

MAY EVENTS

☆ 5/1～5/31 Peony Flowers at Minetopia Besshi.

40 different kinds (about 30,000 flowers in total) are in full bloom. Enjoy Matcha tea at Senju-tei on 5/10 (Sat) & 5/11 (Sun) / ¥500 / 100 people limit. Enjoy the bonito cooking show on the lawn 10:00am-4:00pm on 5/24 (Sat) & 5/25 (Sun) / Free of charge.

☆ 5/11 (Sun) Marine Park Festival 2025 (10:00am-4:00pm)

80 carp streamers are in the sky. Enjoy the boat show, a dance performance and food trucks.

☆ 5/21 (Wed) Taiko Drum Festival at EXPO Arena

(Matsuri) Ticket required to enter Expo 2025.

☆ 5/28 (Wed) Test of J Alert at around 11:00am

Emergency National Simultaneous Communication Test is held.



This newsletter is published by SGG, a volunteer group that helps foreigners living in and around Niihama. If you need any advice, information, or support, please contact SGG. SGG would welcome any suggestions, questions, or ideas for monthly articles.

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ONE POINT JAPANESE

「だっけ／だったっけ」の使い方
 (How to use 'what is / was...again?')

A: 昨日 テレビで やってた サスペンスドラマ、すごく おもしろかったよ。

Kinō terebi de yatteta sasupensudorama, sugoku omoshirokatta yo.

(The suspense drama on TV yesterday was very interesting.)

B: ああ、ぼくも 見たよ。 本当に おもしろかった。

Ā, boku mo mita yo. Hontōni omoshirokatta.

(Oh, I saw it, too. It was really great.)

A: ところで、あの 探偵役の 俳優は 誰だっけ?

Tokoro de, ano tantē yaku no haiyū wa daredakke?

(By the way, what's the name of the actor who played the detective again?)

B: 誰だったっけ。 僕も 名前が 思い出せないよ。

Daredattakke. Boku mo namae ga omoidasenai yo.

(Who the heck is he? I can't remember his name either.)



A: あした 営業会議が ありましたよね。

Ashita eigyōkaigi ga arimashita yo ne.

(Tomorrow there's a business meeting, right?)

B: ああ、そうだね。 何時からだっけ?

Ā sōda ne. Nanji kara dakke?

(Oh, that's right. What time does it start again?)

A: 10時からだったと 思います。

Jūji kara datta to omoimasu.

(I think it was ten.)

B: 早く 資料を 作らなきゃ。

Hayaku shiryō o tsukura nakya.

(I'll have to make the documents right away.)



A: 昨日 行った レストランは おいしかったね。

Kinō itta resutoran wa oishikatta ne.

(The restaurant we went to yesterday was delicious, wasn't it?)

B: うん、あの カレーは 天下一品だ。

Un, ano karē wa tenkaippin da.

(Yeah. That curry is the best in the world.)

A: ところで あの 店の 名前は なんだったっけ?

Tokorode ano mise no namae wa nandattakke?

(By the way, what was the name of that restaurant again?)



< by Niihama Nihongo no Kai >

NNK also provides Japanese lessons for foreigners living in Niihama.

Feel free to contact us at :

Niihama Kokusai Kōryū Kyōkai (Niihama International Center)

Tel : 0897-65-1579 E-mail: niihamashikokusai@gmail.com

What's New?

Niihama City

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His Mother's Hope

(Ehime Shimbun: March 2nd, 2025)

“A Blue Lion, A Story of Light in Niihama”, a film about the life of Niihama-born artist Ishimura Yoshinari, debuted last October and has gone on to have a long run, seen by over 18,000 people in Niihama and Matsuyama, Ehime prefecture.

Yoshinari was diagnosed with autism at age two. The film focuses partially on the life of his late mother Yukiko, who patiently taught him how to act in everyday life. Since the film has gained interest even in areas outside of his exhibitions, his father said, “I feel there are many people who need education and support for disabled children.”

In the past, autism was not as well understood in society as it is today. Yukiko hoped lectures would be held to let many people know about services for disabled children. Though her hope never came to fruition in her lifetime, it seems it is being realized through the movie.

Yoshinari is surrounded by many people and laughs happily at his exhibitions and greetings on stage. I wonder what Yukiko would think about his current activities and the influence of the film. I wish I could ask her directly.

Stockpile Emergency Toilets Kits

(Ehime Shimbun : March 21, 2025)

When a large disaster occurs, you may not be able to use the restroom amidst the collapse of buildings and damage to water and sewer pipes. Adults use toilets five times per 24 hours on average. Five toilet uses multiplied by seven days is thirty-five uses. Our government recommends stockpiling emergency toilet kits for thirty-five uses. You should also know how to use it.

Disposable toilets can be used with normal toilets in a disaster as long as the basin is not broken, even if the toilet can no longer flush. The same type of water-absorbing polymer that is used in diapers is used to solidify moisture. They are easy to use: just set the plastic bag on the toilet and put some powder into the bag to solidify the moisture. Tie the bag and dispose according to the rules of your local community. They are good for one use only, therefore a family of four would need 140 units for seven days.

If the toilet basin is damaged, a light, portable toilet is useful. These are easy for elderly people and children to use because they can sit on them. When using outdoors, a poncho can be used as cover, to reduce uneasiness.

Mr. Yamaguchi, a certified disaster prevention specialist, said, "Findings show seventy percent of victims in areas struck by disaster including the Tohoku Earthquake wanted to use toilets within six hours after the disaster." If you avoid eating and drinking to prevent toilet use, you run the risk of damaging your health with something like economy syndrome. It's important to prepare toilets, along with things like food and water.

No-Reservation-Required Easy Exercise

(Ehime Shimbun : February 25, 2025)

Do you want to exercise casually, but the gym is costly and time-consuming? "Furatto Resson" (Casual Lessons), which teach physical exercise in two gyms across the city, reduce such obstacles. Aerobics, yoga or gymnastics lessons are taught for the reasonable price of ¥300 per lesson, do not require a reservation and have a great reputation with many repeat visitors.



Fifty-one year old rolling instructor Kato Hidemi's voice sounds out: "Raise your body up firmly", and eighty people stretch their whole body, focusing on the blade bone and hip joint. "Enjoi Kaiteki" (Enjoy Comfort) is held every Wednesday morning at the Civic Gymnasium. With four sets of fifteen-minute exercises, students warm up their bodies for one friendly hour.

Kato uses the same program every time with simple movements so that people of any age can adjust their physical load to fit themselves. The course is so popular that the max of eighty people is almost always filled.

The lessons, including Enjoi Kaiteki, are held from Monday to Saturday at the Public Gymnasium (1-chome Shininime-cho), and from Tuesday to Thursday at Yamane General Gymnasium (3-chome Sumino Shinden-cho, Niihama-city). Nine instructors lead forty-five minute or one-hour lessons consisting of various programs include tai chi, Pilates, etc. The cost for all courses is ¥300 each, and entry is on a first-come-first-served basis on the day. There are no restrictions based on age, gender, or registration, therefore non-Niihama residents may also join.

(Ishikawa Misaki)

Consultation Desk for Foreigners

By Niihama International Center (NIC)

Please consult if you have any questions or problems in your daily life, such as regarding procedures at the city hall, Japanese language classes, visa, etc.

Consultation time: Mon.-Fri. (10:00 am-5:30 pm)
2nd Sun. of every month (1:00 pm-5:00 pm)

- *All consultation will be kept confidential
- *Free of charge
- *You will be introduced the relevant department in accordance to your needs

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Online Information in English from Niihama City

☆ A Guide for Living in Niihama



☆ The Niihama Medical Institution Map



☆ Trash & Garbage Sorting Information



☆ What's New? in English



☆ Niihama Tourist Information



<https://niihama.info/>

☆ Help with legal matters, discrimination, insurance, etc.
Japan Life Guide
(Nationwide service) multilingual



☆ Yorisoi Helpline for foreigners

[TEL:0120-279-338](tel:0120-279-338) 10:00 am~10:00 pm

Multilingual Your privacy will be protected.

