

THE COSMONET

August 2014 (vol.204)

The following articles are taken mainly from "Koho Ashiya" – the bulletin of Ashiya City (August 1st issue). It is, of course, a Japanese edition, and translated into English by a voluntary group from the Ashiya Cosmopolitan Association (ACA).

Please understand that some phone numbers listed under the various events are staffed by people who may not speak English.

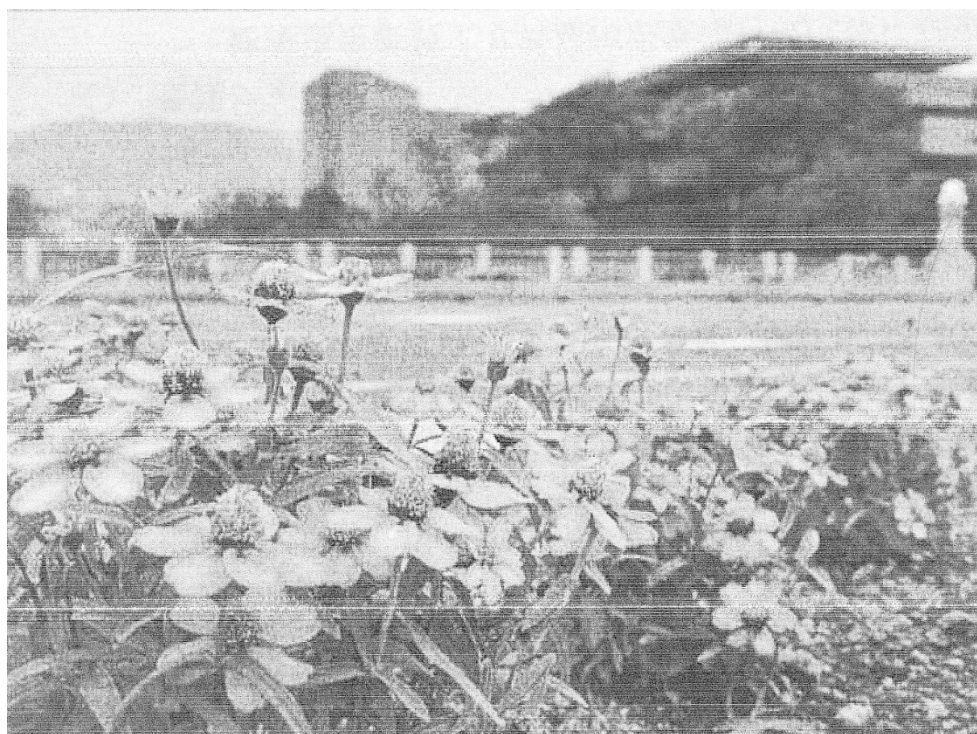
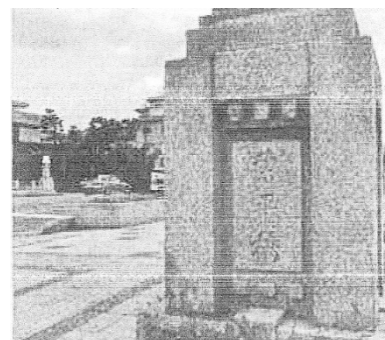
– Welcome to Garden City Ashiya –

Narihira-bashi Bridge ~Spanning the Ashiyagawa River on Route 2 ~

"Narihira-bashi Bridge" was named after Ariwara-no-Narihira, a famous poet in the Heian Period, for Ashiya is a place that is remembered in connection with him. The Bridge was completed in the repair work on Route 2 in 1925 (the 14th year of Taisho) as a stone bridge with unique lighting on its four parapets.

It suffered great damage in the Great Hanshin Flood in 1938 (the 13th year of Showa), and the present bridge was constructed based on the design of the former bridge.

Colorful flowers are blooming every season in the flower beds arranged along Route 2





- As a Measure for Electricity Saving -

The Main Building of Ashiya City Hall is Closed **during August 13-15**

The Main Building of City Hall is closed August 13 (Wed)-15(Fri), as in summer last year, in order to prepare for the electricity shortage during the summer.

Your understanding and cooperation is highly appreciated.

- The following windows will be open even during the closed period.

*If you come by a car, use the parking for visitors (B2, The City Hall South Wing).

< Sections working as usual >

Citizen' s Section, Insurance Section, Regional Welfare Section,
Handicapped Welfare Section, Senior Citizen' s Welfare Section, Nursing Care
Insurance Section and Childcare Section

< Only the issuing service of certificates (like taxation certificate) is available >

Taxation Section

< Applications (for Child-care Allowance / Children' s Allowance) are accepted >

Children' s Section

< Consultation Windows for various problems >

Credit Managing Section (*Tax-paying consultation only)

< Only the application for Livelihood protection and Consultation is available >

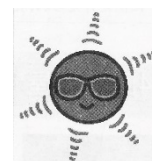
Livelihood Support Section

- The other facilities (The Citizen' s Service Corner at LAPORTE, The Environmental Disposal Center, The Health and Welfare Center, Water supply department., etc.) will be open as usual.

[Efforts to save on electricity]

During the closed period, we will try to minimize the usage of lighting and air conditioning in the main building. In the same way, your cooperation to save electricity and energy in your own home is appreciated.

For Further Inquiries: Contact the Planning Section (Phone: 0797-38-2127)



Be Careful about Heat Stroke !!

< What is Heat Stroke (Hyperthermia) ? >

Heat Stroke is the failure of the thermo-regulating function due to an imbalance of salt (sodium) and water in the body caused by working or playing sports for a long time in the high temperatures.

The main symptoms of heat stroke are elevation of body temperature, dizziness, lassitude, leg cramps, etc. plus convulsions or loss of consciousness may be caused in severe cases.

Especially, enough attention must be paid to babies or elderly people, for they may be at risk of heat stroke just by spending time in a non-air-conditioned room or car.

< Call an ambulance at once in these cases !! >

- Unable to drink water by oneself
- Being unconscious
- Having a convulsive fits all over

**If you have such symptoms yourself, or find someone in such a condition,
don't hesitate to call 119.**



<Points to prevent Heat Stroke >

- Always check the room temperature, and use an air-conditioner or electric fan.
- Always rehydrate before feeling thirsty.
- Dress in cool and airy clothes, and take rest properly when going outside.
- Always eat balanced meals and exercise properly.

<First-aid treatment for Heat Stroke >

- Move into a shady or an airy place and loosen clothes.
- Cool the body with the wind of an air-conditioner, an electric fan or fan, etc.
- Cool the back of the neck, armpits and upper thighs with ice, etc.
- Give liquid little by little (only when conscious; sports drinks containing salt will be more effective than plain water.)

**Heat Stroke is preventable. Every one of us should be careful and get through the
hot summer !**

Inquiries: The First-aid Section, Main Station of Fire Department

(Phone: 0797-32-2345)

Your Artwork Wanted for the 28th Ashiya Citizen's Painting Exhibition

- ◆ Exhibition Period: Sep. 3-7 9:00-19:00 (until 15:00 on the final day)
- ◆ Exhibition Place: Room 301 and 302 at the Citizen's Center
- ◆ Eligibility: Anybody living, working or studying (high school student and over) in

Ashiya

- ◆ Requirements for Artworks: Size 50 (116.7cm x 90.9cm) or smaller paintings in general (Japanese and Western style), original and not yet made public; artwork should be framed and ready to hang.
- ◆ Cost: 500 yen (One person can submit only one work)
- ◆ Application and Carry in: August 31 (Sun) 10:00-14:00.

Place: Room 301 at Citizen's Center

(Fill in and submit the application form available
there; you will receive a temporary receipt.)

- ◆ Prize: Encouragement prizes will be awarded to several works.

* A brief review on the works: Sep. 7 (Sun) 14:00-15:00

* Artwork will be returned in exchange for the receipt during 14:00-15:00 on that
day.

Inquiries: Citizen's Center (Phone: 0797-31-4995)



Town Meeting Report 2014 (Excerpts)

The entire schedule for 2014 finished on May 9. The number of participants was 367 at 14 places. Here are some of the inquiries and answers.

Inquiries: Planning Section (Phone: 38-2127)

<Children's Medical Expenses>

Q: Ashiya City has steadily liquidated its liabilities, so its debt is decreasing. To carry out the Mayor's campaign pledge, "Children First", I want children's medical expenses to be free.

A: At present, a free medical service is available in the case of hospitalization up to 3rd grade junior high school student and going to hospital for up to 2-year-old children.

From 3-year-old children to the 3rd grade junior high school students of a marginal-income family, free medical service is available in all cases. In this area, Ashiya is behind compared with neighboring cities. We'll work on this as soon as possible considering the city's finances.

<Disaster Prevention>

Q: According to the newspaper, the U. S. Forces will take part in the joint emergency drill of prefectures and cities and towns. What is the Mayor's opinion?

A: The U.S. Forces gave large and quick support at the time of East Japan Great Earthquake. As the U.S. Forces have an excellent disaster prevention manual, we can actually learn much from a joint drill. The drill will be held in expectation of receiving rescue support from the U.S. Forces.

<Pipe Line for Garbage Collection.>

Q: I hear the city will revisit the problem of the Pipe Line because of the cost and management.

A: It will be decided at the Ashiya City Garbage reduction Promotion Council. At first, the issue will be discussed at the third-party committee consisting of certified public accountants, lawyers, and experts mainly on management and cost-comparison and analysis. The result will be reconsidered at the Council.

Q: The Pipe Line was the reason I decided to purchase the property. I am not convinced that the facility is on the road to oblivion from the start. I hope the city will take all possible measures to avoid this, the payment by users.

A: It will not be discontinued anytime soon. It is 35 years since it was built at Minami-Ashiyahama and 15 years since it was built at Minami-Ashiyahama. The cost is twice as much as that of ordinary garbage collection areas by municipal direct management, and five times as much as that of outsourcing.

< Colored Pavement>

Q: The city is moving ahead with colored pavement for school-commuting roads.

Colored pavements is easy and safe for all ages, so I hope there will be more colored pavement streets.

A: The colored pavement construction is carried out on a priority basis at the places required by the urgent inspection of school-zones.

<Wage Level>

Q: I read in the paper that the Ashiya City's wage level is very high. Are you planning to reduce it ?

A: According to the Laspeyres index, Ashiya is ranked first in Japan. As the review is ongoing now, the level will be lowered in the future. The reason for the high wage is that the number of city staff has been reduced as a result of administrative reform. So the younger generation staff must be promoted to managerial positions.



For the Cyclists (Abridged)

Bicycle is a convenient and environment-friendly vehicle. However the number of bicycle-related accidents is increasing. It makes up about 20% of all the traffic accidents. A partial amendment of the Road Traffic Law became effective on Dec.1 2013 to curb this number. Your manner, as well as observing traffic regulations, will be appreciated.

Bicycles are classified into light vehicles.

A partial amendment of the Road Traffic Law became effective on Dec. 1, 2013.

- Bicycles must be ridden on the left side of the road in the direction of the traffic flow.

It is not allowed to ride bicycles on the sidewalk (or footpath). However cyclists under

13 years of age or over 70 years old are admitted on the sidewalks.

Some sidewalks are assigned to allow bicycles.

The sign on the left will indicate cyclists can mix with pedestrians.

For violation, you will be condemned to within three month's penal servitude or a maximum fine of 50,000 yen.

- Always give way to pedestrians.
- Insurance is recommended. In some cases, it is possible that you will be made a claim for compensation of a large sum of money.

Do you know the TS mark?

This system is to make use of bicycles safely. The TS mark can be stuck on the bicycle which passed an inspection by bicycle mechanics who are certified by Japan Traffic Safety Management Technology Association. The mark includes liability insurance, so the cyclist can be given compensation on the occasion of traffic accidents. For details, inquire at the qualified bicycle shop.

Inquiries: City Construction Department General Affairs Section (Phone: 38-2063)



Japanese Language Classes for Foreigners

People from various countries around the world are living in Ashiya.
Shio-Ashiya Exchange Center is providing Japanese language classes to foreigners who want to learn fundamental Japanese conversation and reading/writing skills indispensable for daily life. Why not take advantage of them?

Eligibility	Day	Time	Form of Class	Cost
Junior high school student or over whose native language is not Japanese	Monday	10:30-Noon	One-on-one basis	100 yen/one time
	Tuesday	90 minutes during 18:00-21:00		
	Thursday	10:30-Noon		
		13:30-15:00		
	Saturday	10:30-Noon		
Elementary school student whose native language is not Japanese	Friday	16:30-18:00	Group lesson or One-on-one basis	Tuition: Free 1,000 yen for teaching material supplement is required

- ◆ Schedule: Once a week
(Closed in August, Year-end/New Year and on National holidays)
- ◆ Place: Shio-Ashiya Exchange Center
- ◆ Application /Inquiries: Shio-Ashiya Exchange Center
(Phone: 0797-25-0511)



Ring the “Bell of Peace” !

This movement started as an activity for peace and improvement of human welfare decided by the United Nations. Make “A Wish and A Prayer for Peace” with the ringing of the Peace Bell ! Let the sound of the Peace Bell echo throughout the city.

You are cordially invited to take part.

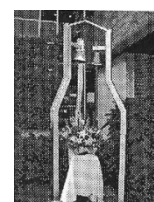
Date and time: August 15 (Fri) 11:45-14:00

Place: In front of “*Yu-ai no Kane*” (Bell of Fraternity) beside the entrance of the Citizen’ s Center (*Shimin* Center) and Room 401

Content: Ringing “*Yu-ai no Kane*” /A meeting for peace at the Room 401.

A small lecture entitled “100 years after World War I - The influence on the culture of Ashiya” by Mr. Atsuro Kawauchi / Listening to wartime narratives while eating wartime meal

Inquiries: Office of Ashiya UNESCO Association (Phone: 0797-38-2091)
(Within the Life-long Learning Section)



Ashiya City Publications for Foreign Residents

The City provides a variety of information in foreign languages for foreign residents.

Please make good use of them. *You can also find them on the City' s Homepage.

Publications	Language	Locations Where Available
The City' s Homepage	English/Chinese/Korean (*Automatic translation)	
Consultation Service Window List	English	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ・ Public Relation and International Exchange Section ・ Reception at the City Hall North/South Wings ・ LAPORTE Citizen' s Service Corner ・ Shio-Ashiya Exchange Center <p>*Domestic Garbage Leaflet is obtainable at the Citizen' s Center, too.</p>
Ashiya City Guide Map (published by the Economic Section)		
Garbage collection Calendar		
Information and Map of Disaster Prevention		
Domestic Garbage Leaflet		
Ashiya City Guide Map (published by the Public Relation and International Exchange Section)	English / Japanese (bilingual)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ・ Public Relation and International Exchange Section ・ Reception at the City Hall North/ South Wings ・ LAPORTE Citizen' s Service Corner ・ Shio-Ashiya Exchange Center ・ Citizen' s Center ・ City Library
A Guide to Living in Ashiya		
Ashiya News Letter (published in January, April, July and October)		

Inquiries: Public Relation / International Exchange Section (Phone: 0797-38-2008)

Collecting Pictures of Your Pet for “Get together, Pets in Ashiya ! Exhibition”

Exhibition Period: September 10-20

Exhibition Place: Exhibition Hall at the Citizen' s Center

Specification: A picture of your pet, such as a dog or a cat, etc.;

printed on a quarter or A4 size sheet

Application: Write your name and address, phone number, your pet' s name, species and your comment on the pet (if you have any) within 20 words on the reverse of the picture. Then mail it or bring it directly to us no later than August 29 (Fri).

One person can submit only one picture.

Inquiries and Mailing Address: The Public Hall (8-24 Narihira-cho, 659-0068)

(Phone: 0797-35-0700)





- Application for the Latter Half of Fiscal Year 2014 -

Subsidies for “One-day Complete Physical Examinations”

(I) Ashiya National Health Insurance and (II) Medical Service System for the elderly 75 years or older will provide “Subsidies for One-day complete physical examinations” in order to help the insured get better health advice regarding the prevention of diseases, early diagnosis and treatment.

■ **Examinations eligible for subsidy:**

One-day Complete Physical Examinations at Ashiya City Hospital (Lunch included)

■ **Date of examinations:** Weekdays from October 1 to March 31, 2015. The date and examination items will be arranged by the hospital and notification will be issued in the beginning of September.

■ **Eligibility and Capacity:**

(I) 300 persons who are insured under the **National Health Insurance of Ashiya City** and fulfill all of the following conditions

- (1) Born between October 2, 1939 and April 1, 1979
- (2) Have not defaulted in an insurance premium payment at the time of application.
- (3) Not planning to undergo the specific health check-up during fiscal 2014.

(II) 90 persons who are insured in the **Medical Service System for the elderly 75 years or older** and fulfill all of the following conditions

- (1) Have not defaulted in the insurance premium payment in the past at the time of application
- (2) Not planning to undergo any health check-up in Medical Service System for the elderly 75 years or older during fiscal 2014.
- Those who become insured in Medical Service System for the elderly 75 years or older on and after October 2 become eligible for this subsidized examination from the date of qualification.

Subsidy content:

Examination Fee	Subsidized by the City	Paid by an individual
50,000 yen	25,000 yen	25,000 yen

Examination Items:

<General Examination>: Height and Weight / General check-up / Urine test / Hemoglobin in feces / Electrocardiogram / Hepatitis virus / Blood test / Blood chemistry (Liver, Kidney and Pancreas function; Blood sugar, Fat test and HbA1c) / Abdomen supersonic-waves test / Ophthalmic exam / Hearing test

<Cancer Examination>: A gastro fiber-scope (oral) / Chest CT

<Option>

- ◆ Helicobacter Pylori (from feces) 1,620 yen/High-risk gastric cancer exam. 3,240 yen / Medical check-up of brain (MRI and interview) 25,920 yen
- ◆ Tumor Marker (CEA and CA19-9 for men): 4,320 yen
- ◆ Tumor Marker (CEA, CA125 and CA19-9 for woman) : 6,048 yen
- ◆ Uterine (Cervical) cancer exam: **Free for Ashiya Citizens**
- ◆ Breast cancer exams. (Mammary gland palpation and Mammography):
Free for Ashiya Citizens

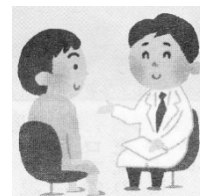


◆ Prostate exam.(PSA) : **Free for Ashiya Citizens**

Application: Write on a postcard (one per applicant)- (1) your insurance certificate number, (2) name (with *Kana*), (3) address, (4) date of birth, (5) sex, (6) phone number, (7) whether or not you want optional exams, and (8) three preferred dates (if you are insured under the National Health Insurance and will turn 75 years old by the end of March, remember to suggest dates before your birthday) then send it to the address below not later than August 14 (Thu). If there are too many applicants, examination dates will be decided through the schedule arrangement with the Hospital.

Inquiries and Mailing Address:

- (I) Insurance desk, the Insurance Medical Subsidy Section
〒659-8501 (address unnecessary) (Phone: 0797-38-2035)
- (II) Medical Subsidy desk, the Insurance Medical Subsidy Section
〒659-8501 (address unnecessary) (Phone: 0797-38-2037)



Relay – for – Life Ashiya 2014

Date and Place: September 6–7 Kawanishi sports ground/gymnasium

Content: A charity event where patients, family, bereaved family, medical experts and citizens support cancer victims

Application and Inquiries: Relay for Life Kansai Executive Committee
(Phone :090-5647-0285) (HP: <http://rfl-ashiya.net>)

♪ **Let's sing together in the Art Museum !** ♪

Date and Time: Aug. 22 (Fri) 13:30–15:00

Place: Lecture room at Ashiya City Museum of Art and History

Content: Enjoy singing and “Karaoke” using a piano.

Participating Fee: 500 yen (including admission)

* Please bring the songbook. with you (*Aishou Kashu*, 愛唱歌集)

Inquiries: Junko Kato from I LOVE ASHIYA (Phone: 090-4296-1790)



Monthly Reading Time for Adults with Temporary Child-care

How about spending two hours in reading leisurely for yourself ? We'll take care of your child at our nursing room. Please enjoy reading any books you bring in, or any books and materials in the information corner.

Date and Time: Aug. 19 (Tue) (1) 10:00–noon (2) 13:00–15:00

Place: With-us Ashiya (Ashiya City Gender-Equality Center)

Eligibility and capacity: Parents (including grandparents) in the midst of child-rearing

and 4 pre-school children over 2 years old in the morning and in the afternoon

Cost for day-care: 300 yen per child

Application: Choose the time (1) or (2) and call us on or after Aug1(Fri).

Inquiries: Gender-EqualityCenter (5-8 Kinmitsu-cho, 659-0065)
(Phone: 0797-38-2023)



Human Rights and Peace Seen from the Perspective of the Olympics



August is the month for encouraging citizens to deepen their understanding and consideration for human rights and peace. With the Sochi Winter Olympics and the Soccer World Cup in Brazil, people were wildly excited by sport games. Behind these enjoyable and colorful sports events, one sees incessant racial conflicts and international disputes. Remember once more the Olympic idea,. This is a special contribution from Prof. Hisashi Sanada, a professor of Physical Education at Tsukuba University.



The Olympic and Paralympic Games will be held in Tokyo in 2020, the second time since the 1964 Games. Japan has become the host country four times, including the Winter Games in Sapporo in 1972 and in Nagano in 1998. Besides Japan, only three countries, the U.S., France and Germany have held the Olympics more than four times.

The Olympic Games does not only aim to hold a sports meeting at an international level, it also aims to spread the idea of the Olympics: it is to develop people's bodies, will power and intellect in good balance to create a peaceful society based on human dignity. Also in the world of sports, there should be no discrimination towards race, religion or political ideas or gender. This idea is honored in Japan's National Charter, Article 14:

All of the people are equal under the law and there shall be no discrimination in political, economic, or social relations, because of race, creed, sex, social status or family origin.

Working together with the United Nations, I.O.C and other sports organizations have made efforts to get rid of discriminations.

A typical example can be seen in the reconciliation among races through rugby in South Africa. Nelson Mandela, inaugurated as President of South Africa in 1994, dreamed of rugby as a means of settling differences between colored races and white people. When the Rugby World Cup was held in South Africa, he encouraged the South Africa Team to teach rugby to children in the poor districts. South Africa won the championship game over the "All Blacks" from New Zealand after going into extra time and people rejoiced together hand in hand regardless of their skin color. Rugby became a symbol of reconciliation. Mandela later said that sports has the power to change the world by overcoming racism.

At the 2012 Olympic Games in London, for the first time in history, every country competing included female athletes. Up until only one year before the Games, some countries refused to send female athletes to the Games. But the I.O.C. warned that those countries might not be allowed to participate. By 2010, three countries had never sent female athletes to the Games. At last, the London Games was the first Games in which all 204 countries and regions included female athletes.

The I.O.C. decided to create the "I.O.C. Women's Award" in 2010 to encourage women who promote the ever-increasing participation of women in sports. Ms. Yuko

Arimori got the award for popularizing sports among women in Cambodia. Thus sports have played an important role in human rights and peace. I hope the Olympic Games may not be a chance to vie in strength and speed at a sports level but also to vie in the skills to spread the idea of the Olympic Games.

♪ Matinee Concert at Ashiya Hospital ♪

Date and Time: August 31 (Sun.) 2:30 p.m.
Place: Outpatient Ward 4F In front of Yellow Piano
Program: Summer program "Let's play rhythmic together!"
Performer: Yoneda Noriko
Inquiries: General Section (Phone: 31-2156)

♪ Kominkan Concert ♪

Date and Time: August 30 (Sat.) 1:30 - 3:00 p.m.
Place: Citizen's Center, Music room
Program: The Swan by Saint-Saens, Zigeunerweisen by Sarasate, etc.
Performers: Yoko Kithara, violin, Tim Ovens, piano, Yasuko Ogata, Cello
Fee: 500 yen
Application: Apply by post card or Fax with the name of the concert, the name(s) of participant (up to two persons) no later than August 18 (Mon.)
Inquiries and Mailing Address: Citizen's Center (Phone: 35-0700 Fax: 31-4998)
〒659-0068 Narihira-cho 8-24

♪ Left-hand Pianist, Chinai Takeo Concert ♪

Date and Time: September 21 (Sun.) 3:00 p.m. The door opens at 2:30.
Place: Luna Hall
Performers: Takeo Chinai, piano, Masaaki Tanokura, violin, Miho Watanabe, violin
Hiroshi Kondo, cello
Fee: Advanced ticket - 1,500 yen On the day - 2,000 yen
Tickets are available at: Citizen's Center Office, City Hall,
Lawson Ticket (L-code 58058)
Inquiries: Luna Hall (Phone: 35-070)





Be Cautious of Wild Boars !



Recently, damage by wild boars are often reported in Higashi-Nada Ward, Kobe City. Wild boars naturally inhabit mountain areas, but they sometimes make an appearance even in populated areas, looking for food.

If they learn that they can get food easily, they frequently appear in urban areas; they do not fear people, but often chase them, dig up gardens or flower beds, eat bulbs, and even break gates or fences in more serious cases.

Wild boars are mild by nature, so hardly ever attack people; but be careful of mother boars with babies or injured boars.

Never feed them, for it may lead to a serious accident. Additionally, never leave food for pets or leftovers outside.

◆ If a wild boar approaches you:

- Don't run away, but drive it away by waving your arms.
- Don't put your bag on the ground (The wild boar will take it away).
- Don't hurt it by throwing anything like stones; it will become more dangerous.

Inquiries: Economic Section (Phone: 0797-38-2033)

Events at Tanizaki Jun-ichiro Memorial Museum

<Permanent Exhibition: "Jun-ichiro Tanizaki and his Literary Works" >

Special Display: "Jun-ichiro Tanizaki, a great writer, and his three wives"

Period and Time: Until September 7 (Sun) 10:00-17:00 (Enter by 16:30)

Place: Exhibition Room

Admission: 300 yen (adult) / 200 yen (college or high school student)

<Isamu Taniguchi Exhibition ~Innocence of Blue~> (at Lobby Gallery)

Period: August 6-September 7

Content: Mr. Taniguchi is an artist who has pursued abstraction with "Blue" as a keynote. After the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake, he made a wall painting voluntarily at the restoration work site inside JR San-no-miya Station, expressing the energy for reconstruction.

Appreciate about ten pieces of his oil paintings filled with humanism.

Cost: Admission (300yen) is necessary.

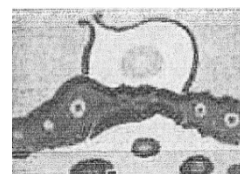
Inquiries: Tanizaki Jun-ichiro Memorial Museum (12-15 Ise-cho, 659-0052)

(Phone: 0797-23-5852 / Fax: 38-3244)

E-mail: ashiya-tanizakikan@rhythm.ocn.ne.jp

Open: 10:00-17:00 (Enter by 16:30) Closed on Monday

Closing days in August: August 4, 11, 18 and 25 (Mon)



History of the Ashiyagawa River ③

– The Ashiyagawa River in Medieval Times –

During the Medieval Times, both banks were widened and strengthened. The river at that time was rough-looking with sediments accumulated at the bottom and large rocks laying down here and there.

During the Kamakura period (1192–1333), there used to be a private estate called Ashiya-no-Sho. A history book in the Muromachi period (1336–1573) mentions Ashiya-no-Sho under the rule of Daimyo-koji Temple, Kitano Shrine, and Jingi-hakke chronologically. The exact location and extent of the estate is unknown but it is thought that it spread along the basin of the Ashiyagawa River.

The Rokko Mountains have been known as a granite-producing area and the chief source for the type of gravestones composed of five pieces piled up one upon another, and various types of stone monuments. Those stones proved to be of a very good quality with a tinge of pink and have been called “*Mikage-ishi*” from the place name of Mikage, Kobe City

During the turbulent times from the 12th to the late 16th century, Kwarabayashi Masanori,

one of the warlords, built Takao Castle on Takaosan (Now called Shiroyama) The ruins of earthwork and the moat still remain there. At the foot of Shiroyama, the foundation stones of buildings and the ruins of tombs in the late 15th to early 16th century were discovered. We can guess that the ruins are associated with Takao Castle and that the place was a part of a residential area.

The Koza River, which flows into the Ashiyagawa River at the foot of Takaosan, is supposed to have played the role of outer moat. One theory holds that the Koza River was replaced by the present river in late medieval times.

The Ashiyagawa River and the Rokko Mountains have been objects of popular belief, there is a tiny shrine for burning incense of invocation. About 30 meters above Koza Fall, dishes for votive lights and china bowls of the Kamakura period have been excavated.

The fall was known as a place of ascetic practices.



Koza Fall



Goma-shrine near Koza Fall

Ishinohoden, located at the watershed of the Ashiyagawa River and Sumiyoshi River, used to be the object of popular belief. *Fukakiri-Iwa* (*fuka* means shark) is famous for people offering prayers for rain up until modern times. It is a large flat rectangular rock made of granite and was used to cut shark to offer to the goddess.

Inquiries: Lifelong Education Section (Phone: 38-2115)



Watching Summer Starry Sky



Why don't you watch the summer starry sky?

It's a nice season to watch Saturn. We will welcome you with topics like observation of Saturn Ring, etc.

Date and Time: Aug. 9 (Sat) 19:00-21:00 (Will be carried out even if it rains.)

Place: Room 401 at the Citizen's Center

Capacity: The first 50 people; junior high school students and younger should be accompanied by guardians.

Application and Inquiries: Call the Environmental Section (Phone: 0797-38-2051) by 17:30 of August 7 (Thu).

So-go-Ko-en (Ashiya Grand Park) Open-air Movie Theater
"Despicable Me 2" (Dubbed in Japanese)
 Japanese Title: 「怪盗グルーのミニオン危機一発」

(US 2013; Running time 98 minutes)

Why don't you enjoy a movie on the lawn field with all your family in a summer evening?

Fair stalls will also be open from 17:00.

Date and Times: Aug.30 (Sat) Sunset time (around 19:00) -
(Will be postponed to Aug.31 (Sun) in case of rain)

Place: Athletic field in Ashiya City Grand Park (*So-go-Ko-en*)
(1-1 Yo-ko-cho; a toll parking lot available)

Film to be screened: "Despicable Me 2", a 3D computer animated comedy film directed by Pierre Coffin and Chris Renaud
(USA 2012, Running time: 101 min.)

Access: Get off the bus at "So-go-Ko-en - Mae" by Hankyu Bus Route 71.



*This movie show will be sponsored by 8 groups in Ashiya city.

For Further Inquiries: The Administrative Office of *So-go-Ko-en* (Ashiya Grand Park)
(Phone: 0797-25-2023)

Ashiya Citizen's Golf Day

Dates: (1) Sep. 17 (Wed), (2) Oct. 24 (Fri), (3) Nov.19 (Wed) and (4) Dec.18 (Wed)

Eligibility: A group of 3~4 persons including a resident or worker in Ashiya

Cost: 14,960 yen (A person of 70 years or older is free of the golf course utilization tax.)

Application: Fax the date you want to play, the representative's name and address, date of birth, phone number and workplace, and all the companion's name and age by 10 days before the day you want to play. (Telephone application is available for one who participated and registered in the past.)

Inquiries: Ashiya Country Club (Phone: 0797-31-0501/Fax:0797-32-1824)



Midsummer Mystery – The Legend of *Nue*

There are many legends of ghosts and goblins everywhere in Japan. Ashiya has the legend of *Nue*. It appears in the Tale of Heike published in 1153. *Nue*, a gruesome monster horrified the people of the capital and drove Emperor Konoe (reigned from 1141 to 1155) into illness. The monster was said to appear with an ominous cloud and make a weird cry like that of gray thrush.

Yoshimasa Minamoto, a master of archery, successfully shot it down. It had a monkey's head, a raccoon dog's body, tiger's paws and a snake's tail. People got the body on board a dug-out canoe and launched it into the river. It flowed through the Yodo River and Osaka Bay and finally reached the shores of Ashiya. Villagers, fearing a curse on them, respectfully buried the body in a tomb with due ceremony. The tomb remains in Ashiya Park, north of the tennis court along the Ashiyagawa River. But the current tomb was actually built in 1917. According to the "*Settsu Meisho Zue*" (an illustrated guide book of noted places) in the Edo period, *Nue*'s tomb was located somewhere between the Ashiyagawa River and the Sumiyoshi River, but the exact location is unknown.

Nue legends still remain in many other places. In the chronicle book published in 1924,

a *Nue*, was said to have drifted ashore in Miyakojima-ku, Osaka, was buried by people.

According to the "*Kaeden Jihitsu*", an essay published in 1806, the capital Kyoto met with calamity after people happened to dig up a *Nue*'s tomb near Kiyomizu-dera Temple.

In Shikoku, *Nue*, cut into pieces, was washed ashore but transformed into a horrible new monster. The name, a *Nue*, remains as a place name, for example, Nue-shiro in Hamamatsu City in Shizuoka Prefecture. Here in Hyogo Prefecture, Nue-zaka Bridge remains in Nishiwaki City.

Nue's Tomb in Ashiya Park



Monthly First-Aid Training Class

Date and Time: August 23 (Sat.) 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Place: Main Fire Department All-purpose Room

Contents: AED cardiopulmonary resuscitation and other emergency aids

Capacity: 20 people, first-come basis

Eligibility: Those who live, work, and study in Ashiya

Inquiries: Main Fire Department, emergency Sub-section (Phone: 32-2345)

Let's Cook and Eat World Food: No. 95 (Vietnamese Food)

Date, Time and Place: September 4 (Mon) 10:00-14:00 Shio-Ashiya Exchange Center

Instructor: Ms. Noriko Yano

Capacity: 30 people (Application required)

Menu: Fresh Spring Roll / Stuffed Tomato / Crab and Asparagus soup / Banana Dessert

Cost: 2,000 yen (1,500 yen for a member of ACA)

Things to bring: An apron, a dish cloth and writing instrument

Application starts from 13:00 on August 1

* In case of cancellation two weeks before the day of lesson or later, we will ask you to pay 1,500 yen for the materials

Application and Inquiries: Call Shio-Ashiya Exchange Center (Phone: 0797-25-0511)

Monthly Gardening Seminar at Ashiya Grand Park (So-go-Ko-en) for August

Date, Time and Content:

(1) Aug. 18 (Mon) 13:30-15:00 / (2) Aug.24 (Sun) 10:30-Noon

Easy soap making with herb; two classes of the same content

(3) Aug. 30 (Sat) 10:30 - Noon

Make a Green Bouquet Arrangement using preserved flowers

Capacity for each class above: 20 people

Instructor and Cost: (1)/(2) Takako Tsukuda 1,000 yen / (3) Noriko Maeda 3,000 yen

What you should bring: Writing material and a big bag to take the work home

Application: Call or fax or E-mail with notification of the class you want to take, your name and address and phone number by 17:00 of Aug.11 for (1), Aug. 17 for (2) and Aug. 23 for (3)

Inquiries: Ashiya City Grand Park (So-go-Ko-en)

(Phone: 0797-38-2103 / Fax: 25-2026)

(E-mail: midori@ashiyashisogokoen.com)

- Re-Use Festa -

Display of Furniture and Bicycle for Re-Use



Large-sized discarded furniture and bicycles were fixed and repaired and are on display to give to those who want it. (Furniture is free; there is a charge for bicycles.)

Date and Time: August 24 (Sun) and 25 (Mon) 10:00-15:00 (except noon-13:00)

Place: The Recycle Ward, Refuse Disposal Center (31-1 Hamakaze-cho)

Eligibility: Applicants should be residents of Ashiya City.

Application: Bring a postcard (¥52) and apply for only one item (of both furniture and bicycle) for one household using the designated form; more than one application or proxy applications are invalid. In case you win the both of furniture and bicycle, choose either of them. If there is more than one application for one item, a lottery will be held.

Lottery: August 25 (Mon) 15:15- Selected persons will be notified by the

postcard.

Delivery: September 7 (Sun) and 8 (Mon) 10:00–15:00 (except noon–13:00)

- Please come in person
- If you do not come during above period, you are considered to have refused delivery.

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

Desk of Recycling (Phone: 090-3991-7514)



Doctors on Call for Emergencies on Sundays and Holidays

- ◆ Internal and Pediatric (9:00-17:00 on Sundays and Holidays)

Ashiya City Holiday and Emergency Clinic

(5-13 Kin-mitsu-cho; Phone: 0797-21-2782)

- ◆ Hospitals appointed for emergencies

Ashiya Municipal Hospital (Internal) (Phone: 0797-31-2156)

Minami-Ashiyahama Hospital (Surgical / Internal) (Phone: 0797-22-4040)

Ashiya Saint. Maria Hospital (Surgical / Internal) (Phone: 0797-23-1771)

- ◆ Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic for emergency care

Amagasaki Medical Center (Phone: 06-6436-8701)

(9:00-16:00 on Sunday and Holiday, / 18:00-20:30 on Saturday,)

- ◆ Eye Clinic for emergency care

Amagasaki Medical Center (3-15-20 Suido-cho; Phone: 06-6436-8701)

(9:00-16:00 on Sunday and Holiday)

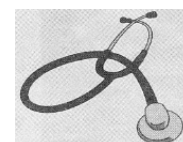
- ◆ Dental Clinic for emergency care

(9:00-11:30 on Sunday, Holiday and the end/ beginning of the year)

Dental Center (14-9 Kurekawa-cho Health and Welfare Center 1F,
Phone: 0797-31-0658)

◆ Evening Medical Care Rotation * 20:00 - 23:00 on Friday		
Aug. 1	Nagaredani Internal Clinic (Internal)	Phone: 0797-22-4592
Aug. 8	Nagasawa Clinic (Internal/Digestive)	0797-25-0075
Aug.15	Kato Clinic (Internal/Digestive)	0797-25-1211
Aug. 22	Watanabe Internal Clinic (Internal/Circulation)	0797-80-8200
Aug. 29	Nishiwaki Digestive Clinic (Internal/Surgical)	0797-38-9891
Sep. 5	Ueda Internal Clinic	0797-34-1878
* 23:00 on Friday - 7:00 on the next day / 20:00 excluding Friday - 7:00 on the next day Minami-Ashiyahama Hospital (Phone: 0797-22-4040)		

- Please call and check each clinic beforehand.



Waiting for photographs and video disks of the Hanshin Awaji Earthquake

We are waiting for your cooperation in gathering photographs and video letters of the earthquake stricken area of Ashiya, to hand down our memories, experiences and lessons of the disaster to the next generation.

Photographs

- Media: Photographs, CD-R, USB and other recording media

Photograph must be on photographic paper (silver chloride)

Single photo, (no set of photographs)

Data must be in JPFPG form.

- Application:

Send your address, name (with a phonetic transcription in *kana* written above), telephone number and the day and the place where it was taken, by mail until 15 October to

〒 659-8501 7-6 Seidou-chou Planning Section, Ashiya ,

Video Letters

- Media: DVD-R, playable on a home videodisc player.

Send it with a paper stating your address, name (with a phonetic transcription), telephone number and the place where or whereabouts you were and how you were related with Ashiya city at that time, by mail until 15 October.

Publication

The works offered will be exhibited or televised at the Commemoration event, being held at the Citizens' Center on 17 and 18 January 2015.

Those which offend public orders and morals will not be displayed.

Take great care in portrait rights and copyrights.

Put a work in one envelope.

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS ENGLISH PROOFREADERS!

A group of Ashiya Cosmopolitan Association(ACA) volunteers will translate the September 1st issue of "*Koho Ashiya*" into English as follows. Following that, we are seeking proofreaders to make any necessary corrections.

Date and time : **Friday, 29 August from 13:00**

Place : **Ashiya Cosmopolitan Association (ACA)**

Ashiya Municipal Shio-Ashiiya Exchange Center

7-1 Kaiyo-cho Ashiya

Phone : 0797-34-6340 Fax : 0797-34-6341

E-mail : aca@npo-aca.jp

URL: <http://site.m3rd.jp/aca/>

- ★ Volunteers to assist in mailing copies of "*The Cosmonet*" are also being sought. Interested persons please call the ACA as noted above.
- ★ For any matter related to the ACA, please feel free to e-mail, FAX, or write. Your input is cordially welcomed.