

**KIAN**KAWASAKI  
INTERNATIONAL  
ASSOCIATION  
NEWS**HELLO KAWASAKI**

NO.178

## Kawasaki City Mayor's Message

The charms and attractions of Kawasaki will have been completed and printed as the "Kawasaki Card Game" this month. Over 3,000 people from Kawasaki submitted poems and logos about Kawasaki. I was touched and could feel proud of all the affection that people gave Kawasaki as shown through their writings on nature, townlife, the people and in fact all aspects of Kawasaki.

As last year was the 80th anniversary of the establishment of Kawasaki as a city it seemed most appropriate to promote the attractive points of Kawasaki. July 2004 saw the opening in earnest of "The Music Town" in the Muza Kawasaki Symphony Hall. I hope you too have come across the increase of fresh melodies being played within the city. The magazine "Rurubu Kawasaki", which was published with our full cooperation, was not only well acclaimed but also went on to be reprinted in larger numbers. That Kawasaki's charms are being rediscovered has been a happy occurrence. In sports too Kawasaki was swept up like everywhere else in the excitement of the Greek Olympics of 2004. News that Kawasaki Frontale were promoted from J2 to J1 and that Ms Narita Mayumi could win 8 medals in the Paralympics caused people in Kawasaki to feel good and gave us all great encouragement. The previous year has also seen a big impact on the face of sports by Kawasaki's "Hometown Sports Partnership" Campaign. This has been promoting Kawasaki through Kawasaki's sports teams that play sports throughout Japan.

2004 was also the year that the international community saw the birth of new relationships. Kawasaki has brought forth the "Asia Venture Village Project" that serves as a contribution of a new industry to the world. With the aim of joining and mixing ideas about environmental technology, Kawasaki signed a memorandum with the Shanghai Transport University. Working from the base concept area of "Think", and with the partnership of Vietnamese and Korean companies it is hoped that the "Asia Venture Village Project" will meet the needs of businesses in China.

The Kawasaki of today has come to a period where there is a new bud about to blossom forth. Whilst we continue implementing our plan for financial and administrative reform and with the introduction of a new general plan and also with indications of a self-government status, Kawasaki City must continue to climb up the next step of municipal government management. As we aim to help citizens of Kawasaki to feel that it is good they have chosen to live in Kawasaki, we must steadily nurture all seeds of possibility.



### Nakahara Ward Music Live Concert



No.179

First, a festival of live bands and dance groups called "Nakahara-ward Music Live Concert: In Unity 2005" will be held on Sunday the 6th of March. This year out of a body of 59 groups 18 group performers have been chosen to perform at "In Unity 2005" and also 18 people have been chosen to act as organizers of the event. This year's special feature is the performance of a 120 member chorus group who will be singing gospel songs.

"In Unity 2005" will be held on the 6th of March at Epoch Nakahara which is beside the Musashi-nakahara station on the JR Nambu Line. It will start from 1:00pm and finish at 6:30pm. Also if you wish to, you can listen to the songs of promising bands from "In Unity 2005" on Kawasaki FM every Friday for 15 minutes from 2:00pm. The last broadcast of these "In Unity 2005" introductions will be on 11<sup>th</sup> of March and will be aired for 60 minutes.

# Tama Ward Forest Festival

Next up, the "Tama-ward Forest Festival" will be held on Saturday the 12<sup>th</sup> of March. There will be lots of exciting events. There will be a Taiko drum performance, a brass band, a Super Hero TV show, a mini zoo, a puppet show, a folk handicraft making event, Nature Games (such as listening to the hearts of trees) and all sorts of other events. The "Tama-ward Forest Festival" will be held in Ikuta Ryokuchi Park at the Masagata Hill area. It will start from 10:00 am and finish at 3:00pm on Saturday the 12th of March. If there is rain on the 12th of March then the "Tama-ward Forest Festival" will be held on Sunday the 13th of March instead. Also please avoid coming to the festival by car.

For further details please contact The Regional Promotional Events Department at the Tama Ward Office. You can phone at 044-935-3148 or you can fax at 044-935-3391.

## Unwarranted Bills



No.180

Recently there has been a large increase in the number of people seeking advice at consumer support centers about unjust demands for debt repayments. It is important that you should be cautious about post cards or emails that are sent to you that falsely accuse you of owing money. Recently too, there have even been cases where the courts and the legal system have been misused in order to demand payments of non-existent debts. It is important that you handle such cases with care.

The court procedures called "Money Payment Reminders" (Shiharai Saisaku) and "Small Money Lawsuits" (Shogaku Soshu) have been abused by criminals. If you receive such court documents you **MUST** lodge a protest at the court within 2 weeks of receiving the document. You must do this even if you are being falsely accused of owing money. If you do not register a protest you may be faced by a fine. You should carefully check any court documents that are sent to you. Real documents will have the name of the court as well as a "Special Delivery" (Tokubetsu Sotatsu) stamp on the envelope. Also in a genuine case, documents inside the envelope will have the name and the serial number of the case written on them. Furthermore in genuine court documents the "Special Delivery" stamp will have the signature of the post office staff member dealing with the case written on it. If you receive documents like this then they are likely to be genuine.

If you receive suspicious documents demanding that you have to pay money then please calmly consult with an official body for advice.

Here in Kawasaki you can consult on such problems at two locations: one in Kawasaki ward and the other in Takatsu ward. You can contact the Kawasaki City Consumers Administration Center in Kawasaki ward at 044-200-3030. Or you can also contact the Kawasaki City Northern Branch Consumer Center in Takatsu ward at 044-812-3336. Hours for consultation are 9:00am to 12:00, and from 1:00pm to 4:00pm Monday to Friday.

Issued by The Kawasaki International Association

237-1 Kizuki Gion Cho, Nakahara-Ku, Kawasaki 211-0033 Kawasaki International Center  
Tel 044-435-7000 Fax 044-435-7010 E-mail: kian@bremen.or.jp HP URL: <http://www.bremen.or.jp/kian/>