

What's New?

Niihama City

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Summer Holidays

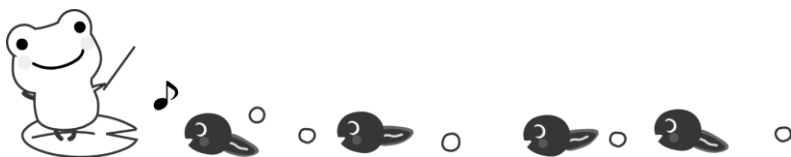
By Brad Patterson

Winter's end and the warming of the weather always get me thinking about cooking outdoors. The month of May begins the summer holiday season in the United States, with people emerging from winter and going out to their local parks, beaches and lakes to gather with friends and family. No family gathering would be complete without a barbeque! Some of my favorite summer barbeque foods are bbq chicken, carne asada (grilled marinated flank steak), grilled sausages, and hamburgers. Outdoor activities vary from water sports on a lake (water skiing, boating, swimming, etc...) to games of softball, football or soccer. Less physically demanding games are also enjoyed, such as horseshoes or lawn bowling. And of course, there are always plenty of refreshing beverages to help cool everyone down.

The summer holiday season begins with Memorial Day on the last Monday in May. Although summer holidays are not typically associated with travel to visit distant relatives, the roads near popular destination are still very congested. Being from Southern California, the most popular place for Memorial Day barbeques are at the local beaches. Families wanting a spot on the beach often send a family member to the stake out a location as early as 6am! Thankfully I have never been picked for that job! To be honest, my favorite parties are held at someone's home. Being able to relax with your favorite people without the hassle of the crowds is by far the most enjoyable environment (especially if there is a swimming pool).

The next major holiday to arrive is the Fourth of July, America's Independence Day. By now, summer is in full-swing and most holiday gatherings center around some body of water, whether it be the ocean, a lake, or a swimming pool. The day begins in typical holiday fashion; getting up early to secure prime park space, preparing food and planning activities. The most popular barbeque foods include hamburgers and hotdogs, but the fare can vary greatly from family to family depending mostly on heritage. Classic side dishes include potato salad, coleslaw and grilled corn. The Fourth of July is usually the longest of the summer holidays due to the firework displays that begin at dusk. Families spend the entire day cooking, eating, and playing before settling down to watch the fireworks together into the night. In most cities, there are numerous firework shows and the best picnic spots allow you to view at least two shows. Rural towns may not have as many official shows, but people make up for it with firework displays of their own.

The last of the summer holidays is Labor Day. It falls on the first Monday of September and used to be the last day of summer vacation for school children. Like the previous holidays, the locations and food are similar, but the mood is more relaxed. Conversations focus more on reminiscing on the summer past; vacations taken, home projects completed (or at least started), school friends that you have missed. Children are anxious to get back to school and begin the new year. Some are eager to return, bored from their long summer break and ready to meet new friends. Others wonder where the days have gone and want just one more week. Either way, enjoying the company of friends and family makes for the perfect end to summer.



Brad Patterson is currently living and working at Language House in Niihama with his wife and 2 children. He enjoys barbequing with family and friends on the office grill.

Events in June

Niihama City Pool

Open from June 20th to August 31st.

Fee: 60 yen/2 hrs for adults, 10 yen/2 hrs for children

Time: June 20th to 30th, 12:30 – 17:30 except Sat. and Sun.

Sat. and Sun. 9:30 – 17:30

July 1st – August 31st, 9:30 – 20:00

Saturday Evening Market

Every Saturday from June 1st to July 13th, 18:00 – 21:00 at Kikoji Shopping Arcade



Japanese Speech Contest

Date: Sun. June 23rd Time: 13:30 – 16:00

Place: Sogo Fukushi Center (Fureai Plaza) 2F

Please come and enjoy listening to the contest. The speakers are all non-Japanese living in and around Niihama and learning Japanese. They will give speeches about their experiences, opinions and thoughts.



Exploring Restaurants: Indian**インド料理 HARI****by Brad Patterson**

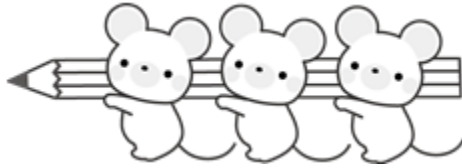
There are a surprising number of diverse restaurants in Niihama to satisfy most cravings for non-Japanese cuisine. I recently went to Hari to get my Indian food fix and was very satisfied. The lunch specials start at ¥950 and include naan (Indian flatbread) and a drink (including a variety of lassi). Diners can select their spice level ranging from mild to very hot. I ordered the pork masala “hot” and, while not spicy by Indian standards, it was enough to have me asking for more water. 新居浜市高木町 2-114(アトランティスビル 1F). 0897-34-9777. Located in the shopping center behind Sukiya on Kusunoki Chuo Dori.

**The International Advisor at Niihama City Hall
has changed!**

Ms. Donna Huang has begun working as the International Advisor in the Niihama City Office. She is from Shanghai, China and has been living in Niihama for 4 years.

If you need help, she can help you with information about Niihama in English, Chinese, or Japanese. Go to the 2nd floor of City Hall to the Shimin Katsudo Suishin-ka (市民活動推進課). Ms. Huang will be available 13:00 – 17:00, Monday – Friday.

If you have any questions, please feel free to visit Niihama City Hall 市民活動推進課！！



Summer Japanese Language Intensive Course In Niihama City

Date : August 19th (Mon) - August 30th (Fri) ,
except Sunday and Saturday

Place: Niihama Community Welfare Center
(*Fureai Plaza*)

Class composition : Beginner Level I: 4 hours lessons/day
Beginner Level II: 2hours lessons/day

Lesson fees :Level I class:1000 yen,
Level II class: 500 yen

For more details, please contact Niihama Nihongo no Kai
(Japanese Language Teaching Group) at:

E-mail / global28@shikoku.ne.jp

TEL / 090-5275-9659 (Ms. Doi),

0897-34-3025(English line, Ms. Miki)

You can read on the Web.

***What's New?**

***Garbage and trash Collection Calendar**

***Information living in Niihama**

Click  <http://www.city.niihama.lg.jp/english/>

Clair: *Multilingual Living Information

<http://www.clair.or.jp/tagengorev/en/index.html>

MOVIE

TOHO CINEMAS Niihama (AEON Shopping Center)

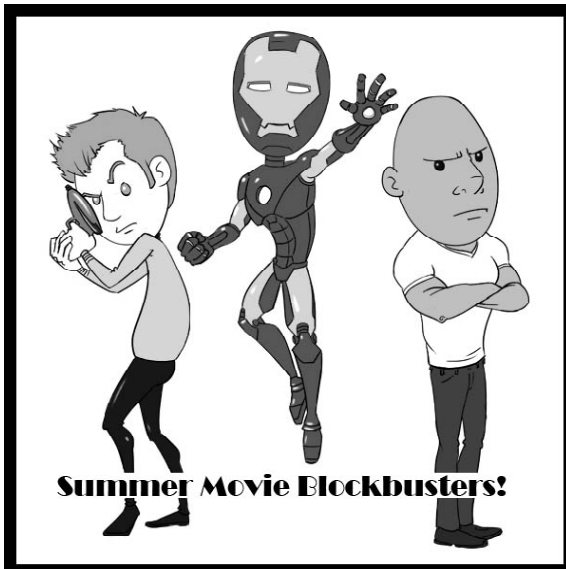
April 26 ~	IRON MAN 3	2D English / 3D Dubbed
May 31 ~	OBLIVION	English
May 31 ~	THE GRANDMASTERS PG12	Chinese
June 8 ~	G.I. JOE :RETALIATION	English / 3D Dubbed
June 8 ~	OLYMPUS HAS FALLEN PG12	English
June 14 ~	THE GREAT GATSBY	English / 3D Dubbed
June 21 ~	AFTER EARTH	English / Dubbed

Information Service

Internet: <http://niihama-aeonmall.com>

Tape (24 hrs): 0897-35-3322 (in Japanese)

Movies might be changed without notice, so please check beforehand.



<Contributed by Adam Schartup>

SGG would welcome any suggestions, questions or ideas for monthly articles. email: yukiko-m@shikoku.ne.jp
kasi4386@plum.ocn.ne.jp
sheep@abeam.ocn.ne.jp

*The editors for this month are A. Akiyama & M. Miki

ONE POINT JAPANESE

“^{おも}思い^き切^て”

A : ^{こんげつ}今^{にち}月²³23日に、^{がいこくじん}外国人の^{にほんご}日本語スピーチコンテストが
ありますね。

Kongetsu 23 nichi ni gaikokujin no nihongo supīchi
kotesuto ga arimasu ne.

(On the 23rd of this month, there's a Japanese Speech
Contest by foreign people, isn't there?)

B : ええ、^{じつ}実は^{わたし}わたしも^{でる}出るんです。

Ee, jitsu wa watashi mo derun desu.

(That's right. Actually, I'm also taking part in it.)

A : えーっ、^{すごい}すごい！ Ee! Sugoi! (Wow! Great!!)

B : ^{あまり}あまり^{じょうず}上手^{じゃ}じゃないんですよ。 Amari jōzu ja nain desu

yo.

(I'm not very good, really.)

でも、^{せんせい}先生に^{すす}勧められて、^{おも}思い^き切^て ^{もう}申し^こ込んで ^{みた}みた
んです。

Demo sensei ni susumerarete, omoikitte mōshikonde
mitan desu.

(But it was recommended by my teacher, so I mustered
up my courage and applied.)

A : Bさんなら、^{だいじょうぶ}大丈夫ですよ。 B-san nara daijōbu desu yo.

(If you enter, B, it will be OK!)

^{じしん}自信^もを持って、^{がんば}頑張って！ Jishin o motte, gambatte!

(Have confidence and do your best!)

B : ^{ありがとう}ありがとう ^{ござ}います。 Arigatō gozaimasu. (Thank you
very much.)

A : ^{みんな}みんなで ^{おうえん}応援^に行くからね。 Minna de ōen ni iku kara
ne.

(We'll all go to support you!)

A : Cさんと、付き合っているそうですね。

C-san to tsukiatte iru sō desu ne. (You are dating C, I hear.)

B : 思い切って告白したら、あっさり OK してくれたんです。

Omoikitte kokuhaku shitara, assari ōkē shite kuretan desu.

(When I stepped up and told him I like him, surprisingly, he said OK.)

A : うまく いくと、いいですね。Umaku iku to ii desu ne.

(I hope it goes well.)

B : 実は もう 一緒に 住んでいるんです。Jitsu wa mō issho ni sundeirun desu. (Actually, we are already living together.)

A : えーっ！ Ee! (Oh!!)

A : 帰国するそうですね。Kikoku suru sō desu ne.

(I hear you are going home.)

B : 思い切って 仕事をやめて、大学に 復学する つもりです。

Omoikitte shigoto o yamete, daigaku ni fukugaku suru tsumori desu.

(I'm going to take the plunge and quit my job; I plan to go back to school at my former University.)

A : そうですね。落ち着いたら また 近況を 知らせてくださいね。

Sō desu ka. Ochitsuitara mata kinkyō o shirasete kudasai ne.

(Really! When you get settled, please drop me a line.)

< by Niihama

Nihongo no Kai>

NNK also provides Japanese lessons for foreigners living in Niihama.

Feel free to contact us at: Tel 0897-34-3025 (Manami Miki).

e-mail : manami-m@js6.so-net.ne.jp