Rapid Car Operations Begin

Agreement Made with Juntendo University
Urayasu Hospital concerning Rapid Car Operations

Juntendo University Urayasu Hospital has begun “Rapid Car” operations (see below for details) for the entire Urayasu City and the Gyotoku area of Ichikawa City. Prior to the beginning of operations, an agreement concerning Rapid Car operations was made between Juntendo University Urayasu Hospital and Urayasu City.

- Operation Hours: Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Dispatch Areas: All areas of Urayasu City and the Gyotoku area of Ichikawa City

Inquiries: Fire Defense Administration Section, Fire Department Headquarters, Tel: 304-0144

What Is a “Rapid Car?”

A “Rapid Car” (“rapid response car”) is a registered emergency vehicle in which a doctor rides. These vehicles are dispatched at the request of the Fire Department. In recent years, the use of the cars has spread across Japan, mainly at critical care centers.

In the case of Urayasu City, until now, whenever there was a serious traffic accident or sudden illness, the doctor could only see the patient when he/she was brought to the hospital by ambulance. However, with the beginning of Rapid Car operations, as soon as the commanding center of the Fire Department receives a 119 emergency call, the center can dispatch an ambulance and also send the Juntendo University Urayasu Hospital Critical Care Center a request for a Rapid Car dispatch. This enables doctors and nurses to get to sites as quickly as possible, and thus makes advanced lifesaving measures and medical treatment possible. This is sure to result in saving more lives.

Please note that medical expenses that are incurred from a medical examination by a doctor who comes by Rapid Car must be borne personally.

Traffic Will Be Regulated on the North Side of Imagawa-bashi Bridge

Because of the traffic regulation, the following bus stops on the Osampo Bus and Tokyo Bay City Bus lines will not be in service.

Inquiries: City Development Policy Section

- Osampo Bus Iryo Center Line (headed toward Tokyo Bay Urayasu Ichikawa Medical Center), Bus Stop No. 24 “Juntendo Urayasu Byoin” • Not in service until September 2014
- Osampo Bus Iryo Center Line (headed toward Shin-Urayasu Stations), Bus Stop No. 24 “Juntendo Urayasu Byoin” • Not in service in October

- Osampo Bus Maihama Line (headed toward Shin-Urayasu Stations), Bus Stop No. 28 “Juntendo Urayasu Byoin” • Not in service from November until August 2014
- Tokyo Bay City Bus “Nissei Kenshu Center” Bus Stop of Bus No. 12 Maihama Resort Line (headed toward Maihama Station), Bus No. 5 Horie Line (headed toward Shin-Urayasu Station), Bus No. 8 Tomioka S Line (headed toward Tokyo Disneyland), and Bus No. 4 Tomioka Line (headed toward Tokyo Disneyland). • Not in service from November until August 2014

Reguated vehicle traffic during nighttime (9 p.m. to 6 a.m.) Road closed

We are still under discussion with relevant organizations on the measures to be taken when the traffic will be temporarily closed in the areas near the parking lot entrances of Traffic Park and Wakashio Park as well as the riverside sidewalk (hospital side). Details will be posted on the city’s website, etc., as soon as the measures are worked out.
Hello to all!

Hideki Matsuizaki, Mayor of Urayasu

Men’s Bon Odori Dancing

The annual summer bon odori dancing festival was held this year on August 15 and 16. It also served as a special event to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Federation of Local Community Associations, which sponsors the event.

50 years ago, there were some community associations in Urayasu, from ward no. 1 to 9 of the Motomachi area. Today, however, that number has grown by nine times to reach 81 associations. This number alone shows the rapid growth of Urayasu.

This year, due to many continuous days of temperatures above 35 degrees, we were afraid that people wouldn’t want to go outside, but it turned out that our fears were unwarranted. During the two-day festival, about 100,000 people participated in the event, and the area around Urayasu Elementary School was bustling with excitement.

The number of dancers was also far more than last year, with eight rows of dancers surrounding the central stage at the peak of the excitement. With more than a thousand dancers, many people said that they could barely stretch out their arms as they danced.

The only thing I was a little disappointed about was that, as with every year, the women dancers far outnumbered the men, with only a handful of male dancers. I enjoyed dancing now, but for the first several years after I took office as mayor, I only watched the dancing. I was very determined to learn and am only able to dance today because I had the officers of the Urayasu City Women’s Association teach me.

Every year, we wonder how many more male-dancers will be present. This year, when I stopped by the dancing practice of the Fujimi Wakikai, I was consulted about this matter and was encouraged to figure out how to get their husbands to join the festival. As I listened to what they said, I remembered how I was long ago and imagined that perhaps the men were having difficulty taking the first step because they were too shy.

I excitedly spoke with Mr. Ume, chairperson of the Federation of Local Community Associations, about scheduling dance practice days for men only next year. We have decided to hold the festival no matter what the weather, so we are looking forward to welcoming more male dancers and seeing them take their first step.

And with uncanny timing, Ms. Kuroda, the director of education, handed me a newspaper article on bon odori dancing. The article explained how bon odori dancing might lead to good health. The Kyoto Prefectural public health center worked together with Kyoto Prefectural University to study the effects of the dancing on health.

According to their examination of the changes in the blood flow in the brain while just watching the dancing does not increase blood flow, dancing while standing up (or even just moving hands while sitting down) increases blood flow and stimulates the brain. Additionally, an examination of the effectiveness of the dancing for the prevention of senility showed that the average scores of those who danced once a week improved on the dementia evaluation test.

I heard that in Urayasu long ago, men and women, young and old all enjoyed dancing together. Next year, I hope the men will also join the female dancers and will be able to dance together. It will be very exciting.