awa life



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

August 2009 No. 229

anxiety of the past; courage of the present

by james salvona

ood day, everyone. Even putting aside the fact that this is in Japanese, as this is the first speech I've ever given, I'm very nervous. That said, I consider this kind of experience to be very important and valuable. The Me of two years ago really couldn't have done this sort of thing.

Two years ago, when I was accepted as an ALT to the JET Programme, I had wanted to live in Japan for the longest time. However, much to my frustration, as the departure date approached I began to feel unwell, and even suffered from breathing difficulties.

The truth is, even before I started to feel this way, I had some anxieties about going to Japan. Would I be able to find anything I could eat? Would I be able to make friends? Would I be able to communicate? Would I get homesick? Would they make me do karaoke? On top of all of that, since I'd



james salvona won the first prize at this years japanese speech contest, organized by topia.

never had experience teaching English, this became my number one concern. When I went to the doctor, I was told that these various worries were causing stress, which was manifesting as physical symptoms.

At that moment, I became aware of how much I was worrying about bridges I was still far from crossing. My anxiety had almost stopped me from going to Japan. Not wanting to lose this long-awaited chance, I remembered my reasons for wanting to go in the first place, and hardened my resolve. The evidence of that is standing on this stage.

Anyway, to enter this speech contest, first you must write an application form. Here, I encountered a somewhat unusual problem. I wasn't quite sure what to put in the 'nationality' box. In the speech contest pamphlet, my nationality appears as「グレー トブリテン及び北アイルラン ド連合王国」([gureeto buriten oyobi kita airurando rengou oukoku] - a direct translation into Japanese of The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), a country that came about by the union of four independent countries. Has anyone heard this ridiculously long name before?

By the bye, on my alien

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inside awa life this month

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awalife

is a monthly publication of the Tokushima Prefectural International Exchange Association (TOPIA).

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from the editor

irst off all, I apologize for the delay of this issue. Again. But here it is, here is August. Waited so long for this one. A lot happens every year in August. Only a few examples: When you read this, 34 new ALTs (Assistent Language Teacher) have found their way via the JET programme into Tokushima. They will teach English in Junior- and Senior Highschools from this month on for at least one year. Many of them haven't come to Japan yet and need maybe our help. If you see a lost boy or girl in his/her twenties, then please be so kind and of assistance. Thank you.

When I arrive in the morning at the Prefectural Government office I hear the cicades. They are very loud but at the same time I feel warmth. I really like summer and the heat and the cicades.

The blue sky, the Awa Odori and so on. So much good things in summer. Well, when I write these lines, the rainy season had a comeback and I had to sacrifice my shoes again. I hope we have at least no rain for the Awa Odori period from August 12 to 15. It is one of the best events in the whole year and also my first big event since coming to Tokushima already two years ago. Where does the time go? What have I achieved? How long will I stay in Tokushima? Well, at least one more year!

I'll try to put more effort in stopping idling, not using the elevator at home (only five floors, puh!) and using my hashi (chopsticks) more often (like in every time). Please help to save the planet too! Have a nice time!

Danke, Mario





cloudy mountains (photo by mario dammann)



anxiety of the past; courage of the present ... con't from page 1

registration card, it has my nationality as 「英国」(eikoku). However, if you put 'eikoku' or the far more commonly heard 'igirisu' into the dictionary, the first word that comes out is 'England'. England, and my own homeland, Scotland, are two of the countries that make up the United Kingdom. I didn't want to write 'eikoku' in the nationality box on the application form, and the reason for that is that these two countries share a strong kind of rivalry, a remnant from the hundreds of years before union when they were enemies.

At the end of the 14th Century, when England's king had taken Scotland's king captive, and then occupied the country, a well-known hero showed himself. His name was William Wallace. He united the people, led them to victory against the English forces several times, and was given the title of "Guardian of Scotland", but he was eventually captured by English forces and put to death. However, Wallace's actions contributed towards Scotland's later success in regaining independence. In that atmosphere of fear and uncertainty, Wallace fought bravely against a superior foe. Wallace was able to change anxiety into courage.

That said, there is another reason I brought up the subject of Wallace. To explain, one of Wallace's descendents is someone who played an important part in Japanese history. That person is someone you are all familiar with – Commodore Perry of the Black Ships.

As you know, Japan had been in a state of self-imposed「鎖 国」(sakoku - closed country) for two hundred years. In other words, relations with other countries were almost non-existent. Under those circumstances, all of a sudden, the foreigner Perry appeared leading his fleet of black ships into Uraga Bay. I'm sure that the anxiety and fear of the people who were there on that day is something we cannot imagine. As a result of this "Black Ships Incident", the country later underwent the Meiji Revolution, and the people had to overcome countless hardships and their fear of the unknown. These people were able to change anxiety into courage.

Though the era has changed, I think courage is still found in the same kind of way. When I look back at myself before I came here, I can hardly believe that that's me. After overcoming the obstacle of making it here, new challenges presented themselves one after another. When the school term started I had to introduce myself in front of all the staff and students at both of my schools. As a result of studying Japanese, I became able to face the simple challenges of everyday life. Making phone calls to get parcels redelivered or to ask for a taxi became simple affairs, and even if I got sick, I became able to explain what was wrong with me without help. Unexpectedly, I also lost some of my fear of being up in front of people, I came to like karaoke, and eventually I took a main role in the AJET musical.

My long-held fear of teaching also dissipated over time. Students stopped being the objects of my fear, and I began to really enjoy talking with them:

S:「先生、日本語しゃべるんすか」(Do you speak Japanese?)

J: 「ぜんぜんしゃべれん」(No, not at all.)

S:「へぇーさっきしゃべんりょったでえ」(What? But didn't you just speak it a second ago?)

J:「気のせい, 気のせい」(It's just your imagination.)

What I've come to understand is that courage isn't something that forever flows freely; it is a thing born from anxiety and fear. Like the people in the times of Wallace and Perry, courage shows itself when you look a problem in the face and choose to take it on

The process of changing anxiety to fear is like crossing the border of a country. That I have the confidence to appear in this speech contest is due to me taking that first step of boarding the flight to Japan two years ago. It is because I was able to chase the anxiety from various nerve-wracking experience, and pull out courage when I needed it, that the 'me' of now exists.

To conclude, I would like to say to anyone here today who is nervous about taking any big steps, to see if you can't pull a little courage out of the bag. I'm certain that a new world can open up for you, too

Thank you for listening.





deep bizan - top 5

by lance kita

ou've stepped out of Tokushima Station and gazed at Mt. Bizan and its ropeway a hundred times. Been there, done that? Walk with me along the base of Tokushima City's central mountain as I divulge the Top 5 amusing, historic, and surprising "Deep Bizan" spots.

Spot 1: Anamorphic Art

Follow the road from Tokushima-Eki past the Sogo department store, and onto the Shinmachi 新 町 Bridge. Look for this strange dancer on the walkway:



Doesn't make much sense until you view it through the mirrored pillar nearby. This is an example of anamorphic art, which Wikipedia defines as "a distorted projection or perspective requiring the viewer to use special devices or occupy a specific vantage point to reconstitute the image." Keep your eyes peeled for other Awa Odori motifs scattered throughout this area.

Spot 2: Holy Cow!

The Tenjin Shrine, on the left side of the Awa Odori Kaikan, is named after the Shinto god of scholarship. This kami 神 is the deification of the angry spirit of Sugawara no Michizane, a learned Fujiwara

noble backstabbed and exiled to Kyushu by a rival clan



member in the 9th century. Today, you can pray for success in school and entrance exams at this shrine and other Tenmangu 天満宮 shrines across the country, but one statue unique to this location is Chie no Ushi 知恵の牛, "Bull of Wisdom." Given the moniker by native essayist Setouchi Jakuchi, the priest says that the more you touch this stone cow, the wiser you will be, and that's ... uh... no bull.

Spot 3: A Grave Matter

Bizan's base is the home of Teramachi 寺 町, a large concentration of temples and shrines. Step into the small cemetery on the right side of the Kaikan, and follow the signpost arrows to the grave of Wenceslau de Moraes, a Portuguese consul in Kobe during the Meiji Period.

Like his contemporary, Japanophile expat Lafcadio Hearn, Moraes also wrote extensively about daily life in Japan and contributed much Europe's fascination with Nippon. Upon the death of his wife, O-yone, he quit his job spent the rest of his days in her birthplace Tokushima, with his wife's niece, Ko-haru before dying of illness in 1929. All three lie side by

side in eternal rest. The more adventurous can visit the Moraes-kan モラエス館 atop Bizan to see photos, writings and personal effects.



Spot 4: Spring Forth

Where do Awa folk get their water? The abundant rivers come to mind first, but several fresh springs flow from the bedrock of Mt. Bizan. One is Kinryosui 錦 竜 水, located around the corner from an aging cemetery, probably named because the spring gushed forth like a brocade dragon.



Loved by the lords of Awa, a guard post was established here to protect the water. Today, local residents freely drive up with containers and fill up. NOTE: Signage says that the water should be boiled before drinking, as it has not been filtered or sterilized.

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naruto, germany & a photographer by patrick wagner

ere is a funny thing. Could you imagine living three years in Tokushima and never ever have written any article for Awa Life? And then, the very moment you do, it is going to be your first and at the same time your last contribution to this wonderful newspaper. I know, shame on me. But let me make up for the past time.

Well, first of all you might probably wonder about who is writing this article. That would be me, "the other German JET", Patrick, from the German House in Naruto. Thanks to Jill's article about the German House in Awa Life a couple of editions ago, a lot of you may know already that this is the place of Japanese-German friendship not only in the city of Naruto but also in the whole prefecture of Tokushima. Here you can find a nicely done exhibition about the history of German POWs who came to Japan during World War I. Guiding especially foreign visitors from all over the world through our museum would be one of my tasks. Others are keeping contact to our sister city Lüneburg, welcoming goodwill delegations from overseas, interpreting and translating as well as giving presentations on all kinds of topics related to Germany. Furthermore there is one other possible task I might be asked to do: organizing and taking care of guests individually. And here I can



the journey on the path of time

give you a good example of what that would be like.

On June 9th I picked up an artist/photographer from Germany at the bus stop Highway Naruto. Since that day until July 8th I took care of Mr. Werner Schaarmann from Hamburg, which is accidentally my home town, too. Taking care for a period of around four weeks is an unusually long time, but I had the chance to gain similar work experiences beforehand. What was special this time though, Mr. Schaarmann was not just a guest who gets to see all the sightseeing spots of Naruto (Whirlpools, Otaniyaki pottery, German House etc.) but was seriously interested in the history of the prisoner camp Bando. His intention was to take lots of pictures related to the old camp and the people from those days. By comparing old pictures taken by the prisoners or local people with his own new ones displayed in an

exhibition room inside the German House, he tried to show where the prisoners must have felt at home and where in Naruto you still can find those feelings nowadays. Therefore we visited places like a German bakery, an elementary school, a place for elderly people, the remains of the old camp and the memorial stone and last but not least places the prisoners used for their excursions outside the camp. While visiting the last mentioned excursion places, I got an idea of how creating a kind of flashback scenario. Since Mr. Schaarmann wanted to convey the feeling which with the old POWs must have had lived here to people from these days, I thought it might be interesting to take pictures on which you can see prisoner-like people only in a blurred view; as if someone from today dreamt about the POWs from back then. As location for the picture's background we

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choose a path on the Oasa mountain, where former prisoners used to walk on. To create this vivid appearing "flashback" some foreign fake prisoners were needed. Or in other words just some foreigners willing enough to realize my idea. That was the time to call Mario and Andrew and thankfully both agreed to help out. Thanks again guys!

After climbing the mountain for around 10 to 12 minutes, we reached the old path. Since we went on a quite hot day in the middle of the rainy season the air was humid and everyone already sweaty before the shooting began. Mr. Schaarmann chose the right place and immediately our little "journey through time" began. To create a blurred view on the pictures we went inside a little bit more shady place, Mr. Schaarmann changed his shutter speed to a much longer time than needed and the three of us had to run several times up and down the path.

Fortunately we did not meet any of the venomous



patrick, mario, andrew and chie

snake called "mamushi" on our way through the hills. Mr. Schaarmann was eager to find one, but was not successful. A couple of days later he told me of a mamushi-bite case in which the bitten person died. This however is a rare case I have been told. Well, but I guess sometimes it is not the worst thing not to be successful, right?

Anyway, the shooting itself was successful and we all had a nice time playing soldiers. By doing this we not only followed the footsteps of the former POWs, but also tried to contribute something for the international exchange of the city of Naruto.

At the end of July I am leaving Naruto. Something I have not fully realized yet

and that creates a kind of sad farewell feeling. Thanks to my last task though I got the chance to see a lot of the places I used to guide visitors to or I went to for work. I met a lot of people again who supported me during the whole time in Naruto and I had fun with friends. In other words, it was a very good ending for the time as a JET in Naruto.

With great thanks for all the support. Take care and enjoy Tokushima at its best. Patrick

PS: From August on my successor Anja will start her work as CIR at the German House, so please give her a warm welcome and enjoy your time together with her in Tokushima.

tv schedule for august

submitted

Date	Time	Channel	Nation	Title
Sun. 02	21:00	6 - ABC	Germany - 2006	Tornado - Der Zorn des Himmels
Thu. 06	01:55	8 - Kansai	England - 1998	The Wisdom of Crocodiles
Fri. 07	21:00	1 - Shikoku	USA - 2006	Night at the Museum
Sun. 09	21:00	6 - ABC	France - 2002	Le Transporteur
Thu. 13	01:55	8 - Kansai	USA - NZ - 2006	Rise: Blood Hunter
Sat. 15	21:00	8 - Kansai	USA - 2006	Letters from Iwo Jima
Sun. 16	21:00	6 - ABC	France - 2005	Le Transporteur 2
Fri. 28	02:10	4 - Mainichi	USA - 2006	Flight 93
Sat. 29	21:00	8 - Kansai	USA - 2002 Star V	Vars: Episode II - Attack of the Clones



martin's manga corner

Title: Billy Bat (ビリーバット)

Manga-ka: Naoki Urasawa Publisher: Kodansha First published: 2009

No of volumes: 1

he expression déjà-vu is one we are all familiar with. Isn't it funny how there doesn't seem to be an equivalent English expression; that we have to borrow from the French? It is used to convey the uncanny feeling of having already experienced something before, yet being unable to understand exactly how or when this might have been possible. In this month's manga adventure, déjà-vu is something that the protagonist of the story and those that he encounters just can't seem to shake.

Kevin Yamagata is a Japanese-American cartoonist working in the post war American comic book industry. He is the author of the popular Billy Bat comic book series, Billy Bat is one of those stories where the characters are animal like characters that behave and interact as if they were humans. As we might expect Billy Bat is a bat and he solves murder cases while involving himself in romantic liaisons.

All is going well for Yamagata in his chosen career, until he gets a chance visit from two cops who want to use his apartment as a stakeout location. One of them glances at Yamagata's comic book work in progress and observes that he has seen the character before when he was in Japan. This totally perplexes

Yamagata as he effectively has to contend with the fact that he might not be the original creator of the character. Having never been in Japan, he is left to wonder how he might have been inspired to come up with the character in the first place. Disillusioned with everything, Yamagata sets off to occupied Japan where he finds work as an interpreter at Army GHQ in Tokvo. He soon tracks down information on a manga artist who is seemingly responsible for the bat character but soon after meeting him, he manages by chance to come across an image of a bat character that is similar to his Billy Bat character in an old manuscript written before he was born. His friend Charlie another Nikkei interpreter helps him to find it, while also informing him that the US forces are also looking for the same manuscript. Charlie also takes the opportunity to try and blackmail Kevin, threatening to destroy his career as a manga artist of repute. Charlie informs him of his sordid plans in a Yakiniku bar where the two have been drinking heavily. The combined effect of Charlie's threat and the alcohol cause Yamagata to pass out. In the midst of this the narrative cuts to a bizarre comic strip of Billy Bat seemingly a dream of Yamagata's. When he wakes up however, Charlie is dead from a serious stab wound.

by martin o'brien

When he comes round the owner informs him that Kevin stabbed him with a kitchen knife while they were fighting. Although he has no recollection of murdering Charlie, he can think of no other possibility as to his own involvement. The yakiniku shop owner and a friend discuss the situation, and decide that they don't want to have to deal with the military authorities so along with Kevin, they dump the body on a set of nearby train tracks and run away.

Things now go from the bizarre to the surreal for Kevin, as he wanders away from the world scene emotionally distraught only to see a drawing of the bat character on a concrete pillar. By the time he gets back to GHQ, he bumps into the man who helped him dump the body. Worried that he will be implicated in the murder case, he manages to run away and hide and thus ends the first volume of the Billy Bat manga series.

The story is somewhat perplexing; one can only ponder as to how all the pieces fit together. It reminds me of the television series in that respect. We can presume that there is a possibility that the protagonist has possibly confused the narrative of that of a fictional detective with that of his own life. There are small hints throughout that he is something of the unreliable narrator. Regardless of the fact, we will have to wait and see as Urasawa hasn't released the second volume to date.





deep bizan ... con't from page 4

Spot 5: Sweet Story

When Tokushima Castle was completed, it's said that Lord Hachisuka asked the townspeople to dance, and so was born Awa Odori. He also asked for sweets to be created, and one literally got the chrysanthemum stamp of approval. Yakimochi 焼き餅 in Tokushima is a paste of rice flour wrapped around a ball of bean paste, and pressed

flat on a hot griddle with the aforementioned floral design. One nostalgic shop, Yone-ya よねや, sits on the grounds of Kasuga Shrine 春 日 神社. Mr. Yonega's father started the shop amid the post-WWII ruins of the city. Though not the oldest or the most respected (rather than capitalize on his carpentry skills in post-war reconstruction, his father got

lazy and chose sweetmaking, a "women's profession"), the shop has made a living on a single product for the last 60 years and hasn't changed the way it grills yakimochi. Time stands still as this brother-sister team flips the cakes as their father did over a half-century ago.

"Deep Bizan" doesn't stop at these five. The "Shinmachi River Aquarium," prehistoric seaweed, and ivy-covered coffee houses lay hidden here as well. Rediscovering a familiar neighborhood requires just a spare afternoon, walking legs, and an open mind. I encourage you to step out and take a fresh look at an old area. Who knows what you might uncover?



letter from suketo hoikuen

ecently we raise here in the nursery school, eleven kinds of baby butterflies and other animals like a rabbit, turtle, killifish, rhinoceros beetle etc. The other day our turtle laid eggs, and the kids had great joy! While the kids are looking after them, they can see the baby turtles growing up and enjoy the change.

Through Neuroscience we learned that emotions (the 'heart' of a person) take form until the age of five, especially

the environment until the age of ten is very important. In other words, to cultivate emotions it is essentiell to confront children with nature and animals (like mammals or birds). We at Suketo Hoikuen learn the value, vanity and appriciation of life.

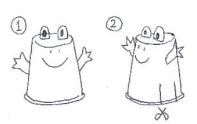
Tokushima's summer season has many events, fireworks, playing in the water, Awa Odori etc. Did you try them all? Don't lose against the summer and enjoy the short time healthy. by kazue inoue suketo hoikuen staff

This Month's Toy

- 1: Use two paper cups. Draw a frog's face on one and put hands on it. The other one is good enough as it is for a jump platform.
- 2: Cut two lines on each side of the frog cup.
- 3: Turn over a rubber band and adjust it to the cuttings. Then tape it strongly.

How to play:

Push the frog onto the Jump platform and release it at once, then it will jump!













japanese lesson

by toshiko yamamizo

ave your homework ready until summer holidays are over. I am in Tokushima until the end of summer holidays." the teacher said to you. Can you do it in time? Can you understand the difference between 「終わるまでに」 and 「終わるまで」?

までに

to deliver the homework (action or event) time limit

time minit

displays a time limit to a performed action or event

まで

to be in Tokushima (situation)

displays the end of a continuing situation or action

final point in time

end of summer holidays

end of summer holidays

Practice:

Please fit 「までに」or 「まで」into the following six sentences.

1、 彼が来る までに ここで待っています。 まで

2、 会議が始まる までに コピーをしておかなければなりません。 まで

3、 30 歳になる までに 結婚したいと思います。 まで

4、 試験に合格する までに いっしょうけんめい勉強します。 まで

5、 肉がやわらかくなる までに 中火で煮ます。 まで

6、 友達が家に来る までに ^{ネッセ} 部屋をきれいに掃除しておきます。 まで

Answers:

72 4 '9 2 4 '9 2 4 '7 32 4 '8 32 4 '1





memoranda

Tokushima Prefecture Disaster Prevention Center Study Tour

Japan is an area prone to typhoons, heavy rain and other natural disasters. If a disaster occurs, it is important to act correctly. What would you do if an earthquake or a typhoon struck?

Tokushima Prefecture Government, in conjunction with the Tokushima Prefecture International Exchange Association (TOPIA) is proud to announce a study tour for foreign residents at the Tokushima Prefecture Disaster Center to provide information on what to do in case of a natural disaster.

During the tour you can experience earthquakes, strong winds and more via simulation, as well as learn about what to do when a disaster occurs.

Date: Sunday, September 27, 9:30-13:00

9:30 - Leave Tokushima Station by bus for the center

13:00 - Arrive at Tokushima Station by bus

Location: Tokushima Prefecture Disaster Center (Kitajima-town, Tainohama Aza Onishi 165)

Target: Foreign Residents in Tokushima Prefecture

Details: Disaster prevention guidance via video, simulation of strong winds / earthquakes,

fire fighting and disaster control exercises (English and Chinese Interpreting)

No. Places: 30 people Cost: Free

Applications: Please fill out the below and send in by fax to the address at the bottom of the form.

You can also apply by sending the same information by email or postcard.

Deadline: Friday, September 18

Name			Gender	М	F
Address					
Tel		Nationali	ty		
E-Mail Address			•		
Occupation					
Workplace Address					
Japanese Level	1. Daily-use	2. Greeti	2. Greetings		3. None

Applications to:

FAX: Tokushima-ken Kokusai Koryukyokai FAX: 088-652-0616

Email: coordinator1@topia.ne.jp

Tokushima-ken Kokusai Koryukyokai (TOPIA)

Contact: TOPIA (Murasawa) TEL: 088-656-3303



memoranda

Shosan temple (#12) Buddhist memorial service

With the traditional Shosan temple dance, a Karaoke contest, local folk entertainment, Awa Odori and fireworks with appr. 50 shots!

When: August 30

Where: Myozai-gun, Kamiyama-cho, Shimobun, Shosan

Temple (No. 12)

Cost: Free!

Info: Call the Shosan temple at 088-677-0112

焼山寺おこもり法要

焼山寺に伝わる焼山寺踊り、また、カラオケ大会・郷土 芸能・阿波踊り・花火約 50 発が行われます。

日時: 8月30日

場所: 名西郡神山町下分字地中 12番札所焼山寺

道の駅「温泉の里 神山」から 12km

入場料: 無料

間合せ: 焼山寺まで電話 088-677-0112

Yasujiro Ozu's Special Masterpieces

The Awagin Hall presents Yasujiro Ozu's masterpieces. This maestro lets us see relationships in families in his peaceful productions. See four movies for 500 Yen!

10:00 - 12:05 Early Summer (1951 - 125min)
12:45 - 15:00 Tokyo Story (1953 - 136min)
15:10 - 17:10 Equinox Flower (1958 - 118min)
17:20 - 19:15 An Autumn Afternoon (1962 - 113min)

When: Saturday, August 29 and Sunday, August 30

Where: Awagin Hall (Kyodo Bunka Hall) 1FCost: 500 Yen a day (for all 4 movies)Info: Call the Awagin Hall at 088-622-8121

小津安二郎 特別名作映画会

今や世界の映画史に大書される巨匠となった小津安二郎 監督が、親と子の関係を 静かに見つめた珠玉の作品を紹 介します:

10:00 ~ 12:05 麦秋 (1951 年・小津安二郎・松竹) 12:45 ~ 15:00 東京物語 (1953 年・小津安二郎・松竹) 15:10 ~ 17:10 彼岸花 (1958 年・小津安二郎・松竹) 17:20 ~ 19:15 秋刀魚の味 (1962 年・小津安二郎・松竹)

※当日、ホワイエにて小津安二郎監督作品のポスター展を開催します。

日時: 8月29日(土)·30日(日)

場所: あわぎんホール (徳島県郷土文化会館) 観賞料: 500 円 /1 日 (4 作品全て鑑賞できます) 問合せ: あわぎんホールまで電話 088-622-8121

Japanese Lessons at Suketo Hoikuen

When: Every Thursday

11:00 - 12:00

Cost: Free for nursery students. **Contact:** 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



memoranda

Tatsue Hachiman Autumn Festival

On Saturday, September 19, from 6:30pm, the Gion Bayashi, a traditional Japanese orchestra will be presented. Later, at 8:30pm a fireworks display will be shown. Also because of the rare Fukutsudzu fireworks, this festival is a must go! On the second day also a performance of the Gion Bayashi orchestra will be held.

When: Saturday, September 19 to Sunday, Sep. 20 **Where:** Komatsushima, Tatsue cho, Aza Aomori

Tatsue Hachiman Shrine

- A five to ten minute walk from Tatsue Station or Awa Akaishi Station on the Mugi Line

- A three minute walk from Akaishi bus station

on the Komatsushima city bus line

Cost: Free!

Info: Call the Komatsushima City Industry Promotion

Division at 0885-32-3809

Yuki Goods Market "Ise Ebi Market"

The king of food, the "Ise Shrimp" presents fresh fish of the season at a special price. Watch local art and get in touch with fresh caught fish in a special pool. Enjoy the autumn of the harbour town!

When: Sunday, September 27, from 9:00 - 13:00 **Where:** Kaifu-gun Minami-cho, Nishi no Chi

In front of JR Yuki station

Cost: Free!

Info: Call the Yuki Commerce and Industry Association

at 088-637-3120.

立江八幡神社秋季例大祭

9月19日(土)には、午後6時30分から江戸時代より伝わる祇園囃子が奉納されます。また午後8時30分より、伝統の花火大会が行なわれます。約800発もの打ち上げ花火や県内でも珍しい吹筒花火は、祭りの注目するところです。翌日の20日(日)にも午後1時から祇園囃子が奉納されます。

日時: 9月19日(土)~20日(日)

場所: 小松島市立江町字青森 立江八幡神社

・JR 牟岐線「立江駅」または「阿波赤石駅」

下車→徒歩 5 ~ 10 分

・小松島市営バス「赤石」下車→徒歩2~3分

・徳島市→国道 55 号線を 12km

入場料: 無料

間合せ: 小松島市産業振興課まで電話 0885-32-3809

由岐産直市 「伊勢えびの市」

食の王様「伊勢えび」漁の解禁に合わせた、旬の捕れたて 新鮮な伊勢えびを市価より低価格でご提供致します。海石・ 貝がらアート・由岐沖近海で捕れた魚たちとのふれあいプー ルなど、秋の港町を味わってください。

日時: 9月27日(日)9:00~13:00 **場所:** 海部郡美波町西の地 JR 由岐駅前

入場料: 無料!

間合せ: 由岐商工会まで電話 0884-78-0249

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)

受け止めていますか人権の重み