# all life

2017 AJET Musical:

February 2017

# 319



Collumn: Let's Talk

Story!

**Exchange in Handcraft**:

Techno School and Lüneburg

**Technology Center** 

Awa Shoku: The ABCs of

an Oyster Feast



#### Awa Life is a Monthly Publication of the Tokushima Prefectural International Exchange Association

It's Febuary! The *ume* (plum blossoms) are in bloom and we are nearing the end of winter! This is good news for those from tropical regions who don't usually experience winter (\*cough\* Daralyn). Let's hang in there and keep bundled up and warm in this last month of winter. Also, please see the notification bellow. We plan to conduct a survey this month, so we humbly ask for your cooperation.

For all of those who like writing, please feel free to submit an article to us at any point in time about anything that you feel would be interesting for our readers. There are a few limitations though, such as you can't write about religion, politics, commercial activities or businesses or anything that we deem inappropriate. Other than that, we would be more than happy to receive articles about anything and everything including but not limited to, concerts, lectures, other events, culture, sports, community group information or anything cool that's happening in your local community.

We highly appreciate all of your articles and we love reading them. So if that writing bug of yours is buzzing about, grab a pen or a computer and write and send away! Please send all submissions to our email:

awalife@gmail.com

Your editors, Daralyn and Franzi

#### **Tokushima Prefectural International Exchange Association (TOPIA)**

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http://www.topia.ne.jp/

Download a PDF file of awa life or view the online version by going to TOPIA's website!

アンケート調査の実施について /Awa Life Survey Awa Life の読者の皆様

日ごろは、Awa Life をお読みいただきありがとうございます。 この度、(公財) 徳島県国際交流協会では、より良い情報を皆様に御提供するため、 アンケートを実施することといたしました。

つきましては、皆様の率直なご意見・ご要望をお聞かせください。 なお、アンケート用紙につきましては、後日、郵送させていただきます。 より良い誌面作りのため、何卒、御協力の程お願いいたします。

To our devoted readers,

Thank you very much for reading our monthly newsletter "Awa Life". In order for us to better serve you, TOPIA will be conducting a survey for the improvement of our newsletter. We would like to hear the voice and opinions of our readers and plan to send the survey out for completion on a later date. We ask for your cooperation and thank you for your time in advance.

Editors:

Daralyn Yee and Franziska Neugebauer

Contributors This Month:

Kazue Inoue, Haruko Miyoshi, Lance Kita, Amy Waters, Satoshi Nishiguchi, Reiko Matsuo, Sayo Fukui, Chie Suzue

TOPIA

2

### **Contents**

Pg. 2-4: This year's AJET Musical: Rapunzel on Mt. Tsurugi

Pg. 4: Letter from SUKETO NAKAYOSHI

Pg. 5: Let's Talk Story!

Pg. 6-7: Exchange in Handcraft: Techno School and Lüneburg

**Technology Center** 

Pg. 7: Bean-Throwing Festival in Japan

Pg. 8: Japanese Lesson

Pg. 9: Awa Shoku: The ABCs of an Oyster Feast

Pg. 10-11: Events and Memoranda

#### This year's AJET Musical: Rapunzel on Mt. Tsurugi

By Amy Waters & Daralyn Yee

■ his spring the annual AJET Musical will be in its 23rd year. The first musical that was played for Tokushima in 1995 was "Grease". We have come a long way since then and the show evolved significantly. The musical is a nonprofit project and it is free for all to see with the main goal of the musical being to encourage cultural exchange and education. Each year a theme is decided, and a script is written with a handful of references to life in Tokushima. AJET (Association for Japan Exchange and Teaching) Tokushima is not the only AJET to put on a musical; Kochi AJET has been putting on their own musical for about 20 years known as the "Tosa-ben Musical". As the Tokushima AJET musical makes references to Tokushima, similarly the Tosa-ben musical includes the usage of the Tosa-ben dialect of Kochi Prefecture.

The cast and crew for the Tokushima musical includes volunteers from within Tokushima's international community, along with ALT's (Assistant Language Teacher) and CIR's

(Coordinator of International Relations) of the nation-wide JET Programme (Japan Exchange and Teaching Programme). These 38 volunteers



from 9 different countries have a wide-set of skills and talents such as singing, dancing, acting, kimono dressing and also art. From January, rehearsals commence and the cast have been busily rehearsing each scene to perfection. On the other hand, a handful of volunteers have been busy doing backstage work such as putting together props, creating costumes, and promoting the musical VIA the web.

This Year's AJET Musical: Rapunzel

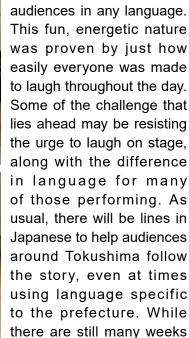
This year the AJET Musical has been incarnated as the classic story of Rapunzel. The decision

was made in October. The story of an unlikely couple of friends full of songs, original dance numbers and some Tokushima flavor is sure to be a people pleaser this spring. Staying away from the original Grimm's tale, this rendition is an upbeat story of finding what really matters. Rapunzel, who lives hidden away by her rather selfish aunties on Mt. Tsurugi, is given the chance to explore Tokushima and live her dream. She starts on an adventurous journey with her long-time friend Pascal, a chameleon and meets Flynn. He is an

unwilling participant in the two's adventures. They are joined along the way by a myriad of people like the horse Maximus, a group of shady thugs and two thief brothers who are sent to either help or hinder, so who knows whether Rapunzel and Flynn will come out the other end unscathed. This story will be enjoyable for all audiences, even for those who have not seen the movie or have not hear the story.

After auditions were held in October and parts were given out, the play's production has steadily been gaining momentum. A reading was held in TOPIA in November, where the cast and crew all gathered together for the first time. Though the script was yet to be completed, everyone sat together and read their part. For some, it was also the first time they had encountered our version of the story and there was laughter and sympathy at the escapades happening on the page. The first rehearsal at Komatsushima in January saw a smaller turn out, however the cast and crew were able to start piecing together what the show will look like. JET Programme participants came from all over Tokushima to start learning their lines, dances and positions on stage.

Due to it relying heavily on physical movement and expression to portray meaning, Rapunzel's



until the opening night

story is easily accessible by

on February 26th, already there has been a lot of hard work put into writing, organizing and physical involvement by everyone taking part.







#### This Year's AJET Musical: Rapunzel

For more information about this year's show, please keep up with us on the AJET Musical Website: www.ajetmusical.com. We will be giving you a behind the scenes look at the musical in our blog, and up-to-date information on the dates and times, capacity for each venue, and transportation and parking information.

"Tsurugi-san no ue no Rapunzel" (剣山の上のラプンツェル) will kick off on Sunday February 26th at the Ishii Chuo Kominkan at 15:00. The musical runs every weekend until March 19th, where our final show will be held at Wakimachi Odeon-za Theatre, where we traditionally hold the last show. The musical will also be performed at Tokiwa Plaza, Kitajima Sousei Hall, Higashi Miyoshi Town Office Mikamochosha Multipurpose Hall. The musical is free, and be sure to come early as seating is first come first serve.

Lastly, if you have any questions about the musical or would like to donate money to help with the production please contact ajetmusical.cir@gmail.com. We hope to see you all at least at one of the musical performances!



Statement from the director:
"I'm looking forward to working with the cast
and crew. There are many challenges to putting
on a show, but after our first rehearsal,
I'm very pleased to be working with many
talented and hardworking individuals."

#### Letter from SUKETO NAKAYOSHI

By Kazue Inoue (Center for Early Childhood Education and Care SUKETO NAKAYOSHI)

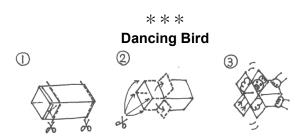
When you do house chores, do your children come around and say "I want to do it too!"? Chores are very helpful to a child's growth. When children have the willingness to do something, it is a chance that should be taken. Let's try to have our children help out as much as possible.

#### The Power of Children Who are Raised to Help Around the House:

- · Able to master basic life skills
- With a lot of experience, able to discover ways to complete things successfully, and gain the power to face any challenge that may arise
- Being able to experience a sense of accomplishment is connected to developing aspiration and confidence. When a child feels that they can make someone happy, it makes them feel joyful and is rooted in the courtesy of wanting to help another.

\*Keeping this up every day with infants may be difficult, so it is best to have fun while having your children assist. The secret to being successful with getting your children to help is to not to seek perfection, but to at least recognize the efforts being put in to the chores, and to not redo the

chore that was just completed in front of them. Also, do not forget to say "Thank You"! When your child gets older, they will be able to develop skills to complete chores, and they will most likely help around the house more often.



#### **Directions:**

- 1) With a 1000 ml milk carton, cut off the mouth and the bottom.
- 2) With the milk carton still in its shape, make a 5 cm cut on each of the 4 corners. Fold the part that was cut to the outside of the carton.
- 3) At the folds, draw a picture of a bird (head on the top panel, wings on the left and right panel, feet on the bottom panel), and your dancing bird will be complete.
- \*If you hold the bottom of the milk carton and twist it left and right, the bird will dance.

## 5

#### Let's Talk Story!

By Daralyn Yee



A loha! These past few winter months have been a bit too cold for my liking, especially since this is the second real winter that I have experienced in my entire life. But, I hope that as we "talk

story" again this month, you can experience a bit of warmth through Hawaii's culture. Did you enjoy the stories in our December edition? This month we would like to feature some stories from our fellow coworkers in the International Planning Division. Each of these individuals would like to share a taste of their experience abroad with our readers. Please enjoy! If you would like to share your story, be sure to follow the writing guidelines on page one and email your stories to:

#### awalife@gmail.com

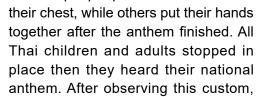
Let's talk story!

#### National Anthem in Thailand by Reiko Matsuo

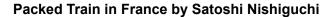
When I stayed in Thailand, there was something that surprised me. That was that Thai people stopped in their tracks twice a day. In Thailand, the national

anthem played at 8:00 and 18:00 in public places (school, train station, park, etc.), and on TV. When people heard the national anthem they stopped in

their tracks. Some people placed their hands on



I felt that a sense of unity existed in the midst of the Thai people and that their respect for the king grew stronger.



When I traveled to France, I rode on a packed train. The whole train was full of people, but within the midst of people I started to hear some singing. They changed the lyrics of a famous song and sang "We are sardines". They continued to sing in

a humorous manner "We are like packed sardines in a can". Other people started to join in, and it was a very interesting sight to see. If this were a full train in Japan, everyone would be irritated in such a situation. In France, they must be calm people.

#### Studying abroad in Canada by Sayo Fukui



I had some surprising things happen to me when I went to study abroad in Vancouver, Canada. The most surprising thing for me was how strangers came up to me and started having a

conversation. One day a man who was driving a car started talking to me all of a sudden. "Hi! What are you doing? You are Japanese, right? I can recognize who is Japanese, because I like Japan so much! Let's go to lunch or dinner. Could you give me your phone number?" I was really surprised, and thought it was suspicious so I declined.

A few days later, my teacher said "Canadian people are friendly, so they will come up and freely talk with you anywhere. You came here to study English, so if you get in to such a situation, it's a good chance to learn native English". After that, I had these type of situations once in a while. In the library, on the roadside, and so on. I went to some places with them and friends, then, we talked a lot, had lunch, and sang some songs together. It was a good experience and we had a good time. If there were situations like this in Japan, we would think that it is strange or suspicious. But in Vancouver, it happens once in a while. I think it is a good environment because people can not only learn English, but also have a good time with many people.



## 6

#### Exchange in Handcraft: Techno School and Lüneburg Technology Center

By Franziska Neugebauer

ere we are in 2017, a new year and a special one for the relationship between Tokushima and the German state Lower Saxony. That is simply because this year marks the 10th anniversary of their partnership. Ten years ago in September 2007, Governor Kamon lizumi travelled to Germany to sign the partnership agreement. Based on the long history of friendship

and cultural exchange, which dates back to the First World War and the Bando POW camp in Naruto where over 1,000 German soldiers lived, both areas agreed to deepen their relationship in the fields of economics, culture, education and sports. In the November issue of Awa Life we wrote

about sport exchange activities between the two

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countries. However, that is not all what is happening.

In 2015 a big step was taken to tackle the education part of the agreement by signing a cooperation arrangement between Tokushima Prefectural Center Techno School

and the Technology Center Lüneburg in Lower Saxony. This cooperation is a very unique one since it contains not just a simple school exchange but one between apprentices. Both schools offer study subjects such as mechanical engineering, metal-working, wood-working, electrical environment, and hairdressing and beauty. In December 2016, the first exchange took place and a group of apprentices stayed in Tokushima for five days. After arriving at Tokushima Awa Odori Airport, the delegation was

kindly welcomed to the Techno School with an opening ceremony where the principal took the effort and presented his speech in German. The German delegation consisted of three teachers, one apprentice in the field of metal-working, two in wood-working and one in hairdressing. From the next day they were divided into groups based on their study field and visited local companies

and construction sites. Japanese culture played a large role in their training. For example, chopsticks were crafted and the apprentices had a chance to practice kimono dressing. All members of the delegation spent the last two days at the Techno School,

participating in practical lessons with the

Japanese students. The Central Techno School was founded in April 2013 after the Tokushima Techno School and the Naruto Techno School were unified. Today it has three campuses throughout Tokushima with 145 students studying various

types of craftsmanship at each of the respective campuses.

The visit ended with a tour of popular sightseeing spots around Tokushima such as the Ryozen-ji Temple and of course the German House in Naruto. All participants enjoyed their time in Tokushima where everyone gave them a warm welcoming and they were able to experience the popular "omotenashi" (hospitality) of Tokushima people.

## Exchange in Handcraft: Techno School and Lüneburg Technology Center

In response to the stay in Tokushima, a group of apprentices and teachers travelled to Germany

in mid-January to learn how things are taught and crafted there. This time two hairdressers, one metal-worker and one car mechanic had the chance to participate in the exchange and make international friends. This exchange between the Techno School and the Technology Center Lüneburg is a great opportunity for

> both sides to learn from each other and develop craftsmanship techniques in both countries. This is just one of the numerous exchange events happening in 2017 in regards to the big anniversary year! Stay tuned!



#### Bean-Throwing Festival in Japan

By Chie Suzue

n February, there is a large traditional event roasted soy bean, that correspond to the age that

that is held in Japan. It's called Setsubun (節分).

Setsubun literally means "the day between two seasons". People take part of this tradition on either the 3rd or 4th of February, the day before the first day of spring on the present calendar.

On this day, people partake in a custom called *Mame-maki*(豆 ま き)where roasted soybeans are thrown and scattered inside and outside of their homes while saying, "Oni wa soto, Fuku wa uchi"(鬼は外,福は内 = Send out

the bad spirits, bring in good luck). This tradition started in the Heian Period as a way to prevent *Oni* (鬼 demon) from attacking villages at the time. It is believed that mame (豆, bean) is derived from the word mametsu (摩滅) which means drive away evil matter, in kanji. It also has the meaning of health (beware of the reading: 忠実 mame).

In families where there are small children, typically the father acts as an Oni while the children throw mame at him to chase him outside of the house.

After throwing the beans, people customarily eat

they will be that year, and at the same time pray for happiness throughout the year. For example, if you were born in February 2005, you would eat 12 beans. People roast and eat these beans because it is said that the beans contain the evil of the previous year, and so it is roasted to stop evil from growing any further.

In addition to eating mame, there is also a sushi roll *Ehou-maki* (恵方巻) that is consumed on the day of Setsubun. Ehoumaki is a sushi roll made from rice, cucumber, shiitake mushroom, eel and other ingredients. It

> is believed to give the person who consumes it good luck when eaten on Setsubun day. This custom originated in the Kansai area but has now become a nationwide event and Ehou-maki is sold at supermarkets and convenience stores. Other names for this famous roll include Maru-kaburi-sushi

(丸かぶり寿司), *Ehou-sushi*(恵方寿司), and Kippo-maki(吉方巻き).

They say if you eat facing the happy direction (determined each year) while keeping quiet, you will become happy. Incidentally, the happy direction of this year is the north/north-west.



## 8

#### Japanese Lesson

By Haruko Miyoshi

Particles Attached to Location Expressing Nouns

Japanese Language is a language in which word order does not matter. In Japanese language, there are particles and each particle has a role. The reason that you do not have to bother with this is because the particles exist. This month, we will be taking a look at the basics of particles attached to location expressing nouns. We will also go over the case of when a verb is used in the place of a predicate.

In numbers (1) through (4), the underlined words are location expressing nouns. In the ( ), which type of particle should be inserted? (\*The answer is at the end of the page.)

- (1) わたしは来月ともだちと <u>USJ</u> ( ) 行きます。 I will go to USJ with a friend next month.
- (2) わたしの弟は<u>大阪</u> ( ) います。 My younger brother is in Osaka.
- (3) TOPIA は<u>クレメントプラザ6階</u>( )あります。 TOPIA is located on the 6th floor of Clement Plaza.



Particles attached to location expressing nouns are decided by the verb that is being used.

	Verbs used together	Particles	The role of the particle
1	「行きます」「来ます」「帰ります」etc.	^	The location expressing noun shows the direction that one is facing.
2	い 「行きます」「来ます」「帰ります」etc.	ı	The location expressing noun shows the destination.
3	「います」「あります」etc.	IC	The location expressing noun shows a location in which something or someone exists.
4	All other verbs not listed in ① - ③ .	で	The location expressing noun shows a location of an act.

<sup>\*</sup>In reality, ① and ② are not used distinctly in many situations.

So, for sentence (5) bellow, in the ( ), which type of particle should be inserted?

しこくさけ (5) 四国酒まつりは<u>三好市池田町</u>( )あります。

The Shikoku Sake Festival will be held at Ikeda-cho in Miyoshi city.

One must be cautious in the case of this sentence. The verb for this sentence is「あります」. However, in this case the particle is not「に」, but the correct answer is「で」. For events such as the Shikoku Sake Festival, and for parties and meetings, that does not exist as a tangible object, an object that one is unable to hold or touch, even if the verb is 「あります」, the particle attached to the location expressing noun is「で」.

#### **TOPIA**

# 9

#### Awa Shoku: The ABCs of an Oyster Feast

By Lance Kita

M onths whose names contain the letter "R" are considered oyster-eating months, so this is peak season for those creamy, plump, and juicy shellfish. Rich in iron, zinc, and taurin, they not only provide a boost to your immune system but also are rumored to be an aphrodisiac (perfect for Valentine's Day?).

You probably have enjoyed raw oysters or baked Oysters Rockefeller with spinach and hollandaise sauce, but the Japanese have been taking their love of oysters to a whole new level with a recent trend: oyster huts (*kaki-goya* 牡蠣小屋). The concept is so simple: easy as A-B-C.

#### All-you-can-eat

Shovelfuls of oysters are heaped into the center of a giant metal sheet over a fire. The whole bit steams and when the dome is lifted, a cloud of ocean-laced steam puffs out and the oysters are ready to eat. Here's the best part: Many of the shops are ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT. That's right, because they use odd-shaped oysters that don't go to market, they'll pile more on and close the lid. There is a time limit (varies from 1 to 2 hours), but that's more than enough time to eat your fill.



Kaki, kaki everywhere! Steamed to perfection.

#### **BYOC**

The oysters are fresh, and taste perfectly good like that, but a little lemon or chili sauce or *ponzu* (ポン酢 citrus soy sauce) can really rev up your appetite. Most kaki-goya will let you bring your own condiments and sometimes your own drinks, but check ahead. So raid your pantry and pick your favorite sauces (some places will not allow creamy sauces, mayo and cheese, so check

ahead about this too). My favorites are a squeeze of *sudachi*, a splash of *ponzu*, or pesto sauce.



Variety is the spice of an oyster feast's life.

#### Comes with...

Just when you thought you've had enough oysters, the *kaki-goya* will usually bring out *takikomi-gohan* (炊き込みご飯 rice cooked with tiny oysters and soy sauce) and oyster miso soup to round out the meal (because you've been eating nothing but shellfish for the last hour). With prices running around 2,500 yen per person, this is truly a great value for this indulgent oyster feast.



Even the soup and rice are oyster-laden.

In Tokushima, the main oyster hut restaurants are in the Naruto area, and the Shido area of Kagawa Prefecture is also famous for them. Get your friends or family together, make reservations, reconfirm each restaurant's rules, and GO! kaki-goya GO! before the Rs disappear from the months.

## **Events & Memoranda**

#### **Community Interpretation Seminar** コミュニティ通訳研修

本研修では、コミュニティ通訳の講演・ワーク ショップに先立ち、徳島県立防災センターの職員 内容: 講演・ワークショップ の方による「災害時ボランティア活動」に関する 防災講座があります。言葉の壁などから、十分な 情報が得られないことの多い外国籍の皆さんへの 対応などを一緒に考えましょう!

講師: 飯田 奈美子氏(多言語コミュニティ通訳

ネットワーク共同代表)

日時: 2月26日(日)

13 時~ 16 時 30 分

開催場所:(公財)徳島県国際交流協会(徳島市

寺島本町西 1-61 クレメントプラザ 6階)

参加料:無料

お申し込み:

〒 770-0831 徳島市寺島本町西 1-61 クレメント プラザ 6 階 公益財団法人 徳島県国際交流協会

「コミュニティ通訳」担当宛

TEL: 088-656-3303 FAX: 088-652-0616 Email: coordinator1@topia.ne. ip (木村)

※2月20日(月)までに氏名、住所、電話番号、 Email、言語(英語、中国語等)を記載の上お申

し込み下さい。

※携帯電話キャリアメールは届かない場合がござ いますので、電話でのお申し込みをお願いします。

#### **Keigo Learning Course** 敬語学習講座

この講座では基本的な敬語の仕組みを学んだ後、 様々な日常生活の場面を通して、分かりやすく学 習しています。対象は初級レベルの日本語学習を 終了した方、終了見込みの方、又は職場や日常場 面で通用する日本語を習得したい方です。

日時: 1月23日~3月3日

月曜日~金曜日(祝日は休講) 13時15分~15時15分

場所: わーくぴあ徳島2階

徳島市昭和町3丁目35-1

料金: 無料 募集人数:12名

講師: JTM とくしま日本語ネットワーク 問い合わせ: 徳島県労働者福祉協議会

TEL: 088-625-8387

※申し込み方法、又詳しくは TOPIA のホームペー

ジをご覧ください。

#### **Computer Course** パソコン講座

この講座では、「パソコンの基本的な操作を日本 語で理解し、使用できるようになること」と「Word や Excel の基本を理解し、文章を作成できるよう になること」を目標にして、分かりやすく学習し ています。初級レベルの日本語学習を終了した方 は対象となります。

月日: 2/1・7・8・10・14・15・

17 • 21 • 22 • 24 • 28

3/1 - 7 - 8

時間: 9時15分~12時15分

場所: わーくぴあ徳島2階

徳島市昭和町3丁目35-1

料金: 無料 募集人数:12名

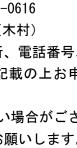
講師: From Now 佐々木理恵先生

お問い合わせ:徳島県労働者福祉協議会

TEL: 088-625-8387

※申し込み方法、又詳しくは TOPIA のホームペー

ジをご覧ください。



## **Events & Memoranda**

#### Let's walk the pilgrimage 一緒に四国遍路道を歩こう

Experience an 8 km pilgrimage walk from E-mail: zs100@mf.pikara.ne.jp Dainichi-ji (No. 13) to Ido-ji temple (No. 17).

When: February 18 (Sat), 8:30-16:00

Where: Start and finish point is in front of 7-Eleven

beside Tokushima station.

Fee: Free

NPO Tokushima Kyoseijuku Ippokai Info:

★ Bring your own food and drink for the hike. If you need lunch, place an order with us. (Cost:

★ The first 40 applicants will be accepted for this

tour.

★ For more details on applying for this tour, please see TOPIA's homepage.

#### 17th Shikoku Sake Festival 四国酒まつり 第 17 回

Enjoy sake tasting of popular brands from all around Shikoku!

When: February 18 (Sat)

Where: Around JR Awa Ikeda Station

Awa Ikeda Chamber of Commerce and Info:

Industry

TEL: 0883-72-0143

URL: www.shikoku-sakematuri.com

四国各地の銘酒を、一堂に飲み比べできる地酒試 飲会!

日時: 2月18日(土)

場所: JR 阿波池田駅周辺

お問い合わせ:阿波池田商工会議所

TEL: 0883-72-0143

URL: www.shikoku-sakematuri.com

#### Road Display of Girl's Day Dolls おひな様の奥座敷と坂本おひな街道

At the Fureai no Sato Sakamoto, there will be a Girl's Day event called "Ohinasama no Okuzashiki to Sakamoto Ohina Kaidou". The dolls will be heading their way to the Fureai no Sato Sakamoto and will be placed for viewing on an old elegant road. The dolls invite you with a soft smile to have a stroll! There will also be a special lunch prepared at the Fureai no Sato Sakamoto during this period!

「おひな様の奥座敷」が開催されます。また、ひ な人形がふれあいの里さかもとを飛び出し、風情 ある旧街道筋に飾られてます。ほっこり笑顔の人 形たちに誘われて、のんびり散歩はいかがですか。 ふれあいの里さかもとでは、期間限定の特別な昼 食をご用意しています!

ふれあいの里さかもと内にてひな祭りイベント

When: February 19 (Sun) - March 19 (Sun)

Where: Okuzashiki hall, Fureai no Sato Sakamoto (Katsuura-cho, Sakamoto-aza-miyahira)

Fureai no Sato Sakamtoto

TEL: 0885-44-2110

Info:

日時: 2月19日(日)~3月19日(日) 場所: 奥座敷会場, ふれあいの里さかもと

(勝浦町坂本字宮平)

お問い合わせ:ふれあいの里さかもと

TEL: 0885-44-2110

#### 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.

Everyday, 10:00 - 18:00 (closed during the New Year's holidays)

Tel: 088-656-3303 or 088-656-3320 (allows three-way conversations with an interpreter)