
awa life



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

December 2009 No. 233

shopping for o-shogatsu

by lance kita

While Europe and North America gear up for Christmas, Japanese put more effort preparing for the New Year, or **O-Shogatsu** お正月. **O-Shogatsu** is rooted in the Buddhist and Shinto traditions for cleansing oneself of the old year's baggage and ushering in the spirit of the new year. This chore and shopping list reflects the symbolism and significance of the season.



shimenawa (twisted straw ropes with decorations) await purchase at a new year's market in tokushima city

Post Office

You'll need over a hundred **nengajo** 年賀状, or New Year postcards, for your relatives, co-workers, close friends, recent acquaintances, and anyone who you're indebted to this year. The post office sells pre-decorated and pre-stamped ones, and thanks to specialized printers and design software, you can even print your own or make address labels. Typical greetings include **Akemashite Omedeto Gozaimasu** あけ

ましておめでとうございます, **Kinga Shinnen** 謹賀新年, and **Gashou** 賀正. Drop them off in a special slot during the second half of December, and they'll get to everyone on the morning of January 1st. (Please also check page 4 of this issue for even more details for your **nengajo**.)

Home Center

Time for **O-souji** 大掃除, the

big year-end cleaning. It's important to get the house spic and span, so the god of the new year feels welcomed in. Yep, "spring cleaning" happens in winter. Even your company or school will spend an entire day scrubbing, washing, and polishing. On December 13th, many temples perform **susuharai** 煤払い where the Buddhist statues get their

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inside awa life this month

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awalife

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www.topia.ne.jp/e_index.htm

from the editor

december 2009. Another year is over in just a little bit more. What have I done? Did I accomplish anything? Did my Japanese get better? Did I use my chopsticks every day? Could I save the planet? Well, at least I didn't destroy it.

Still every morning I see several cars parking in the streets. People sitting, sleeping, reading, playing with their cellphone, etc. and they must do this in their cars. Would I do the same thing in my car? I don't think so. It is just a waste of gasolin and therefore a waste of money, not to mention the air pollution. For me as a German it is a mystery how people can do this. Anyway, enough rant for this year.

Why not enjoy the last days and head out for some christmas illumination, or have fun

drawing your very own original **nengajo** New Year's card, or to learn a few words of German Japanese? About these themes and more, you can find out in the last issue of Awa Life 2009.

As a special bonus for you, here is my Top List of New Year's Resolution 2010:

1. Use My Hashi more.
2. Stop idling my car.
3. Brush up Topia's library.
4. Go into the nature more often.
5. Eat better and healthier.

What are your resolutions? Well, a few more days left to save the planet this year. I am looking forward to saving it again next year!

Danke! Mario



a view to the o-naruto bridge

wander-ful tabi - journey through joruri ... con't from page 1

annual dusting.

Sweets shop

Order a set of **kagami-mochi** 鏡餅, two round "mirror-shaped" rice cakes. The smaller one sits on the larger one, topped with a bitter orange, and accompanied by accessories like leaves, dried persimmons, paper strips, or even cuttlefish. Mochi is a traditional offering to the gods, and the round shape is said to be reminiscent of the mirror of Amaterasu, the sun goddess of Shinto belief. Mochi also stretches and doesn't break easily when eaten, expressing the hope for a long unbroken life. The orange's name **daidai** 橙 also can mean "generation after generation" 代々, suggesting longevity. Symbolic wordplay factors into a lot of Japan's new year traditions. Order some extra mochi for **O-zouni** お雑煮, a soup eaten on the first day. The **kagami-mochi** gets cracked open on January 11th.

Ichiba (local market)

You'll need a few other decorations for your house. A **kadomatsu** 門松, bundled pine and bamboo, sits at the front door as the arrival vessel for the new year god. A rice straw rope with paper strips, or **shimenawa** 注連縄, hung above the door expresses the purity of the freshly-cleaned house. Businesses will often purchase **kumade** 熊手, a bamboo rake decorated with fruits, lucky symbols and a lobster, to "rake in" the profits next year. Though available at most big-box retailers, buy a handmade one at your



plain shimenawa (twisted straw ropes) await decoration before going on sale at a new year's market in tokushima city

neighborhood market and savor the atmosphere of your local year-end bustle.

Supermarket

Once the new year begins, all work stops. That includes cooking, so stacked lacquer boxes are packed with boiled seafood, stewed vegetables, and other victuals to last the three days. All foods have some fortuitous meaning. Herring roe is called **kazunoko** 数の子, "numbers of children," a reference to fertility. **Konbu** seaweed sound like **yorokobu**, to rejoice. Sweet black beans, or **kuromame**, play off the proverbs **mame ni hataraku** (work hard) and **mame ni kurasu** (live healthy). Mashed chestnuts, **kurikinton** 栗金団, resembles lumps of gold to invite wealth. Most families are too busy to cook nowadays, so supermarkets and department stores offer **Osechi ryouri** 御節料理 sets to pre-order.

Living Room, Dec. 31st

The cards are mailed, your

house is clean, the decorations are up, and the **Osechi ryouri** sits in the fridge. Flip the channel to NHK's Red and White Song Contest, or opt for K-1 mixed martial arts or comedy variety programs. At midnight, ring in the new year... solemnly as temples toll their bronze bell 108 times for the 108 Buddhist sins of humanity. You've completed your journey to the new year... see you in 2010 with more travel columns! 良いお年を!



shoppers pick up fishcake and other foods for osechi ryouri cooking at a local market in tokushima city



how to write nengajo

submitted

There are lots of different ways to wish someone a Happy New Year in Japanese. Aside from the above, you could also write 去年はお世話になりました。今年もよろしくお願いたします。(kyonen wa osewa ni narimashita. kotoshi mo yoroshiku onegai itashimasu - Thanks for all your help in the past year. I'm depending on you again this year). Don't forget to include the date - January 1st has its own special kanji: 元旦 - gantan.

The custom of sending nengajo as a new year's card was invented in the 8th century, when the aristocrats and nobles started to wish a good New Year to each other.

In the 9th century however, this custom spread and so they wanted to greet even their friends in other parts of the country to wish them a good New Year, so they started to write New Year letters.

It became famous over the years until more people, even the ordinary folk did this. From the Edo Period on, express mailmen were used to transport the letters so that they would arrive on the first day of the new year. In the year 1871, when the post system was invented, there weren't so many letters yet to send out.

But only two years later, the post started to simplify the nengajo so that everyone could afford them and

that their use would be easier: they introduced the nengajo postcard.

The custom rapidly spread until approximately 1887, when it became a general custom to send out nengajo to friends and family. And in 1899 the post started officially the nenga-system (send in the card in the old year, and it arrives on January first). Last year over 3,640,000,000 cards were send (over 28 per person), so you can imagine how important this custom has become here in Japan. Why not get started today and bring a little New Year's cheer to some people you know at home or in your workplace?



<p>① <small>きって</small> 切手 Kitte / stamp</p> <p>The nengajo sold by the post office already have a stamp printed on them. If you make your own, you'll have to buy a 50 yen stamp to put on it. There are some with special New Year's designs that include otoshidama lottery numbers.</p>	<p>郵便はがき 7700831</p> <p>② 年賀</p> <p>徳島県徳島市寺島本町西1の61 クレメント・プラザ6階</p> <p>山田太郎様</p> <p>put your address and your name here</p> <p>③ A7777組 お年玉 77777</p>	<p>⑥</p> <p>寅</p> <p>あけましておめでとう ございます</p> <p>元旦</p>	
<p>② <small>ねんが</small> 年賀 Nenga / New Year's Card</p> <p>This will let the postman know to post your card on January 1st.</p>	<p>③ <small>としだま</small> お年玉 Otoshidama / New Year's Gift</p> <p>The otoshidama lottery is held on January 24th next year - check your numbers at the post office to see if you won a prize!</p>	<p>④ The address is written on the right hand side, starting with the prefecture, then the city, getting smaller until the apartment number is at the end.</p> <p>⑤ When you address your nengajo, make sure you write the honourific様 (sama) at the end of the recipient's name, but be careful not to write it at the end of your own!</p>	<p>⑥ <small>寅</small> tora / tiger</p> <p>People usually decorate their cards with an illustration of the Chinese Zodiac animal for the coming year, or the kanji for that zodiac animal. There are no hard and fast rules, though, making it the perfect opportunity for you to express your creativity!</p>

kair 2009 - final exhibition

by **claire tanaka**

Once again this year from November 3 to the 8th, the final exhibition for the Kamiyama Artist in Residence program was held in Kamiyama. This year was particularly diverse, with five artists displaying work in the final exhibition.

Cameron Hockenson

The Abduction of Kaguya-hime; Untitled; Hazard Cairn: No Parking; Wara. Yama. Gawa

Cameron constructed several temporary installations around Kamiyama using local materials such as bamboo and rice straw (wara). For his sculpture entitled **Hazard Cairn: No Parking** which he built in the Kaizen Center parking lot out of the chunks of asphalt that were discarded when the parking lot was resurfaced. His one permanent work pictured here, **Untitled**, is located in a field in Okubo and is made of local cedar. The wood is unfinished and is expected to gradually fade in color until it is a soft gray, blending in with the landscape.



cameron hockenson's 'untitled' (photo by keizo konishi)



camera yamanaka's 'kamiyama sudachi ondo' (photo by keizo konishi)

Camera Yamanaka

Bon Dance / Kamiyama Sudachi Ondo

Camera Yamanaka spent his residency creating music, lyrics, and choreography for an event which was held on the night of November 3 in the Shimobun Elementary School grounds. He did everything with input from the local people, crafting a truly Kamiyama experience. The result was a bon dance festival entitled **Kamiyama Sudachi**



hajime mizutani's 'jisho' (photo by keizo konishi)

Ondo which featured lyrics about sudachi and the green valley of Kamiyama, and the dance also featured symbolic movements representing uniquely Kamiyama things. This new dance was also performed at the KAIR 2009 Sayonara Party. Could it become a regular new tradition

for the Kamiyama people?

Hajime Mizutani

Jisho (event)

Hajime Mizutani took on the gargantuan task of filling in an enormous 352cm square piece of paper with pencil strokes of approximately 1cm in length. By applying varying pressure

kair 2009 - final exhibition ... con't on page 6

kair 2009 - final exhibition ... con't from page 5

and using a variety of pencil grades, Mizutani created a work with exceptional depth of texture despite the limited materials used.

Svetlana Gabova

Poem About Japan

Svetlana's series of small paintings depicting the small interesting things she encountered in Kamiyama are a surprising contrast to the landscapes she has painted for most of her career. She said the experience of being in a new and unusual place caused her to focus on details instead of taking in the whole picture. The result is a charming series of images.



svetlana gabova's 'poem about japan' (photo by keizo konishi)




adam avikainen's 'typhoon curry' (photo by kimio kawano)

Adam Avikainen

Typhoon Curry; Tectonic Lasagna

Adam made an image on each side of a series of fusuma-e and each picture depicts a recipe from a cookbook he is writing.


The names of the recipes are taken from two life-threatening incidents that happened to Adam in the past year: a typhoon in Kamiyama that flooded the river next to his home, and an earthquake near Rome that he experienced during his stay there in the spring. More info: www.in-kamiyama.jp/en/art/ 

loanwords in japanese - part 2

by anja hankel

As christmas time moves closer, let's have a look at some more food related German loan words. For example, the word Stollen シュトレン **shutore**n is a traditional German cake, usually eaten during the Christmas season. It is a loaf shaped fruitcake, powdered with icing sugar on the outside and usually made with chopped candied fruit and/or dried fruit, nuts and spices.

Other German words which are now well known in Japanese are e.g. Sauerkraut ザウアークラウト, ザウアークラウト **zauâkurauto**, **zauakurauto**, Frankfurter フランクフルト, which is actually a town in Germany but today also used to name a world famous sausage. Also the German word Joghurt found its way into Japanese during Showa era and is here known as ヨーグルト **yôguruto**. Kohlrabi (German Turnip) is known as コールラビ **kôrurabi** and also Malz (malt) is used in Japanese as マルツ **marutsu** - of course we know for what.

The German word "Essen", which means "meal" or "to eat" in German, was borrowed from German during the Taisho era when Japan oriented on German medicine. As the scientific language for medicine became German the Japanese started to use a lot of German words in daily medicine related work environment. Although Japanese with medical professions do not have to learn German as the scientific language anymore, the word エッセン **essen** is still used in hospitals to express the term "lunch break". 

martin's manga corner

by martin o'brien

Title:	Gyo (鯨)
Manga-ka:	Junji Ito
Publisher:	Shogakkokan
First published:	2001
No of volumes:	2

gyo by Junji Ito is a rather perfect example of the sci-fi horror manga, where the emphasis is on the horror rather than the technological side. In most contemporary manga, the opposite is the case; that is to say the story tends to revolve around the dark side of technological advancement and the negative implications for humanity. Gyo is a straight up gruesome shock and horror thriller, where the technological aspect only serves to highlight all the gory thrills and spills which are present in this manga in great and imaginative abundance.

The story begins innocently enough when a young couple Tadashi and Kaori travel to a rural part of Okinawa and stay at their uncles house. Plagued by a foul smell at first they are then forced to flee when a series of various forms of fish and other marine life including a shark start coming out of the sea and invading the island in large numbers. The fish are able to do this because of synthetic robotic legs that have attached themselves somehow to the fish. As ridiculous as it sounds Gyo is, at the outset at least a kind of manga "Jaws" with robotic legs. As Okinawa becomes inundated with these bizarre unprecedented beings, they couple are forced to flee Okinawa for the mainland. The problem follows them from


Okinawa, and it isn't long until millions of the fish-bots start to crowd into the crowded urban areas and create a catastrophic break down of law and order.

Tadashi's scientist tries to get to the bottom of the problem and discovers that their origin is as a result of some long abandoned military secret weapons project. After experimenting with some of the captured creatures, he concludes that the omnipresent stench is as a result of some disease that is present in the aquatic host, the resulting gas is what powers the robotic legs that allow the creatures to scurry about on land. The disease is unfortunately transmittable to humans and it isn't long until people begin succumbing in large numbers, whereupon the robotic limbs take over until its not just fish that are walking around but rather bloated gas-emitting cadavers. It makes for some unforgettably disgusting imagery of the human form is its most depraved and de-humanised form one might possible imagine. It has to be said, its worth checking out Gyo for the imagery alone.

Eventually Kaori succumbs and the desolate Tadashi is left to wander around following her in a futile attempt to discover a way that he might be able to save her after his uncles solutions fail when it is discovered that the

disease might be a naturally self replicating bacilli which is primitively intelligent and has managed to construct the mechanical legs from the hulls of sunken battleships. In this regard we are given a glimpse of how the evolutionary success of the disease is dependent on its parasitical relationship with existing lifeforms and how this situation might threaten the survival of humanity. In this sense, the storyline is somewhat unsatisfying as there is no real villain to defeat or conspiracy to uncover, it therefore becomes a convoluted tale of how the main character must deal with the unthinkable on a day to day basis and manage to keep his sanity intact.

Despite its limitations plot wise, there is never really a lack of atmosphere and tension in Gyo. Ito is master at maintaining the suspense throughout and creating in the reader a sinking feeling that what comes around the corner is going to be even more unpalatable that what came before. This sense of terror remains throughout despite the inconsistencies in the plot and the some times ridiculous nature of the actual beings that the manga is about. He succeeds in this area largely through his imaginative drawings of the various form of hybrid fish and mammal life forms. One can only imagine what the whole Gyo concept would look like if it were ever realised on film.

Gyo is presented in two volumes with additional unrelated bonus stories. 

letter from a judoka - part 1

Since performing the partnership between Germany's Niedersachsen state and Tokushima prefecture many exchanges had been held over the past two years. One of these is the sports and youth exchange. In December 2008 and October 2009 each time a group of Judoka came to Tokushima. Here is the daily report from the group of 2009 in a series:

October 6 and 7:

Dear Diary!

In the morning at 6 o'clock on the 6th of October, we all (14 people) met at the Airport of Hannover (capital of Niedersachsen state) to

check in our luggage and to say bye to our parents. Having done that we passed through the security gate and went straight to the airplane. After a short flight in a small french plane we arrived in Paris Airport, where we "enjoyed" our five hour stopover.

We traveled 18 hours (incl. the seven hour time difference) to Osaka. Everyone had a screen to watch movies, listen to the radio or to play games. Tired, we arrived in Osaka Kansai Airport to learn, that a Taifun is coming the next day and we, because of possibly closed bridges, should go immediately with a bus

by vivian h.
member of the judoka group
visit in october 2009

to Tokushima. But before this, we had enough time to bring our luggage to the designated hotel in Osaka, and did some Shopping and Osaka castle sightseeing. Despite the heavy drizzle, we were brave enough to go to the castle. It was very beautiful. At 3 o'clock in the afternoon, a bus from Tokushima picked us up at the appointed hotel. Arriving in Tokushima we had a little time to refresh ourselves in the hotel. Then already was dinner time and we could try delicious Japanese food. Totally tired after the dinner, we only needed to fall into our beds and sleep deeply.

--- End part 1 ---



letter from a judoka - part 2 ... con't in next awalife

letter from suketo hoikuen

by kazue inoue
suketo hoikuen staff

Last month the H1N1 flu also spread very strong through Tokushima and many schools had to close classes and grades. In this time of the year, the seasonal flu has also a comeback. Do not underestimate this situation. Please care especially for your child in this time.

In this issue I will give some points for shoe shopping. The infant's feet change in a grand way. If the infant wears the wrong shoes, it could happen that the arch of the foot doesn't take shape or the toes deform. For healthy feet please keep in mind the following points for choosing the right shoes:

1. If they start walking, they need shoes with enough leisure for the toes.

2. The walking strength of small children is very weak, so you need shoes with tender soles and easy to bend tips.

3. Shoes should be at least 5mm bigger than the size of the feet.

4. They should wrap up the foot perfectly. It is not good to have too big shoes. Everyone has its own wear habits, so don't share sibling's shoes.

This month's toy: A christmas tree.

1. Cut lines into the openings

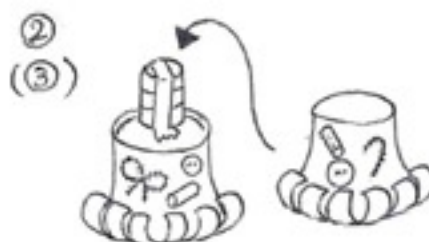
of two cups.

2. Put three PET bottle caps on top of one cup and tape them.

3. Put the other paper cup on top of the cup from No. 2 in a christmas tree shape.

4. Tape stickers and buttons and short cutted straws, whatever small things you have, on it.

If you touch the tree slightly it will swing and shake. However, if you also attach nuts or fruits and put color on the "tree" it becomes even funnier.



Japanese lesson

by akiko tsuji

This month I'd like to introduce an important characteristic of Japanese speech – **aizuchi**. **Aizuchi** are an important way of backing up a speaker's words and showing that you are paying attention to what they say, helping to smooth communication. Take a look at the following conversation.

A: 先週ね。 <small>せんしゅう</small>	Last week
B: ええ。	Yeah?
A: コンピュータを、	I got
B: ええ。	Yeah?
A: 買ったんですよ。 <small>か</small>	a computer.
B: そうですね。	That so?
A: とても安かったんですよ。 <small>やす</small>	It was really cheap.
B: へえ。	I see.
A: 7万円で、 <small>まんえん</small>	Maybe 7 man
B: ええ。	Wow!
A: DVD も	You can see
B: ええ。	Yeah?
A: 見られるんですよ。DVDs on it, too。 <small>み</small>	
B: へえ。	Cool.
A: うれしくてね、	I'm so happy
B: ええ。	Yeah?
A: 1日中使ってますよ。 <small>いちじゅうじゅうつか</small>	I'm using it all day long.
B: よかったですねえ。	Glad to hear it.

As you can see, the two speakers work together to make the conversation flow, with B adding **aizuchi** to the speaker's words. In English it is common for the speaker to finish what they have to say by themselves, but in Japan this can be interpreted as a little abrupt. Some feel that listening silently fails to convey a sense of concentrating on what the speaker is saying, and seems uncomfortable.

Now let's take a look at some of the many **aizuchi** expressions used in Japanese.

①はい／ええ／うん : These three words are used when the listener shows his agreement and also one's superiors.

②そうですねか? / そう? / そうですねか / そう : Saying these words with a rising tone indicates doubt and saying them with

a falling tone indicates agreement.(the examples in the conversation are of a falling tone) 「そう? / そう」 are colloquial expressions of 「そうですねか? / そうですねか」

③へえ : This is used when the speaker is surprised or impressed.

Exercise: Please choose the most appropriate word from the brackets to complete the sentence.

- A: そのコートよく似合ってますね。 That coat really suits you.
B: (ええ / そうですねか? / へえ) ありがとうございます。 Thank you.
- A: 今日の会議の時間ですけど About the time for the meeting today,
B: (いえ / そうですねか / ええ)
A: 3時ですよ。 it's going to be at 3:00, right?
B: そうですね。 That's right, yes.
- A: 今朝は道がすごく込んでいて、20分も遅れましたよ。 The roads were so crowded today that I ended up being 20 minutes late.
B: (ええ / いえ / そうですねか)。それは大変でしたね。 Tough break, huh?
- A: 今年の冬はヨーロッパにスキーに行こうと思っています。 I'm thinking of going to Europe to ski these winter holidays.
B: (ええ / へえ / そうですねか?)。いいですね。うらやましいです
Sounds good – I wish I could go, too.



(1) そうですねか? (2) ええ (3) そうですねか (4) へえ

Answers

memoranda

平成 21 年度 藍住町国際交流協会

日本語指導ボランティア養成講座 受講者募集!

●●● 実践的な日本語の教え方を勉強しませんか ●●●

藍住町国際交流協会では、徳島県の事業として、(財)徳島県国際交流協会(トピア)との協力で「日本語指導ボランティア養成講座」を開催します。

後期：平成 22 年 1 月 23 日～2 月 27 日の間 計 6 回 (合計 24 時間)

- ① 1 月 23 日 (土) 午後 1 時 ～ 5 時 (時間は全回同じ)
- ② 1 月 30 日 (土) ③ 2 月 6 日 (土) ④ 2 月 13 日 (土)
- ⑤ 2 月 20 日 (土) ⑥ 2 月 27 日 (土)

* 「みんなの日本語 II」の教え方を学びます。

場所：藍住町福祉センター 2F (088-692-9951)

内容：初級日本語の教え方

講師：(財)徳島県国際交流協会日本語講師 青木洋子先生

受講料：無料

テキスト：スリーエーネットワーク「みんなの日本語 II」2,500 円をご購入ください。

協会を通じて購入する場合には、お申し込み時にその旨をお書き添えください。

申込締切：平成 22 年 1 月 15 日 (金)

※受講を修了した方は、藍住町国際交流協会日本語教室やトピア日本語教室にボランティアとして参加することもできます。

平成 21 年度 阿南市国際交流協会 日本語指導ボランティア養成講座 受講者募集!

阿南市国際交流協会では、県の事業として (財)徳島県国際交流協会 (トピア) との協力で日本語指導ボランティア養成講座を開催します。

後期：12 月 12 日～2 月 28 日 土曜日 午前 9:30～12:30

* 前期は 11 月で終了しました。

会場：富岡公民館 (阿南市富岡町西池田 135 - 1 TEL 0884-22-1028 夢ホールとなり)

参加費：受講料は無料 教科書 2500 円 (みんなの日本語 II)

講師：山田多佳子先生 (後期) ((財)徳島県国際交流協会日本語講師)

お問い合わせ お申込は 阿南市国際交流協会 担当 林

Tel : 0884-23-5599 (夢ホール市民協議会内) Fax : 0884-23-1383

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

memoranda

Berlin Wall Panel Exhibition

In Cooperation with the General Consulate of Germany in Osaka-Kobe, the German House organized a panel exhibition about the Berlin Wall and the Re-unification of Germany. The collapse of the Berlin Wall was 20 years ago and the re-unification of Germany has its 20th anniversary next year. See panels about from the time of the Piece Demonstrations to the Re-unification a year later, and many more. There is also a huge aerial photograph in 3D.

When: Tuesday, December 1 to Monday, December 14
Where: The Naruto German House, 2F
Cost: 400 Yen for adults, 100 Yen for elementary, junior high and senior high school students
Info: Call the Naruto German House at 088-689-0099

「ベルリンの壁崩壊及びドイツ再統一」パネル巡回展

大阪・神戸ドイツ連邦共和国総領事館の企画でパネル展「ベルリンの壁崩壊並びにドイツ再統一 20周年記念巡回展」を開催します。東ドイツの平和革命および民主化のプロセスを書いたパネル展「平和革命から再統一へ」、歴史の概要及びベルリンの壁にまつわる史実やデータを写真と共に展示した写真展「ベルリンの壁崩壊から20年」、またベルリンの町を写した3Dの巨大な航空写真も展示します。

日時: 12月1日(火)～12月14日(月)
場所: 鳴門市ドイツ館 2階特別企画室
入場料: 大人400円 小中学生100円
問合せ: 鳴門市ドイツ館まで電話 088-689-0099

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

Christmas Lights Display Information

Christmas light displays will be held all across the prefecture this December and early January. Why not take this opportunity to head out and enjoy the sights.

Kenchopia

When: Monday, Dec. 14 to Friday, Dec. 25
From 17:00 to 23:00 every evening.

Where: Tokushima City, in the harbor in front of the Prefectural Office.

Cost: Free!

Info: Call the Tokushima Yacht Club at 088-644-0087.

Winter Lights in Ikeda

When: Tuesday, December 1 to Sunday, January 10, 2010, from 17:00 to 22:00 every evening

Where: Ikeda Town.

Cost: Free!

Info: Call the Ikeda Town Commerce and Tourism Section at 0883-72-7620.

Bizan and Night View and Christmas

When: Tuesday, December 1 to Friday, December 25

Where: Top of Mt. Bizan in Tokushima City.

Cost: Free!

Info: Call the Tokushima Tourism Division at 088-621-5232.

クリスマスイルミネーション情報

今年の12月と来年の1月上旬にクリスマス・イルミネーションのディスプレイが県内各地で行われます。ぜひこの機会に、足を運んでみてください。

ケンチョピア

日時: 12月14日(月)～12月25日(金)
17:00～23:00

場所: 徳島市、ケンチョピア(県庁前ヨットハーバー)

料金: 無料

問合せ: 徳島ヨットクラブまで電話 088-644-0087

池田冬のオブジェ

日時: 12月1日(火)～2010年1月10日(日)
17:00～22:00

場所: 三好市池田町

料金: 無料

問合せ: 池田町商工観光課まで電話 0883-72-7620

眉山と夜景とクリスマス

日時: 12月1日(火)～12月25日(金)
17:00～21:00

場所: 徳島市 眉山山頂

料金: 無料

問合せ: 徳島市観光課まで
電話 088-621-5232

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