

Good evening, everyone.

You're listening to International Napasa, a community information program for foreign residents. Over the next 30 minutes, we'll be sharing updates in five languages: Japanese, Chinese, Spanish, Tagalog, and English. From 7:30 to 8:00 PM, Ms. Harue Shoji will continue the broadcast in Portuguese.

### **1) First, a safety update from September.**

In September, there were a total of 74 bicycle thefts reported across Hiratsuka City. Incidents occurred in nearly every neighborhood, with the highest numbers in Beniya and Yaezaki (6 cases each), followed by Shinomiya (5 cases), Ōgami (4 cases), and Yamashita, Daikan-Cho, and Tamura (3 cases each). Some bicycles were stolen even when parked within private property, and even when locked. We recommend using an additional wire-type lock, available at home centers, when parking your bicycle.

There were also 12 cases of motorcycle theft, with 2 reported in Yokouchi. For motorcycles, we also recommend using a theft-prevention lock in addition to the standard one.

### **2) Next, an upcoming match at Lemon Gas Stadium.**

On Saturday, November 8th, Shonan Bellmare will face Albirex Niigata at Lemon Gas Stadium. Kickoff is at 3:00 PM.

Advance tickets for general seating are ¥2,500 for adults and ¥900 for elementary, junior high, and high school students. Tickets purchased on the day will cost ¥500 more.

### **3) A notice about vaccine subsidies for seniors.**

Hiratsuka City is offering partial subsidies for influenza and COVID-19 vaccinations for residents aged 65 and older.

The subsidy period runs from October 1st to January 31st, 2026.

The cost is ¥1,600 for the influenza vaccine and ¥2,800 for the COVID-19 vaccine.

Vaccinations are available at medical institutions within the city.

For details, please visit the city's website or contact the Health Division at 0463-55-2111.

#### **4) Announcement: Hiratsuka Civic Activity Center Festival**

On Sunday, November 23rd, the Hiratsuka Civic Activity Center will host its annual festival from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

This event showcases the work of various civic groups active in our community.

There will be activity reports, a bazaar, and food stalls.

We warmly invite you to come and enjoy the day with us.

For more information, please contact the Civic Activity Center at 0463-31-7571.

#### **5) Sports classes starting in December**

Hiratsuka City will offer a variety of sports classes to promote health and wellness among residents.

Classes include Tai Chi, badminton, Zumba dance, and fat-burning exercises.

For schedules, fees, and other details, please visit the Machizukuri Foundation's website.

Inquiries: 0463-35-0102

The application deadline is Friday, November 14th.

You can also apply directly through the foundation's website.

#### **6) Next, an announcement about the open-air market “SunSun Marché.”**

On Sunday, November 9th, the SunSun Marché will be held at Shōnan Kaigan Park in Takahamadai.

The market runs from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

You'll find handmade accessories, delicious food from kitchen cars, and more.

Free parking is available.

For inquiries, please call 0463-31-7211.

## **7) Upcoming concert at the Hachimanyama Western-style House**

On Wednesday, November 19th, a free concert will be held at the Hachimanyama Western-style House.

From 11:00 AM to noon, Ms. Konomi will perform the “Rose Concert.”

From 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM, enjoy “Palette of Music,” a piano performance by Ms. Shizu Sakamoto.

For details on the program and performers, please visit the Hiratsuka City website.

Capacity is limited to 60 people on a first-come, first-served basis.

For inquiries, please call 0463-35-7114.

## **8) Shonan Bellmare match at Lemon Gas Stadium**

On Sunday, November 30th, Shonan Bellmare will play against Shimizu S-Pulse at Lemon Gas Stadium.

Kickoff is at 3:00 PM.

Advance tickets for general seating are ¥2,500 for adults and ¥900 for elementary, junior high, and high school students.

Tickets purchased on the day will cost ¥500 more.

 And now, our first song of the day: “¡Viva Chile!” – a lively tune from Chile. (5:00)

## **9) Local fish market event at Hiratsuka Port**

On Saturday, November 22nd, a “Fresh Local Fish Market” will be held at Hiratsuka Port.

Locally grown vegetables will also be available.

Fresh fish and Shōnan whitebait will go on sale starting at 10:00 AM.

Sales will end once items are sold out.

For inquiries, please contact the Hiratsuka Fisheries Cooperative at 0463-21-0146.

## **10) Public housing application notice**

Hiratsuka City is now accepting applications for public housing.

For details on eligibility and conditions, please check the brochures available at the City Hall's first-floor information desk or at your local community center.

Move-in date is scheduled for March 1st, 2026.

The application deadline is Wednesday, November 18th.

For inquiries, please contact Tokyu Community at 0463-74-4005.

### **1 1) Announcement: Shonan Hiratsuka Fureai Market**

Here's some news about the Shonan Hiratsuka Fureai Market.

It will be held on Thursday, November 23rd at the wholesale market located at 1-7 Shinomiya, Hiratsuka City.

The market runs from 7:00 to 8:00 in the morning.

You'll find plenty of fresh, seasonal vegetables and locally caught seafood available for purchase.

The event will go ahead as scheduled, rain or shine.

For inquiries, please contact the Hiratsuka City Industrial Promotion Division at 0463-21-9758.

On the morning of the event, you can reach them directly at 090-3215-0106.

### **1 2) Announcement: Property Tax Payment Deadline**

Next, a notice from the Hiratsuka City Tax Division.

The payment deadline for the fourth installment of fixed asset tax is usually November 30th.

However, since the 30th falls on a Sunday this year, the deadline has been extended to Monday, December 1st.

Please make sure to complete your payment within the deadline.

If you're unable to pay on time, don't hesitate to contact the Hiratsuka City Tax Payment Division at 0463-21-8769.

### **13) Hiratsuka Folk Performing Arts Festival**

On Sunday, November 16th, from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM, the Hiratsuka Folk Performing Arts Festival will be held at the Chūō Community Center.

Enjoy traditional Japanese performances such as festival taiko drumming and ningyō jōruri (puppet theater).

Admission is limited to the first 250 guests.

For more information, please contact the Hiratsuka City Social Education Division at 0463-35-8124.

### **14) Shonan Hiratsuka International Exchange Festival**

On Sunday, November 16th, from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM, the International Exchange Festival will take place near the outdoor stage at Hiratsuka City's Sogo Koen Park.

Stage performances will feature cultural showcases including Yosakoi dance, Samba, Egyptian dance, Japanese classical dance, and Tanabata taiko drumming.

Food stalls will offer international cuisine from countries such as Singapore, Indonesia, Turkey, Egypt, Tanzania, Peru, the Philippines, and Taiwan.

Volunteers will partially provide English interpretation for stage announcements.

English-speaking guides will also be available at the venue to assist visitors.

Admission is free and no reservation is required.

We warmly invite everyone to join us!

For inquiries, please contact the Hiratsuka City Cultural Exchange Division at 0463-25-2520.

**15) Next, a notice about the upcoming J-Alert test broadcast.**

On Wednesday, November 12th, around 11:00 a.m., the city of Hiratsuka will conduct a test of the J-Alert emergency broadcast system.

J-Alert is a nationwide alarm system used to quickly notify the public in case of major disasters or missile threats.

Please be aware that this is only a test, and do not mistake it for a real emergency.

For inquiries, please contact Hiratsuka City's Crisis Management Division at 0463-21-9863.

**16) Next, an announcement about the Sengen Festival.**

The Sengen Festival will be held over two days—Saturday, November 8th and Sunday, November 9th—at the Hiratsuka Youth Center.

Festival hours are from 10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the 8th, and from 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on the 9th.

There will be food stalls offering crepes, yakitori, okonomiyaki, and Brazilian cuisine.

On stage, enjoy live band performances and traditional folk dances.

Workshops include bamboo toy making, bound tennis, and bamboo crafts.

For more information, please contact the Hiratsuka City Youth Division at 0463-71-5950.

**17) Free Japanese Language Classes by Volunteers**

Hiratsuka City offers four volunteer-run Japanese language classes:

1. Hiratsuka International Exchange Association
2. Kabela Japanese Language Group
3. Shonan JRC

#### 4. Yokouchi Project

All classes are free of charge.

For details on locations, class schedules, and eligibility, please visit the Hiratsuka City website.

#### 18) Changes to Immigration Procedure Fees

Starting April 1, 2025, fees for immigration-related procedures have been revised.

Here are the main updates:

- Change of residence status: ¥6,000 (previously ¥4,000)
- Extension of residence period: ¥6,000 (previously ¥4,000)
- Permanent residency application: ¥10,000 (previously ¥8,000)
- Re-entry permit (single): ¥4,000 (previously ¥3,000)
- Re-entry permit (multiple): ¥7,000 (previously ¥6,000)
- Certificate of employment eligibility: ¥2,000 (previously ¥1,200)

 For full details, please visit the Immigration Services Agency website.

#### 19) Helmet Purchase Subsidy for Cyclists

As of April 2023, wearing a helmet while cycling is strongly encouraged.

Hiratsuka City offers a ¥1,000 subsidy for residents aged 12 and under or 65 and over.

 To apply, bring documents verifying your name, address, and date of birth to a participating bicycle shop in the city.

 A list of eligible shops is available on the Machizukuri Foundation website.

 For inquiries, call 0463-35-8108

## 20) Community Garden Plot Applications

Hiratsuka City has 22 community gardens available for residents to rent.

 Usage period: 2 years from the start of your contract (renewal possible)

 Annual fee: ¥8,000 to ¥18,000 depending on location

 For current availability, please check the city's website

 For inquiries, contact the Agriculture and Fisheries Division at 0463-35-8102

## 21) Subsidy for Anti-Nuisance Phone Devices

To help prevent nuisance phone calls, Hiratsuka City offers a subsidy for residents aged 65 and older who purchase a call-blocking device.

 The city will cover half the cost, up to ¥5,000

 To apply, visit the Crisis Management Division on the 4th floor of City Hall

 For details, call 0463-21-9863

## 22) Extension of Starlight Money Deadlines

The deadlines for charging, redeeming, and using Starlight Money have been extended:

- New charge deadline: January 31, 2026
- Redemption deadline: February 28, 2026
- Usage deadline: March 31, 2026

 Please note that participating stores may change.

 For inquiries, contact the Starlight Money Office at 0570-06-0505

## 23) Paperless Procedures at City Hall

Since February 4, Hiratsuka City has introduced a “No-Writing Counter” system.

For certain procedures, such as requesting a residence certificate, you can simply provide your information verbally at the counter.

Staff will enter the data into the system for you—no need to fill out forms.

Not all procedures are eligible, so please check the city website for details.

For inquiries, contact the Digital Promotion Division at 0463-20-8804.

#### 24) **Free Gym Access at Mizuho Elementary School**

On the second and third Saturday of each month, the gym at Mizuho Elementary School in Kitakaname is open to the public free of charge.

You can enjoy badminton, table tennis, and boccia.

Hours are from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM.

No reservation is required.

Please bring your own indoor shoes and sports equipment.

For inquiries, contact the Sports Division at 0463-31-3060.

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#### Closing Message

And that brings us to the end of today's edition of International Napasa.

If you missed any part of the broadcast, you can find all the program details on the Hiratsuka City website.

We'd love to hear from you—your messages and feedback are always welcome by fax.

The fax number is 0463-23-7200.

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Today's closing song is a Chinese tune titled "I Will Follow You for Life" (3:50).

This has been Michael Heverly

Thank you for joining.

Until next week—**take care and good bye !**  

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