

## Fun and safe bicycle riding!



It's now a pleasant season to go bike riding! I'm thinking of going on a long bike the next time I have time off.



That sounds nice, but do you know the rules about bike riding?

①

### Rule 4: Obey safety rules



The following 3 things are prohibited when bike riding. Please be extremely careful.

- Riding after drinking alcohol
- Riding with someone ※Except with children under 6 age 6
- Riding bikes side by side

I wonder if you are you obeying the next 3 rules?



- Turning your bike light on in the evening
- Obeying traffic signals
- Stopping at intersections and confirming it is safe

### Rule 5: Children should wear a helmet

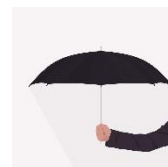


③



The following are also dangerous, so please refrain. Please obey the rules and ride safely. ♪

- Riding while using a cell phone
- Riding while holding an umbrella
- Riding while listening to music using earphones or headphones



④



There are statistics showing that 70% of the people who died in bike accidents didn't obey traffic rules.



I will explain about how to ride a bike. Please understand the following 5 rules and ride properly.



### Rule 1: Ride on the road

When there is a distinction between a sidewalk and the road, ride on the road. However, in the following cases you can ride on the sidewalk.

- ※In areas designated on traffic signs
- ※When the person riding is a child under 13 years old, an elderly person 70 years old or older, or a disabled person
- ※When you can't ride on the road due to the road or traffic situation

### Rule 2: Ride on the left side of the road

Please don't ride on the right side of the road as there is the danger you may collide with a car or motorcycle.

### Rule 3: Pedestrians have priority on sidewalks & ride slowly on the road

②

# Children's Home & Absence from Home Children's Association Start of the Guardian Subsidy System



The Children's Home & Absence from Home Children's Association is a place where elementary school students can play and spend time after school is finished if their guardians are away from home due to work or other reasons.

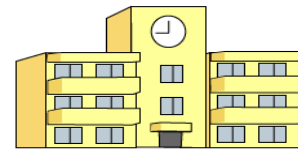
In order to reduce the burden on guardians utilizing the Children's Home and other facilities, a subsidy system started in April.

- ▽ For
- ① Households receiving welfare
  - ② Households applicable for school aid (families for which paying for school supplies and school lunch is difficult)

▽ Subsidy: (monthly amount) Up to 5,000 yen per one child

▽ Sign up: Fill out an application form available at the Shogai Gakushu-ka (Lifelong Learning Division) (City Hall 13F) or Children's Home and either bring or send it to the Shogai Gakushu-ka at the City Hall (postal code: 320-8540). (Municipal website for the application: <http://www.city.utsunomiya.tochigi.jp/ku-rashi/shogaigakushu/>)

▽ Inquiries: Shogaigakushu-ka (Lifelong Learning Division) ☎ 028-632-2676



## National pension plan payment amount change

The amount has changed to the monthly amount of 16,490 yen from the April installment,

There are beneficial payment method options, such as discounts through bank account credit transfer and advanced payment, so feel free to inquire.

For example, if you pay a 1-year portion in advance in case, the insurance payment will be 194,370 yen, which is an annual reduction of 3,510 yen.

Furthermore, starting in the 2017 fiscal year, it is possible to pay a 2-year portion in advance, thus saving 14,400 yen.

If you are interested, you must apply at the Nenkin Jimusho (Pension Office).

- ▽ Inquiries: Utsunomiya Nishi Nenkin Jimusho (Utsunomiya West Pension Office)  
☎ 028-622-4281  
Hoken Nenkin-ka (Insurance Pension Division)  
☎ 028-632-2327



## If you hear a crime prevention buzzer go off nearby, please provide assistance!



The Crime Prevention Association gives out crime prevention buzzers to first grade students of elementary school as a way to further crime prevention countermeasures.

▽ People in the community: If you hear a crime prevention buzzer go off nearby, please quickly confirm the situation and protect the child(ren) by getting them to a safe place, notifying people in the vicinity, calling 110, etc.

▽ Guardians: Please make sure your child(ren) have a crime prevention buzzer with them when they leave the house. Also, please be sure to teach them how to use the crime prevention buzzer at home and replace the batteries when necessary.

- ▽ Inquiries: Seikatsu Anshin-ka (Comfortable Living Division)  
☎ 028-632-2137

## Fun events 🎵 🎵



### Visit the Disaster Prevention Museum & Pick Strawberries

- 🕒 June 4 (Sun) 1:00PM – 5:00PM Meet at the Tochigi-ken Bosaikan (Tochigi Prefectural Disaster Prevention Museum) (248 Nakazato-machi, Utsunomiya-shi)
- 😊 Visit and try some hands on activities at the Prefectural Disaster Prevention Museum to learn about what to do when there is an earthquake or disaster. Then enjoy picking strawberries. 🎵

**Cost** Exchange students: 300 yen, Adults: 500 yen, Young children & elementary school students: free

**Max** First 50 people

**Sign up** Please call the Utsunomiya City International Association (UCIA).

@ Tochigi-ken Bosaikan (Tochigi Prefectural Disaster Prevention Museum) & Akabane Strawberry Farm (Shimokogura-cho, Utsunomiya-shi)

☎ Utsunomiya City International Association (UCIA) 028-616-1870



### International Exchange Salon 🎵

- 🕒 Every 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday 4:00 – 6:00PM  
May 27: Golden Week events
- 😊 An event at which you can talk with people from various countries. Families welcome!

**Cost** Free

@ Utsunomiya International Plaza

☎ Utsunomiya International Plaza  
028-616-1563



**Held every 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month!**



### Utsunomiya Shimin Plaza Film Festival Weekend Cinema

- 🕒 June 10 (Sat) 2:00PM
- 😊 Title: "Stagecoach" 1939/USA  
Director: John Ford  
Starring: John Wayne, etc.

**Other** Cost: Free

2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month 2:00PM

@ Utsunomiya Shimin Plaza 6F Tamokuteki Hall (Multipurpose Hall)

☎ Utsunomiya Shimin Plaza  
028-616-1540



### Festa my Utsunomiya 2017 ~Hold hands with friends from around the world~

- 🕒 May 21 (Sun) 10:00AM – 3:00PM
- 😊 <Booths>  
Tea ceremony workshop, Indian food, Brazilian food, Vietnamese food, Chinese gyoza (pot stickers), African bread, German wine, beer fair trade, simple Japanese quiz, etc.
- <Stage>  
Enjoy Japanese traditional instruments and folk instrumental performances and dances from around the world 🎵

**Sign up** Not necessary

@ Banba Hiroba (Futaarayama Shrine lower square)

☎ Utsunomiya City International Association (UCIA) 028-616-1870





# First Glimpse of Japan, a French Report

©This is a letter from a French student accepted by UCIA.



Bonjour/Konnichiwa,

I'm a 21 year-old French student who just arrived in Japan.

I'm conducting a research project for my university about Asian ritual practices.

It started last September in India with Yoga and Buddhism.

In December, I entered China to study Taiji and Taoism and here I am now, in Utsunomiya.

I enjoy staying and can meet kind people like you here, in Utsunomiya.

You can meet me by chance, as I'm riding a bike on my way to the gym dojos (wearing a shinai instead of a "baguette").

Besides my volunteering within the UCIA, studying kendo and the spirit of bushido is because



of my research and great interest, a purpose of my stay. See you then and thank you for being such a nice people.

Léopold

## Utsunomiya International Plaza (UIP) Services

### Consultation for Foreign Residents



		Spanish Portuguese	Chinese	Thai	English
<b>UIP</b> ☎028-616-1564	3:00PM-6:00PM	Mon	Tues	Wed	Fri
		4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of month (appointment needed)			
<b>City Hall</b> ☎028-632-2834 (during office hours)	9:00AM-12:00PM	Thurs	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs	—	—
	2:00PM-5:00PM	Thurs	—	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs
<b>Administrative Scrivener</b> ☎028-616-1564	3:00PM-5:00PM	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday (appointment needed)			

### Interpreter Volunteer Service

Go with someone needing language assistance to such places as national and prefectural facilities and the city hall and interpret for them.

- ▶ Monday – Sunday  
8:30AM - 7:00PM
- ▶ 1 time (2 hrs) 2,000 yen
- ▶ Please fill out an application form at UIP, pay the fee, and apply.

"Oh-i!" is published in easy Japanese, English, Chinese, Portuguese, and Thai, and is also available on the UCIA website. <http://www.ucia.or.jp> There you can enjoy reading past issues of the "Oh-i!" too.

Clip art on page 1 provided by: Yurika Usui & Natsuki Nemoto