People. Dreams. Future. A hometown whose charm is made by the locals: Minamiboso

Minamiboso

Monthly Kouhou Newsletter

English Version



Plans for the new regional garbage facilities/ Assessing environmental impact P. 2 Public health check-ups begin August21st.....P. 4

Municipal Panel Discussions...... P. 24 Childcare Benefits/ Healthcare for single parent households: Register for benefits during the month of August... P. 7 Accepting applications for "Expressing my feelings in 100 words"...... P. 15 The Shirahama Diver Festival that was held on July 20th. 70 female divers holding torches in one hand walk into the dark sea. There is a dreamlike glow and a persisting silence.

August 2014

Issue No. 101



Plans for the New Regional Garbage Facilities and

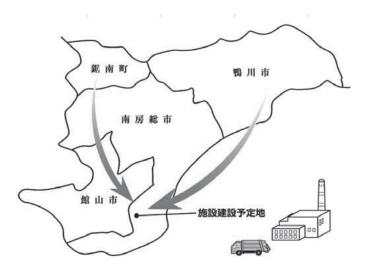
Assessing Environmental Impact

The Awa District Combined Office (Director: Tateyama Mayor Kenichi Kanamaru) has made an agreement with Chikura, Minamiboso to build the regional garbage facilities in the Oonuki district. The Combined office consists of Tateyama, Kamogawa, Minamiboso and Kyonan, They have started both the planning of the facility and research into its environmental impact.

Disposing of garbage on the regional level

Currently, each individual area's government disposes of its own garbage, but plans are moving forward to build a central facility that will process garbage for the whole Awa district.

The plan will do more than just integrate facilities; It is a substantial countermeasure against air pollution caused by the release of harmful material during garbage incineration. Construction, maintenance and administration costs are also expected to be less than if the old facilities were continued to be used. Additionally, power can be generated from the residual heat produced in garbage incineration.



All over the country, local governments are looking into creating regional garbage facilities. In Chiba Prefecture alone, both the Isumi and Tousou districts have started planning the same kind of regional combined facilities. Similarly, four cities in the Kimitsu region are cooperating to collect all of their garbage in Kisarazu City.

The project for the regionalization of garbage facilities has been made possible by a grant from the Recycling Society at the Ministry of the Environment.

The following table shows the current Awa area garbage facilities						
Each local governing bo	Each local governing body managing its own garbage facilities is an old and impractical system.					
Municipality	Tatavaraa	Kamagauya	Kyonan Area Environmental			
Municipality	Tateyama	Kamogawa	Cleanup Association			
Facility Name	Tateyama Cleaning	Kamogawa Cleaning	Opvietau Cleaning Conter			
Facility Name	Center	Center	Ooyatsu Cleaning Center			
Date opened	October 1984	April 1986	April 1983			
Years of operation	30 years	28 Years	31 Years			

*The Shirahama and Chikura Cleaning Centers are currently out of use

The Proposed Construction Site

The site planned for the construction of the regional garbage facilities is in the Ootsuki District of Chikura. It will be in the mountains on the east side of the Greenline, about 5 kilometers south of the Ina intersection. The Awa regional combined garbage facilities will help develop this forested area. On the same grounds there will also be a recycling center, a facility that harnesses excess heat to produce power, and a final disposal area.

About the Planned Facilities

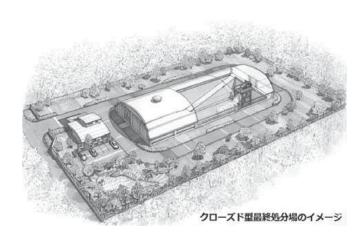
The facilities will not only meet environmental standards, but will also abide by their own stricter standards to protect the surrounding environment. Furthermore, using the newest equipment, the facility will achieve the high levels of efficiency that one would expect from a modern waste management plant.

1. Heat recovery system (Garbage burning facilities)

The plant is anticipated to have the capacity to process up to 170 tons of refuse a day. The excess heat produced from incinerating the garbage will be used to produce electricity.

2. Recycling Center

Glass bottles, cans, plastic bottles, oversize garbage, and non-burnable items including iron and aluminum will be recycled.



3. Final disposal area (For ash produced in incineration, etc.)

A concrete basin will be constructed for this purpose. The heavy duty, closed structure will insure that the waste inside will not be disturbed by wind and rain.

4. Intermediary Facilities

Because the incinerating plant is in the southeast of Awa, intermediary facilities will be established in the northeast (Kamogawa) and northwest (Utsubusa) to increase efficiency. Each of these facilities will load garbage they have gathered onto large train cars which will then head to the main facilities.

Construction Schedule

Planning this year will mainly determine the new garbage collection system. The actual construction, which will commence after environmental impact studies and surveying the building sites, is planned to be finished in 2020.

				3	1		
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Planning/							
Environmental Assessment							
Land Clearing/							
Groundbreaking							
Plant Construction							

We will send out reports on the status of the project if there are any updates. Make Inquiries to the Awa Regional Combined Office. Phone: 22-5633

Health Screenings

Stomach, Prostate and Hepatitis screenings. Take care of yourself. Get a check-up.

Questions? Call the Department of Healthcare Services at 36-1125

For those with health insurance:

Type of Check-up	Eligible Parties	Cost	Procedures included
Special Diagnostic	Age 40 to 74, has Minamiboso Citizen Health insurance	¥600	Body measurement, blood pressure, urinalysis, blood test, doctor`s examination, etc.
Elderly Diagnostic	Enrolled in the elderly healthcare system	Free	Body measurement, blood pressure, urinalysis, blood test, doctor`s examination, etc.

*Those who are on welfare and are over the age of 40 who would like to have a screening (blood pressure, etc.), please contact the Department of Healthcare Services.

Physicals for which insurance is not required:

Type of Check-up	Eligible Parties	Cost	Procedures included
Tuberculosis/ Lung Cancer	Over age 40	Free	Chest X-ray *3
Stomach Cancer	Over age 40	¥1,000	X-ray with barium
Prostate Cancer	Men over age 50	¥400	PSA (blood) test
			Type C hepatitis
Hepatitis	People 40 years of age *1	¥500 *2	antibodies/ Type B
			hepatitis antibodies
			(blood test)

*1 Those between the ages of 41 and 75 who have not been screened for hepatitis between 2002 and 2013are also eligible for the examination.

- *2 Hepatitis screenings will be free for patients of the following ages: 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, and 70.
- *3 Will be administered at other locations in addition to the public check-up sites.

2014 Public Health Inspection Schedule Registration from 7 AM to 9 AM

- Available in all areas. If you live in an area not listed, it is not necessary to make an appointment.
- If you have moved and did not receive a notification, please contact the Department of Healthcare Services.

Date	Areas Included	Location	
8/21 (Thr)	Shiramazu, Ookawa, Senda, Hiraiso		
22 (Fri)	Kawaguchi, Kotto, Rendaiji, Hedate		
26 (Tue)	Teraniwa, Kitachikura, Yatsu	Chilume Health Canton	
27 (Wed)	Minamichikura, Okaseta, Oonuki, Kawato, Uda, Kamiseto	Chikura Health Center	
28 (Thr)	Shimoseto, Shiinokibara		
29 (Fri)	Makita, Shirao, Kawai, Kubo		
9/2 (Tue)	Otohama, Shioura, Nagura, Hara, Odo		
3 (Wed)	Shimosawa, Aoki, Shimazaki		
4 (Thr)	Higashiyokonagisa, Nishiyokonagisa, Kawashimo	Shirahama Floral Hall	
5 (Fri)	Hongou, Sunadori, Nemoto		
9 (Tue)	Namuya, Toyooki		
10 (Wed)	Haraoka	Taraiura Carli Club	
11 (Thr)	Tadara, Aoki	Tomiura Genki Club	
12 (Fri)	Fukana, Fukuzawa, Miyamoto, Ootsu, Tedori, Ikura, Nyuu		
16 (Tues)	Hanazono, Shiba, Wada		
17 (Wed)	Nigaura, Koura, Maura, Shirasuka	Wada Area Wellness	
18 (Thr)	Shimomihara, Nakamihara, Matsuda, Kaihou	Center (Yasuragi)	
19 (Fri)	Numa, Ogawa, Shimoku, Nakaku, Kamiku		
22 (Mon)	Kushi, Ichibu		
24 (Wed)	Takeuchi, Takesama, Koura	Tomiyama Interactive	
25 (Thr)	Hegurinaka, Yamada, Arakawa, Ikawa, Nibu, Kegiya	Sports Center	
26 (Fri)	Goudo, Miyayatsu, Yoshizawa, Hegurishimo, Inukake		
30 (Tue)	Maruyamahirakka, Ooi, Mikogami, Kawayatsu, Ishidouhara,		
50 (Tue)	Miyashita, Ishidou, Ishigami, Nishihara	Maruyama Community	
10/1 (Wed)	Shushigaya, Odo, Iwaito, Maruhongou, Maeda	Center and Maruyama	
2 (Thr)	Mano, Kamo, Furukawa, Kutsumi	Children`s Gymnasium	
3 (Fri)	Shirako, Anbaya, Mine		
8 (Wed)	Masuma, Kamitakida, Shimotakida, Sendai, Misaka, Kamihori		
9 (Thr)	Shimohori, Kawata, Akashi, Motoori, Fuchuu	Miyoshi Health and	
10 (Fri)	Ikenouchi, Naka, Mishou, Yamana, Oogakuchi, Yamashita	Wellness Center	
12 (Sun)	Mukaiyatsu, Ebishiki		

*Because Maruyama Gymnasium is under renovation, physical examinations will be held in the Maruyama Community Center and Maruyama Children's Gymnasium.

Public Health Screenings Start Thursday, August 21st

Special Physical Examinations

Elderly Check-ups Tuberculosis/ Lung Cancer Screenings

Health Screening Notifications will be mailed out

Special Health Screening

Information will be mailed out to citizens who are eligible for the physical examinations, and will also be available upon entering the venue and at the Ningen Dock.

As these special health screenings are paid for by health insurance companies, those enrolled in plans other that the Citizen's Health Insurance (such as Kyoukai Kempo, Kumiai Kempo, Kyousai Kempo, Kokuhai Kumiai, etc.) will not be eligible. For details on how to get a special health screening, please contact your health insurance provider. Those who stated last year that they would not be getting a special check-up this year may not receive an individualized notice. If you have not received a notice but would like to have a health screening, please apply to the Department of Healthcare Services.

Elderly Health Check-ups

A personal notification will be sent to those who are enrolled in the Elderly Healthcare System or who attended the public health screening last year. For those who did not receive either the Special Health Screening or Elderly Examination last year and wish to have one this year, please apply to the Department of Healthcare Services. However, those who are already being treated or examined for adult-onset diseases will be ineligible for the check-up (Please see your family doctor instead.)

*To confirm that you are qualified for the Special Health Screening or Elderly Health Screening, please call the Insurance and Pension Division of the Ningen Dock (phone: 33-1060).

Application Deadline: Wednesday, August 20th

Tuberculosis and Lung Cancer Screenings, Stomach Cancer Checks, Prostate Cancer Checks, Hepatitis Tests

A medical history form will be sent to those who have registered in the cancer screening registration system. If you have not registered but want to participate, please apply.

Application Deadline: Wednesday, August 20th

Adult-onset Disease Prevention Check-ups

Adult-onset diseases are very difficult to notice on your own. If you are age 35 or up, make sure to get a physical once a year.

Eligibility: People between 35 and 39 (Born between 1975 and 1980)

*Anyone can be examined, regardless of their health insurance plan. Those who want to participate but have not yet applied, please do so. Date/ Time: October 7th (Tue) 7:00 – 9:00 AM

October 12th (Sun) 10:00 – 10:30 AM

Location: Miyoshi Health and Wellness Center Examination Includes: Body measurement, blood pressure test, urinalysis, blood test

Price: ¥1,500

Application Deadline: Tuesday, September 30th

There will be an additional Public Health Check on Sunday, October 12th at the Miyoshi Health and Wellness Center.

For those who cannot make it on a weekday due to their work schedule, please come on this day.

Childcare Benefits/ Healthcare for Single-Parent Households

Register for a subsidy during August If the deadline passes, you will not be able to receive aid.

Those who receive public assistance to support their Families, or single parents with medical expenses who need aid must reapply each year. If you are in this situation, apply to the Department of Social Welfare (Miyoshi government building),

Department of Citizenship, or Asaina Administrative Center.

- *Applications will only be accepted at these 3 locations.
- *If you do not apply within the month of August, you will not be able to receive childcare benefits or aid for medical costs.

Childcare Benefits

Eligibility:

Households with only one parent, or with one disabled parent, that have custody of and are raising a child can receive benefits. Income must also be under a certain limit.

How long can a parent receive aid?

Until the end of the fiscal year in which the child turns 18 (March 31st).

*If the child has a mental disability, this is extended to 20 years old.

When does a parent begin to receive aid?

After submitting the necessary documents to confirm eligibility, aid will be paid the month after the application is submitted.

How much are the benefits?

The amount of the allowance is dependent upon the salary of the person receiving the grant, their spouse, or the child's guardian. This is determined by the previous year's salary (or from two years previous if the application is processed between January and June). Based on this salary, aid may be paid in full, partially, or cancelled.

Full: ¥41,020

¥9,680 - ¥41,010

Additional Children: 2nd child: ¥5000

3rd and each additional child: ¥3000

Pay Periods

Partial:

In April, August, and December of each year, the Benefits for the previous months will be paid. The day of the payment will be the 11th day of each pay month. *If the pay day falls on a weekend or national holiday, it will be paid in advance.

Partial Reduction of Benefits

If either of the two following conditions apply, the grant payment in August will be halved.

- 1. 5 years have passed since first receiving aid
- 7 years have passed since becoming eligible for this aid

*If the working parent or the disabled parent submits the necessary paperwork, the aid may be paid in full.

Aid for Medical Expenses in Single-Parent Homes Eligibility:

The mother, father or guardian of a child in a singleparent home is eligible for this aid. Income must also be under a certain limit.

How long can a parent receive aid?

Until the end of the fiscal year in which the child turns 18 (March 31st).

*If the child has a mental disability, this is extended to 20 years old.

When will the parent begin receiving aid?

After submitting the necessary documents to confirm eligibility, aid will be calculated from the day the application was submitted.

How much is the grant?

After paying the out-of-pocket expenses for the medical treatment, the next payment will be reimbursed.

Hospital Visits and Medicine

If in 1 month, the cost of going to 1 hospital exceeds ¥1,000, aid will be paid.

When Staying at the Hospital

The cost of insurance examinations and other medical expenses (with the exception of meals) will be paid in full.

*With the exception of large sum medical expenses, additional payments, or costs from other institutions, expenses will be reimbursed.

Date of Reimbursement

Two months after the application is filed, on the 25^{th} day of the month.

*If the pay day falls on a weekend or national holiday, it will be paid in advance.

*In cases of large sum medical expenses, aid will be calculated and paid according to the individual situation.

Independently-Supported Single Parent Households

The Social Welfare Division is now providing, among other services, child-rearing and daily life assistance, assistance in finding work, and budget and loan consultation for single mothers. Please feel free to contact the division on these issues.

Phone: 36-1153

Disability Assistance

Eligible Handicapped Children (Under the age of 20)

Treatment of Handicapped Children

Aid is available for families with mentally or physically disabled children (under the age of 20) who need regular, daily nursing.

Who is eligible?

Those with a disability who meet one of the following requirements:

- Have a physical disability registration card of either grade 1 or 2, or a rehabilitation certificate of degree (A), A1 or A2.
- 2. Have a medical certificate from a doctor confirming equivalence to the previous requirement.

*Those who are institutionalized or are already receiving benefits for a disability are not eligible.

Amount of Monthly Benefits: ¥14140

Special Benefits for Children

Benefits are available for parents or guardians of a child who has a mid to high level mental disability and who needs daily nursing care.

Eligibility:

- Have a physical disability certificate from grade 1 to 3 or a lower body handicap of level 4 (internal injuries excluded).
- 2. Have a rehabilitation certificate of degree (A), A1, or A2
- Have a medical certificate from a doctor confirming the equivalence of a different disability or injury (internal injury, mental disability, not yet in possession of certificate, etc.)

*Those who are institutionalized are not eligible..

August 2014

Amount of Benefits (Monthly)

Level 1 (high-level disability)	¥49900
Level 2 (mid-level disability)	¥33230

Disability Eligibility (Over 20 years of age)

Special Disability Benefits

Aid is available for households with a family member over 20 years of age who has a severe mental or physical disability, and who require daily nursing care. **Eligibility:**

Those with a disability who meet the following requirements:

- Have 2 or more conditions involving: loss of sight, loss of hearing, use of limbs (upper or lower body, abdomen), internal organs (heart, lungs, kidneys, liver, blood), immune system, or mental handicap. And have a disability certificate of level 1 or 2 OR a rehabilitation certificate of degree (A), A1, or A2.
- Have a medical certificate from a doctor confirming equivalence to the previous requirement.

*Those who are eligible generally have 2 or more disabilities, but it may be possible for someone with only one disability to receive these benefits if certain requirements are met.

*Those who are institutionalized, or who have been in the hospital or a medical clinic for over 3 months are not eligible.

Amount of Benefits (Monthly) ¥26000

Welfare Benefits for Severely Disabled Persons

Those with severe mental disabilities and bedridden persons with severe physical handicaps, or those who care for them, are eligible for benefits.

Eligibility

 Severely mentally handicapped people over the age of 20 who are confined to their home and have a rehabilitation certificate of grade (A), (A)1, or (A)2, A1, or A2. Or a family member who cares for them.

*Disabled persons who have been diagnosed as severely handicapped by the Disability Consultation Center are also eligible.

 Disabled persons who are confined to bed: persons between the ages of 20 and 65 who need daily assistance with bathing, using the bathroom, eating, etc. or their caregiver/ family.

Amount of Benefits (Monthly): ¥8650

Income must be under a certain limit

If the patient or caregiver's salary exceeds the limit, benefits will not be paid. For details, please contact the Department of Social Welfare.

Those who receive welfare benefits for disabled children, special childcare benefits, special disability benefits, or severe disability assistance must submit an income report in April.

Children's Medical Assistance Certificates have been mailed out

Children's Medical Assistance Certificates expire on the last day on July. Once you receive a current certificate through the mail, please dispose of the out-of-date one.

Those whose income for 2013 has surpassed the amount listed in the following table will not receive benefits starting August 1st.

In some cases, the amount of aid due can change according to fluctuations in salary. Your benefits certificate will not be mailed to you until after you submit an income report. Thank you for your understanding.

Benefits are determined based on income after taxes and other costs. Please be careful when calculating this figure. If the number of dependents exceeds 5, add ¥380,000 for each additional dependent.

Make inquiries to The Social Welfare Division. Phone: 36-1153

Number of	Adjusted	Estimate of
Dependents	Income Limit	Income Before
		Taxes, etc.
0	¥6,220,000	¥8,333,000
1	¥6,600,000	¥8,756,000
2	¥6,980,000	¥9,178,000
3	¥7,360,000	¥9,600,000
4	¥7,740,000	¥10,021,000
5	¥8,120,000	¥10,421,000

Medical Expense Assistance for Severely

Disabled Children

If a child is diagnosed with a severe mental or physical disability, part of the cost of that medical examination can be reimbursed.

Those who are eligible include:

- 1. Persons with a disability certificate of level 1 or 2.
- 2. Persons with a rehabilitation certificate of grade

What costs can be reimbursed:

- Part of the cost of a medical exam in which the patient is diagnosed with a disability will be reimbursed.
- The cost of meals while in the hospital WILL NOT be covered.
- If "high cost medical expenses" and "additional payments," etc. fall under municipal coverage or that of an insurance company, the portion

deducted from that coverage will be reimbursed.

 In the month that the patient's certificate of disability is mailed, expenses starting from the first day of that month will be reimbursed.

How to apply:

Please apply at the Social Welfare Division, Citizenship Division, Asaina Administration Center or the community center in your area.

What you need when you apply:

- Certificate of Disability or Certificate of Rehabilitation
- Proof of Health Insurance
- Bank book (in your own name)
- Personal Seal
- Receipt from the medical exam in which the diagnosis was given

*Please bring the documents that detail the payments made by your insurance company *If the receipt is not available, please bring other documentation from the medical institution. *If 2 years have passed since the first day of the month following the month in which the medical payment was made, you cannot apply for reimbursement.

To be eligible, the applicant's income must be under a certain limit.

Applicant's whose municipal tax is over a certain limit cannot receive aid. In order to confirm your amount of taxation, it is necessary to submit a new statement of taxation at the time of application every August. For those currently enrolled, a current tax form was sent out. Please complete this form and submit it. You will not be able to receive this aid without the tax form.

Social Welfare Division Phone: 36-1151

Do you know the members of The Committee for the Protection of Human Rights?

By discussing current issues with citizens, The Committee for the Protection of Human Rights promotes awareness of human rights issues, as well as helping to solve problems related to those issues. In this city, 17 citizens have been appointed as committee members by the Minister of Justice.

Introducing the Committee Members

(In no particular order. Titles are omitted.)
Kouichi Shibuya (Tomiyama)
Yoshiaki Kawana (Tomiyama)
Takehito Nakamura (Miyoshi)
Kouzou Mikogami (Miyoshi)
Eiji Takaki (Shirahama)
Takamichi Yoshida (Chikura)
Seiichi Terazawa (Chikura)
Seiichi Asano (Chikura)
Yoshie Owasa (Maruyama)
Tateo Suzuki (Maruyama)
Isamu Kitami (Wada)
Jun Gima (Wada)
Sumio Mizushima (Wada)

Members appointed since the July 1st

(In no particular order. Titles omitted.)





(Tomiura)

Yasuo Ishii (Tomiura) Akemi Katou (Shirahama)

Members who retired on June 30th

(In no particular order. Titles omitted.) Toshio Hizumi (Tomiura) Takashi Odani (Shirahama)

Now hiring new members for the

Administrative Reform Committee

Would you like to take part in the city government planning?

The city is now recruiting committee members who can influence administrative reform.

Job requirements: Have an interest in administrative reform and meet the following conditions:

- 1. Over 20 years of age
- 2. Have lived in Minamiboso for over 1 year
- 3. Not already part of another government committee (Commission of Enguiry, etc.)
- 4. Not a city worker or a member of the City Diet

Number of positions: 2

(We are also recruiting up to ten highly-qualified candidates for City Council.)

Term of Office: 2 years, from October 1st 2014 to September 30th 2016

Duties: Deliberate the implementation of administrative reform in the city.

How to apply: Fill in the necessary items on the application sheet and submit it by mail, fax or email. Application forms are available on the city website, at the Division of Administrative Reform and Public

August 2014

Finance, the Asai Administrative Center, or at your local community center.

Application deadline: Wednesday, September 3rd **Selection process:** Candidates will be evaluated by reviewing the application documents. If necessary, an interview will be held. Phone: 33-1022 Fax: 20-4593 email: <u>zaisei@city.minamiboso.chiba.jp</u>

Errors in Vaccination Schedules

In recent years, many new fixed-schedule vaccinations have been introduced. The rules for administering them have changed as well. In light of this, vaccination laws are revised often, sometimes causing confusion in scheduling these vaccines.

In 2013, there were three cases in which vaccination timing errors occurred in Minamiboso. In one of these cases, an additional dose of a pneumonia vaccine was mistakenly administered at the wrong time to an infant. This particular child did not have any health problems, but receiving a follow-up dose too early can reduce the effectiveness of the vaccine. To achieve the desired effectiveness of a scheduled vaccine, it is important that it be administered at the right time.

The city government is taking actions to notify clinics in order to correct vaccination schedules, and stop incorrect vaccination timing from happening again. Try to check your child's vaccination records yourself before an appointment to confirm that the vaccination is on schedule.

Make inquiries to the Healthcare Services Division. Phone: 36-1152

The Application Deadline for Special

Child Support Aid is September 1st

If the application is not submitted by the deadline (Monday, September 1st), you cannot receive this aid. If you have not yet applied, please do so as soon as possible.

Social Welfare Division, Aid Payment Phone: 33-4633

Health Checks for Second-Generation

Victims of Atomic Bomb Radiation

Eligibility:

Those whose parent(s) were exposed to radiation from the atomic bomb, live in Chiba Prefecture, and want to have a physical examination.

Dates:

July 1st 2015 – February 28th 2016

Application Deadline: January 1st 2015 **How to Apply:**

Mail in your and your parent's address, name, date of birth, and phone number along with your parent's radiation exposure health notebook number. We will send information about the examination the day after receipt of the application.

*Depending on the types of tests done, you may have to pay part of the cost of the examination.

Address: 260-8667 Prefectural Health and Wellness Department, Health and Wellness Guidance Division Phone: 043-223-2349

Sufferers of Atomic Bomb Radiation Support Party

Nursing Care and Nursing Insurance

Consultation

When/ Where:

September 5th (Fri) 1:30 – 4:00 PM : Tomiura Genki Club September 15th (Mon) 1:30 – 4:00 PM : Tomiyama Community Center September 25 (Thr) 1:30 – 4:00 PM : Miyoshi Center for the Betterment of the Agricultural Environment *Please call before coming. **Consultants:** Workers at the Area Comprehensive Support Center (Utsubusa) Phone: 20-4060

Division of Healthcare Services Phone: 36-1152

Let's Use Local Public Transit

Using the bus

Local bus routes are an effective way that anyone can get around Minamiboso. Presently, some bus services (the Heiguri Line, Maru Line, and Toyofusa Line) are being kept running by a subsidy from the city. Unfortunately, due to the trend of decreasing ridership, the bus system is in danger of disappearing altogether. Some may say "Why ride the bus when you can drive?" or "I`ll ride the bus sometime, I guess." But if the time comes when there is no bus to ride, what will everyone do?

The bus system is not just a guaranteed means of transportation; Riding the bus is also better for the environment.

Using the Bus at This Time

The bus is a means of transportation that anyone from children to the elderly can use. Using the bus system is easier on the environment, and reduces both congestion and traffic accidents. Furthermore, a bus system plays a role in creating prosperity in any town. However, people driving in their own cars and the diminishing population of children have caused the amount of bus riders to decrease year by year. If things continue this way, transit systems will downsize and, depending on the individual case, may be closed down completely.

The Importance of a Bus System

There will certainly be times in the future when people who drive cars or ride motorcycles will need to ride the bus. When that time comes, if there is no longer a bus to ride, they will have trouble getting around. On top of that, preserving the bus system can put more stress on the city financially.

So that this does not happen, everyone must support public transit by using it. Walking to the bus stop is also a form of exercise that can help you stay healthy. Contact:

Planning and Policy Division Phone: 33-1001

The Nanohana Bus Route to Tokyo Adds a Night Bus

During summer vacation, from Friday August 8th to Sunday August 31, a nighttime bus will be added to the Nanohana bus route between Tokyo and Minamiboso.

The following will be added:

Outbound bus originating in Tokyo

Tokyo Station	23:20 Depart
Highway Oasis Tomirakuri	0:53
Tomiura Biwa Club	1:05 Arrive

August 2014

Inbound train originating in Tateyama

Tomiura Biwa Club	21:13 Depart
Highway Oasis Tomirakuri	21:25
Tokyo Station	22:56 Arrive

These newly added night buses are a premium service and the cost to ride is higher. A ticket purchased before boarding will cost ¥3,500 and paying the fare while boarding the bus will cost ¥3,600. Please be aware of this when planning a trip Contact:.

JR Bus Kanto, Tateyama Office Phone: 22-6511

The 35th 9 Prefecture/ City Combined

Disaster Prevention Practice

The 9 Prefecture and City Combined Disaster Prevention Practice – put on as a combined effort by Saitama Prefecture, Chiba Prefecture, Tokyo, Kanagawa Prefecture, Yokohama City, Kawasaki City, Chiba City, Saitama City, and Sagamihara City – will take place in Chiba City at the Chiba Prefecture Assembly Hall on September 1st. The participating Chiba City organizations include: the Self-defense Force, the Coast Guard, the fire department, the police, and the Organization for Cooperation and Support During Disasters. In total, about 130 organizations related to disaster prevention, and 5000 citizens are expected to attend.

To everyone of Minamiboso city: Please come see the practice and consider the importance of self-help, cooperation, and rescue aid.

1. Coast Guard Practice

Time: September 6th (Sat) 10:00 – 11:00 AM **Place:** In the Old Minamihara Public Hall neighborhood

Includes: Patrol boat practice, helicopter practice,

personal watercraft practice, coastal search practice, and rescue practice

2. Practice at the Main Venue

Time: September 6th (Sat) 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM **Place:** Around the Wada Area Social Service Center

Includes: Ground and air information gathering practice, rescue practice, emergency repair practice, delivering materials to isolated areas practice, and helicopter firefighting practice

Disaster Prevention Fair

Date/ Time: September 6th (Sat) 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Place: Around the Wada Area Social Service Center

Includes: See an exhibition of the Great Eastern Japan Earthquake activity log and disaster prevention tools, an exhibition of specialty vehicles, an earthquake simulation car, and experience a simulated earthquake.

*On the day of the event, the grounds are expected to be very crowded. Parking space is limited, so please try to carpool or use public transportation.

Contact: Firefighting and Disaster Prevention Department Phone: 33- 1052

Unlawful Dumping of Garbage

is a Crime

The illegal dumping of garbage at roadsides, in forests and mountains, and other places out of the public view is showing no significant decline. This kind of littering is more than just an eyesore. It is bad for the environment because it can cause bad odors and pollution to water and soil.

What is Unlawful Dumping?

Unlawful dumping consists of throwing away or burying waste in fields, forests and on mountains. It is an act done without regard for others, and is in direct opposition to the garbage disposal laws. **For example...**

- Loading waste into a truck and throwing it away on an unpopular mountain
- Piling up garbage in a natural area and leaving it there

- Using a dump truck or other heavy machinery to bury waste on vacant land
- Leaving sulfuric acid or other harmful waste in an empty warehouse or disused factory
- Throwing cigarette butts, empty cans, and other litter on the road side

Punishment

Those who have committed the crime of illegal dumping will serve up to 5 years in prison, pay a fine of up to \$10,000,000 (up to \$300,000,000 for those who work in law enforcement), or both.

If illegal dumping has occurred on land which you own or manage, and the perpetrator is unknown, you must take responsibility for the disposal of the waste yourself.

Land where the grass has not been mowed, there is scattered garbage, or any land that is not well managed is susceptible to illegal dumping. To make it more difficult for criminals to dump waste on your land, it is important to install fences and cut weeds and grass.

The 4th Annual "Expressing My Feelings in 100 Words" Contest

This is a contest that anyone, from children to adults, can participate in.

For the 3rd annual contest last year, we had 2713 entries in total from the elementary school, middle school and the general categories. Thank you for helping make this such a successful event.

Many of the essays submitted expressed things that are ordinarily hard to say, such as the importance of family and appreciation for loved ones. It was truly a heartwarming event.

For the 4th Annual "Expressing my feelings in 100 words" contest, the theme will be "Thank you." We have already received many entries

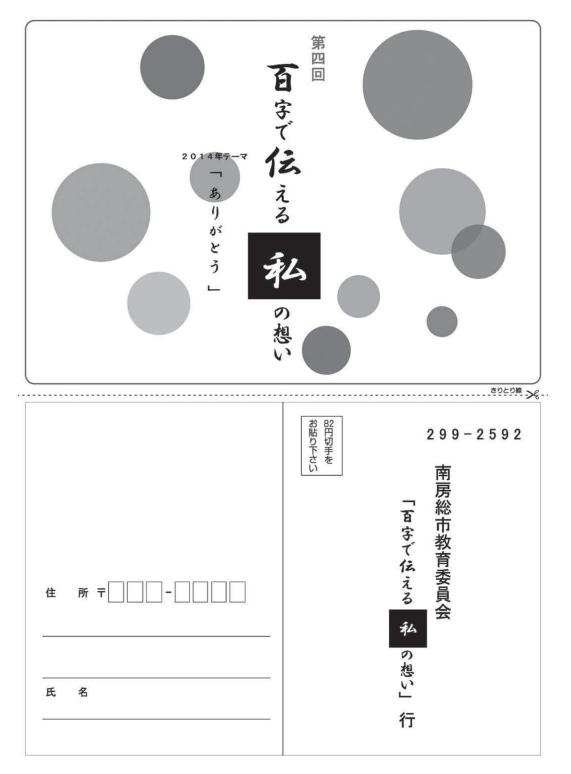
About the contest

Applicant Qualifications: Anyone can participate in the contest. There are no qualifications.

Essay: Write an essay of 100 Japanese characters or fewer. These can contain any mixture of hiragana, katakana and kanji. / Include punctuation in the character count. / You may choose any literary style. / Must be an unpublished, original work. / Use standard paper (A4) / Write your address, name, age, phone number, and occupation clearly on the same sheet of paper as your essay. Mail your essay in a sealed envelope. / Your essay will not be returned to you. / Your personal information will remain confidential, and will not be used for any purpose other than this contest. / The winner will be presented in the Kouhou Newsletter and on the city`s website. / The winning essay will not be returned. It will belong to the Minamiboso Board of

Education.

Deadline: September 12th 2014 (Fri) Announcement of winner: mid-November 2014 Contact: The Minamiboso Board of Education 299-2592 Chiba Prefecture, Minamiboso Iwaito 2489 Phone: 0470-46-2966 Fax: 0470-46-4059



第四回「百字で伝える私の想い」

子どもから大人まで、どなたでも参加できるコンクールです。

第三回目となった昨年度は、小・中・一般の部を合せての応募総数は、2713通にのぼりました。 ありがとうございます。

応募作品は、家族の大切さを表現したものや、普段伝えることができない身近な人への感謝の 気持ちを表現したものなどが多く、心温まるコンクールとなりました。

今年度も「ありがとう」をテーマに第四回「百字で伝える私の想い」を開催いたします。 みなさまからの「ありがとう」の想いがこめられたたくさんの作品をお待ちしております。

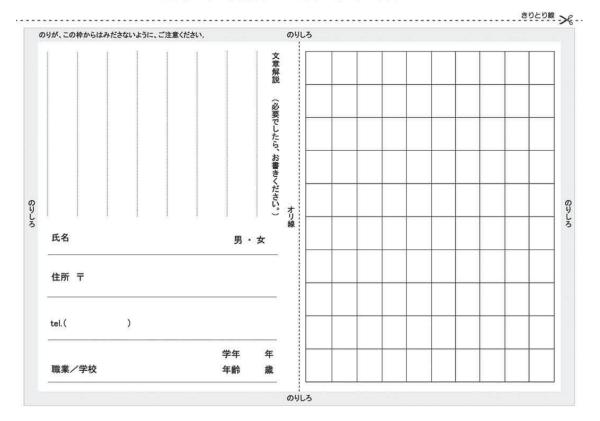
開催要項

(応募資格) 『想いを伝えたい方はどなたでも』(応募資格は問いません)

 (応募作品)ひらがな、漢字、カタカナで百字以内の文章/句読点も文字数に含めます/ 表現の文体自由/未発表・オリジナルの作品に限ります/ 便せんサイズの用紙(A4程度)使用/ 応募作品用紙内に住所・氏名・年齢・職業・電話番号を明記し、封書で送ってください/ 応募作品は返却しません/個人情報の取扱いについては、厳密に管理し、当コンテスト 以外の目的には使用しません/広報、市ホームページにより入賞者を発表します/ 応募作品は返却せず、入賞した場合の著作権は南房総市教育委員会に帰属します
 (締め切り)平成26年9月12日(金)

(入賞者発表)平成26年11月中旬

(あて先・お問い合わせ)南 房 総 市 教 育 委 員 会 〒299-2592 千葉県南房総市岩糸2489 TEL 0470-46-2966 FAX 0470-46-4059



Eco News No. 80

Division of Environmental Preservation (Phone: 33-1053)

The winning slogan from 2013 was: "When you litter outside, you're littering in your heart."

-Aika Arai, Chikura Middle School

Now Accepting Entries for the New Environmental Slogan

From the world-wide problem of global warming to the garbage you see every day, environmental issues are everyone's responsibility. Please send us a slogan that you think will help deepen understanding and interest in the protection of the environment, as well as encouraging others to conserve energy and preserve nature.

Eligibility: Citizens of middle school age or older. People who work or study in Minamiboso.

Slogan Requirements: Your slogan should apply to environmental protection and problems related to the natural environment, global warming, garbage disposal, the atmosphere, water habitats, etc. **Deadline:** Monday, September 1st

To apply: Fill in the necessary items in the following form (or you can create your own) and send it to the Division of Environmental Preservation, the Asaina Administrative Center, or your local community center. You can submit it by fax, in person, by email, or mail (envelope or postcard). One entry per person. Must be an unpublished work.

*If all necessary information is not provided, the entrant will be disqualified.

*The personal information of entrants will be used in judging the contest and announcing the winner. It will not be used for anything other than this contest.

The winners: 1 Top Prize, 3 Runner-up Prizes, 5 Prizes for Excellence

Winners will each receive a certificate and an additional prize.

Winners will be notified individually as well as published in the *Kouhou* Newsletter.

The winning slogan will be published in the Eco News and the Eco Life Calendar. It will also be displayed in public institutions and used in various environmental preservation activities.

Send entries and make inquiries to: 299-2492 Minamiboso City, Tomiura-cho Aoki 28 Minamiboso Environmental Preservation Division Phone: 33-1053 Fax: 20-4957

Email: kankyo@city.minamiboso.chiba.jp



August 2014

2014 Environmental Slogan Contest Application Sheet

ふりがな				
氏名				
住所	(〒)		
電話番号			年齢	歳
標語				
標語の内容説明				
(理由)				

Translation of Fields in order: Furigana, Name, Address, Phone number, Age, Slogan, Explanation of (reason for choosing) your slogan

Subsidies for Home Solar Panel Installation

Home solar panel power generation systems can help counteract global warming and balance and optimize household power usage. Because of this, the government will subsidize the cost of installation of these systems.

Application Deadline: January 15, 2015 *There is a limited amount of aid available, so applications will not be accepted once the funds are gone.

Eligible installation sites:

- The roof of a home
- Homes that have been confirmed by the Research Institute for Electrical and Environmental Safety (JET) as able to guarantee

a certain degree of efficiency.

- Homes that can send excess electricity to the power company
- Homes whose solar panels' maximum output will be under 10 kilowatts
- Homes that are not yet using solar power

The Amount of the Subsidy:

¥20,000 for every kilowatt produced by the solar panels

*There is a ¥70,000 maximum. Payment will be rounded down to the nearest ¥1,000.

[Example] 1 panel produces 183 watts (0.183

kilowatts) and you have 22 panels installed.

The maximum power output is: 0.183 kilowatts \times 22

August 2014

panels = 4.026 = 4.03 killowatts

(decimals of the third digit and below are rounded up)

Maximum power output = 4.03 kilowatts Total: ¥20,000 × 4.03 kilowatts = ¥80,600 Therefore the subsidy would be the maximum of ¥70,000

Eligibile Individuals:

- Have a Minamiboso City address, or will have a Minamiboso address at the time of application
- Live in (or plan to live in) a privately owned house (stores and shared houses included).
- Will be making payments to a power company at the time of application.
- Have not defaulted on taxes in the past.

How to Apply

 Gather all the documents necessary to apply and submit them to the Department of Environmental Preservation.

2 . After the documents have been reviewed, you

will be sent a notice stating the amount of subsidy.

- After the construction is complete, submit the performance report and other necessary documents within 30 days, or as soon as possible before March 2, 2015.
- 4. You will be sent a notice confirming the eceipt of these documents.
- 5. After receiving the notice of receipt, submit the construction receipt.

Submit the application before the start of construction, and start the installation after receiving the notice stating the amount of subsidy. Applications are available at the Division of Environmental Preservation and on the city website.

*For details, see the city website. Inquiries can be made to the Division of Environmental Preservation.

To business people : Buy an ad in the Eco Life Calendar You can buy an advertisement in the 2015 Eco Life Calendar. The calendar is intended to increase public awareness of environmental issues by including posters, the winning environmental slogan contest entry, and information about environmental preservation..



Advertisements published:

Location	On the bottom portion of the dates page	
Size	#1 30mm vertical x 270 mm horizontalup to 12 frames#2 30mm vertical x 130mm horizontalup to 24 frames	
Price	#1 ¥5,000 per frame #2 ¥2,500 per frame	
Number Published	4,500	
Distributed to	Elementary and middle school students in Minamiboso as well as citizens who ask for one	

Application Deadline: September 17th (Wed)

How to Apply: Get the "Environmental awareness pamphlet advertisement publication application" on the city website. Fill it out and send it, with your advertisement attached, to the Department of Environmental Preservation.



Nandemo Arisa #11 Minamiboso Coordinator for International Relations Author/ Translator: Arisa Hiroi

異国への移住

私はこの一年間、初めて外国の日本で暮らしました が、正直予想以上に大変でした。左右逆運転から基本 的な印鑑の使い方まですべて未経験だったので、しば らくは緊張が続きました。

それでも、小さい頃から日本語が話せた私のケース は楽な方です。英語が分からないままアメリカに移住 した父や、移住してすぐ異国で子育てをした母など、

移民は大変だと気付かされました。

そんな移民にとって一番の救 いになるものは人の親切さだと 思います。来る前は南房総に知 り合いが一人もいなかったのに も関わらず、車が故障した時は たくさんの人に助けてもらった り、「食べたことないでしょ、お いしいよ!」とたくさん食べ物を

いただいたりしました。南房総でお世話になった方々 には大変感謝しています。残念ながら私は今月アメリ カに帰国することになりましたが、いつかまた来たい と思っています。また、新しく南房総に来る国際交流 員の ネイサンにも親切にしてください!



またお会いできる日まで! Until next time

Moving to a foreign country

This past year was my first time living in Japan, to me a foreign country. To be honest, it was much harder than I had anticipated. Driving on the left side and basic things such as using an inkan stamp were completely new to me, so for a while I was constantly stressed out. However, I've spoken Japanese since I was little, so my case was still easier than most. I've realized immigrants have it hard, such as my father who moved to the U.S. without

understanding English, and my mother who raised children right after moving abroad.

I think what really helps those immigrants pull through is the kindness of others. Even though I didn't know a single person in Minamiboso before coming, so many helped me when my car broke down. I also received

so much food from people saying, "You've never had this before, right? Try it!" I am extremely grateful to those who have helped

me in Minamiboso City. Although I will be returning to the U.S. this month, I would like to visit again someday. Please

also lend a helping hand to Nathan, the new CIR coming in!

From the Consumer Consultation Service

Be Careful When Dealing with Foreign

Traders

Brokers living overseas must be registered to make monetary transactions with Japanese residents. Making transactions without registering is illegal, but in recent years, there have been repeated occurrences of unregistered foreign traders making foreign exchange dealings with Japanese clients.

Problems with foreign traders:

- Even if you demand payment from them, they may make excuses and never make those payments.
- They may suddenly stop responding to emails.
- They may urge you to make an investment by saying that they have a good record, then the next day you will have a balance of zero.
- They may persuade you to use Japanese

leverage to make a large profit off of distant countries. (It is illegal in Japan to exceed a profit of 25 times your investment.)

 It is very difficult to ascertain where these foreign traders reside, and what their actual aims are.

The Financial Services Agency issues warnings to unregistered foreign traders. They also publish a list of registered traders, and a list of unregistered ones. Please consult these lists before doing business with foreign brokers.

Give us a call

The Consumer Consultation Service, City Expenditures and Lifestyle Consultation Phone: 33-4300 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM *We do in-person consultation twice a week. For details, check the Kouhou notices publication. For inquiries, contact the Division of Commerce and Industry (Phone: 33-1092) Or, the Prefectural Consumer's Center (Phone: 047-434-0999) 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM *Not open on Sundays and Holidays

Three Departments take on Model Projects

"The Project to Strengthen the Region" was started in 2009 to encourage cooperative city planning between the citizens and the city administration. It has become a model for problem-solving based on mutual understanding. This year, the following projects will be adopted.

	Theme	Invigorating the area through Youth Interaction
1	Division in charge	Planning Department, Planning Policy Division
	Group Name	Coupling Tour: Invigorating the area and the youth (Leader:
		Yutaka Watanabe)
	Project Name	Invigorate the youth and the area through coupling tours
	Theme	A model for supporting the cultivation of new farmers
2	Division in charge	Department of Farming, Forestry, and Fisheries, Local
		Resources Division
	Group Name	Minamiboso Organic (Leader: Takanori Okamoto)
	Project Name	Support the New Farmer Challenge
	Theme	Encouraging the area and its people to xxx
3	Division in charge	General Affairs Department, Secretariat of Public Relations,
		and Department of Commerce, Industry and Tourism,
		Promotion Division
	Group Name	Tomiura Ecological Research Group (NPO) (Director: Yuutaro
		Suzuki)
	Project Name	Encouraging passing down the folklore of Minamiboso

This year's projects at a glance

The Review Board is accepting proposals for projects for the good of the public. Projects may be enacted once they have been reviewed. Contact: The Division of Civic Cooperation. Phone: 33-1105

Up to a ¥50,000 Subsidy Available for Research in Developed Regions -A human resources project-

Financial assistance is available to help fund research projects in the more developed areas of the country. In these areas, the citizens have solved local problems by putting their regions' special characteristics and resources to good use. This funding is meant to assist in paying for travel, lodging and research fees, but not the cost of meals.

Requirements for Eligibility:

- 1. Have a Minamiboso address and intend to stay here in the future
- 2. Have an intention to contribute to local society in the future.
- Personally make efforts to revitalize the Minamiboso area, and take on leadership duties in the development of the city.
- 4. Not be involved with a specific government, religious group, or commercial endeavor.
- 5. Not be related to, or a member of a gang.

Details about the grant

The amount of the grant will vary depending on if the project is planned by the city or by citizens. For details, see below.

Eligible Projects

Research projects in human resources in developed areas of the country that are either of the following.

1. Planned by the city with participants who are citizens.

Percentage covered by grant:

100% of the necessary expenses

2. Planned by citizens (who are also the participants)

Percentage covered by grant:

80% of the necessary expenses

Number of times grant can be received: Once Individuals and groups: Can be an individual, or a group of 5 or under

Maximum grant per person: ¥50,000

Expenses can include: travel, lodging and research expenses. Does not include meal costs.

*This will be rounded down to the nearest ¥1,000.

Grants of up to ¥30,000 to Invite Lecturers from Study Groups -The Civic Activities Advisors Project-

Grants are available to invite lecturers who work to strengthen NPOs' and the Civic Activities Board's activities. These grants cover travel expenses, lodging costs, and a monetary gift for the lecturer.

Groups Eligible for this Grant:

- Groups whose main activities take place in Minamiboso.
- 2. Groups of at least 5 members, the majority of whom live and work (or study) in Minamiboso.
- 3. Groups whose representative and method of administration are prescribed by a constitution.

The Guest Advisor's Role

- 1. Promote the group's activities.
- 2. Guide and advise the group through study meetings and investigations.
- 3. Guide and advise the group toward becoming incorporated.
- 4. Be confirmed by the mayor to be necessary to the process of city planning.

Amount of the Grant

The total of the grant will be ¥5,000 less than the total cost of travel, lodging, and a gift for the lecturer. The maximum grant is ¥50,000.

For inquiries: Department of Civic Cooperation Phone: 33-1005

Municipal Panel Discussions

The municipal government will discuss the state of the city and ask for citizens' opinions. Following, there will be an open discussion on city management. Please come and participate. For inquiries, call the Secretariat of Public Relations. Phone: 33-1002

District		Date and Time		Location
Maruyama		Sept. 10 (Wed)	Starting 7 PM	Maruyama Community Center
Wada		Sept. 11 (Thr)		Wada Community Center
Shirahama		Sept. 24 (Wed)		Shirahama Floral Hall
Tomiyama		Sept 26 (Fri)		Tomiyama Community Center
Miyoshi		Oct. 1 (Wed)		Miyoshi Center for the Betterment of the Rural
				Environment
Tomiura		Oct. 3 (Wed)		City Hall Outbuilding 1
				Conference Hall
Chikura	Nanaura	Oct. 6 (Sun)		
	Kotto			Chikura Fishing Village Center
	Asaina			
Chikura	Takeda	Oct. 8 (Wed)		Chikura Healthcare Center

*You may participate in discussions taking place outside of the area where you live.

Please bring the pamphlet entitled "This year's budget" with you.

Burning Garbage Outdoors is Illegal

There have recently been many complaints about neighbors burning garbage. This behavior produces smoke, a foul odor, and is a public nuisance. With the exception of the farming, forestry and fishing industries, which sometimes have no choice but to do so, burning waste outside is a crime punishable under the law.

Whether you burn garbage in a metal drum, in a hole, or on the open ground, it is illegal. Do not do it.

Even the industries that are allowed to burn refuse outside must adhere to limits and rules. This includes taking wind direction, time of day, and surrounding neighborhoods into consideration.

Punishment:

Those who illegally burn garbage will either serve up to 5 years in prison, pay a fine of up to ¥10,000,000, or both.

For inquiries, call the Division of Nature Preservation.

Phone: 33-1053

Your Cooperation with Labor Studies is Appreciated

The Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications is doing a study on the workforce that will serve as a basis for its monthly publication on the unemployment rate. This publication is a cornerstone of national economic planning and job-creation strategies. The households that are

August 2014

selected for the study will be visited by researchers hired by the prefecture.

Your personal information will be protected. Thank you for your cooperation.

The researchers carry credentials from the Chiba prefectural governor.

Households that may be selected:

Households in Hedate, Chikura and Matsuda, Wada **Period of the Study:** From September to January of next year

For inquiries, call the Prefectural Integrated Planning Department, Statistics Division Phone: 043-223-2220

Donations of a Good Will ~Donations to the Social Services~

Yoshiko Wada of Chikura donated ¥50,000 to the city on Tuesday, July 1st. She says she wanted to give

back because her husband, Masayoshi Wada, relied on public assistance when he was alive. The donation went to the Social Services and will be put to good use.

> Ms. Ikeda and the Katous Win Contest for Best Teeth

The 2014 Best Teeth Contest was held on June 12th at the Tateyama Community Center. The contest is a joint project between the Awa Dental Association and the Awa area government.

The dentist-judges deemed the winners to be Kayo Katou and her daughter Rino for the parent-child category, and Kimiko Ikeda for the elderly category. The prize winners are as follow:

[Parent and Child Category]

Grand Prize: Kayo Kato and Rino Runner-up: Yuriko Ishikawa and Yae

[Elderly Category]

Grand Prize: Kimiko Ikeda Runner-up: Yasunobu Takaki



Kimiko Ikeda



Kayo and Rino Katou

A New Structure for Farming Loans

"The Farm Land Middle Management Organization"

The Farm Land Middle Management Organization will be put in place in every prefecture this year. The Organization will rent farm land around the prefecture, prepare it as necessary so it can be used, then lend it to farmers.

The local governments that lend out the farmland will make payments to the Organization. They will also pay the individual farmers if they do not have sufficient funds for start-up costs.

People who want to rent farmland must apply by September 5th. People who want to lend farmland may apply any time from September onward.

For details, contact the Minamiboso Farming Support Center (Phone: 0470-28-4595) or the Chiba Prefecture Horticulture Association, Farmland Division (Phone: 043-223-3011).

Talk of the Town: Recent Events

Volunteer Grass Mowing by the City Disaster Prevention Association

From July 7th to 12th, the City Disaster Prevention Association performed a volunteer grass mowing service on roadsides and other areas.



The Members of the Disaster Prevention Association

164 people from 38 companies participated in the effort. The Association, which is run by civil engineers, was formed to do public services for disaster prevention and society as a whole.



Some of the volunteers cutting weeds at the a roadside

New Government Workers Accepted as Trainees

From Monday June 30th to Friday July 4th this year, 3 public workers were accepted as trainees at city hall.

The trainees are taking part in a program that focuses on field experience. These experiences include city planning activities, making goods to be sold at the roadside stations, helping at pre-schools and day care centers, observing current affairs in the extermination of harmful wildlife, and more.

The trainees have learned directly about what is going on around the Minamiboso area. They will be able to use these experiences to gain a wider outlook, which will make their future work more meaningful.



The trainees with Mayor Ishii presenting a proposal

The Mahoroba Mura Festival

On July 27th, the 4th Mahoroba Mura Festival took place in the area around the Miyoshi branch office building. Over 4,000 people from both inside and outside of Minamiboso came to enjoy the festival. In spite of the fact that there was a heat wave and it was over 30 degrees outside, the various performances went forward as planned. These included the Soran Parade with floats from the Yamukai and Motoori Districts, a Japanese taiko drum performance, cheerleading and hula dancing.

A new attraction this year, the Yokohama Hakkeijima Sea Paradise mobile aquarium, was also on display. Curious children crowded around the tank to peer inside.



Locally-made parade floats add to the festival atmosphere

The Regular July Press Conference Held on Monday, July 7th

- Going toward the summer tourism season
- Open house of the new Miyoshi Kodomo-en, Mimiboso's first combination pre-school and day care center
- Minamiboso Board of Education sponsors a new initiative: "A summer vacation where both teachers and students work hard at improving academic performance."
- Minamiboso Educators' Conference present: "Learning with the Yokomine educational method." The materials related to these are on the city website. Search 南 房総市/定例記者会見

The August Signboard

Now Recruiting

Disability pension and welfare seminar for people with incurable diseases, their families, and those who support them

There will be a detailed explanation of the of the disability pension system. After the lecture, there will be individual consultation on both the disability pension and welfare systems (you must make an appointment to receive consultation).

Date: Tuesday, September 2nd
Registration: starts at 1 PM
Lecture: 1:30 PM – 3 PM
Individual consultation: 3:10 PM – 5:00 PM (Up to 25 minutes per person)
Location: Kamogawa Health Care Center
Schedule:
Lecture 1: "About Disability Pension," presented by Takashi Shimazu of the Labor Social Insurance NPO "Everybody Support, Chiba"
Lecture 2: "About the Awa area Incurable Disease

Consultation and Support Center," presented by Aiko

Handa of the Awa area Incurable Disease Consultation and Support Center

Target audience:

People with incurable disease, their families, and those who support them *Individual consultation is first-come-first-served. Please make an appointment. **Application period:** Monday August 18th to

Wednesday August 27th

For inquiries, call the Awa Health and Wellness Center. Phone 22-4511

Awa Human Services Center Job Fair

Date/ Time: Saturday, September 6th 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Registraion: Students – Starting 11:00 AM General – Starting at noon
Location: Nansou Culture Hall
Types of work: Elderly care, care and support for the disabled, nursing, life counseling, and more.
Target audience: Those who want to get jobs in human services and public welfare
Price: Free
Additional information: You do not need to apply or bring a résumé.

Sponsored by the Chiba Prefecture Center for Social Welfare and Human Relations/ the Awa Area Association for Furthering Human Relations Make inquiries to the Special Elderly Nursing Home "Airisu no Ri." Phone: 20-4060

"Recovery Course" Training Program for Out-of-Work Dental Hygienists

This is a training course to support out-of-work dental hygienists and assist them find jobs.

Date/ Time: Sunday September 7th and Sunday

September 21st 9:30 AM – 5:00 PM

Location: Chiba Prefecture Dental Association

Eligibility: Those who are licensed dental hygienists, but are out of work.

Attendance Capacity: 40 (First-come-first-served by application)

How to Apply: Fax your address, name, and phone number. Applications are also accepted by phone.

Cost of Entry: Free

For inquiries, call the Chiba Prefecture Dental Association. Phone: 043-241-6471

International Relations Fest in Awa: Speeches in Japanese by Foreigners

Date/ Time: Monday, December 14 Starting at 1:00 PM

Location: Ken Nansou Culture Hall, Small Hall (Tateyama Kitajou 740-1)

Applicant Requirements:

- Must be a foreigner residing in Chiba Prefecture
- Must have lived in Japan for fewer than 5 years to enter into the beginner level. There is no limit for the upper level.
- You cannot enter if you have won the top prize in the past. (Winners of the lower level may apply for the upper level.)

Participant Limit: Lower level – 8 Upper level – 5Theme: Anything. There is no required theme.

Speech Length: 5 minutes or under. (You can read from a script)

How to Apply: Fill in the necessary information on the application sheet and submit it along with a summary of your speech. The summary should be 400 Japanese characters or under.

The application is available at the reception desk of the Ken Nansou Culture Hall at the Civic Division. (市 民課、県南総文化ホール). It is also available on their website.

Make all inquiries to: International Relations Fest Office (In the Ken Nansou Culture Hall).

Phone: 22-1811

Free Consultation on the Earthquake Resistance of your Home

Discuss your home's preparedness for earthquakes with us.

Date/ Time: Wednesday September 3rd 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Location: Tomiyama Community Center

Make all inquiries to: the Management Division. Phone: 33-1102

The Chikura Fishing Harbor Clean Campaign

The Chikura Fishing Harbor Clean Campaign will be held to make the area around the harbor clean again. Please come and help.

Date/ Time: Sunday, September 7th 8:00– 9:00 AM (Event will continue, even in light rain.)

Where to Register: In front of the Chikura Fishing Village Center. We will start passing out garbage bags at 7:45 AM.

Where we are cleaning: The area around the harbor will be divided into 5 blocks. Once participants have finished cleaning their block, jelly strips (tokoroten) will be handed out in front of the Fishing Village Center.

Make all inquiries to: the Conference for the Betterment of the Chikura Area. Phone: 44-1113

Introducing Local Community Organizations #78

-The Takatsukayama Promotion Club-

Representative: Toshio Kitami. Members: 45



Nanaura Elementary School students planting commemorative Sakura trees

This column aims to support local community organizations in this area. If you know of other groups that are doing great things, please let us know about them.

Contact: Civic Cooperation Division. Phone: 33-1005

Minamiboso MinMin Net address: http://civil.mboso-etoko.jp/

Takatsukayama, a mountain that has long been seen as a monument to fisherman, is beloved by the local residents. The Takatsukayama Promotion Club was founded in July of 2012 with the aim of encouraging tourists and mountain climbers to come enjoy the mountain (216 meters above sea level). The club wants to maintain and protect the mountain's natural environment while simultaneously promoting Takatsukayama as a place to rest and interact with others.

Their projects include creating a map of the mountain climbing routes that come from the surrounding areas to Takatsukayama; restoring viewing spots on the summit so that visitors can see the Pacific Ocean, Mt. Fuji, and downtown Tateyama; and creating a functional system to communicate with tourists and offer them hiking opportunities.

In November of last year, students from Nanaura Elementary and Preschool came to plant sakura cherry tree saplings along the trails on Takatsukayama. Following their teachers' instructions, they wrote their dreams for the future on wooden tags and hung them on the newly-planted saplings. Perhaps in the future these children will come back to climb Takatsukayama again and remember the days they spent at Nanaura Elementary.

In hopes of making this mountain a place where anyone can feel at home, Takatsukayama Promotion Club is recruiting new members to join in their activities. Questions? Call Takatsukayama Promotion Club representative Toshio Kitami Phone: 43-8217

Population Trends (As of August 1st 2014) *Foreign Residents included

Total Population: (-60) 41,235 Male: (-29) 19,754 Female: (-31) 21,481 Total households: (-17) 17,319 Births: 20 Deaths: 49 Moved in: 60 Moved away: 91

City Website:

http://www.city.minamiboso.chiba.jp

Twitter: http://twitter.com/minamiboso_koho

Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/minamibosocity

Chiba TV Prefectural information:

http://www.chiba-tv.com/shicho/

Mobile site:



QR Code to register for the Minamiboso Safety and Peace of Mind Alert System:



*To begin registration, send an empty email.

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