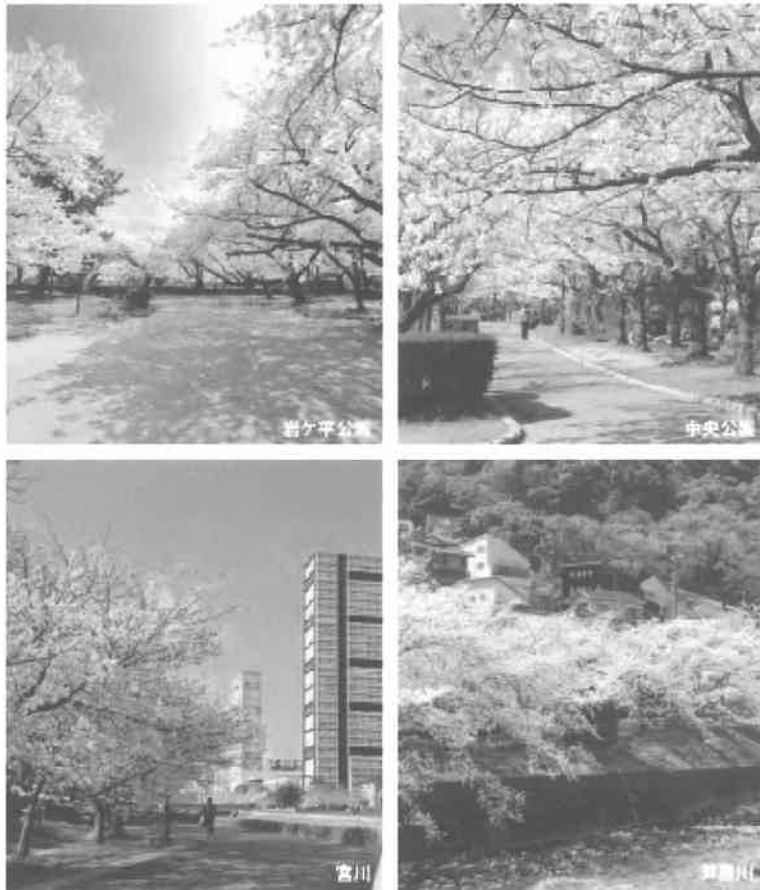


# THE OSMONET

April 2023 (Vol. 309)

*The following articles are taken mainly from “Koho Ashiya” – the bulletin of Ashiya City (April 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..*



## Administrative Policy for 2023

We aim to create a sustainable city where “no one is left behind” in order to meet the needs of a changing society. (Continued on P.2)



The population of Ashiya, like other local cities, has exceeded its peak and is declining. Due to the impact of the new Coronavirus infection, the number of birth will further decline and the declining birth rate and the ageing population are expected to accelerate. With so many uncertainties such as climate changes and a rapidly changing global situation, sustainable urban development is becoming increasingly

important. In order to solve complex and diverse issues in the future, the city will establish the following:

- ① Based on the establishment of the “Children and Families Agency” by the national government in April 2023, Ashiya will establish a “Child and Family Health Center” to build a support system from pregnancy to child-rearing.
- ② We seek to streamline the organization needed to provide sustainable administrative services.
- ③ Even in a society with a declining population, we are actively working together toward our original comprehensive plan, “Creating the Future”.

From these three perspectives, the “Children and Health Department” and the “Urban Construction Department” will be reorganized.

In FY 2022, our administrative objective was to “co-create” by sharing information and issues with citizens and working together. In FY 2023, we further aim to build a society in which citizens play a leading role, aiming for a society where “no one is left behind.”

We will do our utmost to achieve this goal.

Ito Mai, mayor

Inquiries: Policy Promotion Section (Phone: 0797-38-2127)



## Main Projects for the 2023 Fiscal Year (Excerpts)

### <Child-rearing, Education>

- ◇ Childcare support for single parents
- ◇ Support for the introduction of a comprehensive school administration
- ◇ Project of “*Uchide no komichi*” (road to Uchide)
- ◇ Installation of Library IC Devices
- ◇ Examining the possibility of integrating junior high school club activities into community
- ◇ Promotion of GIGA School Project



### <Welfare, Health>

- ◇ Bus fare subsidies for senior citizens
- ◇ Supporting young carers by providing helpers
- ◇ Assignment of coordinators for children with medical care
- ◇ Multilingual support for consultation with foreign residents
- ◇ Vaccination against the New Corona Virus



### <Citizen's Lives>

- ◇ Efficient use of public facilities through ICT

Keyless and cashless management will be promoted at the Ashiya Citizens' Center and Uchide Educational and Cultural Center by using the smart lock function which is linked to the reservation system.

### <Safety and Security>

- ◇ Renovation of Fire Department, High Functional Control Center
- ◇ Measures against landslides



### <Urban Infrastructure>

- ◇ Revitalization of Chaya-Sakura Street
- ◇ Improvement of Refuse Disposal Center
- ◇ Redevelopment of the south area of JR Ashiya Station

### <Administrative Management>

- ◇ Promotion of cashless payment for public utility charge
- ◇ Introduction of recording equipment at the counter services in public facilities

## Pick-up projects

### <Child Rearing Support>

- ◇ Visits to households raising children
- ◇ Reduction or exemption of short stay fee
- ◇ Reduction or exemption of hearing test fee for newborn babies

### <Realization of Zero Carbon City>

- ◇ Promoting the purchase of energy-efficient appliances
- ◇ Conversion of LED lighting in public facilities
- ◇ Education program accompanying the introduction of designated garbage bags



## ♪ Kominkan Concert ♪

- Soulful melodies by a morin khuur -

- ◇ Date and Time: Sat., May 27 2:00 p.m. (The door opens at 1:30p.m.)
- ◇ Place: Community Learning Center, music room
- ◇ Program: Swan (Hymn to steppe), *Kojo no Tsuki* (Moon over the Ruined Castle)  
Mongolian melodies, etc.
- ◇ Capacity: 100 people Fee: 500 yen
- ◇ Application: Please apply by a post card with the name of the concert (*Kominkan* Concert), your name, address, and phone number (up to 2 persons)  
No later than May 12 (Fri.)



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

Phone: 0797-35-0700

〒659-0068 Narihira-cho 8-24

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



The government plans to administer vaccines developed to target the omicron variant to those aged 65 and above and those at high risk of severe symptoms from May 8. People who have already received vaccines against the Omicron variant starting in the fall of 2022 are also eligible.

### Vaccination starting in the spring of 2023

■ **Eligibility:** People aged 5 and above who have already had the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> shots and their previous shot at least three months before and meet any of the following conditions

① The elderly aged 65 and above

【Those between the ages of 5 and 64】

② Those with underlying medical conditions **indicated below**

③ Those who are recognized by the physician as being at high risk of serious illness

④ Health care workers, workers at nursing homes or facilities for the disabled, etc.

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

Vaccination coupons will be mailed to those who have already had the omicron booster shots at least three months before.

▶80 years and above → Around Mon., April 10

▶75 years and above → Around Wed., April 12

▶65 years and above → Around Fri., April 14

▶55 years and above → Around Mon., April 17

▶35 years and above → Around Wed., April 19

▶34 years and under → Around Fri., April 21

\*If you are eligible to get the booster shot and have unused coupons, please use them for the omicron booster shot.

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

See the city's website by using the 2D code on the right.



■ **Vaccination Start Date:**

▶Those eligible who meet any of the conditions **indicated above**

→ Starting in Mon., May 8 \*Make a reservation starting Wed., April 12.

\*The first dose between May and August and the second dose between September and December are scheduled to be administered to those eligible.

▶All others → Starting in September (scheduled)

■ **【For people aged 18 and above】**

1. People with the following illnesses or conditions who receive outpatient or inpatient care

① Chronic respiratory disease

② Chronic heart disease (including hypertension)

- ③ Chronic kidney disease
- ④ Chronic liver disease (including liver cirrhosis)
- ⑤ Diabetes being treated with insulin or medication, or diabetes associated with other disease
- ⑥ Blood diseases (excluding iron deficiency anemia)
- ⑦ Diseases that impair the functioning of the immune system (including malignant tumors under treatment)
- ⑧ Receiving treatment that depresses the immune system, including steroids
- ⑨ Neurological and neuromuscular diseases associated with immune abnormalities
- ⑩ Decreased body functions due to the neurological or neuromuscular diseases (including breathing disorders)
- ⑪ Chromosomal abnormality
- ⑫ Severe mental and physical disabilities (severe physical disabilities and severe intellectual disabilities)
- ⑬ Sleep apnea syndrome
- ⑭ Severe mental illness (hospitalized for treatment of mental illness, holding a mental disability certificate or falling under the category of “severe and continuous” in self-supporting medical care (psychiatric hospital care) or intellectual disabilities (holding an intellectual disability certificate)

**The following vaccinations are available now.**

If you wish to get vaccinated, make a reservation online or by phone as early as possible.

- The vaccination targeting the original coronavirus strain for those aged 12 and above (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> shots)
- The vaccination for children aged 5–11 (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and the omicron booster shots)
- The vaccination for infants between the ages of 6 months and 4 years (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> shots)

**■ 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**

- Please have your vaccination coupon ready when you make a reservation.
- Please make sure to dial the correct number.
- For those who need assistance for language or hearing problems, please send a fax for consultation. **(Fax: 0797-31-1018)**





## National Pension Special Payment System for Students

Students with difficulty making contribution payments for National Pension (国民年金保険料 *kokumin nenkin hoken-ryo*) may be eligible for the Special Payment System for Students (学生納付特例制度 *gakusei nofu tokurei seido*), under which contribution payments can be made after graduation.

- ◇ **Eligibility:** Students with a previous year's income of 1,280,000 yen or less.  
For those with dependents, the income threshold may be higher.
- ◇ **Application:** Bring your student card and personal identification

### ■ **Retroactive Payment of Contributions:**

Periods granted under the Special Payment System for Students will count towards the qualifying periods for Old-age Basic Pension (老齡基礎年金 *rorei kiso-nenkin*), but will not be reflected in the amount of the pension benefit. If you make contribution payments (retroactive payments) within 10 years from the month you were granted the Special Payment System for Students, the payments will be reflected in the pension benefit amount.

However, please note that if you were to make retroactive payments three or more fiscal years after the following fiscal year you were granted the Special Payment System for Students, your past contribution amount will be indexed by a certain rate according to the age of the due contribution.



- ◇ **Inquiries:** Citizens' Section (National Pension)

Phone: 0797-38-2036



## Fixed Asset Tax & City Planning Tax

Tax notices will be sent out on Mon., April 3, 2023.

- **Public Inspection of Fixed Asset Tax Valuation**
- ◇ **Date & Time:** April 1–May 1, 2023, 9:00 a.m.–5:30 p.m., weekdays
- ◇ **Eligibility:** Taxpayers of fixed asset tax (proxy acceptable by a power of attorney)
- ◇ **Bring:** Tax notice and personal identification

### ■ **Those with Renovated Homes:**

Fixed asset tax may be reduced if seismic, barrier-free, or energy-saving renovation work has been done.

- ◇ **Application:** Submit an application with supporting documents within three months after the renovation is completed.
- ◇ **Inquiries:** Fixed Assets Tax Subsection, Taxation Section



Phone: 0797-38-2017

## Subsidy to Repair or Remove Outdoor Advertisements

A subsidy program is in place to assist with the cost of correcting or removing existing outdoor advertisements to conform with Ashiya City's ordinance. Considering the impact of the coronavirus, the period for eligible correction or removal work has been extended until March 31, 2024.

As to whether an outdoor advertisement is in compliance with city ordinance or is eligible for the subsidy, please contact the Urban Planning Section. To be eligible for the subsidy, a prior application is required and the eligible correction or removal work must be completed by March 31, 2024. Outdoor advertisements not conforming to or not permitted by prefectural regulations as of July 1, 2016, are not eligible for this subsidy.

|                         | Eligible work completed by March 31, 2024 |                |
|-------------------------|---|----------------|
|                         | Subsidy Rate                              | Maximum Amount |
| <b>Correction Costs</b> | 1/3                                       | 500,000 yen    |
| <b>Removal Costs</b>    | 1/2                                       | 500,000 yen    |

◇ **Inquiries:** Urban Planning Section

Phone: 0797-38-2109

## Green Fund Campaign



Please make contributions to the Green Fund (緑の募金 *Midori no Bokin*). Funds raised are used to make our schools greener, etc.

◇ **Campaign Periods:** Spring Campaign Period    March 1–May 31

Autumn Campaign Period    September 1–October 31

◇ **Inquiries:** Ashiya City Greening Promotion Committee

c/o Roadside Tree Section

Phone: 0797-38-2470



## HPV Vaccinations Against Cervical Cancer

In addition to the 2- and 4-valent vaccines, a new 9-valent HPV vaccine to prevent cervical cancer has been approved. Please consult with your regular doctor in selecting a vaccine. Make sure you understand the efficacy and risks of side effects before receiving the vaccine.

◇ **Vaccination Period:** April 1, 2023–March 31, 2024

※ Catch-up vaccination is available until March 31, 2025.

◇ **Eligibility:**

▶ **Routine HPV Vaccination:** Females born between April 2, 2007, and April 1, 2012 (who are in the equivalent age group between 6th grade and first year of high school at the time of vaccination)

▶ **Catch-up HPV Vaccination:** Females born between April 2, 1997, and April 1, 2007

◇ **Reservation:** Various medical institutions

◇ **Inquiries:** Health Center



Phone: 0797-31-1586

## Routine Pneumococcal Vaccination for Senior Citizens

To those who are eligible, coupons for routine pneumococcal vaccinations (肺炎球菌ワクチン *haien kyukin wakuchin*) are scheduled to be mailed at the beginning of May. The 23-valent pneumococcal vaccination is available for 4,000 yen out-of-pocket.



- ◇ **Vaccination Period:** April 1, 2023–March 31, 2024
- ◇ **Eligibility:** Registered residents of Ashiya City who have not been previously inoculated with the 23-valent pneumococcal vaccination, and who are 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, and 100 years of age.
- ◇ **Reservation:** Various medical institutions
- ◇ **Inquiries:** Health Center Phone: 0797-31-1586

## Information on Rubella Vaccinations

### ■ Partial Subsidy for Rubella Vaccination Cost

- ◇ **Vaccination Period:** April 1, 2023–March 31, 2024
- ◇ **Amount of Subsidy** (one vaccination per person): 2,500 yen for the MR (measles-rubella) vaccine, or 1,500 yen for the rubella vaccine.

※ Please pay the medical institution the vaccination cost minus the subsidy amount.

◇ **Eligibility:** Registered residents of Ashiya City at the time of the vaccination who have never contracted rubella and meet one of the following criteria:

- ① Women over 20 years of age who are trying to conceive.
- ② Family members who live with an expectant mother, and who have never received the MMR (measles-mumps-rubella), MR, or rubella vaccine.

※ Women who are or who may be pregnant should not be vaccinated. Pregnancy should be avoided one month before and two months after vaccination.

◇ **Place:** Various medical institutions

### ■ Rubella Antibody Test & Vaccination Coupons

To those who are eligible, coupons for a rubella antibody test and rubella vaccination (風しんにおける抗体検査券および予防接種クーポン券 *fushin ni okeru kotai-kensa-ken oyobi yobo-sesshu-kupon-ken*) are scheduled to be mailed at the beginning of May. Those who wish to be tested for rubella antibodies or be vaccinated should bring their coupon to a medical institution.

- ◇ **Expiration Date:** March 31, 2025.
- ◇ **Eligibility:** Men born between April 2, 1962, and April 1, 1979.
- ◇ **Inquiries:** Health Center Phone: 0797-31-1586



## 4-in-1 Vaccine Age Group Change

The age group for the 4-in-1 vaccine (DPat-IPV) will be changed from 3 months old to 2 months old. The change is not expected to affect the efficacy or safety of the vaccine. Please consult with your doctor before receiving the vaccine.

◇ **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 |   |                |
|---|---|----------------|
| April 7   | Miyazaki Internal Medicine Clinic (Internal Medicine) | ☎ 0797-25-2528 |
| April 14  | Azumi Clinic (Internal Medicine)                      | ☎ 0797-25-1078 |
| April 21  | Hirabayashi Clinic (Internal Medicine/Surgery)        | ☎ 0797-22-3548 |
| April 28  | Nagasawa Clinic (Internal Medicine/Gastroenterology)  | ☎ 0797-25-0075 |

- Be sure to wear a mask when you visit a doctor or a hospital.
- First make a call when you have a fever.

### ■ 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

(In HAT Kobe)

| 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<br>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)

### Subsidies for Newborn Hearing Test

- Eligibility: Citizen's tax exemption household
- Content: Cost of hearing test will be subsidized up to 5,000 yen
- Place/Application/Inquiries: Health Center (Phone: 0797-31-1586)



### Supporting Donors for Bone Marrow and other Transplant

- ◇ Date: April 1 ~
- ◇ Content: 20,000 yen per day of hospitalization given for bone marrow donation, etc., will be provided (up to 200,000 yen per one donation).
- ◇ Eligibility: A donor who offered bone marrow, etc. after April 1.
- ◇ Place/Application/Inquiries: Health Center (Phone: 0797-31-1586)



### Subsidy for Wigs /Breast Corrector for Cancer Patients

To ease the discomfort patients experience due to the change in appearance after cancer treatment and to help them live better convalescent life, cost for the medical wigs and artificial breast will be subsidized. (There will be application deadline and income restriction.)

- ◆ Subsidized Cost: Medical Wig 50,000 yen (One wig per person)  
Artificial Breasts (Compensatory lingerie 10,000 yen or  
Artificial breast 50,000 yen; One per person)
- ◆ Inquiries: Health Center (Phone: 0797-31-1586)



### Subsidy for Medical Treatment of Specified Diseases

When a patient is hospitalized or treated as an outpatient due to a specified disease, a subsidy is available to those eligible starting from the month of diagnosis. The eligible individual needs to apply for the subsidy.

- ◆ Eligibility and Content: Anyone who has been living in Ashiya for more than six months successively and is under medical treatment for the following diseases.

#### <Diseases eligible for subsidy when hospitalized>

Lung fibrosis, Idiopathic cardio-myopathy, Immunodeficiency syndrome,  
Meniere's disease, Chronic nephritis, Chronic pancreatitis and Liver cirrhosis/  
Chronic hepatitis among the intractable hepatitis.

#### <Diseases eligible for subsidy when regular hospital visits are necessary>

Sudden deafness, Nephrosis syndrome and Malignant Renal sclerosis

- ◆ Subsidy amount: 5,000 yen per month
- ◆ Application and Inquiries: Health Center (Phone: 0797-31-1586)



### Rabies Vaccination

Rabies is a terrifying disease; if you are bitten by an infected animal and the onset of the disease occurs, it is almost 100 % fatal. Dog owners must get their dog vaccinated against rabies once a year in order to prevent the spread of disease.

- ◆ Inquiries: Environment Section (Phone: 0797-38-2050)



## Application for Financial Assistance for School Attendance



Financial assistance for the cost of school supplies and commuting, outside school cost, etc. will be available for the parents or guardians of students who have difficulties attending municipal elementary or junior high school in Ashiya city due to financial reasons. (Scan the Code above.)

- Eligibility: Parents or guardians of students attending municipal elementary or junior high school in Ashiya city who fit any of the following criteria:

- (1) Welfare recipients, etc.
- (2) Child-care allowance recipients
- (3) Unemployed
- (4) Belonging to a family whose annual income is below base amount
- (5) The whole family annual income is expected to fall below base amount due to the sudden change in family budget (including the influence of COVID-19 spread)



- How to Apply: Bring or mail the completed application form (available at each elementary /junior high school or downloaded from the City's webpage) to the counter written below.

- Application /Inquiries: Management Section, Board of Education (Phone: 0797-38-2085)  
(〒659-8501, address unnecessary )

## Ashiya City University Enrollment Support Grant System



(Application accepted after enrollment)

For those who have difficulties entering university, etc. due to economic reasons, "Ashiya City University Enrollment Support Grant System" will be implemented, where "Ashiya City University Entrance Exam Fee Support Grant" and "Ashiya City University Enrollment Preparation Allowance" will be provided.

- ◆ Eligibility: Persons who fit all of the following conditions

- (1) Continuously living in Ashiya city for one year or longer.
- (2) Took the entrance exam for a university, a junior college, etc. in fiscal year 2022 / having entered a university, a junior college, etc. in April 2023.

\* A vocational school or graduate school is not eligible.

- (3) Having applied for the Government's New Financial Support System for Higher Education and having been accepted in the First Category
- (4) Having not received the payment of "Entrance Exam Fee Support Grant" nor "Enrollment Preparation Allowance" in fiscal year 2022

- ◆ Amount of Provision:

**[Ashiya City University Entrance Exam Fee Support Grant]**

Up to 100,000 yen / Up to 3 exams (Up to 35,000 yen per exam)

\* One person can make an application only once.

**[Ashiya City University Enrollment Preparation Allowance]**

Up to 200,000 yen (only one time per person)

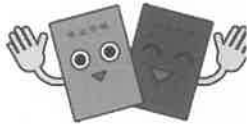
\* The amount of entrance fee minus the amount reduced or exempt by the Government's New Financial Support System for Higher Education will be paid.

- ◆ How to Apply: Submit the required papers to the counter written below.

- ◆ Application/Inquiries: Management Section, Board of Education

(Phone: 0797-38-2085)





- For Those Retiring from a Company-  
**Switching to the National Pension Notification**

When you retire from a company and make a switch from the Employee Pension to the National Pension., you should notify the Citizens' Section. If your spouse was your dependent, they must also switch to the National Pension.

- Eligibility: Individuals, 20 years or older and under 60 years of age, who have retired from a company
- What to bring: Employee Pension capacity loss certificate (An employee release form or Employment insurance eligibility certificate admitted) / Identification document
- \* If you become a dependent of your spouse who is insured in the Employee Pension soon after your retirement, make the switch at your spouse's work place.
- \* If you have got a job at a company (and become insured in the Employee Pension), you need not make procedure at the city hall.
- Inquiries: Pension Subsection, Citizens' Section (Phone: 0797-38-2036)

- For Those Insured by National Health Insurance -  
**Submit Your National Health Insurance Income Declaration**

National Health Insurance Income Declaration will be sent out to those eligible in April and June. Please submit it within the time limit. (The insurance premium depends on the Declaration made and each individual will be notified of the result in July.)

- Eligibility: Anyone who corresponds to either of the followings:
  - Someone who submitted a National Health Insurance Income Declaration in the previous fiscal year
  - Someone who has not filed an income tax return
- \* Declaration is necessary even for those who have no income, as it is used to reduce cost of insurance premiums or high-priced medical treatment.
- \* Those who filed a final income tax return, declared residential tax or finished year-end tax adjustment at their work places do not need to declare.
- Inquiries: Insurance subsection, Insurance Section (Phone: 0797-38-2035)



- For Those Joining or Withdrawing from Health Insurance at their Work Places -  
**Notify the National Health Insurance**

- Eligibility: Anyone who corresponds to either of the followings
  - Someone who got a job at a company and became insured there
  - Someone who is uninsured due to retirement, change of employment pattern, or no longer a dependent, etc. (Scan the Code.) →
- What to bring:
  - [Those who withdrew from the Company's Health Insurance]:  
Health Insurance capacity loss certificate and Identification documents
  - [Those who joined to the Company's Health Insurance]:  
The new Health Insurance recipient card / National Health Insurance recipient card / Identification documents
- Inquiries: Insurance subsection, Insurance Section (Phone: 0797-38-2035)



### Starting of Online Application for Procedures on Child-rearing /Nursing Care

Anyone with My Number Card is able to make an online application for 15 procedures on child-rearing (notification of current status of child allowance, etc.) and 11 procedures on nursing care (application for certification of nursing care and support needs, etc.) from Myna Portal using “Pittari Service”.

Please check the details of each procedure from Myna Portal or ask the section in charge of the procedure.

\* “Myna Portal” is an online window for administrative procedures in the Government’s website. “User registration” of Myna Portal is required to start procedures.

■ Inquiries: Information Technology Policy Section (Phone: 0797-38-2021)



### Supporting Application for Myna Points

My Number Card is required for Myna Point application. Please hurry up if you have not received it yet.

- ◆ Place: Counter 6 1F City Hall North Wing
- ◆ Eligibility: Those who applied for issuance of My Number Card by the end of February 2023
- ◆ Inquiries: My Number Desk, Citizens’ Section (Phone: 0797-38-2070)



### National Pension Procedure Available from Myna Portal

The following procedures regarding National Pension are available for those with My Number Card from the Myna Portal on their pc or smartphone, anytime and anywhere.

- ▶ Notification of enrollment in the National Pension as the Category 1 insured person (switching from the Employee’s Pension after retirement from a company, etc.)
  - ▶ Application for exemption or delay of National Pension Insurance Premium
  - ▶ Application for Special Exception for National Pension Insurance Premium Students
- ◆ Inquiries: Desk in charge of Pension, Citizens’ Section (Phone: 0797-38-2036) / (Phone: 0120-95-0178, regarding the Myna Portal)

### Operation Start of Ashiya City AI Chattobotto

With the start of this operation, Ashiya city AI Chattobotto will answer frequently asked questions on the city’s webpage about various notifications, certificate procedures, taxes, child-rearing, etc. Enter questions from your PC or smartphone.

■ Inquiries: Information Technology Policy Section (Phone: 0797-38-2021)



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

- Date/Time/Place: Mon., May 8 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: E-mail to the address below
- Inquiries: Public Relation and International Exchange Section  
(Phone: 0797-38-2008 / E-mail: [kokusai@city.ashiya.lg.jp](mailto:kokusai@city.ashiya.lg.jp))



## Pregnancy, Child-birth and Child-Rearing Support Service



Accompanying Consultation Support from pregnancy to child birth/rearing and Financial Support are implemented integrally.

- **Content:** In addition to 50,000 yen payment after each consultation interview, one at the pregnancy notification and the other at “Hello, Baby ! Visit” after the baby birth, consultation service around 8 months of pregnancy will be implemented. Please ask us if you have moved in Ashiya city.
- **Eligibility:** A pregnant woman who reported pregnancy / Parent (or caregiver) of the child who received the “Hello, Baby ! Visit”
- **Inquiries:** Health Center (Phone: 0797-31-1586)

### Charity Bazaar Items Wanted

- Collecting Period:** April 1-28 9:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
- Content:** We are collecting items, as listed below, for the **charity bazaar** that will be held on Sat., May 20. (All proceeds will be donated to organizations supporting DV victims.)  
Brand-new or unused miscellaneous articles / Gifts / Clothes / Children’s goods / Food (Expiration date on or after June 20), etc.  
\* Wines, OA equipment and Electric appliances are not admitted.
- Application/Place/Inquiries:** Gender Equality Center (Phone: 0797-38-2023)



### Looking for Disused “Koi-Nobori (Carp Streamer)”

Let’s decorate the sky of 5•5 *Festa* (an event for the Children’s Day) by flapping a lot of Carp Streamers ! If you have any Carp Streamers which you no longer use at your home, bring it to the Youth Development Section between April 1 and 30.

- ◆ **Place/Inquiries:** Youth Development Section (Phone: 0797-38-2110)



### Sponge Ball Tennis Free Class for Beginners

- ◇ **Date/Time:** Thu., April 13, 20 and 27 (3 lessons) 12:00 noon – 1:30 p.m.
- ◇ **Place:** Gymnasium and Youth Center \* Rackets are available for rent.
- ◇ **Capacity:** 10 persons
- ◇ **Inquiries:** Samura (Phone: 090-2708-1093 (E-mail: [n-samura@kcc.zaq.ne.jp](mailto:n-samura@kcc.zaq.ne.jp)))



### Crepe at Leed Cafe

Leed Cafe will serve freshly baked crepe !

- Date and Time:** Wed., April 12 and Sat., April 15 11:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- Seller:** minion
- Cost:** 300 yen ~ 800 yen
- Inquiries:** Leed Ashiya (Phone: 0797-26-6452 / Fax: 0797-26-6453)  
(E-mail: [aia@ashiyanpo.jp](mailto:aia@ashiyanpo.jp))



## Kanatsuyama *kofun* – Hyogo Prefecture–designated Historic Site (Abridged)

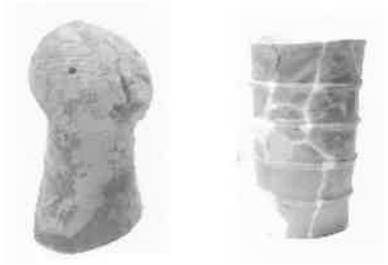
<Scallop– shaped *kofun* > Kanatsuyama *kofun* (burial mound) was recognized as a Hyogo Prefecture–designated Historic Site. It is a notable example of huge burial mound in Hanshin District and has been famous for its legend of buried gold. It is located about 100 meters northeast of Hanshin Uchide Station. It can be seen through the fence but is not accessible.



It is an ancient burial mound dating from the first half of the 5<sup>th</sup> century. Although it seems to be a round burial mound, excavation research has revealed that it was originally a keyhole–shaped tumulus. It is 55m long, with a diameter of 42m for the rear–round part and 13m at the front part. A piece of the front part of the mound was cut off during the Muromachi period (1336–1573) for the development of rice fields, so only the rear part remains. Excavation work has been conducted on a small scale and pieces of clay covering a coffin were discovered. The occupant of the tomb is not known, but it is presumed that it was a member of a powerful clan associated with Yamato regime.

### < Unearthed clay figures >

Many fragments of *haniwa*, clay figures, were excavated from Kanatsuyama *Kofun*. Most of them are cylindrical *haniwa*. The head of a chicken and the torso of a person also have been identified.



### <Legend of buried gold >



*Settsu Meisho Zue*

Kanatsuyama (金津山) *kofun* was once called 「金津丘」、「黄金塚」、「金塚」. (金 = gold in Japanese). These names can be traced back to the legend of the buried gold in the Edo period (1603–1867) which was introduced in the “*Settsu Meisho Zue*”, illustrated travel guidebook published in 1796. Legend has it that in the Heian period (794–

1185), Prince Abo (792–842), the father of a famous poet, Ariwara no Narihira, buried gold in this mound for the villagers in case they were in trouble.

Inquiries: Lifelong Learning Section (Phone: 0797–38–2115)

Pieces of *haniwa* will be exhibited at Historical Material Exhibition Room at the Museum of Art and History from April 15 (Sat.) – Entrance fee is required. From April 17 (Mon.) they will be exhibited at the City Office, Sanjo Office 3F (Free of charge, Available on Mondays and Thursdays)

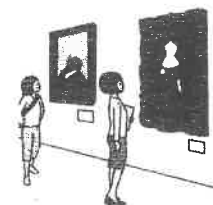
## Another Starting Point of Ashiya's Art Scene-Ito Tsuguro

- Commemorating the reopening of the Museum of Art and History after renovation -

This is the first large-scale solo exhibition of Ito Tsuguro (1907-1994) who painted in Ashiya for a long time. The exhibition features about 60 works by Ito who was active in the Ashiya Art Association, as well as works by 20 painters with whom he exchanged.

◇ Term: April 15 - July 2 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Closed on Mondays. If it is a national holiday, the day after the holiday will be closed.



### < Related Event ① Gallery Talk by a Curator >

A curator will guide you through the exhibition rooms and give commentary on the works and episodes about Ito Tsuguro.

◇ Date and Time: Sat. April 22 2:00 p.m. ~

◇ Fee: Entrance fee



### < Related Event ② Appreciation and Sketch - Let's draw animals! >

After appreciating Ito's works at the Exhibition, let's go to the zoo and draw animals, Tsuguro's favorite motif.

◇ Date and Time: ① Appreciating Ito's works at Museum of Art and History  
May 13 (Sat.) 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

② Sketching at Kobe Oji Zoo May 14 (Sun.) 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

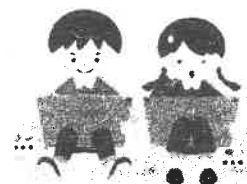
◇ Eligibility: 15 elementary school student (accompanied by a guardian) and over  
Participants must be able to attend on both days.

◇ Fee: Entrance fee, Insurance 100yen

◇ Application: Please apply by phone or e-mail with name, address  
and phone number by April 29 ( Sat.)

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

E-mail: [ashiya-bihaku@shopro.co.jp](mailto:ashiya-bihaku@shopro.co.jp)



## Beware of Paralytic Shellfish Poison

Paralytic shellfish poison may be detected, especially in April and May, in *asari*, Japanese little-neck clams and other bivalves in Osaka Bay including the coast along the city. The toxin is highly heat-resistant and does not weaken when cooked.

Please check the monitoring result on the official website and take precautions.

Inquiries: Fisheries Technology Institute

Hyogo Prefectural Technology Center for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries  
(Phone: 078-941-8601)





## Notice of Environmental Flea Market

- ◇Date & Time: Sun., May 21, 9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m. (Cancelled in case of rain)
- ◇Place: Pedestrian Deck on the north side of JR Ashiya Station
- ◇Eligibility: Ashiya citizens (stallholder), 1 stall per household
- ◇Booth Fee: 1,000 yen Please pay at the time of the lottery.
- ◇Application: Send a reply-paid post card to the following address with your name, address, phone and fax number and items to sell no later than Mon., April 17. Please write your name and address on the reply card.
- ◇Mailing Address: Ashiya-shi Shoko-kai (Ashiya Chamber of Commerce and Industry)  
4-28 Kimmitsu-cho, 659-0065
- ◇Date of lottery for place allocation: Tue., May 9, 4:00 p.m.-
- ◇Inquiries: Environmental Facilities Section (Phone: 0797-32-5391)  
Ashiya Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Phone: 0797-23-2071)  
(Environmental Flea Market)



## Be Careful of Photochemical Smog

There are particularly high levels of photochemical smog from spring to fall.

When a warning of photochemical smog is issued, observe the following:

- ① Refrain from outdoor activity and stay indoors.
  - ② If your eyes, throat and/or nose feel irritated, wash your eyes and/or gargle well.
  - ③ If your condition does not improve, consult a doctor.
- ※ You can check photochemical smog information via your cell phone between April 20 and October 19.



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

## More Convenient for Reservations at the Refuse Disposal Center

Reservations for bringing in garbage to the Refuse Disposal center can be made until noon on the disposal day from Mon. to Fri. including public holidays starting April 1. You can make reservations 4 weeks in advance.

(Reservations can be made for up to 6 days.)

|                                    | Before the change                  | From April 1 (after the change)                             |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|
| Reservation Start Date             | One week prior to the disposal day | Four weeks prior to the disposal day                        |
| Reservation on the day of disposal | Unacceptable                       | Until noon from Mon. through Fri. including public holidays |
| Forms of refuse drop-off           | Not specified                      | Contents should be visible                                  |

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

## The 82<sup>th</sup> Citizen's Yose by Katsura Yonedanji

- Date & Time: Fri., May 19, 6:00 p.m. (Doors open at 5:15 p.m.)
- Place: Renaissance Classics Ashiya Luna Hall
- Capacity: 600 people
- Program: "Kohome" by Katsura Maimai, "Shichidokitsune" by Katsura Kichinojo, "Keikoya," "Ichimonfue," "Shichiyashibai" by Katsura Yonedanji
- Performers: Katsura Yonedanji, Katsura Kichinojo, Katsura Maimai
- Ticket Fee: Advance ticket 2,500 yen, Same-day ticket 3,000 yen
- Sales Locations: Ashiya Citizens' Center Office, City Hall Shop, LAWSON Ticket (L-code 51550)
- Inquiries: Luna Hall Project Desk (Phone: 0797-35-0700)



## Shio-Ashiya Seminar: RAKUGO in English/Japanese

- Date & Time: Sun., May 14, 3:00-4:00 p.m.
- Place: Shio-Ashiya Exchange Center, 2F ■Performer: Katsura Fukumaru
- Eligibility & Capacity: Elementary school children and older/100 people
- Fee: Advance ticket 1,000 yen, Same-day ticket 1,200 yen  
\* Free for elementary school students ✉ [aca-event@npo-aca.jp](mailto:aca-event@npo-aca.jp)
- Application & Inquiries: Shio-Ashiya Exchange Center (Phone: 0797-25-0511)



## Seeking Children for AC United Tennis School

- Date, Time, Eligibility & Capacity: Every Wednesday and Friday from April
  - ① J1 Class (4-year-olds and older): 3:00-4:00 p.m./8 children
  - ② J2 Class (6-year-olds and older): 4:10-5:10 p.m./10 children
  - ③ J3 Class (8-year-olds and older): 5:20-6:50 p.m./10 children
  - ④ Training 1 Class (8-year-olds and older): 5:20-7:20 p.m./10 children
  - ⑤ Practice Session (junior high school students and older): 7:20-9:00 p.m./12 people



- Place: Ashiya Park Tennis Courts
- Fee: ①② 4,500 yen/per month ③ 6,000 yen/per month ④ 8,000 yen/per month ⑤ 1,500 yen (per lesson)

□Things to bring: Clothes fit for sports, sport shoes, a cap, a water bottle, a towel

\*Tennis rackets are available at the site.

\*Participants in practice session should bring your own tennis racket and tennis shoes.

□Application: Fill out the application form and fax or submit it to the reception counter indicated below. Forms are available at the reception counter or can be downloaded from its website. Accepted at any time.

□Inquiries: Ashiya Park Tennis Courts (Phone : 0797-34-8886/Fax: 0797-34-8884)



## The 18<sup>th</sup> Open Garden 2023

- ✿ Period and Time: April 15 –19/ May 10 –14 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.
- ✿ Place: Various locations in Ashiya city
- \* Please admire the gardens with good manners.

For the participants in the Open Garden, the 18<sup>th</sup> Ashiya Flowers and Greenery Contest will be held simultaneously. You are requested to choose the garden that you think is most beautiful and write it in the questionnaire in the final page of the brochure, then submit it to the Roadside Tree Section or each regional Assembly Hall in the city.

Award ceremony will be held for the winners at City Hall in June.

- ✿ Brochures are available at the following places:

Information Desk of City Hall /Laporte Citizens' Service Corner/Ashiya Grand Park / Regional Assembly Halls / Roadside Tree Section, etc.

### [Ashiya City Subsidy for Greenery works]

Half of the cost necessary for the greenery work (planting a hedge, for example) in Ashiya city will be subsidized. (Up to 100,000 yen)

- ✿ Period: April 1 –February 29, 2024
- ✿ Capacity: The first 20 applications
- ✿ Application: Fill in and submit the form (available at the counter of Roadside Tree Section) \* Will be judged.
- ✿ Inquiries: Roadside Tree Section (Phone: 0797-38-2470)



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

| Content (Class name)                                      | Date/Time                         | Cost      | Application Deadline        |
|---|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|
| ① “Enjoy growing vegetables (1)”                          | Thu., April 13<br>10:30 a.m.–Noon | 500 yen   | 5:00 p.m.<br>Thu., April 6  |
| ② “Flower arrangement for Sekku (seasonal festival)”      | Sat., April 15<br>10:30 a.m.–Noon | 2,500 yen | 5:00 p.m.<br>Sat., April 8  |
| ③ “Make a container garden full of gentle color flowers”  | Mon., April 17<br>1:30–3:00 p.m.  | 2,500 yen | 5:00 p.m.<br>Mon., April 10 |
| ④ “Let’s start gardening (1)”                             | Wed., April 19<br>10:30 a.m.–Noon | 500 yen   | 5:00 p.m.<br>Wed., April 12 |
| ⑤ “Spring Table Flower Arrangement”                       | Thu., April 20<br>10:30 a.m.–Noon | 2,000 yen | 5:00 p.m.<br>Thu., April 13 |
| ⑥ “Growing a laurel”                                      | Sat., April 22<br>10:30 a.m.–Noon | 1,500 yen | 5:00 p.m.<br>Sat., April 15 |
| ⑦ “Make a stylish wall-hanging with carnations and roses” | Sat., April 29<br>10:30 a.m.–Noon | 3,000 yen | 5:00 pm<br>Sat., April 22   |

- ✿ Capacity: 15 people for each class
- ✿ What to bring: Writing materials and a large bag to carry the work home.
- ✿ How to apply: Visit, call/fax or E-mail (with entering the class name, your name/address/phone number) to Ashiya Grand Park
- ✿ Location and Inquiries: Ashiya Grand Park (Sogo Koen)

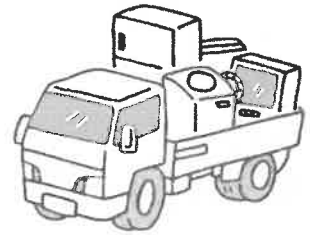
(Phone: 0797-38-2103 / Fax: 0797-25-2026 / E-mail: [ashiyasogo@mizuno.co.jp](mailto:ashiyasogo@mizuno.co.jp))



## Parting with Unwanted Items

### ■ Getting Rid of Large Home Appliances:

Ashiya city has partnered with ReNet Japan Recycle and SG Moving for the collection and recycling of large home appliances, such as TVs and refrigerators, that previously could not be disposed of.



#### ➤ How do I ask for the collection of appliances?

It can be completed easily anytime at home over the internet or by phone.

#### ➤ What about heavy appliances?

Removal service is available, so the elderly and women need not worry.

#### ➤ Are recycling tickets necessary?

There is no need to purchase tickets in advance. Payments can be made directly at the time of collection.



◇ Call the numbers below between 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. every day, including Saturdays, Sundays, and national holidays.

**【Large Home Appliances】 Call 0570-05-6006**

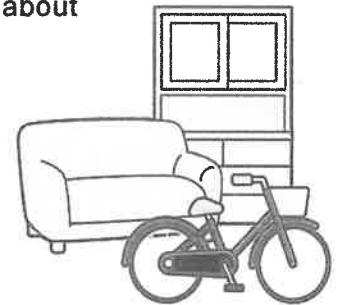
(TVs, refrigerators, washing machines, air conditioners)

**【Other Home Appliances】 Call 0570-55-0124**

※ Please note that recycling and transportation fees will apply based on the size and type of the item. Check the Ashiya City website or call to inquire about the collection procedure.

### ■ Something to Consider Before Disposing of Bulky Items:

Ashiya city has partnered with Jimoty to promote the reuse of unwanted items in order to reduce waste and create a recycling-oriented society. Please consider using Jimoty before throwing out large items.



#### ➤ What is Jimoty?

Jimoty is a local electronic bulletin board website and app. You can give away or receive items for free or for a fee. There are no registration or transaction fees, and it only takes 5 minutes to post an item. You can hand over the item to someone in your neighborhood.

※ Please keep in mind that transactions on Jimoty are between individuals. Take precautions accordingly to avoid any potential problems.

◇ Inquiries: Environmental Facilities Section

Phone: 0797-32-5391



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

Broadcast Time: ①9:00 a.m. ②12:00 noon ③4:00 p.m. ④8:00 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



## Ashiya School Lunch Recipes

### ■ Spring Pasta

#### □ Ingredients (Serves 4)

120 g ribbon-shaped pasta

60 g ham (bar rectangles)

2 eggs

vegetable oil

60 g *nanohana* canola flowers

40 g spinach

minced garlic

1 Tbsp olive oil

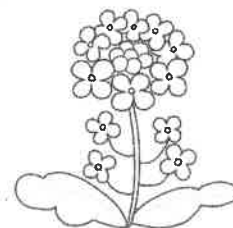
1 tsp white wine

1/4 tsp salt

pepper

2/3 tsp *koikuchi* dark-colored soy sauce

*takanotsume* red chili peppers



#### □ Directions:

1. Cut canola flowers (*nanohana*) and spinach 3 cm long. Blanch them to bring out their color. Cool in iced water. Drain and squeeze out water.
2. Beat eggs well. Heat a frying pan and scramble the eggs.
3. Begin boiling the ribbon-shaped pasta.
4. Heat olive oil and red chili peppers (*takanotsume*) in a pot. Remove the chili peppers when fragrant. Let it cool slightly before adding garlic and stir-fry.
5. Add ham and stir-fry. Add the canola flowers and spinach. Stir-fry briefly.
6. Drain, add, and season cooked ribbon-shaped pasta.
7. Toss in the scrambled eggs and serve.



## Subsidy Program for Arts & Culture Activities

Groups or individuals who are competing as an Ashiya City representative at a prefecture-wide level or higher in such events held by a public organization may be eligible for a subsidy. The amount of the subsidy will depend on the size and reputation of the competition.

◇ **Period:** April 2023–March 2024

◇ **Inquiries:** Promotion of Citizen Participation and Collaboration Office

Phone: 0797-38-2007



## Revision to Personal Information Protection

From April 1, personal information protection will be standardized under a common nationwide rule. Personal information protection will now be handled in accordance with national guidelines. For further details, please visit the Ashiya City website.

◇ **Inquiries:** Documents and Legislation Section

Phone: 0797-38-2010

## Monthly First-Aid Training Class

- ◇ Date and Time: Sun., April 23 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
  - ◇ Place: Fire Department Headquarters
  - ◇ Contents: AED cardiopulmonary resuscitation and other emergency aids
  - ◇ Capacity: 20 people
  - ◇ Eligibility: Those who live, work, and study in Ashiya
    - ※ Certificates will be given to participants.
  - ◇ Application: Contact us at 2D code or at the number below by 5:30 p.m. on April 21.
- Inquiries: Emergency Section, Fire Department Headquarters (Phone: 0797-32-2345)



## One Point Lesson for Tennis

- ◇Date & Time: Wed., April 26, 9:30-10:40 a.m.
- ◇Place: Nishihama Park Tennis Courts
- ◇Eligibility & Capacity: Basic to intermediate level/3 to 10 people
- ◇Fee: 1,500 yen
- ◇Things to bring: Tennis shoes, racket, clothes fit for sports
- ◇Application & Inquiries: Gymnasium and Youth Center (Phone: 0797-31-8228)



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(Designated administrator: Ashiya Cosmopolitan Association)

7-1 Kaiyo-cho Ashiya  
Phone : 0797-25-0511 Fax : 0797-25-0512