
awa life



"TOPY"

A monthly newsletter for international residents of Tokushima, produced by TOPIA, the Tokushima Prefectural International Exchange Association.

January 2010 No. 234

happy new year!



あけまして
おめでとうございませう！

rtwork by hisatoyo murasawa

inside awa life this month

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awalife

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www.topia.ne.jp/e_index.htm

from the editor

dear Awa Life readers, a Happy New Year to you all! It feels like a long time since I last spoke to you all, and especially so after the New Year's holidays. What did you get up to? Did you travel overseas or stay here in Tokushima? If you stayed in Tokushima then you might have found that New Year's holiday can be a hard time to spend when you haven't got any family to visit and the shops are closed. But, it can also act as a good time to reflect on the year that has passed and think about the year to come.

Speaking of which, there is plenty in this month's Awa Life to help you reflect on the past year and even more. This month, Lance Kita writes to us about the 15th Anniversary of the Awaji-Kobe Earthquake of 1995 and his first

-hand account of the aftermath. We also take a look at the kanji of the year and some of the popular catchphrases of 2009 in our usual year-end report. And following on from last month is part two of the Diary of a Judoka in which one of the members of the German Judo Team to visit Tokushima last year gives us the blow by blow of their stay. A must-see for anyone who has ever wondered what it is like to visit Tokushima as part of an official delegation.

Well, here we are in 2010 with a whole new year ahead of us. I hope you are all feeling refreshed after the holidays and are ready to try and make some of those New Year's resolutions come to life. Best of luck, and I'll see you once again in the March issue of Awa Life.

Cheers, Andrew



*say a little prayer - a temple visitor adds their fortune to the tree to pray for their luck to change during **hatsumoude** - the first trip to a temple/shrine of the year (photo by andrew dahms)*

15 years, scars remain

by lance kita

KILLER QUAKE IN KOBE. Just returned from a year study/homestay in Kobe, the newspaper headline outside my college dorm in Hawaii made my heart stop and thoughts race. Is my host family or girlfriend stuck in their houses? Where are my friends? Did everyone get out in time?

This January 17 marks the 15th anniversary of the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake (**hanshin awaji daishinsai** - 阪神淡路大震災). Though the epicenter was located just north of Tokushima on Awaji Island, over 99% of the 6,434 casualties were in Hyogo Prefecture, mainly in the urban residential areas of Kobe City. Whole neighborhoods were destroyed. Portions of the artificially built Port Island liquefied and sections of the elevated Hanshin Expressway toppled sideways.

Six months after the quake, I made a foray back



bringing hope and light to tragedy: 2007 kobe luminaire

to my 'second hometown'. What had been Sannomiya Station Building was now an open platform surrounded by a cleared debris field. Ikuta Shrine's gate roof lay on the ground. Most of the tremors were horizontal, leaving many buildings like the older City Hall annex broken at their pivot point, only one floor collapsed. My host family's

new house was untouched, in contrast to wood-and-tile roof neighborhoods like Nagata (長田区) and Nada (灘区) which crumbled and went up in flames, claiming many lives.

Luckily, one trip I didn't have to make was to a graveyard. My host family, my girlfriend's family, university staff, friends... everyone I knew survived. Many extricated

wander-ful 'tabi' - 15 years, scars remain ... cont'd on page 4



*(left) before: collapsed middle section of sannomiya's sogo department store, june 1995.
 (right) after: rebuilt sogo department store, ca. 1997.*

wander-ful tabi: 15 years, scars remain ... cont'd from page 3

themselves from their houses and trudged along the train tracks to the nearest major station in winter weather with only a blanket around them.

Kobe's post-quake resilience was nothing short of remarkable. Salarymen waited in two-hour lines for commuter buses that temporarily replaced the trains and monorails. Blue sheets could be seen from every roof as people got their lives back in order. One professor took three months to reorganize hundreds of videotapes that flew off his shelves and through his **shoji** doors. Take the highway bus to Osaka or drive the Coastline Expressway (Wangan-sen - 湾岸線) and you'll see rows of colorful modern apartment buildings built over the burnt-out port neighborhoods. Kobe continues to be a vibrant urban area with a renewed sense of community and rebuilt spirit.

If you visit Kobe, walk straight south from Sannomiya Station past the truncated City Hall Annex to Higashi-yuenchi (東遊園地). The southeast corner of the park is the Earthquake Memorial, a terraced area of brick and grass designed to look like cracked ground. With the roar of the fountain overhead, you can pay your respects in a round underground room with the list of the casualties. The park hosts the Kobe Luminarie (神戸ルミナリエ), an annual lights display first started in 1995 to uplift the spirits of Kobe's residents, which is now visited by more than 3.6



(above) Entrance to earthquake memorial, higashi-yuenchi
(below) list of quake casualties at earthquake memorial, higashi-yuenchi



million visitors over a twelve day period every December. Further south, you can walk along the eastern edge of Meriken Park (メリケンパーク) where chunks of sidewalk and tilted lampposts have been left untouched to serve as a memorial and a testament to the quake's power.

With most of the city rebuilt there is little tangible

evidence of the damage left, but one image of my post-quake trip symbolizes what the people of Kobe went through. Peering around the corner of a shopping arcade in downtown Sannomiya, I saw an old man calmly pedaling his bike along an asphalt-filled crack running down the entire length of the sidewalk. Life goes on, but the scars remain.



it's that time again

by andrew dahms

The year 2009 may be past and gone, but there still remain a few things to wrap up. Namely, the kanji of the year and the run of catch phrases for 2009. You should have plenty of reasons why. For those who want to know the reasons this **kanji** was chosen, let's take a look at the details.



SHIN

Readings:

shin/atarashii/arata/nii/sara

Meaning:

New/to start over.

Examples:

New Year (shinnen - 新年)

New work (shinsaku - 新作)

A Matter of Statistics

This year there was a total of 161,365 votes for the Kanji of the Year. The **kanji** for 'new' stole top position at 14,093 and was followed by 'medicine' (**kusuri/yaku** - 薬) in second place at 10,184 votes. Runners up included the **kanji** for 'politics' (**sei** - 政) at 5,365 votes, 'illness' (**byou** - 病) at 5,329 votes, and 'reformation' (**kai/aratameru/aratamaru** - 改) at 4,711 votes.

There are a lot of reasons that point to **shin** being the Kanji of the Year. First and foremost for is the change in political parties in this year's election in Japan, leading to new political leadership, new policy and a new direction for Japan. It also marks the year in which Barack Obama was elected as president, signalling a big change for the U.S. and world politics.

Another use for the word **shin** is found in swine flu. In Japanese it is known as a 'new strain' (**shingata** - 新型) of influenza, and the spread of swine flu has been a big concern for many countries this year.

Another local reason was the introduction of new systems such as the lay judge

system and tax breaks for drivers of environmentally friendly cars.

Kanji no Hi

Enough about the kanji itself though. Just exactly how did all this business begin, and for what reason is this ceremony held each year.

Well, the Kanji of the Year (**kotoshi no kanji** - 今年の漢字) is a single **kanji** that is chosen to best represent the trends in the past year, both in Japan and globally. The Japan Kanji Aptitude Testing Foundation releases a list of

the most appropriate **kanji** to represent the year, and then these are voted on by the general public. When all the votes are in, the results are released on Kanji Day (**kanji no hi** - 漢字の日), which is December 12.

On this day, the Kanji of the Year is presented to the public at Kiyomizu Temple in Kyoto by being written onto one huge piece of paper with a giant brush. Talk about pressure - you would certainly want to 'brush' up on your calligraphy skills before trying your hand at that.

Catch me if You Can

As usual, the top catch phrases of the year 2009 were chosen this December 1, representing phrases from all forms of media and exposure.

No1: Lurking in similar grounds to the Kanji of the Year can be found this year's top-ringer - 政権交代, a change of government.

No2: Kodomo Tencho (子ども店長) taken from a successful series of ads in which a child plays the head of a store selling Toyota cars.

No3: Jigyo shiwake (事業仕訳). A method of dividing public projects according to need and effect.

No4. Shingata Influenza (新型インフルエンザ). Also straying not far from the kanji of the year is this term coined to refer to the epidemic of swine flu that occurred this year.

letter from a judoka - part 2

by vivian herrmann
member of the judoka group
visit in october 2009

October 8: Dear Diary, a good night's sleep later, well rested, we woke up and almost all of us have had a good breakfast. That followed we could enjoy our freetime. After a copius lunch we had a little bit of time to do some shopping, before going by taxi to the Prefectural Office to visit the Governor who greeted us with a speech. He wore a Judogi! After coming back to the hotel we visited Mt. Bizan by riding the ropeway up to the top. Arriving there we were stunned by the breathtaking view. A few minutes later though, it started raining. We took the next ropeway back down, walked to the hotel (because the rain stopped) and had dinner. We also enjoyed our free time afterwards.



October 10: Dear Diary! This morning we met at 8:30 in the lobby of our hotel, where we would start to go to the training. We were allowed to train with the Tokushima Judo Association (aprox. 100 people). As a special guest, Mr. Katsuki (Judo world champion,

1979) was attending. He told us that Judo is about the big and strong fighting spirit. Further he said, that we should always pursue our goals. While talking about his Judo life and his impressive achievements, he also trained us. After that we had a few Randoris (free style practice or sparring). Having finished the training we were invited to a party by the TJA with a huge buffet. We had time to make friends with the Japanese teens. For the last part of the party we had to climb the stage, where we were introduced and got asked a few questions about the training. But the

day wasn't over yet. We went to our second training with other male fighters. It was exhausting, because the Japanese were heavy and strong, but also enjoyable because they did their best to be good sparring partners for us girls. For instance, at ground randori, two girls fought against one boy - everyone, the coaches included, enjoyed this very much. After the second training we went to a restaurant to have Japanese beef steak and a plentiful salad bar. At around 8pm we arrived totally exhausted in our hotel.



letter from a judoka - part 3 ... cont'd in next awalife

tv schedule for january

Date	Time	Channel	Nation	Title
Fri. 01	01:35	6 - ABC	USA - 2002	About Schmidt
Sat. 02	01:20	1 - Shikoku	USA - 1999	Notting Hill
Sun. 03	21:00	6 - ABC	USA - 2007	Die Hard 4.0
Sun. 03	01:34	6 - ABC	USA - 2003	Big Fish
Mon. 04	02:20	8 - Kansai	USA - 2001	Hannibal
Fri. 15	21:00	1 - Shikoku	USA - 2006	The Devil Wears Prada
Sun. 17	21:00	6 - ABC	USA - 2005	Mr. & Mrs. Smith
Fri. 22	21:00	1 - Shikoku	USA - 1992	Sister Act
Sun. 24	21:00	6 - ABC	USA - 2003	Lara Croft Tomb Raider
Fri. 29	21:00	1 - Yomiuri	USA - 2006	Eragon



martin's manga corner

by martin o'brien

Title:	Oishinbo (美味しんぼ)
Manga-ka:	Tetsu Kariya & Akira Hanasaki
Publisher:	Shogakkokan
First published:	1983
No of volumes:	102

Food is a common topic in manga. The genre is known as **gurume** manga or 'gourmet' manga. In this column I have previously reviewed a manga in this genre; Gokudou Meshi by Tsuchiyama Shigeru. This month's review features one of the most well received **gurume** manga of all time - the Oishinbo series.

Oishinbo means 'gourmet' in Japanese. Its success is possibly due to the scope of its ambition, in that the series exhaustively covers the main constituents of Japanese food culture. For example, one of the books is entitled the Joy of Rice, and the entire comic is devoted to garnering an appreciation in the reader for the role of rice in Japanese culture. Other issues are devoted to such things as Sake and the Izakaya. Unusually enough for a **gurume** manga, Oishinbo has been translated and popularly received by fans outside Japan, perhaps because it is at first glance an introduction to things that one might associate with Japanese food culture.

The series begins in a newspaper office known as the Tozai News. As part of their 100th anniversary celebrations the publishers commission the creation of the Ultimate Menu. The person charged with carrying out this formidable task is the junior journalist

Yamaoka Shiro. Yamaoka is not exactly a model employee, but his deep knowledge of food allows him to complete the task when he has a mind for it. In the Joy of Rice, Yamaoka delves in to the aspect of rice as a part of the Japanese diet and its influence in society.

Some of my favourite chapters in the Joy of Rice include Brown Rice vs. White Rice, where Yamaoka overturns certain myths about the supposed benefits of **genmai** or unpolished rice, which is upheld as a more austere version of white rice as the untouched husk is meant to provide more vitamins and minerals and is thus healthier. In this chapter Yamaoka gets into a dispute with the head of a woman's Judo team who has been forcing the members to eat only brown rice. He explains that unfortunately the pesticides and antibiotics from fertiliser gather in the outer skin and are then ingested into the system. According to Oishinbo, the polished white rice is much healthier.

Some of the chapters are mostly informative, another of which is "Live Rice" in which Yamaoka helps a colleague prepare the perfect rice dish for her mother-in-law. He identifies why previous efforts at cooking rice dishes have been coming out flops. Namely, the lack of consideration given to storing the rice can lead

to it being too dry and thus cracking during cooking. This is because some parts of the rice grain absorb water at a quicker rate. Hence the importance of proper storage and preparation in achieving a decent bowl of rice.

Sometimes the drama takes precedent over the foodie facts. In Matsutake, Rice of the Sea we are introduced to Kyogoku Mantaro and Kiyotani Ginko, both of which are wealthy men involved in various projects with the Art and Culture Department. Mantaro is a wealthy business man and friend with the renowned artist Kiyotani Ginko. The two have a dispute over whose hometown specialty is the best, and Ginko annoys Mantaro by telling him that the **matsutake** mushrooms of the mountain are no match for the **matsutake** of the sea. Mantaro's annoyance is suddenly interrupted when Ginko falls down and loses his memory, but Ginko is happily restored to his own self when his wife brings him some **matsutake** of the sea, which is not mushroom but abalone shellfish that bears an uncanny resemblance to **matsutake** when properly prepared, despite its aquatic origin.

Oishinbo provides a variety of different themes and story lines that entertain as well as inform, and there are a multitude available. The series which started in 1983, is now running into 102 collected issues and has sold over 100 million copies worldwide. Its one of the seminal mangas that attracts all palates. 

daily disaster preparations

tokushima prefectural disaster center

WThere is no guarantee that a disaster is going to happen when you and your family and friends are all together at the same place. What would you do if a large-scale disaster happened and everyone was separated? How would you get in touch to see if those important to you are ok? Would you call them? If everyone calls at the same time the system becomes overloaded, so phone companies often limit access to making personal calls in times like this. This is why it is so difficult to get through when a disaster occurs. So, then what would you do? Some families may place a pen and paper in their emergency kits, and decide on a place in town where they can leave messages. This way, if a disaster occurs and everyone becomes separated, members of the family simply need to



「171」をダイヤルするとガイダンスが流れます。被災地の方の電話番号を市外局番からダイヤルし、伝言を録音・再生します。

signs such as these can be seen in streets near you to show you where to find the nearest evacuation centre

go to the designated spot and read a message there telling them where the writer is. This is especially useful for when a certain member may be forced to go to an evacuation center, but can leave a message before they go to let their family know where to find them. Another handy tip is to make sure to carry a photo of the members of your family at all times. If you have become separated, you can use the photo to ask of their whereabouts. You can also

try using public telephones to see if you can get in contact with them. * Settle on a way to get in contact in time of a disaster. * Learn where you can find public phones in your neighbourhood * Always carry some change you can use in public phones * Use the phone disaster message board on (call 171)

Translated with permission from the Tokushima Prefectural Disaster Center Homepage: anshin.pref.tokushima.jp/normal/disaster_center/



letter from suketo hoikuen

by kazue inoue
suketo hoikuen staff

happy New Year! I wish you all the best of happiness for the year to come. This month we are going to talk about toilet training for young children.

1: Timing

At a year and a half of age, children respond well to praise. And at two years and a half they become easy to rationalise with, and these appear to be easy ages at which to start training. The time between these can be a little difficult, but double your praise and try different tactics

and it should work.

2: Methods

Take them to the toilet as soon as they need to go. Get them to sit on the toilet or potty at times when they might be likely to go, such as after a nap. Show them an example.

3: How to Succeed

Decorate the toilet and make it a fun place for your child to be. Use the same words to praise them, right from when they were a new-born. Keep a smile on your face and make training fun. Remember that it

is impossible to succeed from the offset, so be patient and give your child time.

This Month's Toy

Let's try making a popular toy for the New Year Holidays in Japan - a spinning top.

- 1: Cut out a circle from some cardboard or a milk carton.
- 2: Decorate it with the colour of your choice.
- 3: Make a hole in the middle an run a toothpick through it.

You can play by spinning the top using your thumb and index finger.



Japanese lesson

by yoko koyama

This month let's take a look at the dialect of Tokushima - Awa-ben. How many phrases do you know?

(1) How many of the following Awa-ben phrases do you recognise?

- ① せこい ② ほなけんど ③ たっすい ④ おなかがおきる ⑤ めぐ
 ⑥ かんまん ⑦ ほなけん ⑧ いぬ (動詞) (verb) ⑨ いける
 ⑩ しんだい

こたえ (Answers) ① 苦しい (painful) ② そうだけど (yes, but...) ③ つまらない (boring)、簡単 (easy) ④ おなかがいっぱいになる (to be full) ⑤ 壊す (to destroy) ⑥ かまわない (doesn't matter) ⑦ だから (because...) ⑧ 帰る (go home/return) ⑨ だいじょうぶ (to be ok) ⑩ 疲れる / 疲れた (to get/be tired)

How many did you get right?

- ★ 8 ~ 10 * * * 阿波弁の達人です！
 You're an Awa-ben master!
- ★ 4 ~ 7 * * * なかなかの阿波弁通です！
 You know your Awa-ben quite well!
- ★ 0 ~ 3 * * * 地元の人と話して阿波弁を覚えよう！
 Talk to some of the locals and learn more Awa-ben!



(2) Now have a try at these phrases! How would you say them in English?

- ① 「なにたべよん？」
 ② 「今日は学校いかなんだん？」
 ③ 「いけるん？」 「いける、いける。」

こたえ (Answers) ① 何を食べているの？ (What are you eating?) ② 今日は学校に行かなかったの？ (You didn't go to school today?) (~なかった→~なんだ) ③ だいじょうぶ？ だいじょうぶ、だいじょうぶ。(to be ok) (Can also be used to mean 'able to go' [somewhere])

(3) Last of all, let's try making the following expressions into Awa-ben.

- ① 「何をしているの？」
 ② 「おなかがいっぱいになった？」 「うん、食べ過ぎて苦しい。」
 ③ 「どうしよう、お姉ちゃんの携帯こわしちゃった。」 「だから、触るなって言ったのに。」

こたえ (Answers) ① なにしよん？ (している→しよる) (What are you doing?) ② おなかおきた？ うん食べ過ぎてせこい ("Are you full?" "Yeah, I ate too much so I don't feel so well") ③ どうしよう、お姉ちゃんの携帯めいでもた (こわす→めぐ / ちゃった→しても (う) た / ほなけん、触ったらあかんっていうたのに ("Oh no, I broke my sister's cell phone!" "Well I said not to touch it, didn't I?")

memoranda

Japanese Cooking Class

Learn how to cook Japanese Dishes for winter: steamed egg hotchpotch, sushi rolls, etc. Please send an e-mail or call if you want to participate. Tell us your name, nationality and contact information (e-mail or telephone). Please don't forget to bring an apron!

When: Sunday, January 24 from 10:00-13:00
Where: Uchimachi Community Center, near the Tokushima City Hall
Cost: 700 yen (for ingredients)
Info: HIROBA International Takako Yamada
E-mail: welcometotokushima@yahoo.co.jp
Tel: 090-2787-3597 **Fax:** 088-652-4846

日本料理教室

冬の日本料理の作り方を勉強しましょう！参加したい方は e-mail や電話で名前、国籍、連絡先（メールアドレスまたは電話番号）を知らせてください。エプロンを持参してください。日本人と一緒に料理を作って下さる方も歓迎です。

日時: 1月24日(日)、10:00～13:00
場所: 内町コミュニティーセンター（徳島市内の市役所の近く）
材料費: 700円
問合せ: 国際交流懇話会 HIROBA の山田多佳子まで
メール: welcometotokushima@yahoo.co.jp
電話: 090-2787-3597 **ファックス:** 088-652-4846

Momote Omato Archery

Each year this event is held to ward off bad luck for the coming year. An archer fires ten arrows into a target in a display of traditional archery.

When: Monday, January 10
 8:00 - evening
Where: Kawatayama Elementary School, Yamakawa-cho, Yoshinogawa City
Cost: Free!
Info: Call the Yoshinogawa City Commerce and Tourism Division at 0883-22-2226.

百手神事（お的）

古来より王子神社に伝わる魔よけの祭りです。10人の射手が袷姿で的に矢を射ます。

日時: 1月10日(月)
 8:00～終日
場所: 川田山小学校、
 吉野川市山川長
入場料: 無量！
問合せ: 吉野川市商工観光課まで
 電話 0883-22-2226

Omato Archery

A display of traditional archery to ward off bad luck for the coming year.

When: Sunday, January 10
Where: The Hachiman Shrine in Awa City
Cost: Free!
Info: Call the Awa City Commerce and Tourism Division at 0883-35-7875

お的

悪魔除け・五穀豊穡を祈って行う催しで、270年前の宝永2年、徳川將軍綱吉の頃から始められました。

日時: 1月10日(日)
場所: 八幡神社、阿波市
入場料: 無量！
問合せ: 阿波市商工観光課まで
 電話 0883-35-7875

memoranda

Sagicho

Come and see as all the decorations from the end of new and new year festivities are burned in a huge bonfire to ward off bad luck for the coming year.

When: Friday, January 15, 5:00-6:00

Where: Nishi no Hama, Mugi-cho

Cost: Free!

Info: Call the Mugi-cho Industry and Construction Division at 0884-72-3420

左義長

毎年1月15日の早朝、正月の飾りものを燃やして無病息災や豊漁や豊作・家内安全を祈願します。

日時: 1月15日(金)、5:00～6:00

場所: 牟岐町、西の浜

入場料: 無量!

問合せ: 牟岐町産業建設課まで
電話 0884-72-3420

Japanese Lessons at Suketo Hoikuen

When: Every Thursday, 11:00 - 12:00

Cost: Free for nursery students!

Info: Call TOPIA at 088-656-3303

助任保育園の日本語教室

日時: 毎週木曜日、11:00～12:00

金額: 託児付き(無料)

問合せ: トピアまで
電話 088-656-3303

Multicultural Forum

TOPIA held the Multicultural Festival in January and November this year. The next step is a forum about Multiculturalism in January. The lecturer will be Ms. Yukari Enoi from the Toyonaka International Exchange Association. She will talk about "The task of Multicultural Symbiosis in Japan and the outlook from now on."

When: Thursday, January 21 2010
from 14:30-16:40

Where: TOPIA - meeting room

Lecturer: Yukari Enoi from the Toyonaka International Exchange Association

Cost: Free!

Info: Call TOPIA at 088-656-3303

Application via telephone or fax or Email:

Fax: 088-652-0616

Email: coordinator3@topia.ne.jp (Ms. Kasai)

Multiculturalism in the Neighborhood - Panel Exhibition

When: Saturday, January 16 to Sunday, January 24

Where: Clement Plaza 4F (Clement Hiroba)

Cost: Free!

多文化共生フォーラム開催

このたび当協会では、「多文化共生」をテーマとしたフォーラムを開催します。講師として(財)とよなか国際交流協会 事業課長 榎井 縁氏をお呼びして「日本における多文化共生の課題と今後の展望について」として講演していただく予定です。

日程等は次のとおりです。

日時: 2010年1月21日(木)
14:30～16:40(予定)

場所: (財)徳島県国際交流協会 会議室

講師: (財)とよなか国際交流協会 事業課長 榎井 縁氏
参加費: 無料

申し込み・問い合わせ: (財)徳島県国際交流協会

電話: 088-656-3303 **FAX:** 088-652-0616

メール: coordinator3@topia.ne.jp (笠井)

「多文化共生のまちづくり」パネル展開催

日時: 2010年1月16日(土)～1月24日(日)

場所: クレメントプラザ4F クレメント広場

参加費: 無料

memoranda

Taisan Temple Chikara Mochi

Come and see as participants compete to see who can carry large barrels of pounded rice the farthest! Men carry 169kg and women 50kg! This is a traditional event of the temple that is held every third Sunday in January.

When: Sunday, January 17
Where: Taisan Temple in Kamiita, Itano-gun
Cost: Free!
Info: Call the temple at
 088-694-5525

大山寺の 力餅

正月の初会式の行事として毎年1月第3日曜日に大山寺境内で行われます。男169kg・女50kgの餅をかつぎ、歩いた距離を競います。見物する方も思わず力が入る名物行事です。

日時: 1月17日(日)
場所: 大山寺、板野郡上板町
入場料: 無量!
問合せ: 大山寺まで
 電話 088-694-5525

All Shikoku Snowball Fight

It may be too late to join, but why not come and cheer on the teams of the Shikoku International Snowball Fight. This competition, held as a sport with strict rules on snowball fighting, is the deciding match for the Shikoku representative in the national competition!

When: Saturday, January 30, and Sunday, January 31
 9:00-17:00
Where: The grounds of the Iyashi no Onsen-kyo in the Iya Valley.
Cost: Free!
Info: Call the Miyoshi City Tourism Division at
 0883-72-7620

国際雪合戦 四国大会

大人から子供まで、雪があれば誰でも雪合戦をやったことがあると思います。この雪合戦は、日本雪合戦連盟公認の大会で公式ルールに則りスポーツとして開催しています。このため、北海道で開催している昭和新山国際雪合戦の四国ブロック予選も兼ねています。

日時: 1月30日(土)、1月31日(日)、9:00-17:00
場所: いやしの温泉郷グランド
入場料: 無量!
問合せ: 三好市観光課まで
 電話 0883-72-7620

Counselling Service at TOPIA トピアの相談窓口

TOPIA offers a counselling and advisory service to all foreign residents to help with issues involving accidents, working conditions, housing, visas, international marriage, and more. Counselling is available in English and Japanese. Please note that although every effort will be made, we may not be able to deal with all cases.

Monday to Friday, 10:00 - 16:30
Tel. 088-656-3303 or 088-656-3320 (allows three-way conversations with an interpreter)

人権守って輝く明日