

Minamiboso

December
Kouhou Newsletter

English Version



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Activities on Education Day

This family dodgeball tournament at Minami Elementary was one of many events held at Minamiboso Elementary and Middle Schools for this year's Education Day.

2014
No. 105

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Personnel Administration Statistics

Contact: General Affairs Division (TEL: 33-1025)

The following figures on personal administration management in 2013 are published in accordance with Local Civil Service Law number 58 and ordinance number 6 pertaining to the public announcement of personnel administration management in Minamiboso City.

1. Numbers of Public Workers

(1) Hiring and Retirement

Type of Work	2013 Hires	Retirements in 2013				
		Mandatory Retirement	Suggested Retirement	Resignation	Other (Death, etc.)	Total Retirements
General Administration	10	12	5	6	0	23
Childcare	2	0	0	0	0	0
Skilled Labor	0	4	1	1	0	6
Doctor	1	0	0	1	0	1
Medical Technician	0	0	0	1	0	1
Nursing	1	0	0	0	0	0
Total	14	16	6	9	0	31

(2) City Workers by Department

Department	As of April 1, 2013	As of April 1, 2014
Bureau of the Mayor	331	321
Board of Education	157	149
Agricultural Board	4	4
City Council Secretariat	6	7
Audit and Inspection Secretariat	2	2
Election Board	1	1
Hospitals	34	36
Waterworks	22	20
Total	557	540

(3) City Workers by Age

Age Range	As of April 1, 2013	As of April 1, 2014
18-24	9	8
25-29	32	28
30-34	74	66
35-39	100	100
40-44	104	101
45-49	74	77
50-54	81	93
55+	83	67
Total	557	540

*Full-time Board of Education members included.

2. Public Worker Pay

(1) 2013 Personnel Costs

Population (2012 Basic Resident Register)	Year-end Expenditure (A)	Revenue	Personnel Costs (B)	Percentage (B) / (A)
41,405	¥23,787,539,000	¥1,279,553,000	¥4,156,032,000	17.5%

(2) 2013 Worker Pay

Number of Workers (A)	Cost to the City				Pay per Worker (B) / (A)
	Salaries	Allowances	Bonuses	Total (B)	
483	¥1,766,159,000	¥198,102,000	¥653,808,000	¥2,618,139,000	¥5,421,000

*Allowances do not include retirement benefits or severance packages.

(3) Average Age and Monthly Pay

Job Type	As of April 1, 2013				As of April 1, 2014			
	Average Age	Average Pay	Average Pay		Average Age	Average Pay	Average Pay	
			Salary	Benefits			Salary	Benefits
General Administration	44.3	378,805	342,778	36,027	44.5	383,045	343,421	39,624
Skilled Labor	50.9	267,664	248,954	18,719	49.7	266,526	245,351	21,174
Education	38.8	322,167	309,804	12,363	40.6	341,939	326,374	15,565

(4) Beginning Monthly Salary (As of April 1, 2014)

Job Type		Municipal	National
General Administration	College Graduate	¥174,200	¥172,200
	High School Graduate	¥146,200	¥140,100
Skilled Labor	Technical Work	¥138,800	—
	Labor	¥134,700	—

(5) Numbers of General Administration Workers by Rank (As of April 1, 2014)

Rank:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total
Position	Staff Member/ Technician	Staff Member/ Technician	Staff Member/ Technician	Chief Clerk / Assistant Advisor	Chief Clerk / Advisor	Assistant Section Chief / Assistant Director	Office Manager/ Section Chief / Director	Division Chief	
Number	1	37	65	65	46	68	41	9	332
% of Total	0.3%	11.1%	19.6%	19.6%	13.9%	20.5%	12.3%	2.7%	100%

(6) Bonuses/ Allowances in 2013

-End of Term / Hard Work

Average per Worker	¥1,254,000	
Compared to Salary	End of Term Bonus Hard Work Bonus	2.6 Months Pay 1.35 Months Pay

-Special Work Allowances

Total (2013)	¥4,638,000
Average Per Employee Per Year (2013)	¥159,931
Types of Allowance	10
Examples	garbage disposal operations, garbage disposal clerical work, collection, etc.

-Overtime Bonuses

Total (2013)	¥54,052,000
Average Per Employee Per Year (2013)	¥111.909

-Other Allowances (As of April 1, 2014)

Dependent Allowances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spouse - ¥13,000 Dependent family members other than spouse - ¥6,500 per dependent (¥11,000 if the worker is unmarried) Children between 16 and 22 - ¥5000 added per child
Residential Allowances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rented house/ room (if monthly rent is more than ¥12,000) - up to ¥27,000 per month based on rent
Commuting/ Travel Allowance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Transport - for longest distance traveled - up to ¥55,000 per month - for distance of commute - up to ¥24,500 per month

-Compensation for Government Positions (As of April 1, 2014)

Type of Pay / Position		Monthly Pay	End of Term Bonus	Retirement Benefits
Salary	Mayor	¥830,000	(Length of term / Bonus as proportion of monthly pay) 6 months - 1.875 12 months - 2.025 Total - 3.90	¥830,000 X number of months in office X 0.35 ¥694,000 X number of months in office X 0.25
	Vice-Mayor	¥694,000		
Remuneration for City Council	Chairperson Vice-Chairperson Council Member	¥413,000 ¥360,000 ¥337,000		

- Retirement (Unit: Pay for one month)

Years of work	Voluntary	Suggested / Mandatory
20 Years	21.62	27.025
25 Years	30.82	36.57
35 Years	43.70	52.44
Maximum	52.44	52.44
Additional Bonus	2%-20% depending on the number of years before mandatory retirement	
Average per Worker	¥3,947,000	¥24,736,000

3. Public Worker Hours

Start Time	Ending Time	Lunch Break	Hours Per Day
8:30 AM	5:15 PM	12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	7 hours 45 minutes

4. Disciplinary Action

(1) Status Changes

Demotion	Dismissal	Suspension	Pay Cut	Total
0	0	3	0	3

(2) Disciplinary Action

Admonition	Temporary Pay Cut	Suspension	Dismissal	Total
1	1	0	0	2

5. Public Worker Leave

(1) Days of Paid Leave Taken (April 1, 2013 to March 31 2014)

Average Taken	Percentage of Leave Used
11.9 Days	30.5%

(2) Childcare Leave

Sex	Childcare Leave	Shortened Hours
Men	0	0
Women	8	0
Total	8	0

(3) Nursing Care Leave

Sex	Nursing Care Leave
Men	0
Women	1
Total	1

6. Training and Work Evaluations

(1) Job Training Programs in 2013

Type	Participants	Programs
Regional Job Training	50	Job training offered by the Awa Regional Office (Training for new hires, basic job training, intermediate job training, training for assistant division chiefs and section heads, responding to complaints, welcoming guests)
Temporary Worker Job Training	125	Chiba Prefectural Government Training Center, Shichouson Academy, programs by universities, etc.

(2) Worker Evaluations for 2013

Workers' ability and accomplishments are evaluated every fiscal year.

Evaluation Period	April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014
Number of Workers Evaluated	528 (excludes temporary workers, part time employess, etc.)

Locally-Sourced Minamiboso Burger Recipes

~How to Make Award Winning Food~ #2

<http://civil.mbosso-etoko.jp/chisan-chisho/recipe/>



Award for Excellence

“Rencorn Burger”

Yuuki Tsukano

(Miyoshi Elementary, 1st Grade)

Ingredients (Makes 4 servings):

Hamburger: steak and pork chops (200 g of each), 100g onion, 200g lotus root, 1 egg, 1 cup bread crumbs, 50ml milk, 1 teaspoon salt, pepper to taste

Sauce: 100ml Ponzu, 100ml tsuyu no so (つゆの素), 1 ear of corn

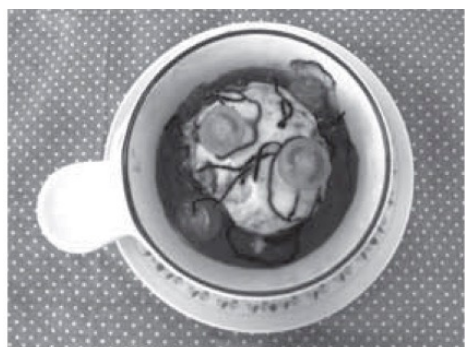
Directions:

Hamburger:

1. Cut any large pieces of fat from the meat, then grind the meat in a food processor.
2. Dice the onion and chop the lotus root into large pieces.
3. Work together all ingredients except for lotus root
4. Make patties about 5-6cm in diameter and 1 cm thick. Cook both sides.

Sauce:

1. Cut corn from cob, wipe pan and cook corn in remaining grease.
2. Mix together ponzu and tsuyu no so, then add corn.
3. Pour the sauce over the burgers and enjoy.



Award for Excellence

“Grilled Curry Hijiki Burger”

Ryuunosuke Koshiba

(Tomiura Elementary, 5th Grade)

Ingredients (makes 4 servings):

Hamburger: 300g ground chicken, 10g dried hijiki, 1/2 onion, 1/4 carrot, 1 tablespoon ginger, 1 tablespoon vinegar, 1 tablespoon potato starch, cheese to taste

Curry Sauce: 1 tomato, 1/2 onion, 1 potato, 2 tablespoons curry powder, 1 teaspoon each of sugar, soy sauce, sauce, ketchup
Toppings: cheese to taste, 8 cherry tomatoes, 1 green pepper

Directions:

Hamburger:

1. Mince onion, carrot, ginger. Cut hijiki into an appropriate length and reserve some for topping.
2. Combine ingredients well and divide into 4 equal parts. Stuff with cheese and cook both sides.

Curry Sauce:

1. Mix ingredients in a mixer.
2. Simmer in the pan used for burgers, adding water to avoid burning the sauce.

Toppings:

1. Cut the green pepper into rings and the tomatoes in half.
2. Place burger and sauce in a gratin dish, top with toppings and cook in a toaster oven.

This Month's Environmental Slogan:
"Pick up garbage without being asked."
2014 Environmental Slogan Contest Grand Prize Winner
Yukari Shindou, Tomiura Middle School 2nd Year

The 2015 Eco Life Calendar

The 2014 Eco Life Calendar has been created to help people get interested in and learn about the environment. It is available for free until Friday, December 12. (While supplies last.)

What's inside:

- The winning entries in the Environmental Poster and Environmental Slogan contests.
- "Eco Info" you can use in your everyday life
- An "environmental budget sheet" that helps you easily calculate your home's carbon dioxide emissions



Where to get it:

The Environmental Preservation Division, Citizen Registration Division, and each branch office

Contact: Environmental Preservation Division (TEL: 33-1053)

Garbage and sewage facilities will be closed and/ or have restricted business hours from Thursday, December 27 to Sunday, January 4. (x = closed)

◆ Accepting Garbage at Facilities

	12/27	12/28	12/29	12/30	12/31	1/1	1/2	1/3	1/4
Tomiura, Tomiyama, and Miyoshi: Ootani Cleaning Center (TEL: 57-2646)	X	X	8:30AM-12:00PM 1:00PM-5:00PM		X	X	X	X	X
Shirahama: Shirahama Seisou Center (TEL: 38-4560)	9:00 - 11:30 AM	X	9:00AM-12:00PM 1:00PM-5:00PM		9:00 - 11:30 AM	X	X	X	X
Chikura, Maruyama, and Wada: Chikura Seisou Center (TEL: 44-1263)									

*For collection dates, see your collection calendar.

◆ Sewage Management

	12/27	12/28	12/29	12/30	12/31	1/1	1/2	1/3	1/4
Tomiura, Tomiyama, and Miyoshi: Kyonan Kankyō Eisei Kumiai (TEL: 55-0329)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Shirahama, Chikura, Maruyama, and Wada: Chikura Eisei Center (TEL: 44-0084)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X



Nathan's Minamiboso Travelogue #4

Nathan Blackwell, Coordinator of International Relations

ブラックウェル家のクリスマス

「アメリカ人は、クリスマスの時に何をやるの?」と、ときどき聞かれます。実は、一般的なアメリカ人のクリスマスの過ごし方は知りませんが、我が家の普通の12月25日について書かせていただきます。

まずは朝ご飯です。メイン・ディッシュは、母の手作りのバターと砂糖がいっぱい入っているシナモンロールです。ベーコンやコーヒーなども食べ、かなりおいしい朝食だと思います。

次に、みんなと一緒にプレゼントを開けます。子どもの頃は、毎年クリスマスで興奮して眠れなく、午前5時ごろに起きたものでした。でも、やはり冬休みはのんびりしたいので、今は昼まで寝ます。みんながリビングに集まり、出来るだけ面白いものを最後に残し、プレゼントを一つずつ開けます。(注: クリスマス前夜にプレゼントを開ける家族もいますが、ちょっと違うと思います。)

我が家は、伝統的なゲームをせず、ピアノの周りで歌を歌わず、映画のシーンのようなクリスマス行事は何もしません。むしろ、一日中もらったばかりのプレゼントを使ってみたり、おいしいものをたくさん食べたり、ボードゲームやおしゃべりをしたりします。そして、それはいつもすごく楽しいです。

実家から6000マイル離れて暮らしている今年は、自分の家にある小さいトースターオーブンでシナモンロールを作りたいと思っています。



Merry Christmas!
メリークリスマス!

Blackwell Family Christmas

People in Japan sometimes ask me what Americans do on Christmas. I can't speak for all Americans, but let me tell you what we Blackwells do.

First, we have breakfast. The main event is my mom's delicious, butter-and-sugar-packed cinnamon rolls. Like any breakfast, they're best enjoyed with coffee and some bacon.

Next, we open presents together. When I was younger, I would get up at 5 a.m. or so, too excited to sleep, but now we tend to start Christmas day activities around noon. Winter break is for relaxing, after all. We gather in the living room and unwrap our gifts one by one, leaving the most exciting ones for last. (Note: Some families open gifts on Christmas Eve night, but I've always found that weird.)

In my family, we never play traditional games, sing songs around a piano, or do anything like that. Instead, we spend the rest of the day trying out the gifts we've just gotten, eating a lot of good food, chatting, and playing board games. It's always a lot of fun.

This year, living 6000 miles from home, I think I'll try to make cinnamon rolls myself in my tiny toaster oven

※広報英語版や国際交流イベントの紹介を発信しています。ぜひアクセスしてください!
南房総みんなネット「国際交流員:ネイサン」<http://civil.mbosonetoko.jp/group/detail.asp?id=130>

From the Consumer Consultation Center #28

Problems with Apartment Leases

At the Consumer Consultation Center, we hear a lot of complaints about apartment rental. For example, some landlords do not return deposits when they should. Or maybe you have just signed a lease and moved into a new place only to discover something is broken. These are the sorts of problems we can help with.

Some people may be surprised that these problems are treated as consumer issues, but there are many cases in which problems between landlords and renters should be dealt with this way.

With apartments and other buildings being rented all the time, problems like this are not uncommon. Consumer issues may be more relevant to all of our lives than we think.



Give us a call

The Consumer Consultation Service, City Expenditures and Lifestyle Consultation
(TEL: 33-4300) 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

*We do in-person consultation twice a week.

For details, check the Kouhou Announcements publication.

For inquiries, contact the Division of Commerce and Industry (TEL: 33-1092) Or the Prefectural Consumer Center (TEL: 047-434-0999) 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM

*Not open on Sundays and Holidays

Fixed Asset Taxes (Depreciable Property) Must be Filed for Businesses Operated in Minamiboso

Depreciable property is any fixed asset owned, by either a corporation or an individual, including factories and stores, buildings, machinery, tools, and fixtures used in agricultural, marine and other industries. Depreciable property is subject to the same fixed asset taxes as land and houses.

Owners of depreciable property must file taxes each year for property they own as of January 1.

Declaration forms are mailed out at the end of December. If you do not receive one, please contact the Tax Division.

Exceptions:

Mining rights, fishing rights, patents, and other intangible fixed assets, vehicles that are subject to automobile tax, etc.

Filing Deadline: Monday, February 2

Apply to: The Tax Division, Asai Administrative Center, or any branch office

Reduced Taxes for Certain Renewable Energy Generation Equipment

Certain renewable energy generation installations authorized for the feed-in tariff from the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry are eligible for reduced fixed asset taxes.

Eligibility: Anyone with solar panels producing 10 or more kilowatts who sells some or all of the energy

*Low voltage households (under 10 kW) are not eligible.

Eligible Equipment: Solar panel systems installed between May 29, 2012 and March 31, 2016.

*Solar panels affixed to the roof of a house are taxed as part of the house.

Reduced Rate Available for: 17 years

Amount of Tax Reduction: Eligible depreciable fixed asset taxes will be reduced by up to one third for three years.

Submit the application for this reduction with your depreciable property fixed asset tax form (償却資産申告書). For details, visit the city website.

Contact: Tax Division (TEL: 33-1023)

The City Awards Ceremony

The 2014 Minamiboso City Awards Ceremony was held on November 7 at City Hall. The following people received commendations.

Recognition for Service:

- **For Contributions to the Local Government as a Member of the City Council**

Mikio Takaki (Wada)

- **For Contributions to Industrial Promotion as a Member of the Agricultural Council**

Yoshiaki Katou (Miyoshi)

Hisao Uyama (Shirahama)

Norio Kawana (Chikura)

Ikao Komiyama (Chikura)

Bunzou Sakamoto (Chikura)

Congratulations to everyone recognized at the ceremony.



Appointees to the Administrative Reform Promotion Council

Mayor Ishii appointed 10 members (including reappointments) to the City Administrative Reform Promotion Council at its November 6 session.

The term of appointment ends in September 2016. Shouichi Iida was appointed as chairman and Sanai Sano was appointed as vice chairman.

The council will be using this term to draft the Third Term Plan for Administrative Reform Promotion and manage administrative reform progress in Minamiboso.

The Council Members:

Youko Ishii, Sanai Sano, Hisayo Kaneki, Hiroki Yashiro, Misao Kurokawa, Shouichi Iida, Toshirou Terasawa, Hisao Seki, Fusamune Suzuki, Eisuke Kosaka



Mayor Ishii conferring appointment papers

Register to Vote in the Agricultural Committee Election

Voter registration for the Agricultural Committee election starts January 1 each year.

Registration applications are distributed through the Agricultural Planning Committee. (In Shirahama, one is sent to each household.) If you are eligible to vote, please apply.

The Agricultural Planning Committee reviews the applications and registers qualified applicants. You must be registered to vote.

Applications are available at the Asai Administration Center, each branch office, and the Election Management Committee office.

Registration Period: Thursday, January 1 through Saturday, January 10

Apply to: The Agricultural Planning Committee (Applicants in Shirahama apply to the Shirahama ward chief.)

Who Can Apply: People who have a Minamiboso address as of January 1, 2015, are 20 years of age or older as of March 31, 2015 (born on or before April 1, 1995), and meet one of the following requirements.

1. Cultivate 10 ares (one-tenth hectare) or more of farmland (must be currently classified as agricultural land)
2. Be a spouse or family member living with someone who cultivates 10 ares of farmland and work on the land at least 60 days a year

*Making false claims on applications is against the law.

Inspection: An inspection of registered voters will take place from February 23 to March 9 at a location chosen by the Election Management Committee.

Contact: Agricultural Board (TEL: 33-1081), Election Management Committee (TEL: 33-1131)

Staying Healthy

Contact: Health Support Division- Phone: 36-1152

Fighting the Flu

Flu season comes every year from December to the end of April and peaks from late January to February. We all have to do our part everyday to prevent the spread of the flu.

Be familiar with this information on preventing the flu:

Route of Transmission

The flu spreads through the air when people who have contracted the virus cough or sneeze. You can also catch the flu by touching something that has the virus on it then touching your eyes, mouth, or nose.

Incubation Period

The incubation period is typically 1 to 3 days. The virus is particularly contagious from just before showing symptoms to about 3 days after.

Symptoms

Symptoms include sudden fever starting at 38°C and rising to 39°C or higher, headache, back pain, muscle ache, joint pain, fatigue, sore throat, and respiratory symptoms.

Prevention

1. Hand washing and gargling

Wash your hands frequently, including before going out, after getting home, and before cooking and eating. Make sure to wash with plenty of soap and running water.

2. Cough Etiquette

If you are coughing or sneezing, wear a mask. You can also cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or handkerchief when coughing or sneezing.

3. Nutrition and Rest

Take care to eat balanced meals and get plenty of rest.

4. Keep your room at a moderate temperature.

5. Avoid large groups.

6. See a doctor right away.

If you think you have caught the flu, get an examination right away. Getting vaccinated suppresses symptoms to a certain extent and can be expected to prevent more serious cases of the flu.



Driver's License Subsidy for the Disabled

The cost of getting a driver's license will be subsidized for disabled people to encourage job hunting and social activities.

To get the application and other required documents, contact the Social Welfare Division.

Eligibility: Minamiboso residents who have a physical disability notebook of grade 1 through 4, or a rehabilitation notebook from the prefecture are eligible. Applicants must also be eligible to take the driving exam and intend to use their license to find work or be involved in social activities. (An individual can receive the subsidy only once.)

Fees Covered: Up to two-thirds of enrollment, teaching materials, inspection, instruction, examination, and temporary permit fees are covered.

Amount of Subsidy: Up to ¥100,000

Application Period: Within 6 months before or 6 months after receiving a driver's license.

Contact: Social Welfare Division
(TEL: 36-1151)

Individual Nursing Consultation

Get free consultation from the Regional Comprehensive Support Center on nursing care, nursing insurance, etc. Please make an appointment in advance if possible.

January 5 - 1:30-4:00PM - Tomiura Genki Club

January 15 - 1:30-4:00PM - Tomiyama Community Center

January 25 - 1:30-4:00PM - Miyoshi Rural Community Environment Improvement (Nouson) Center

Contact: Regional Comprehensive Support Center (Chiiki Houkatsu Shien Sentaa)
(TEL: 20-4060),

Health Support Division (TEL: 36-1152)

Kyoto and Hyogo Prefecture Severe Rainstorm Relief Donation: Deadline Extended

Deadline for Donations: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 (for both Kyoto and Hyogo Prefecture)

Method: Yucho or Post Bank transfer

Account Number: 00160-1-586828

Account Names: Japanese Red Cross August Kyoto and Hyogo Prefecture Severe Rainstorm Donation (Nisseki hachi gatsu Kyoto-fu Hyogo-Ken gouu saigai gienkin)
[Deadline: December 26]

Japanese Red Cross August Hyogo Prefecture Severe Rainstorm Donation (Nisseki hachi gatsu Hyogo-Ken gouu saigai gienkin)
[Deadline: March 31, 2015]

Bank Transfer: Transfer fees will be waived. To receive a receipt, write "juryousho kibou" (受領書希望) in the message box.

Contact: Japanese Red Cross, Chiba Prefecture Branch (TEL: 043-241-7531)

Assessing the Environmental Impact of the New Regional Garbage Facility

In accordance with the Prefectural Environmental Impact Evaluation Ordinance, the Awa-gun Regional Combined Office submitted its assessment on the environmental impact of the planned regional garbage facility for assessment.

You can read the report on the Awa-gun Regional Combined Office's website. (www.awakouiki.jp) (Japanese only.)

Public Review Period: Starts December 19

Public Review Location: Chiba Prefecture Environmental Life Department, Environmental Preservation Division, and Asai Administration Center

Public Review Times: 9:00AM-5:00PM on weekdays

Contact: Awa-gun Regional Combined Office (TEL: 22-5633)

More Severe Penalties for Delinquent Automobile Tax

To reduce the amount of unpaid automobile taxes, the prefecture will enact more severe penalties such as seizure of paychecks, savings and automobiles. This period of harsher penalties will last through March. If you owe automobile taxes, please pay them immediately.

Contact: Tateyama Prefectural Tax Office (TEL: 22-7117)

Chiba Prefecture General Affairs Department, Tax Division (TEL: 043-223-2127)



A "Mirror Lock" used to seize cars

Expansion of the Registry and Ledger System

Starting in January of this year, everyone with business and real estate loans must keep a registry and a ledger. You must have these documents even if you do not file income tax.

For details on registries and ledgers, contact the Tateyama Tax Office (TEL: 22-0101) or visit the National Tax Agency website (www.nta.go.jp).

Rent Farmland: The Farmland Middle Management System

In prefectures that use the "Farmland Middle Management System," the government rents farmland to make any necessary improvements, then lends the land to farmers.

The prefecture is currently recruiting farmers to rent and cultivate the land. Those who are interested in expanding their land or converting land to farmland are preferred. If you are interested, please apply by January 1, 2015.

People interested in lending their land can contact us at any time.

Contact: Minamiboso Agricultural Support Center (TEL: 28-4595)

Chiba Prefecture Horticulture Association, Farmland Division (TEL: 043-223-3011)

Talk of the Town

Recent Events in Minamiboso

■ Tomiyama Elementary and Preschool PTA Wins Prefecture Volleyball Tournament for the First Time!

The PTA volleyball tournament started in 1976 and was held for the 38th time this year. On October 30 at the Prefectural Sports Center gymnasium, 16 teams that had made it through the rigorous qualifying matches went head to head in this thrilling competition.

The Tomiyama Elementary and Preschool PTA team represented the Awa region in the tournament for the third year in a row. They defeated the Katsuura City Kita Middle School PTA and the Katori City Sawara Elementary PTA one after the other, leading into the semi-finals where they beat the Futtsu Aohori Elementary PTA in a full-set victory. This brought them to the finals.

The championship-deciding game was against Asahi City Second Middle School, a formidable opponent who came in 3rd place in last year's tournament. The underdogs from Tomiyama snatched another full-set victory, showing considerable skill and winning the tournament for the first time.

Manager: Takaaki Mitsuhori

Coach: Hosami Kawana

Players: Rie Kotouda, Kumiko Matsuzaka, Junko Takayama, Etsuko Baba, Tomoko Hasegawa, Yoshimi Hirota, Rie Morooka, Atsuko Zama, Kozue Shimoyama, Nahoko Watanabe, Erina Mitsuhori, Megumi Koike, Mariko Anzai, Kayoko Kawana



Third Tourism Ambassador Appointed

DJ Kousaku, producer for the Maru Gomi Project volunteer organization, was appointed as a tourism ambassador for Minamiboso.

In the wake of the Great East Japan Earthquake, Mr. Kousaku founded Marugomi Minamiboso in January 2013. Since then, he has hosted many events in Minamiboso, including the three-day “Minamiboso Maru Guru” event from July 19 to 21. Because this event was held in collaboration with the Shirahama Ama Matsuri (female diver festival), there was an activity for local cooks to create an “ama curry” dish as well as an “ama contest” in which members were chosen for the idol group White Beach. Mr. Kousaku has done Maru Gomi and Maru Guru events around the country and we are happy that he is now contributing to PR for Minamiboso.

On his radio program on Bay FM, Mr. Kousaku advertises a wide variety of local events. He accepted the appointment as Tourism Ambassador and will continue doing PR for Minamiboso.



The mayor conferring the title on November 6

Police Car Donated to the City

At the Yume Maru Crime Prevention Patrol Car Donation Ceremony on November 4, Minamiboso was one of five municipalities to receive a donated police car from the prefectural government.

The Yume Maru Fund Committee was founded in 2005 by Chiba Nippo, Chiba Television, Bay FM, and Chibaken Yugigyo Kyodokumiai to contribute to social causes. The committee have been making donations since 2006.

Contact: Fire and Disaster Prevention Division (TEL: 33-1025)



Awa Takushin High School Student Competes at 65th Future Farmers of Japan Convention Speech Contest

Future Farmers of Japan consists of 372 schools and has a yearly national convention. To qualify for the national convention, a team must first win at the prefectural and regional conventions.

Mika Hayasaka, a second year student at Awa Takushin High School, placed first at the FFJ Speech Contests in the Chiba and Kanto regionals, continuing on to the national convention.

The title of her speech was “I found myself in a cardboard box.” The speech recounts the story of how Mika was born into a family that cultivates flowers, but in her middle school years, she lost interest. Then her father took her to the Tokyo Oota Market, where she saw vendors selling a flower called “mika no hana,” which means “flower with a beautiful scent” or “Mika’s flower.” This experience renewed her interest in carrying on the family business.

At the national convention she was not able to place, but she did give a wonderful recital of her speech in Okinawa.

Additionally, Tomoya Aoki, Nobuhito Aoki, Ryouyusuke Takeshit, and Takeru Okano represented Chiba Prefecture in the plane-table surveying competition.

Riku Honma, Satoshi Nuhono, and Daiki Watanabe competed in the agriculture appraisal competition and Yuusuke Osaka participated in the Club Member



Representative Conference.

Nuhono and Watanabe both received awards for excellence at the agriculture appraisal competition in the agricultural engineering and stock breeding divisions respectively.

■ **Shirahama Middle School Judo Team Championship and Individual Victory**

At the Prefectural Rookie Judo Tournament held on November 1 and 2 at the Yachimata Sports Plaza, the Shirahama Middle School judo team won the team division for only the second time in 35 years. 40 teams from around Chiba Prefecture came to compete.

The Shirahama team defeated Kamagaya Middle School in their 2nd match, Kashiwa #2 Middle School in the 3rd, and Choushi #5 Middle School in the semifinal.

Facing off against Oohara Middle school, who had three individual class champions, Shirahama won the championship three-to-two.

Team Members (In competition order)

- Ryuuya Hirano
- Mitsutake Shimada
- Shouta Kiso
- Kousuke Hirano
- Ryuuichi Hahakabe

Substitutes: Ryuuya Takaki, Tomoya Anzai



■ **2014 Autumn Honors: Order of the Sacred Treasure, Silver Rays**

Watanabe Emiko of Chikura was hired to work on the national census in 1965 and worked on the next 10 censuses as well as a wide variety of other statistical studies.



She is still doing important work as a researcher for the census. Ms. Watanabe has

been given this award because of her deep understanding of the importance and purpose of surveying work and because she has received high praise throughout her many years of service.



■ **Opinions on Minamiboso Administrative Reform Promotion and Financial Restoration Proposals**

We are accepting input on the proposed plans for Minamiboso's 3rd term administrative reform promotion and financial restoration project proposals.

These proposals were drafted to use our limited financial resources to establish a strong, future-focused administrative and fiscal policy while creating efficient and effective services for citizens.

Where: Administrative Reform and Budget Finance Division, Asai Administration Center, each regional branch, and the city website

Topics at the November Press Conference

- The 4th Session of the Minamiboso City Council
- The 6th Minamiboso Sangyo (Produce) Festival

*For detail, see the city website (Japanese only).

The December Signboard

Review Period: December 22 to January 21, 2015

Submissions: Please send in your suggestions using the designated form.

Forms are available at the Administrative Reform and Budget Finance Division, Asai Administration Center, each regional branch, and on the city website.

Contact: Administrative Reform and Budget Finance Division (TEL: 33-1022)

■ Taking Applications for Tateyama School for the Deaf Preschool

The Tateyama School for the Deaf is accepting applications to its preschool program. School entrance counseling is available until January 9, 2015.

Eligible Students: Children with a hearing disability who were born between April 2, 2009 and April 1, 2012. Children that seem to be slow to develop speaking ability.

Students Admitted: A few students from ages 3 to 5

Application Materials: school admission application, copy of a physical disability notebook or rehabilitation notebook, physical examination form confirming disability, return envelope

*Applications are available at Tateyama School for the Deaf (Tateyama Roubunkou)

Application Period: January 19-30, 2015
Weekdays, 9:00AM-4:00PM

New Student Screening: February 13, 2015

*Candidates selected for enrollment will be notified by February 19.

Contact: Awa Special Support School
Tateyama School for the Deaf

294-0055 Tateyama-shi Nago 1672-7

TEL: 27-2490 FAX: 27-4956

■ Class: How to Take care of and Train a Dog

There will be a class on taking care of and training dogs at the Awa Health and Welfare Center (Awa Health Preservation Center).

Please feel free to participate if you own a dog.

When: Saturday, January 24, 2015, starting at 12:30PM

Where: Awa Health and Welfare Center (Awa Health Preservation Center)

Capacity: 20 owners and their dog

Fee: ¥3500

Additional Info: Because there will be a raining session, please bring your dog with you. (You may also come to the class without your dog.)

Apply to: Awa Health and Welfare Center (TEL: 22-4511)

■ Recruiting Nature Conservation Volunteers at Cape Taibusa Misaki Nature Park

• **Cape Taibusa-Misaki Biotope: Making Habitats for Animals [Fudou-Taki Falls]**

When: Tuesday, January 20, 9:30AM-3:30PM

• **Help Make Taibusa Famous for Cherry Blossoms**

When: Tuesday, January 20, 9:30AM-3:30PM

Where: Cape Taibusa-Misaki Nature Park (Shizen Kouen)

Fee: Free

For details, contact: Cape Taibusa-Misaki Nature Park (TEL: 33-4551)

Email: park.taibusa@chiba-ns.net

■ Taibusa Camper's Lunch

Let's make tasty food together over a campfire. Everyone is free to come and participate.

When: Sunday, January 25, 2015

10:00AM-1:00PM

Where: Cape Taibusa-Misaki Nature Park (Shizen Kouen)

Menu: Hot-off-the-grill vegetable *oyaki* and seasonal *habanori soup*

Fee:

Middle Schoolers and older- ¥2000

Elementary Schoolers and below*- ¥1500

*Must be accompanied by a guardian

Capacity: 15 participants

Apply to: Cape Taibusa-Misaki Nature Park (TEL: 33-4551)

Email: park.taibusa@chiba-ns.net



Free Consultation

■ Is Your Home Prepared for an Earthquake?

Talk to us about earthquake-proofing your home. Consultation is free. Appointment required.

When: January 7, 1:00-4:00PM

Where: Wada Regional Welfare Center [Yasuragi] (Wada Chiiki Fukushi Center)

Apply to: Management Division (TEL: 33-1102)

Population Trends (as of December 1, 2014)

*(parentheses) indicate change from the previous month

Total Population: (-40) 41,108

Males: (-15) 19,707

Females: (-25) 21,401

Households: (+14) 17,317

Births: 9

Deaths: 50

Moved in: 53

Moved away: 52

Introducing Local Community Organizations # 82

~Tomiura Culture Festival Planning Committee~

Chairman: Yasuo Ishii Members: 10

Founded in 1962 and taking place for the past 52 years, Tomiura Culture Festival has a long history.

There are other culture festivals in Minamiboso, but the people of Tomiura hold our own at the Tomiura Genki Club so that we can enjoy our own local produce close to home.

This year, we held the festival on November 3, which was Culture Day. The festival featured not only the works of Tomiura Community Center clubs, but also exhibited pieces by elementary and middle school students.

The turnout was good because the weather was beautiful that day. Many visitors voiced their appreciation for the various works, which included photographs, drawings, collage pictures, calligraphy, knitting, and historical research.

The event also owes its success to Sado Nagomikai for providing free green tea, the Sazanami Tomiura Regional Development Association, the Self Support Research Association, and the Tomiura Fisheries Cooperative.

Over 50 years have passed since the first Tomiura Culture festival and we have grown old with it. But we continue to have energy and enjoy creating things, which we will continue doing as long as we can.



Yasuo Ishii (TEL: 33-3525)

This column spreads the word about Minamiboso's local community organizations. If you know of other groups that are doing great things, please let us know about them.

Contact: Civic Collaboration Division. Phone: 33-1005

Minamiboso MinMin Net address:

<http://civil.mboso-etoko.jp/>

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<p>City Website: http://www.city.minamiboso.chiba.jp</p> <p>Twitter: http://twitter.com/minamiboso_koho</p> <p>Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/minamibosocity</p> <p>Chiba TV Prefectural Info: http://www.chiba-tv.com/shicho/</p>	<p>Mobile Site</p> 	<p>Minamiboso Safety Alert</p> 
		<p>To begin registration, send an empty email.</p>