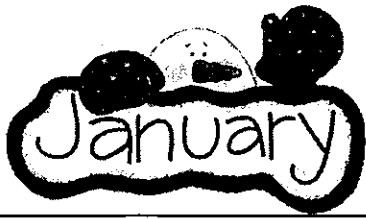


LOOK INSIDE for
Koka City Living Guide Part 4: Taxes



KOKA

英語版広報 こうか1月号



New Year's Greetings from the Mayor of Koka City

~A Year of Great Strides~

Happy New Year! It is my sincerest joy to welcome everyone into a healthy new year.

As of last October, two years have passed since I was elected mayor of Koka City. There have been many big changes over the last two years, including a large-scale population decrease, an increase in the frequency of natural disasters, and an overall globalization of both the economy and society. It is with the help of Koka City's citizens, through local activities and dialogues, that I have been able to carry the great responsibilities as mayor.

Last year, the 2nd Koka City Comprehensive Plan was created with the vision of making a city where everyone can feel happy in their daily lives. In order to do this, it is, of course, important to have all of the city halls working together to implement various policies. However, it is even more important to have all of Koka City, from citizens to local groups to businesses, come together and combine their strengths to make this vision a reality.

This spring, we will open a new community activities center on the north side of the Koka Police Station. It will be central base where all citizens can come together, collaborate and create ways to make Koka City a better place for everyone.

Now, Koka City is taking great strides and, in turn, is attracting attention from all over the country. In the autumn of 2019, NHK will begin to air its TV drama series "Scarlet" [which is based in Shigaraki]. The following year, Shigaraki will host the 2020 Six Ancient Kilns Summit and Koka City, in cooperation with the Tokyo Olympics and Paralympic Games, will have the opportunity to be the host town for Singapore. In 2021, Koka will host the National Tree Planting Festival, which will be attended by the Emperor and Empress of Japan. All of these events give the perfect opportunity to link the citizens of Koka City with happiness and prosperity.

This year I will continue to strive towards the shining future of Koka City. Thank you for your continued cooperation and support.

Finally, as we begin the new year, I pray from the bottom of my heart for the happiness of all of Koka's citizens and wish everyone a happy new year.



Hiroki Iwanaga
Koka City Mayor

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New Year's Greetings from the Koka City Council Chairperson

~Clarifying the Policy Decision Making Process~

Hisamitsu Hayashida
Koka City Council Chairperson



Happy New Year! It is my sincerest joy to welcome everyone into a brilliant new year.

As this new year begins, I am thinking a lot about how the Koka City Council and its members should proceed. Council members are representatives of their local communities, but they also have to make decisions about what will make citizens' lives better and what will be effective, all while taking into consideration the future of Koka City. In order for the long term vision of the city to materialize, I believe that council members should become community development consultants. Specifically, I believe that citizens, communities and the administration need to come together to design the best plans and put them into action. The administration must manage the plans, but citizens must use their abilities and their voices to help create those plans. Koka City needs to have a council that

will have open discussions with citizens, from problems in Koka City to creating policies. It must then take the most important parts of those discussions and not only share them but take the responsibility of using them in decision-making. In order to make this happen, I will increase my efforts to make the decision-making process more transparent.

With society's decreasing population, we are in an era of choice, an era of maintenance and management, and an era of supporting one another in the community. However, this is also an era of finding values and creating things. Through public hearings and publications, the Council will continue its initiatives of citizen participation and information distribution and bring together the wisdom, thoughts, and passions of all of Koka City's citizens.

As always, thank you for your opinions and suggestions concerning the municipal administration.

Finally, on behalf of the Koka City Council, I would like to wish everyone a wonderful and happiness filled new year.

Job Fair for Women

Work seminar and joint job interviews!



Date: January 17th (Thr)

Time: 10 AM to 2 PM

(Reception starts at 9:30AM and ends at 1:30 PM)

Location: Hekisui Hall (Minakuchi)

Target: Women who wish to work in Koka City

※No reservations needed! Free entry! Come and go as you please!

※Childcare available! (Reservations required. Please contact the number below. Available for children 6 months old until pre-school age. Capacity: 20 children)

~Attending Companies~

Konan Kai, Diamond Society Diamond Shiga, Social Welfare Kougakai, Tsujimasa Co., Ltd., Ayahadio Minakuchi branch, JA Koka, MK, Ruri Koen, Shiga Harnex Inc., Orix Golf Management Asamiya Golf Course, Kinogo Adult Daycare, Biwako Home, Minakuchi Byoin, Beauty Care Tsukamoto, Choseien, Lupicia Shiga Minakuchi factory

~For information about job openings,
please go to the city homepage~

10 AM to 10:45 AM

- Work seminar "How to Present Yourself at a Job Interview"

11 AM to 2 PM

- Company interview booths (16 companies)
Talk directly with recruiters
- Career counselor consultation booth and resume check
- Childcare consultation booth
- New farmers' consultation booth
- Nursery school and kindergarten recruitment booth
- Job hunting makeup and hand treatment corner
- Resume photo shooting corner

Inquiries: Shoko Rosei Ka

TEL 0748-69-2189 FAX 0748-63-4087

Welfare Allowance for Children with Disabilities & Special Disability Allowance Systems

In order to promote the welfare of its citizens, Koka City provides financial assistance for those who need constant care due to severe disabilities.

Both allowances require medical certifications and have an income limit (For details, please call the number below).

Welfare Allowance for Children with Disabilities / 障碍児福祉手当 / Shogaiji Fukushi Teate

Target: Children under the age of 20 who have severe physical or mental disabilities. This includes those with a Level 1 Disability Certificate (and some parts of a Level 2 Certificate) or those who have a mental disability of the same severity.

Allowance Amount: 14,650 yen per month

Special Disability Allowance / 特别障害者手当 / Tokubetsu Shogaisha Teate

Target: Those 20 years old and older who must stay at home and require special care due to severe physical or mental disabilities.

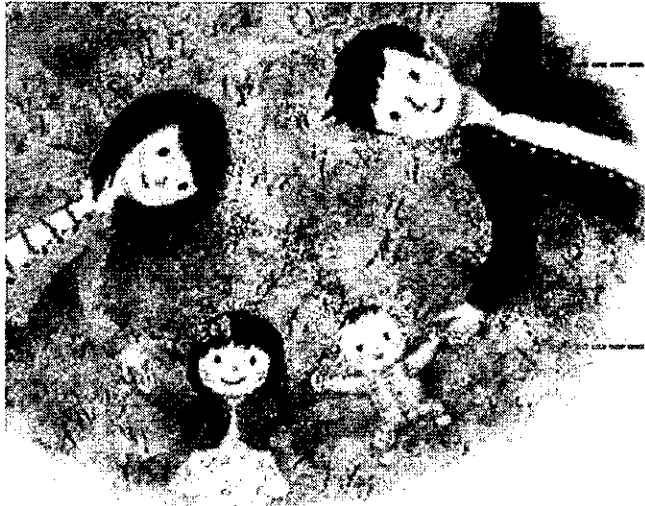
Allowance Amount: 26,940 yen per month



Inquiries: Shogai Fukushi Ka

TEL 0748-69-2161

FAX 0748-63-4085



A Place Where People & Where All-Koka

A new community activities center dedicated to all of people can easily gather, connect, and learn all wh

What kind of place
is the community
activities center?

With a capacity of about 200 people, this room can be used for workshops, lectures, and events

Multi-purpose Room



Terrace

2F

Locker Room

Multi-purpose Toilet

Elevator

Activity Room

Women's Toilet

Men's Toilet

Groups can keep their equipment in here. There are 156 lockers available for use.

A room to be used for office work, such as preparing materials.

You can connect with Chiiki Shimin Centers using the internet and other communication technologies.

Encounter

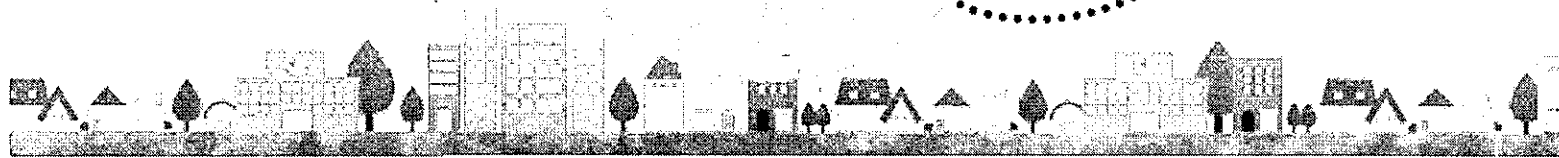
A nice, comfortable space where people can gather, interact, and connect one by one.

Learn

We will start something new by learning with and helping volunteer and citizen groups, those thinking about stepping up their activities, and those trying to solve various issues.

Gather

With a free open space, volunteer groups, citizen groups, students, children and parents can get together and deepen their connections with one another.



People Gather, Connect, Activities Are Born



**Opening in
May!**

Koka City will open next spring. It will be a place where creating new programs that will benefit everyone.

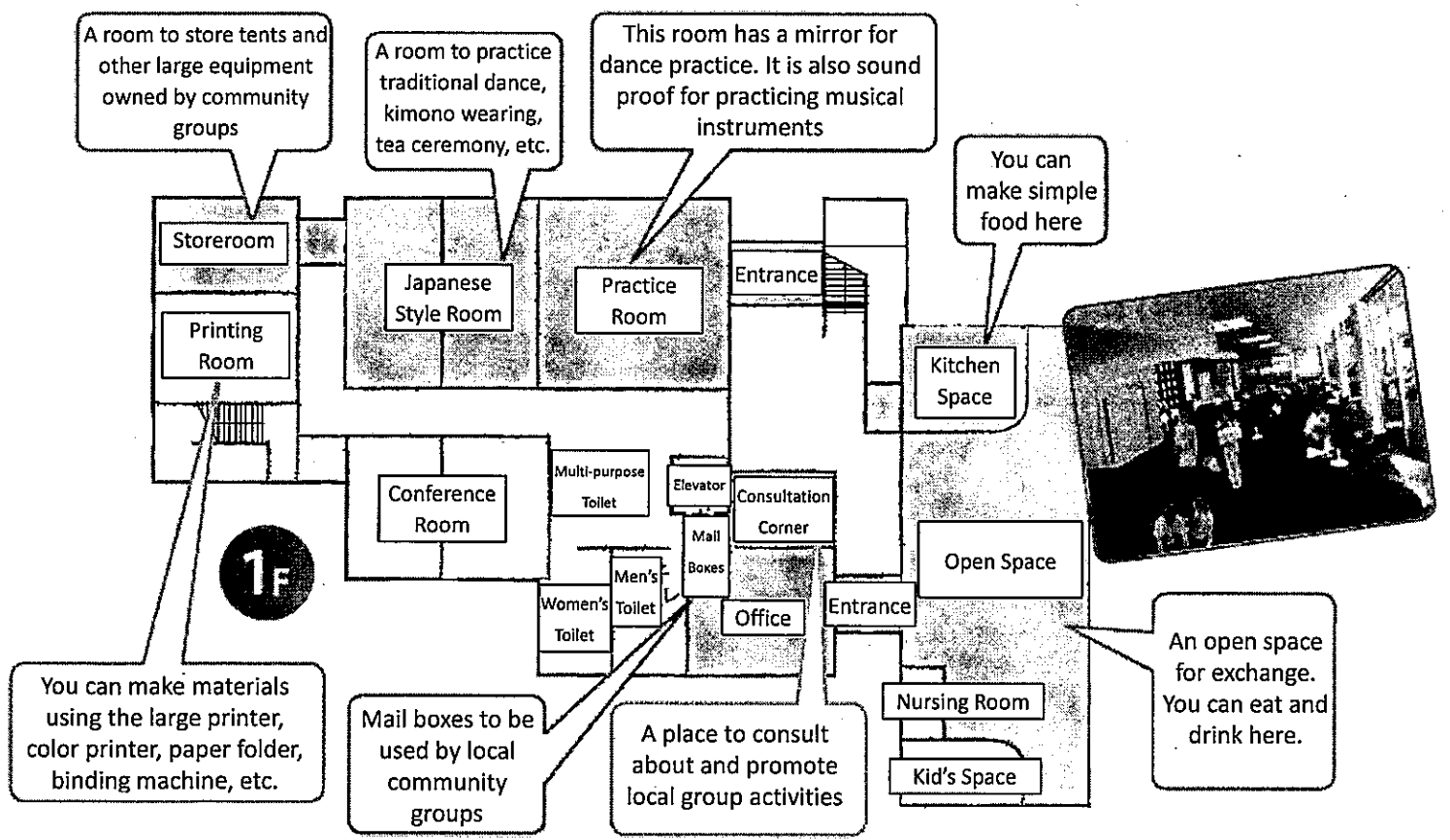
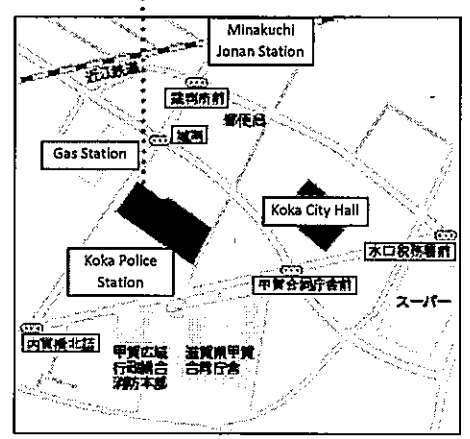
Connect

To make thoughts into reality,
we will make a bridge
between citizens and local
groups and support joint
activities.

Begin

If you do not know where to
start, do not know how to do
something, or are worried
about anything, feel free to
consult us!

**"All-Koka" Activities
are born here!**



Inquiries: Chilki Community Suishin Ka TEL 0748-69-2113 FAX 0748-63-4554



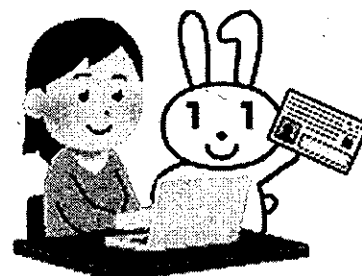
Applying for Child Allowance Via PC or Smartphone

By using the new national online service "Myna Portal", you can now apply for the child allowance (児童手当/ Jido Teate) and various other services from the comfort of your own home.

To use Myna Portal, you must have a My Number Card, a computer or smartphone that is connected to the internet, and a card reader to read the My Number Card

For more information, please go to <http://myna.go.jp/>.

Inquiries:
Kosodate Seisaku Ka
TEL 0748-69-2176 FAX 0748-69-2298



Koka Kominkan Courses

Each Kominkan throughout Koka City offers various lifelong learning courses.
For more information about each course, please contact the Kominkan in charge.

Course Name	Date & Time	Location & Applications	Target & Capacity	Fees & Materials	Application Deadline
<u>Make a Hina Doll with Ceramics</u>	①January 16th (Wed) ②January 17th (Thr) 10AM - 12PM	①Tsuchiyama Chuo Kominkan ②Kafuka Shogai Gakushukan	Those 20 years old or older who work, live, or study in Koka City <u>Capacity:</u> 20 people	<u>Fee:</u> 2,500 yen <u>Bring:</u> An apron, a hand towel	January 9th (Wed)
<u>Night Sky Travelers</u> <u>Astronomical Observation Society</u> <u>What is a sun spot?</u> <u>Let's see Venus in the daytime!</u>	January 12th (Sat) 10AM - 12PM	Kafuka Shogai Gakushukan	Anyone is welcome <u>Capacity:</u> 20 people	<u>Fee:</u> FREE No need to bring anything.	January 11th (Fri)

Inquiries & Applications:	Minakuchi Chuo Kominkan	TEL 0748-62-0488	FAX 0748-62-3338
	Kafuka Shogai Gakushu Kan	TEL 0748-88-4100	FAX 0748-88-5055
	Shigaraki Chuo Kominkan	TEL 0748-82-8075	FAX 0748-82-2463
	Konan Kominkan	TEL 0748-86-3036	FAX 0748-86-8119
	Tsuchiyama Chuo Kominkan	TEL 0748-66-0158	FAX 0748-66-0158

Saturday Learning with the Community: Yume no Gakushu

Date	Target	Fee	Details
Every Saturday morning	Anyone who lives in Koka City (Must be registered as a member)	FREE	Various lectures/activities including sports, cooking, Go, and Shogi For more information, look to the flyer and homepage (QR code)



Inquiries: Chiiki de Tsukuru Doyobi Yume no Gakushu TEL 0748-70-2349 FAX 0748-70-3180

Have You Registered for Direct Debit Yet?

The city recommends that you register for direct debit to pay your taxes, utilities, and other fees.



It's convenient! You don't have to go to city hall or another financial institution to pay your bills every time. Also, the registration is automatically renewed each year, so you only have to do it once.

It's safe! You never have to carry large amounts of cash.

It's certain! You will never forget to pay and you can always check your payment history using your bank book.

How to Register: Fill out an application which is available at the window of any financial institution in Koka City. Stamp your personal seal (the same one used to open your bank account) on the application and submit it to your bank. Automatic withdrawals will start the month after you submitted the application.

Financial Institutions that Allow Direct Debit:

Shiga Ginko, Kansai Urban Ginko, Koka Nogyo Kyodo Kumiai, Koto Shinyo Kinko, Shiga-ken Shinyo Kumiai, Kyoto Ginko, Kinki Rodo Kinko, Green Omi Nogyo Kyodo Kumiai, Shiga Kenmin Shinyo Kumiai, Japan Post Bank

Inquiries:	Zemu Ka	TEL 0748-69-2130	FAX 0748-63-4574
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January Events & Information



Winter Illuminations

Enjoy the fantastic illuminations that brighten up each area of Koka City!

Minakuchi Chuo Kominkan

Date: Until January 14th (Mon)

Time: From 5 PM to 10 PM

Inquiries: Ayano Jichi Shinko Kai, Ayano Yu Yu Club, Nishi Minakuchi Shoten Machi, Yume no Gakushu (Ayano Chiiki Shimin Center)
TEL 0748-62-3387

Ueno Fureai Hiroba

Date: Until January 25th (Fri)

Time: From 5 PM to 10 PM

Inquiries: Aburahi Jichi Shinko Kai Chiiki Shinko Bu
TEL 0748-62-1676

Koka-shi Shoko Kaikan (Minakuchi)

Date: Until January 18th (Fri)

Time: From 5:30 PM to 11 PM

Inquiries: Shokokai Seinen Bu (Minakuchi Shibu)
TEL 0748-62-1676

Shigaraki Kohgen Tetsudo, Shigaraki Station Area

Date: Until January 14th (Mon)

Time: From sundown until midnight

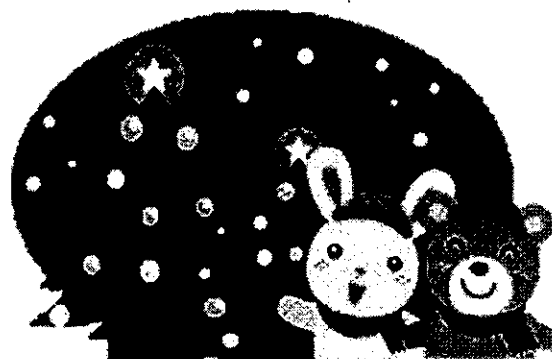
Inquiries: Shigaraki Illumination Jikko linkai
TEL 0748-82-0873

JR Kibukawa Station North Exit Rotary

Date: Until January 31st (Thr)

Time: From 5 PM to 12:30 AM

Inquiries: Shokokai Minakuchi Shibu Kibukawa Chiku
TEL 0748-62-1676



January Taxes (1 がつ の ぜい きん)

- Residence Tax 市県民税 (しけんみんぜい)
- National Health Insurance Tax 国民健康保険税 (こくみんけんこうほけんぜい)
- Nursery School Fee 保育料 (ほいくりょう)
- Kindergarten Fee 幼稚園使用料 (ようちえんしょうりょう)
- Nursing Care Insurance Fee 介護保険料 (かいごほけんりょう)
- Late-Stage Elderly Medical Insurance Fee 後期高齢者医療保険料 (こうきこうれいしゃいりょうほけんりょう)
- Sewerage Fee 公共下水道使用料 (こうきょうげすいどうしょうりょう)
- Agricultural Sewage Fee 農業集落排水使用料 (のうぎょうしゅうらくはいすいしょうりょう)

Due date for tax payments:
January 31st
(Thr)

CLASSES FOR NEW MOTHERS - JANUARY

Offered to parents of 2 to 3-months old infants. This class aims to provide information on child development, hazard prevention, vaccinations, and mother's health management. A mixer will be held as well.

No reservation is required.

Eligibility	Parents with 2- to 3-months-old infant(s)
Time	10:00 to 11:30am (Check-in from 9:45am to 10:00am)
Things to Bring	Maternity record book, the Health Check Calendar, a bathtowel, the Sukoyaka Set you received upon submitting the Notice of Birth
Staff	Public health nurse

Date	Location	For babies born in
Jan. 16 (Wed)	Kokomori	November 2018
Jan. 25 (Fri)	Minakuchi Hoken Center	

HEALTH CHECKUP FOR INFANTS & TODDLERS -- JANUARY

No appointment required!

Visit your nearest Hoken Center directly.

For more details, refer to the Health Checkup Calendar.

Inquiries:
Sukoyaka Shien Ka (すこやか しえんか)
at 0748-69-2168

Health Checkup	For Children Born In	Exam Date	Location	Reception Hours	Items to Bring
4 months	September 2018	1/23 (Wed)	Kaede Kaikan	1:00pm~ 1:30pm	Maternity record book(ほしてちょう), questionnaire(しつもんひょう), towel, diapers, change of clothes, formula if necessary.
		1/24 (Thr)	Minakuchi HC		
		1/29 (Tue)	Shigaraki HC		
10 months	February 2018	1/10 (Thr)	Minakuchi HC	1:00pm~ 1:30pm	Maternity record book(ほしてちょう), questionnaire(しつもんひょう), towel, diapers, change of clothes, formula if necessary.
		1/23 (Wed)	Kaede Kaikan		
		1/29 (Tue)	Shigaraki HC		
1 year and 8 months	May 2017	1/9 (Wed)	Minakuchi HC	1:00pm~ 1:30pm	Maternity record book(ほしてちょう), questionnaire(しつもんひょう), diapers
		1/16 (Wed)	Kaede Kaikan		
2 years and 6 months	June 2016	1/16 (Wed)	Kaede Kaikan	1:00pm~ 1:30pm	Maternity record book(ほしてちょう), questionnaire(しつもんひょう), survey for your child's hearing ability(ささやきこえけんしん)
		1/17 (Thr)	Minakuchi HC		
3 years and 6 months	June 2015	1/28 (Mon)	Minakuchi HC	1:00pm~ 1:30pm	Maternity record book(ほしてちょう), questionnaire(しつもんひょう), Additional questionnaire distributed at 2 years and 6 months checkup
		1/30 (Wed)	Kaede Kaikan		

English interpreter is available from 8:30 AM to 5:15 PM

Phone: 0748-69-2114

English translation of city information is available:
<http://www.city.koka.lg.jp/en/>



Check out our video about Koka City!

