations, emergency contacts, etc.) on Tabi-Regi. While you are abroad, the nearest Japanese embassy will use this system to send you information on safety during any emergency situations and to confirm your safety in the case of a major incident or disaster. Not only will this new system help you stay safe, it will also help with general safety and security of travelers and crisis management. If you will be taking short-term trips abroad, please remember to register on Tabi-Regi before your trip!

☆ To register and for more information (MOFA website): <https://www.ezairyu.mofa.go.jp/tabireg/>

Information about Disaster Prevention Preparation

Japan is a country which frequently experiences earthquakes. In the event of a large earthquake, objects and furniture in the home can fall over and cause injuries, main utilities such as water and gas can become unusable, and supplies at stores can run out, resulting in customers not being able to purchase the food items they require. In addition to this, Japan is a mountainous country, with many streams and rivers. Because of this geographical makeup, natural disasters caused by extreme rain or strong winds often occur. In particular, the typhoons (hurricanes) that form especially often during the period from summer to autumn, featuring heavy rainfall as well as intense winds, are very dangerous and can cause extreme damage.

It is very important to make sure that you are well prepared in advance for these and other types of natural disasters and take appropriate disaster-minimization steps during everyday life. More information on avoiding and preparing for the danger of natural disasters such as heavy rain and strong winds can be found at the following link:

<http://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/a0306/english-top/fuu-suigai-en.html>

◆International Division News

Now Accepting Applications to Participate in a Philippines Business Seminar

Organized in collaboration with the Saitama Employers' Association and Saitama Resona Bank, Saitama Prefectural Government will hold a Philippines Business Seminar on Tuesday, November 13, 2018. The seminar will provide a range of information on the increasingly appealing, high-potential business market of the Philippines, which is experiencing rapid economic growth together with the expansion of the nation's population to over 100 million people. We look forward to welcoming participants from a wide range of fields, including businesses, universities, NGO's, NPO's, international organizations, related personnel from administrative organizations and university students.

- 1 Time and Date November 13, 2018 (Tuesday) 1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- 2 Venue Omiya Sonic City 4th Floor, Conference Rooms 403 and 404
- 3 Details
 - (1) Lectures
 - Keynote Speech: 'An Overview of Politics and Economics in the Philippines'
Dita Angara-Mathay, Commercial Counsellor for the Department of Trade and Investment at the Embassy of the Philippines in Japan
 - 'Investment in the Philippines: Tax Systems and Laws'
Naoya Sakamoto, CPA and CEO of the iCube Group of Companies
 - 'The Philippines: Current Affairs and Challenges'
Takashi Iwaki, President of Parts Philippines Inc.
Kenji Hashimoto, Representative Director and President of CyberTech Co., Ltd.

4 How to Apply

Access the official Saitama Prefectural Government website via the following link:

(<https://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/a0306/saitama-asiaproject.html>)

Please include your name (with furigana), affiliated institution/profession, and phone number and send it to Saitama Employers' Association via fax (048-641-0924) or email (jimukyoku@saitamakeikyo.or.jp).

5 Inquiries

International Strategies Group, International Division, Department of Public Services,
Saitama Prefectural Government

Tel: 048-830-2713 E-mail: a2705-09@pref.saitama.lg.jp

Let's Study Abroad in our Sister States!

Applications Open for 2019 Sister State Scholarships in Queensland, Ohio, and Shanxi!

Every year, Saitama Prefecture sends scholarship students overseas to our sister states to participate in study abroad programs. We are currently accepting scholarship applications to study in Shanxi, Ohio, or Queensland in 2019. These comprehensive programs offer a range of appealing benefits such as exemption from tuition fees at your study abroad location!

Potential candidates include students with a passion for learning who, as representatives of Saitama Prefecture, will serve as the foundation for the continued development of friendly relations between Saitama Prefecture and our sister states.

For more information, please refer to the following websites:

- Queensland, Australia (Short-Term English Language Courses at Southern Cross University)
<https://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/a0306/ictc-uq.html>
- Ohio, USA (University of Findlay)
<https://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/a0306/kouryukyoryoku/ohioscholarship.html>
- Shanxi, China (Shanxi University)
<http://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/a0306/sanscholarship.html>

For more information or other inquiries, please contact the International Strategies Group in the International Division of Saitama Prefectural Government.

Tel: 048-830-2718 E-mail: a2705-09@pref.saitama.lg.jp

Website: <https://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/a0306/kouryukyoryoku/scholarship.html>



Australia: Southern Cross University



USA: University of Findlay



China: Shanxi University



◆Outing Guide and Events

Saitama TV and Radio Broadcast Stations

Saitama Prefectural Government Radio Station

FM NACK5 broadcasts *Morning Square* every Monday to Friday morning from 8:15 am to 8:25 am, offering listeners good music as well as public messages on government services and events.

To access past broadcasts, you can visit <http://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/a0301/morning-square/>

TBS Radio

TBS Radio's *Masaaki Horio & Friends Asaichi Saitama Rally Squad* is a 5-minute program where Saitama officials speak live on seasonal events and local attractions. It is broadcast every Saturday morning from 7:50-7:55 am on TBS 954AM Radio.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/a0301/asaichi/index.html>

Saitama Websites for Tourism and More

Saitama Doga presents videos introducing the best that Saitama has to offer, from entertainment to sightseeing to tourism and more: <https://www.youtube.com/user/prefsaitama>

Choko-Tabi Saitama (A Little Trip to Saitama) provides general and tourist information about Saitama in Japanese, English, Chinese, and Korean: <http://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/chokotabi-saitama/index.html>

Welcome to Sai-no-Kuni! Saitama Tourism and Fun Information:

<http://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/theme/kankou/index.html>



◆ Editor's Column

The weather finally feels like autumn now that we've entered the cooler days of mid-October. We hope all our readers were able to make it through the many days this summer when temperatures soared to over 30C (86F) and are able to relax during the fall.

As autumn finally arrives, many in Japan will remember activities associated with the season - enjoying the arts, sports, reading, and renewed appetites. Autumn, with its wonderful weather, is a great time to exercise and take a moment to think deeply in the outdoors. This is also the season of the harvest, which brings many delicious foods. Saitama has an abundance of agricultural products as well as local festivals and events in autumn, so please enjoy everything the prefecture has to offer this season!

Editor (M.S.)

If there are any articles that you found interesting in the International Division Newsletter, or if you wish to suggest a topic that you would like us to feature, please send your thoughts to the Saitama Prefecture International Division via the contact details below:

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