

# THE OSMONET

January 2023 (vol.306)

*The following articles are taken mainly from "Koho Ashiya" – the bulletin of Ashiya City (January issue). It is, of course, a Japanese edition, and translated into English by a voluntary group from the Ashiya Cosmopolitan Association. Please understand that some phone numbers listed under the various events are staffed by people who may not speak English.*

## Mayor's New Year's Greetings

### Happy New Year!



I hope all Ashiya citizens are having a New Year in good health.

Last year, Russian military invasion into Ukraine broke out, and many innocent lives were lost. With no sign of convergence even now, we can only hope restoration of peace and realization of reconstruction as soon as possible. This military invasion has caused worldwide soaring prices of crude oil, grains, etc., having a tremendous impact on the lives of citizens and businesspeople alike. As your local government we have taken various support measures, and from now on, would like to make efforts to ensure that support reaches those who really need it. Furthermore, thanks to your adequate measures taken against droplet and contact infection, we could realize to hold Summer Carnival and Autumn Festival after three years. After this, preventing the spread of infection while balancing socioeconomic activities, and with values on human connections, we will hold events and local activities based on new daily life practices, which will lead to the vitalization of the whole city.

This year, based on the creation of Children and Families Agency, we, in Ashiya city, will aim for "Society with Children in the Center", with leaving no one behind. With the realization of uninterrupted support, in order to establish the system for coping actively with "Create the Future", the fundamental policy for general plan or comprehensive strategy for creation, we will carry out the organizational reform, including the reorganization of Departments, etc.

In conclusion, I look forward for your further support and cooperation for the development of Ashiya city, and hope this year will be a fruitful and wonderful one for every one of you.



Mayor ITO Mai (right) with Chairperson of City Council MATSUKI Yoshiaki (left) at Renaissance Classics Ashiya Luna Hall



**ITO Mai, the Mayor**

## Information about the COVID-19 Vaccination (As of Dec. 23)



### ■ Rollout of Omicron Booster Shots is underway.

■ **Type of Vaccine used:** The bivalent vaccine targeting the original coronavirus strain and the omicron subvariant made by Pfizer and Moderna

\*Currently, the above vaccine can be given only one time.

■ **Eligibility:** Anyone who fulfills all of the following conditions.

- ▶ People aged 12 and older
- ▶ People who have already had the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> shots
- ▶ People for whom three months have passed since their previous vaccination
- ▶ People who have not received either of the following vaccine shots (3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup>)
  - The Omicron bivalent vaccine made by Pfizer or Moderna (BA.1, BA.4-5)
  - The Novavax initial vaccine after Nov. 8, 2022

### ■ The period to send out the vaccination coupon:

Vaccination coupons for the omicron booster shots are mailed to those eligible around ten days before 3 months have passed since their previous shot. People who received vaccination coupons for the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> booster shot, but did not use them, can use these coupons for the omicron booster shot.

\* If you have received COVID-19 vaccines overseas, or if you don't receive your booster coupon even after your vaccination period has passed, please apply by reading the QR code on the right or contact Ashiya City COVID-19 Vaccine Call Center.



### ■ Medical Institutions that administer COVID-19 vaccination

See the city's website or contact Ashiya City COVID-19 Vaccine Call Center.



### ■ The 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Shots (Initial Vaccinations)

The 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> shots are available now, using the initial vaccines targeting the original coronavirus strain.

### ■ Vaccination Schedule & Type of Vaccine

Vaccination Site	Vaccination Schedule	Vaccine to be used	Reservation Start Date
Individual Medical Facilities (Hospitals & Clinics)	Mon., Jan. 9– Sun., Jan. 29	Pfizer (Bivalent: BA.4•5)	Available now
	Mon., Jan. 30– Sun., Feb. 12		9:00 a.m. on Wed., Jan. 4
Health and Welfare Center (14-9 Kurekawa-cho) *Only for the 5 <sup>th</sup> shot	Sun., Jan. 22, Sun., Jan. 29	Moderna (Bivalent: BA.4•5)	Available now

- \* Some medical institutions use the bivalent vaccine targeting an Omicron subvariant made by Moderna.
- \* The eligible age for the Omicron bivalent vaccine made by Moderna has been lowered from 18 to 12 years old.
- \* Inoculation at the Health and Welfare Center will be finished on Sun., Jan. 29.

#### ■ **How to Make a Reservation**

- ◆ **Online (Web) Reservation:** Make a reservation online through City Website.
- ◆ **Ashiya City COVID-19 Vaccine Call Center** (Phone: 0797-31-0655)

**Hours: 9:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. including Sat., Sun. & public holidays except the year-end and New Year's holidays (Dec. 29-Jan. 3, 2023)**

- You can make a reservation when you receive your vaccination coupon.
- Please have your vaccination coupon ready when you make a reservation.
- Please make sure to dial the correct number.
- If you have language problems or have trouble communicating, you can send a fax for consultation. (Fax: 0797-31-1018)

- \* Currently, the rollout of COVID-19 vaccinations is scheduled to be finished by the end of March, 2023. Please make a reservation as early as possible if you wish to get vaccinated.

#### **Prepare for a Possible Double Outbreak of COVID-19/Influenza**

A surge in the number of COVID-19 cases and a flue outbreak striking at the same time could place extra pressure on the medical system.

- ① Please consider getting vaccinated to stop the spread of infection.

▶Receiving a vaccine for coronavirus      ▶Receiving a vaccine for flu

- ② Keep the following items in case of illness.

▶COVID-19 antigen self-testing kits      ▶Fever-reducing medication  
▶Enough food for around 7 days

- ③ Stock up on government-certified antigen self-testing kits.

People are encouraged to use government-certified tests for medical purposes or general use, not uncertified antigen tests marked for research purposes.

■ If you have symptoms such as fever or sore throat,

- ◆ For those at low risk of severe illness:

When your COVID-19 test is positive, you can start recuperation at home after voluntary health care registration.

- ◆ For those at high risk of severe illness:

- If you have a family doctor, first call the doctor and seek consultation.
- If you don't have a family doctor, contact a fever outpatient clinic (medical or testing medical institutions) and see the doctor.

\*First make a call before seeing a doctor.



■If you are not sure whether to see a doctor, please use the following telephone consultation service.

•Hyogo Prefecture COVID-19 Health Consultation Call Center

Phone: 078-362-9980 (24/7, including Sat., Sun., public holidays)

•Ashiya Health and Welfare Office Phone: 0797-32-0707 (Weekdays, 9:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m.)

### Events at Municipal Library

■Inquiries: Municipal Library (Phone: 0797-31-2301)

#### 〈Picture Book Class〉

□Date & Time: Every Sat., ①2:00-2:30 p.m. ②2:30-3:00 p.m.

□Place: Main Municipal Library

□Eligibility & Capacity: ①3-year-olds and older/First 15 children  
②5-year-olds and older/First 15 children

\*Participation from the middle of the class is not allowed.

\*Parents are not allowed to attend.

#### 〈Story Time for Children〉

□Date & Time: Every Sat., 2:00-2:30 p.m.

□Place: Main Municipal Library

□Eligibility & Capacity: 1<sup>st</sup> grade elementary school students and older/First 20 children

\*Participation from the middle of the class is not allowed.

\*Parents are not allowed to attend.

#### 〈Story Time for Toddlers〉

□Place: Main Municipal Library

□Eligibility & Capacity: Children aged 0-2 and guardians/First 8 pairs each session

□Application: Apply through the city's website from 10:00 a.m. on Thurs., Jan. 5.

#### 〈Story Time for Children at Uchide Branch Library〉

□Date & Time: Sat., Jan. 14, 3:00-3:30 p.m.

□Place: Uchide Educational and Cultural Center

□Eligibility & Capacity: 3-year-olds and older/9 children

\*Participation from the middle of the class is not allowed.

\*Parents are allowed to attend the class.



### Ask for Your Cooperation in Saving Energy in Winter

We are encouraged to set the room temperature moderately. Spend the winter comfortably by incorporating “Warm Biz” into your clothing, food and shelter. Why don't you start a lifestyle that is friendly to the earth and your wallet?

■Inquiries: Environment Section (Phone: 0797-38-2051)

## **New Year Special Interview – Horie Kenichi** (Abridged)

*Last June, Mr. Horie Kenichi succeeded in crossing the Pacific Ocean alone on his yacht without stopping at any ports. It has been 60 years since he became the youngest person to cross the Pacific Ocean on his yacht. He is now 83 years old, the oldest person in the world who succeeded in this great achievement. We asked him about his adventure and new challenge.*



### **Profile: Horie Kenichi, ocean adventurer**

Born in Osaka City. Lives in Ashiya

Succeeded in solo crossing of the Pacific Ocean in 1962

Received the freedom of the city from the mayor of San Francisco. Continued sailing around the world and across the Pacific Ocean.

Received the Prime Minister's Award in 2011

### **<Departure during the spread of Coronavirus infection>**

60 years ago, I had no idea that I would be the oldest person to take on the challenge I did in 2022. During the many years of sailing experiences, I hoped that I could sail until 100 years old. However, I decided not to wait until I reached 100. Last year's sailing was initially scheduled in 2021, but I had to postpone to 2022 due to the spread of corona infections. Fortunately, this was timely as it was the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of my first solo crossing of the Pacific Ocean. The yacht used this time was designed in Yokohama and built in Hiroshima, but I did not have enough time to meet everyone concerned as I was so nervous about Corona. Although I sailed alone, I had to submit negative proof of infection 72 hours before the departure from San Francisco

### **<Focus my attention on sailing >**

During the voyage, I got up when the sun rose and went to bed when the sun set. Yachts usually travel at a speed of 7 or 8 km per hour. Even when I was sleeping, the sound of wave and the rocking of the hull told me if the yacht was going smoothly. Even when I was unconscious, I was concentrating all the time. It took a lot of nervous energy. I had to be careful not to miss my daily satellite phone calls because the ringtone was sometimes lost in the sound of the waves. I examined my sailing and visualized my next sailing. I still enjoy sailing. The past 2 years have been very exciting, both planning the voyage and building the yacht.

### **<It's good when advancing at an average speed>**

On my solo voyage 60 years ago, I took the north route, but this time I chose the south route. This route goes through the trade wind zone as trade wind is stable easterly wind that is ideal and best for yachts. Thanks to the good wind, I made good progress. There are, of course, days of bad weather and setbacks. Now we have a satellite tracking system that shows my current location hourly on the map, which can be viewed on the website and some

of my web visitors let my wife know that my yacht was not advancing. So the visitor was sailing with me. A yacht advances about 200 km per day, so even if it retreats for one hour, it is still advancing averagely in 24 hours.

<The key is to merge with nature>

I started sailing 68 years ago when I entered Kansai University Dai-ichi Senior High School and joined the sailing club. The encounter was fortunate for me. It was only nine years after the war ended, so few people were sailing at that time.

The main difference between sailing and other sports is the power source. During the junior high school days, I did gymnastics. The source of power is your body, while the wind is the source of power for a yacht. It is important to make good use of the wind's power. You only use your energy to steer the yacht. This is probably the reason why people of all ages can enjoy sailing. However, it is not as easy as we think, because we are dealing with nature. We never know where the wind will come from. It is important not to confront nature but to integrate yourself into nature.

<The strongest time in my life>

I can get anxious during the voyage. What if the wind get stronger while I am sleeping. If you start thinking negatively, you will get caught up in more and more bad thoughts. I am most afraid of my imagination. I think it takes a lot of experiences to overcome fear. In that sense, the present is the strongest time for me. Just thinking about it does not make you stronger. It is important to repeat the experiences, to take the first step and try.



<There's nothing imagination can't do>

Some people may find it difficult to try something. But everyone has tried something in some form or another. For me, as a clumsy person, it happened to be sailing. Challenges start with one's imagination. I encourage you, young people, to imagine. I am now catching the wind, looking out the sea and unfolding the map of the world in my mind.

<From Ashiya to the infinite world ocean>

When I was a member of the sailing club in high school, we practiced off the coast of Ashiya. I remember sailing towards the incinerator which is no longer there. In May 1980, I moved to Ashiyahama Seaside Town. I lived on the 29th floor, and I was happy to see the light of Tomogashima Lighthouse from there. Every time I saw the light, I felt I was back in my youth. I was relieved when I could see the Rokko mountain range beyond the Kii Channel. Originally, the light of that lighthouse reaches 38 km, but from 85 m above the ground, it can reach Ashiya, which is more than 50 km away. Ashiya has both mountains and the sea, and the sea is connected to the world.

As long as my body lasts, I want to keep challenging myself until I am 100 years old. I am envisioning my next challenge.



## Enroll in the National Pension System

To those turning 20 years of age, the Japan Pension Service sends basic pension number notifications and other documents related to the National Pension Plan (国民年金 *kokumin nenkin*). Please be sure to check the contents.



◇ **Inquiries:** Management Subsection, Citizens' Section

Phone: 0797-38-2036

## Notification of Paid Insurance Premium Amount



Notification of insurance premium payment amounts confirmed to have been paid during 2022 will be sent out at the end of January 2023 (保険料収入済額通知書 *hoken-ryo shunyu-zumi-gaku tsuchi-sho*).

Insurance premium payments are tax-deductible. Make use of the notification for your final tax return. Please note, however, that insurance premium payments made at the end of December 2022 may not be included in the notification.

◇ **Inquiries:** Collection Subsection, Insurance Section

Phone: 0797-38-2226

Medical Care for the Elderly Subsection, Insurance Section

Phone: 0797-38-2037

Management Subsection, Senior Citizens' Long-Term Care Section Phone: 0797-38-2046

## Submit Salary Payment Reports Online

Businesses should submit Salary Payment Reports (給与支払報告書 *kyuyo shiharai hokoku-sho*) by January 31, 2023 for employees (including part-time workers, "arubaito" part-time workers, and retirees) who were paid salaries or other wages during the previous year.



Documents needed for the Salary Payment Report may be downloaded from the 2D code above. eLTAX, the local tax portal system, is a convenient way to submit the report.

◇ **Inquiries:** Municipal Tax Subsection, Taxation Section

Phone: 0797-38-2016

## Emergency Assistance for Surging Energy and Food Costs

(電力・ガス・食料品等価格高騰緊急支援給付金 *denryoku gasu shokuryohin-to kakaku koto kinkyu shien kyufu-kin*)

《Application Deadline: Tue., January 31, 2023》

◇ **Eligible Tax-Exempt Households:** Confirmation letters (application forms) were mailed. Please fill out the required information and return them by the deadline.

➤ **Households with Sudden Change in Income:** An application is required. For the application procedure and other details, visit the Ashiya City website or contact the Community Welfare Section.

◇ **Payment Amount:** 50,000 yen per household

※ Beware of scams and fraudulent business practices impersonating government officials.

◇ **Inquiries:** Rinji Kyufu-kin Tanto, Community Welfare Section

Call Center: 0797-38-2053 (weekdays, 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.)

Mail to: 〒659-8501 (no address necessary)



## Cost of Living Relief for Families with Children

(子育て世帯物価高騰対策給付金 *kosodate-setai bukka koto taisaku kyufu-kin*)

To support families with children, Ashiya City will provide 30,000 yen for each child eligible for Child Allowance (児童手当 *jido teate*).

◇ **Eligibility:** Those who have a Certificate of Residence (住民票 *juminhyo*) in Ashiya City as of August 31, 2022, and meet any of the conditions below.

- Those receiving Child Allowance, including Special Benefits (特例給付 *tokurei kyufu*) for September 2022
- Those receiving Child Allowance, including Special Benefits, for newborns who were born between September 1, 2022, and February 28, 2023, and who have a Certificate of Residence in the city at the time of the newborn's birth

◇ **Payment Amount:** 30,000 yen per eligible child

◇ **Application:** Necessary documents must be submitted, postmarked by Tues., February 28, 2023, to the Child-rearing Promotion Section, 〒659-8501 (no address necessary). Documents needed were sent out on December 9, 2022. They may also be downloaded from the Ashiya City website. Public servants need to apply.

◇ **Inquiries:** Child-rearing Policy Section

Phone: 0797-38-2045



## Special Benefit to Support Families with Children

Eligible recipients who are yet to receive the benefit should apply for the Special Benefit to Support Families with Children (子育て世帯生活支援特別給付金 *kosodate setai seikatsu shien tokubetsu kyufu-kin*).

◇ **Eligible Children:** Children born between April 2, 2004 (2002 if they have certain special needs) and February 28, 2023.

◇ **Eligible Recipients:** Parents or guardians who are raising an eligible child, who are the primary person financially supporting the household, and who fall under any of the categories below.

- Those who are exempt from Resident's Tax (per capita) for the fiscal year 2022
- Those whose income has changed suddenly on or after January 1, 2022, and is at the same level as those exempt from Resident's Tax
- Single parents who are not receiving Child-rearing Allowance due to being a public pension recipient, etc.
- Single parents whose income is at the same level as Child-rearing Allowance recipients

◇ **Payment Amount:** 50,000 yen per eligible child

◇ **Application:** Submit necessary documents postmarked by Tues., February 28, 2023, to the Child-rearing Promotion Section, 〒659-8501 (no address required).

◇ **Inquiries:** Child-rearing Policy Section

Phone: 0797-38-2045

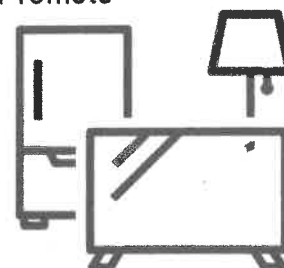




## **Subsidy to Promote Energy-Efficient Household Appliance Purchases**

(省エネ家電製品購入推進事業補助金 *sho-ene kaden seihin konyu suishin jigyo hojokin*)

- ◇ **Eligibility:** Those who purchase eligible new and unused home appliances, totaling 50,000 yen before tax or more, from stores in Hyogo Prefecture between December 15, 2022, and March 31, 2023, and meet all of the criteria below.
    - Individuals who have an address in Ashiya City, or corporations (i.e. offices and businesses) located in the city
    - Those who are not in arrears with their city taxes
    - Those who have not applied for Ashiya City's Subsidy to Promote Net Zero Energy Houses (ZEH) this fiscal year.
  - ◇ **Eligible Appliances with Uniform Energy Efficiency Labels**
    - Air conditioners with four stars or more
    - Televisions with four stars or more
    - Lighting fixtures with four stars or more
    - Refrigerators and freezers with three stars or more
- ※ Only once per household or corporation. Internet purchases are not eligible.
- ◇ **Subsidy Amount:** 20,000 yen for purchases totaling 100,000 yen or more before tax, or 10,000 yen for purchases totaling 50,000 yen or more before tax.
- ◇ **Application:** Make an electronic application or submit designated documents by mail between January 10 and March 31, 2023. Applications will be closed, however, when the budget limit is reached. Visit the Ashiya City website for details
- ◇ **Inquiries:** Environment Section, 〒659-8501 no address needed Phone: 0797-38-2051



### **1.17 Ashiya Pheonix Fund Subsidy**

The fund is available to subsidize volunteer efforts, such as by citizen groups and college students, to pass down the experiences and valuable lessons learned from the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake to the next generation and to build strong communities against disasters.

#### ◇ **Eligible Activities:**

- ① Providing support for disaster victims in and outside the disaster-stricken regions and the recovery and reconstruction of the regions.
  - ② Raising awareness of disaster prevention and preparedness, and establishing voluntary disaster prevention organizations.
  - ③ Training volunteers for disaster prevention and preparedness, and reconstruction.
  - ④ Passing down the lessons learned from the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake.
  - ⑤ Exhibiting materials about the devastation, recovery, and reconstruction from the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake.
  - ⑥ Holding memorial services for the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake
  - ⑦ Any other activities that are in line with the objectives of the 1.17 Ashiya Pheonix Fund.
- ※ There are conditions to be eligible for the subsidy. Please inquire for details.



◇ **Inquiries:** Policy Promotion Section

Phone: 0797-38-2127

### **Fire Brigades New Year's Parade 2023**

- ◆ Date and Time: Sun., January 8 10:00 a.m. – Noon
- ◆ Place: Seido Elementary School Ground
- ◆ Events:
  - Part 1 (Ceremony): Mayor's address / Commendation.
  - Part 2 (Performances): "Danjiri Bayashi" by Seido Float Preservation Society/  
Rescue and First aid performance / Simultaneous water discharge performance  
/ Juvenile fire-fighting club's performance / Booth for fire vehicles display /  
Cardiopulmonary resuscitation experience, etc.
- In case of rain, Part 1 only will be held in the gymnasium.
- ◆ Inquiries: General Affairs Section, Fire Department Headquarters (Phone: 0797-32-2345)



### **Free Rental of Automatic Call Recorders**

Free rental of "Automatic Call Recorder" is available, which prevents criminality with warning message and recording function to stop malicious telemarketing and special fraudulent phone calls. No construction work is required. It can be used by connecting to the landline phone at your home.

- ◆ Eligibility: Household of the elderly (65 years and up, as of March 31) living in Ashiya city and fitting any of the following criteria. (A landline phone which can be connected to the automatic call recorder is required. Installation should be done by the user.)
  - ▶ A household of the elderly only
  - ▶ A household of the elderly only during the daytime
- ◆ How to Apply: Fill in the application form (available at Construction General Affairs Section / Consumers' Center or can be downloaded from the City's webpage) and bring (weekdays and during office hours) or mail it to the address written below during January 4-27 (without fail).  
Lottery will be held if there are too many applications
- ◆ Inquiries: Construction General Affairs Section  
(Phone: 0797-38-2063) (〒659-8501, address unnecessary)

### **Consultation Service on Daily Life for Foreign Residents**

- ☐ Date and Time: Sun., January 22 11:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
- ☐ Place: Health/Welfare Center
- ☐ Content: We can consult with you using your own language. Consult with us on any concerns on living or working.
- ☐ Inquiries: Network for Foreigners' Assistance KOBE (Phone: 078-271-3240)

### **Consultation Service for Foreign Residents (Immigration Bureau)**

- Date/Time/Place: Mon., February 6 1:00-4:00 p.m. 3F City Hall North Wing
- Content: You can ask Immigration Bureau staff about the procedures for changing status of residence, etc. (Up to 5 persons)
- How to Apply: Email to the address below
- Inquiries: Public Relations and International Exchange Section  
(Phone: 0797-38-2008 / E-mail: kokusai@city.ashiya.lg.jp )

## My Number Card

### <Sat. January 14 /Sun., January 29 : My Number Card Issuing Counter Opens>

- ☐ Time/Location: 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. / Counter No.8 1F City Hall North Wing
- ☐ Details: Application/Receipt of My Number Card / Renewal of digital certificates

### <Application deadline of Myna Points >

- ☐ Location: Counter No.6 1F City Hall North Wing
- ☐ Content: Application for Myna Points will be accepted until the end of February.  
(Extension is planned.) My Number Card is required for Myna Point application.
- ☐ Eligibility: Those who applied for issuance of My Number Card by the end of February, 2023



### <Accepting On-Site Application for My Number Card>

City staff will visit groups or organizations of five or more people who want to apply for My Number Card, will take photo and support application free of charge.

- ☐ Inquiries: My Number Desk, Citizens' Section (Phone: 0797-38-2070)



## Filing Final Income Tax Return with Smartphone

With a smartphone and My Number Card, you can file final income tax return very easily at home.

Usable for 24 hours !

- Inquiries: Ashiya Tax Office (Phone: 0797-31-2131)



## 1.17 Prayer and Pledge in Ashiya City

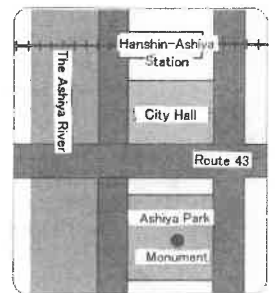
- Date and Time: Tue., Jan. 17 7:00 a.m.– 5:00 p.m. ( Will be carried out even if it rains. )
- Place: In front of the “Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake Memorial and Reconstruction Monument” (inside Ashiya Park, Hama-Ashiya-cho )
- Content: Flower offering and signing the memorial book.  
\* Please come anytime during the above-mentioned time zone.

**N.B.** ■No parking available for cars and bicycles.

■Flowers will be prepared by the City.

■It is requested that no offerings such as flowers or fruits be sent.

- Inquiries: Mayor's Secretarial Section (Phone: 0797-38-2000)



## Reading Time for Adults with Temporary Child-care

- Date and Time: January 16 (Mon) / 17 (Tue) 10:00–11:30 a.m.
- Location: Gender Equality Center (With-us Ashiya)
- Eligibility: Parents (including grandparents) with preschool children over 6 months
- Cost for day-care: 300 yen per child / Up to 3 children
- How to Apply: To the 2D code on the right by Fri., Jan. 7.  
\* A lottery will be held if there are too many applications.
- Inquiries: Gender Equality Center  
(Phone: 0797-38-2023) / (e-mail: josei-ce@city.ashiya.lg.jp)



## Promenade around Art Vol. 6 (Abridged)

*Ashiya Museum of Art and History is closed from July 1 to March 31, 2023 for renovation work. While closed, we will issue a series of columns introducing Ashiya captured by artists and its current landscape*



In this issue, we introduce Yamazaki Takao's "Ashiyagawa River" (Please refer to the Bulletin Ashiya, January issue.) This work depicts a view looking north from near Hanshin Ashiya Station. The green pointed-roofed building on the right is the Catholic Church built in 1956.

It was designed by architect, Hasebe Eikichi and its beautiful shape can be seen today. The Narihira Bridge can be seen at the back of the picture, and the Ashiya Citizen's Center is depicted just northeast of the bridge. Yamazaki painted this picture in 1988, more than 20 years after he had already left Ashiya.

This picture also evokes his nostalgic memories of the time he spent with his master, Koide Narashige, and also memories of his own life. Today the scenery of Ashiyagawa River remains the same.



Current Ashiyagawa River



Koide Narashige's Atelier



Going to the west from Kimmitsu Bridge in the foreground, there was Koide Narashige's Residence, where Yamazaki also lived.

After Koide passed away in 1931, Yamazaki moved there in 1937, where he continued to work in his master's studio until 1962. This Koide Atelier, designed by an architect, Sasagawa Shinichi, started to construct in May 1927, had a floor area about 38 m<sup>2</sup> with a mezzanine floor. This atelier has been restored in the front yard of the Ashiya Museum of Art and History with Yamazaki's cooperation.

Yamazaki Takao (1905–1991) was born in Osaka. After graduating from Kobe Higher Commercial School (now Kobe University), he worked for Sanwa Bank from 1930. Wanting to learn directly from Koide, he attended the art school in Koide's studio. While he continued painting, he established an advertising company, Sun-AD Company Limited in 1964 and became its president. In 1962, he moved to Kanagawa Prefecture, where he produced many works on Mt. Fuji.

Inquiries: Museum of Art and History (Phone: 0797-38-5432)

## Ashiya School Lunch Recipes

A Dish to Wish a Happy and Healthy New Year!

### ■ **Matsukaze Yaki** “Wind in the Pines” Chicken Loaf

#### □ **Ingredients** (Serves 8)

360 g ground chicken	1 Tbsp dark-colored (koikuchi) soy sauce	4 tsp sugar
1 egg	1 Tbsp miso	0.5 Tbsp sake
200 g firm ( <i>momen</i> ) tofu	3/4 cup (30 g) bread crumbs	1/3 cup (40 g) white sesame seeds
200 g onions		

#### □ **Directions:**

1. Wrap tofu with paper towels and weigh it down for about 30 minutes to let the tofu drain.
2. Finely chop the onions.
3. Mix soy sauce, miso, bread crumbs, sugar, and sake with the ground chicken until sticky. Add the egg, drained tofu, and onions and mix well.
4. Spread the meat mixture flat in a baking pan lined with parchment paper.
5. Sprinkle a generous amount of sesame seeds on top of the meat mixture. Press them down lightly onto the surface
6. Bake in a 180°C oven for about 30 minutes. Cut into desired portions and serve.



## Beekeeper Registration of Honeybees

Those who keep honeybees, including hobby beekeepers, are required to file a beekeeper registration with Hyogo Prefecture every year in January. However, those who fall under any of the conditions below do not need to register.



- Temporarily keep only enough colonies for a short period of time, from a few weeks to a few months, for the purpose of pollination.
- Keep bees in a structurally sealed facility for academic research purposes, etc.
- Only harvest honey, etc. from wild beehives of Japanese honeybees and do not set up hive boxes, log hives, etc. to keep them.

◇ **Inquiries:** Regional Economy Promotion Section

Phone: 0797-38-2033

Hanshin Agriculture and Forestry Promotion Office, Agricultural Administration and

Promotion Division (阪神農林振興事務所農政振興課 *Hanshin Norin Shinko Jimusho Nosei Shinko-ka*)

Phone: 079-562-8848



**ASHIYA TRIANGLE, Ashiya Public Relations TV Program (CH11/15 min.)**

Broadcast Time: ①9:00 a.m. ②12:00 noon ③3:00 p.m. ④6:00 p.m. ⑤10:00 p.m.



**Water Leak and Water Supply Pipe Repairs**

• Weekdays during daytime ➤ **Waterworks Customer Service Center**

☎0797-38-2082

• Saturdays, Sundays, public holidays, and during the night ➤ **City Hall**

☎0797-31-2121

## Your Cooperation is Wanted for UNESCO “A Chance to Learn”

If you have any miswritten (or damaged) post cards, New Year Cards, unused stamps, and pre-paid cards, please make use of them for the UNESCO “A Chance to Learn” Movement. We appreciate your cooperation.

Campaign Boxes are located at:

Ashiya City Hall, every elementary school, junior and senior high school and Ashiya Municipal Hospital.

Inquiries: Ashiya UNESCO Association

c/o Lifelong Learning Section (Phone: 0797-38-2091)



## ♪ The 3<sup>rd</sup> Ashiya International Music Festival –Closing Concert – ♪

◇ Date and Time: Sunday, April 16 The door opens at 1:30 p.m.

Lobby Concert 2:00 p.m. Closing Concert 3:00 p.m.

◇ Place: Renaissance Classics Ashiya Luna Hall

◇ Capacity: 650 people

◇ Program: Old refrain by F. Kreisler, Londonderry Air, etc.

◇ Performers: Kusaka Sayako, violin Ooe Kaoru, violin Andreas Willwohl, viola,  
Yanase Shota, viola Perter Bruns, cello Nakagi Kenji, cello  
Kusaka China, piano Watanabe Reo, contrabass

◇ Fee: Adult – 3,500 yen (4,000 yen on the day)

High school and college student – 2,000 yen

Under junior high school student – 1,500 yen



Application: Tickets will be available from January 6 at Citizen's Center, City Hall

Lawson Tickets, (L-code 53232) and Confetti Tickets (0120-240-540)



Inquiries: Community Learning Center (Phone: 0797-35-0700)

## Advanced First-Aid Training Class

◇ Date and Time: Sunday, January 22 9:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

◇ Place: Main Fire Department All-purpose Room

◇ Contents: AED cardiopulmonary and other emergency aids

The basic certification test (written and practical) will be held at the end of the class.

◇ Capacity: 20 people, first-come basis

◇ Eligibility: Those who live, work and study in Ashiya (junior high school students and over)

◇ Application: Please apply by phone no later than 5:30 p.m. on January 20 (Fri.)

Inquiries: Emergency Section, Fire Department Headquarters (Phone: 0797-32-2345)





## Gardening Classes at Ashiya Grand Park (Sogo Koen)



Content (Class name)	Date/Time	Cost	Application Deadline
(1) "Make an arrangement with branch (twig or sprig)"	Thu., January 19 10:30 a.m.-Noon	2,500 yen	5:00 p.m. January 12
(2) "Why not grow a Christmas Rose?"	Sat., January 21 10:30 a.m.-Noon	2,000 yen	5:00 p.m. January 14
(3) "Make a mosaic garden using a garden case"	Mon., January 23 1:30 -3:00 p.m.	2,000 yen	5:00 p.m. January 16
(4) "Make a box arrangement with preserved flowers and fake flowers"	Sun., January 29 10:30 a.m.-Noon	2,500 yen	5:00 p.m. January 22

\* Capacity: 15 people for each class

\* What to bring: Writing materials and a big bag to carry the work home in

\* Application: Visit, call/fax or E-mail to Ashiya Grand Park.

\* Location and Inquiries: Ashiya Grand Park (*Sogo Koen*)

(Phone: 0797-38-2103 / Fax: 0797-25-2026 / E-mail: ashiyasogo@mizuno.co.jp)



## PC Classes at Kamimiyagawa Cultural Center

☐ Date: Wed., February 8/15 (Successive 2 classes)

☐ Time and Content:

(1) 10:00-Noon Word utilization course

(2) 1:00-3:00 p.m. Excel course useful for household finances

☐ Eligibility/Capacity for each (1) and (2):

6 female beginners who live in Ashiya and can type and attend both days

☐ Cost: 1,000 yen

☐ What to bring: Writing materials, attendance card and fees

☐ Application: Send a fax or a postcard with the name of the class you want to attend (either 1 or 2), your postal code, name and address, your age and phone number to the Center by **January 16** (without fail). If there are too many applications, a lottery will be held, and a notification will be sent to the eligible.

☐ Mailing address and Inquiries:

**Kamimiyagawa Cultural Center, 10-5 Kamimiyagawa-cho, 659-0061**

(Phone: 0797-22-9229 / Fax: 0797-22-1659)



## Blood Donation

Please donate blood to help save the lives of those who need blood for illness or surgery !



■ Date and Time: Fri., January 13 10:00-11:30 a.m. / 12:40-4:00 p.m.

■ Place: Lobby, 1F City Hall North Wing

■ Inquiries: Health Center (Phone: 0797-31-1586)



## Doctors on Call for Emergencies on Sundays and Holidays

●Evening Medical Care Rotation *8:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m. on Friday		
Jan. 6	Ueda Internal Medicine Clinic (Internal Medicine)	☎ 0797-34-1878
Jan. 13	Matsuba Clinic (Internal Medicine)	☎ 0797-22-1641
Jan. 20	Ashiya St. Maria Hospital (Surgery, Internal Medicine, Orthopedics)	☎ 0797-23-1771
Jan. 27	Otani Orthopedics & Eye Clinic (Orthopedics)	☎ 0797-34-7077

■Be sure to wear a mask when you visit the doctor or a hospital.

■First make a call when you have a fever.

■Emergency Relief Center ☎ #7119 (24/7) ※IPS Phone: 078-331-7119

### ■Designated Emergency Hospital

Ashiya Municipal Hospital (Surgery/Internal Medicine) ☎ 0797-31-2156

Minami-Ashiyahama Hospital (Surgery/Internal Medicine) ☎ 0797-22-4040

Ashiya St. Maria Hospital (Orthopedics/Surgery/Internal Medicine) ☎ 0797-23-1771

### ■Holiday Emergency Clinic (Internal Medicine/Pediatrics) ☎ 0797-21-2782

(5-13 Kimmitsu-cho, Ashiya City) (9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. on Sundays, public holidays, during the year-end and New Year's holidays)

### ■Amagasaki Health Medical Care Foundation Holiday/Night Emergency Medical Care (Ear, Nose and Throat) ☎ 06-6436-8701

(3-15-20 Mizudo-cho, Amagasaki City)

(9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. on Sundays and public holidays / 6:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. on Saturdays)

(9:00 a.m.-5:30 a.m. the next morning during the year-end and New Year's holidays)

### ■Amagasaki Health Medical Care Foundation Holiday/Night Emergency Medical Care (Ophthalmology-Eye Department) ☎ 06-6436-8701

(3-15-20 Mizudo-cho, Amagasaki City)

(9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. on Sundays and public holidays)

(9:00 a.m.-5:30 a.m. the next morning during the year-end and New Year's holidays)

### ■Kobe Children's Primary Emergency Medical Center (Pediatrics) ☎ 078-891-3999

Consultation Days	Reception Hours
Monday-Friday	7:30 p.m.-6:30 a.m. the next morning
Saturday	2:30 p.m.-6:30 a.m. the next morning
Sunday & public holiday The year-end/New Year's holidays	8:30 a.m.-6:30 a.m. the next morning

■Dental Center (14-9 Kurekawa-cho, Ashiya City) ☎ 0797-31-0658  
(9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. on Sundays, public holidays, during the year-end/New Year's holidays)



## Design for Ashiya City's Designated Garbage Bags Decided

Congratulations !

**Design Adopter: Mr. Naoyuki KAMITANI**

(Living in Ashiya)



Out of 286 entries, this design by Mr. KAMITANI was selected through the judgement of the Selection Committee and voting by public elementary and junior high school students. (Received 1654 votes out of a total of 5593)



### <Comment by Mr. KAMITANI>

I put in big letters  
**"KEEP CLEAN ASHIYA"**  
 as a catch phrase that keeps the scenic city of Ashiya always clean.

Thank you very much for all the applications.

■ Inquiries: Environmental Facilities Section (Phone: 0797-32-5391)

## Briefing on Ashiya City Designated Garbage Bag System Now in Session

In Ashiya city, "Designated garbage bag system for household waste" will be introduced in October, 2023.



**Why introduce designated garbage bags now ?**  
**How will the designated garbage bag system change things?**

These questions will be answered in the briefing sessions listed below. No reservation necessary. You can participate in the session at any assembly halls.

Name of Assembly Hall	Date	Time	Capacity
Chaya Assembly Hall	Thu., January 12	7:30-8:30 p.m.	38 (persons)
Midorigaoka Assembly Hall	Tue., January 17	7:30-8:30 p.m.	38
Shio-Ashiya Exchange Center	Sat., January 21	3:30-4:30 p.m.	44
Nishikura Assembly Hall	Sat., January 21	7:00-8:00 p.m.	38
Maeda Assembly Hall	Tue, January 24	7:30-8:30 p.m.	38

Individual briefings are also held for units such as residents association, condominium management association, groups, etc. Please call the following number to request.

■ Inquiries: Environmental Facilities Section (Phone: 0797-32-5391)

## Taping & Pilates Workshops

- ☐ Date & Time: ①Taping Workshop: Tue., Feb.21, 1:30-3:00 p.m.  
②Pilates Workshop: Tue., Feb. 14, Tue., Feb. 28, 1:30-3:00 p.m.
- ☐ Place: Ashiya Park, Meeting Room
- ☐ Capacity: ①10 people ②6 people (on a first-come-first-served basis)
- \*If there are less than two participants, the event will not be held.
- ☐ Things to bring: Clothes for sports for ① & ②  
Yoga mat or a bath towel, water for hydration, a towel for ②
- ☐ Fee: 1,000 yen per class (Additional material fee of 1,000 yen is required for ①.)
- \*Participation in either one or both workshops is possible.
- ☐ Instructor: Ms. Masuda Misako, Ms. Masuda Yui
- ☐ Application: Fax or bring an application form to the counter of the following office  
starting 9:00 a.m., Mon., Jan. 16 to 5:00 p.m. on the day before the event.
- ☐ Inquiries: Ashiya Park Tennis Courts (Phone: 0797-34-8886/Fax: 0797-34-8884)



## Parent-child Posture Check Class

- Date & Time: Sun., Jan. 28, 1:00-2:30 p.m.
- Place: Gymnasium and Youth Center
- Eligibility: 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> grade elementary school students and guardians
- Capacity: 8 pairs
- Application: Apply by phone or at the reception counter of the following center
- Inquiries: Gymnasium and Youth Center (Phone: 0797-31-8228)



### ~ Ikiiki Cinema Salon ~ “Maria by Callas” (2017 France, 114 min.)

The year 2023 is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Maria Callas. The film, directed by Tom Volf, depicts the life and work of the opera superstar by using her unfinished autobiography, sealed letters, treasured images and sound sources, etc.

- Date & Time: Sat., Jan. 28 ① 11:00 a.m.- ② 2:00 p.m.-
- Place: Renaissance Classics Ashiya Luna Hall
- Capacity: 300 people per screening \* Preschoolers are not allowed.
- Fee: 1,000 yen (500 yen for elementary school students)
- \* If you bring the article (*Koho Ashiya* vol. 1297) with you, junior high school students and older are eligible (up to 3 people) to have a discount of 200 yen.
- Application: Directly at the venue
- Inquiries: Hall Project Desk (Phone: 0797-35-0700)



©2017 - Elephant Doc - Reel Dragon  
- United Productions - France & Cinéma  
- CDFonds de Dotation Marie Callas

## ☆ Starry Winter Sky Observation ☆

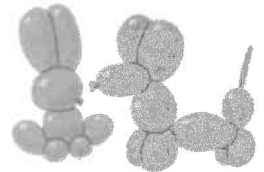
Why not take this opportunity to observe starlit winter sky through a telescope?

- **Date & Time:** Sat., Jan. 28, 6:30 – 9:00 p.m. (rain-or-shine)
- **Place:** Ashiya Citizens' Center, Room 401
- **Capacity:** First 50 people
  - \* Junior high school students and younger should be accompanied by guardians.
- **Lecturer:** Mr. Handa Takashi
- **Application:** Call the following section from 9:00 a.m. on Jan. 10 to 25.
- **Inquiries:** Environment Section (Phone: 0797-38-2051)



## Balloon Art Workshop

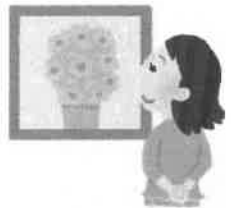
- ◇ **Date & Time:** Sat., Jan. 21, 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon
- ◇ **Place:** Gymnasium and Youth Center
- ◇ **Eligibility & Capacity:** Elementary school students and older/15 people
- ◇ **Fee:** 1,500 yen \* If two or more siblings want to participate in the workshop, each child will be charged 1,000 yen.
- ◇ **Application:** By phone or at the reception counter at the following center
- ◇ **Inquiries:** Gymnasium and Youth Center (Phone: 0797-31-8228)



## WORLD ART IN ASHIYA

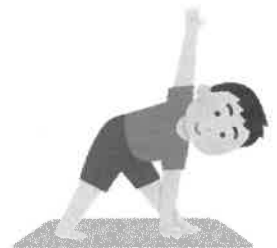
Foreign artists living in Ashiya City will introduce their works. Enjoy talking with the artists about their artworks over a cup of coffee.

- ◇ **Date & Time:** Sat., Jan. 28, 2:00–5:00 p.m.
- ◇ **Place:** ASI no VA, MONTETMER 3F
- ◇ **Capacity:** 30 people
- ◇ **Participating artists:** Wu Jianwei from China and 4 others
- ◇ **Application:** Apply to the following section by email with your name and contact information.
- ◇ **Inquiries:** Public Relations and International Exchange Section (Phone: 0797-38-2008)  
E-mail: [kokusai@city.ashiya.lg.jp](mailto:kokusai@city.ashiya.lg.jp)



## Yoga Lesson for Men

- ◆ **Date & Time:** Sun., Jan. 29, 10:00–11:00 a.m.
- ◆ **Place:** Gymnasium and Youth Center
- ◆ **Capacity:** 20 people
- ◆ **Fee:** 500 yen
- ◆ **Instructor:** Ms. Ikeda Mai
- ◆ **Application:** By phone or at the reception counter of the following center
- ◆ **Inquiries:** Gymnasium and Youth Center (Phone: 0797-31-8228)



### Q & A on Promotion of “Reduction” and “Recycling” of Waste

**Q: How much plastic waste is there ?**

**A: It is about 15% of household waste (by weight)**

Plastic waste is roughly classified into two kinds.

Investigation showed the rate of plastic in each kind:

▶ **Waste of Plastic Containers and Packaging (13 %) :**

Candy bag, Pastry bag, Wrap (cellophane), etc.

▶ **Waste of Plastic Products (2 %) :**

Hanger, Spoon, etc.

We are promoting a plan to reconstruct the Refuse Disposal Center on the basis of this 15 % shown in the investigation.

**Inquiries: Environmental Facility Section  
(Phone: 0797-32-5391)**



### **Origami Class at the Municipal Library**

- ◆ Date and Time: Wednesday, January 18 10:00 a.m.–Noon
- ◆ Capacity: 30
- ◆ Things to bring: *Origami* papers, scissors, paste
- ◆ Inquiries: *Orizurukai* (Phone: 0797-34-2546)



### **Citizen's Trekking**

- ◆ Date and Time: Sun., January 8 8:00 a.m.– 2:30 p.m. (Will be canceled if it rains.)
- ◆ Course: Square on the north of Hankyu Ashiyagawa Station → The highest peak of Rokko Mountain → Higashi-Otafukuyama trailhead (primary dispersion) → Hankyu Ashiyagawa Station (dispersion)
- ◆ Cost: 400 yen (excluding transportation expenses)
- ◆ What to Bring: Lunch, a drink, rainwear, etc.
- ◆ Inquiries: Ashiya Mountaineering Society (Phone: 090-8200-7802)



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