

Public Relations Kyotango – December 2024



Kyotango City 20th Anniversary

Kyotango City Presents the Honorary Citizen Award to The Late Yuzo Tanigaki

A Medical Hero in Niger

The pride of his hometown, dedicating his life to save many lives in Africa

From the town of Mineyama, the late Yuzo Tanigaki spent 36 years in the African country of Niger. In order to establish a self-sufficient medical system in a poor area, he developed his own medical practice and established two clinics with his own money. While building his clinics in harsh medical environments, he performed over 12,000 surgeries, dedicating his life to practicing medicine and establishing a viable medical system in Niger. His life achievements have earned him the



nickname, “the Hideyo Noguchi of Niger,” and is the great pride of his hometown, Kyotango City.

Award History Highlights

1994 – Yomiuri Prize for International Medical Service

2008 – Citizen of the Year Award

2009 – Yomiuri International Cooperation Prize

2010 – Kyoto Omron-Human Prize

2010 – Public Benefit Foundation Social Contribution Award

The Life of Dr. Tanigaki

His life's path from Kyotango to studying medicine, to eventually becoming a beacon of hope to many people.

1941

Born in Mineyama. Would go on to graduate from Mineyama Elementary School, Mineyama Junior High School, and Mineyama Senior High School.



1967

Graduated from the Faculty of Medicine at Shinshu University.

1979

After working at hospitals in Japan, he is commissioned as a dispatch physician for IRSA (Uranium Mining Prospect Survey) to Niger in Africa.

1980

After returning from Niger, he studied French for a few years while employed at a hospital in Tokyo.

1982

After personally witnessing the harsh reality of medical care without enough funding, hospitals, or doctors, only for patients whose lives could have been saved to be turned away, Dr. Tanigaki sets his mind to go to Niger a second



time.

He is dispatched to Niger as a Medical Specialist from JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency) and is appointed as a surgeon at the National Hospital in the country's capital, Niamey. His wife, Shizuko, accompanies him.

1992

Dr. Tanigaki proposes building surgical clinics in rural areas to improve rural medical systems to the Nigerien government.



In Tessaoua, located in central Niger, he establishes the Pilot Center clinic with his own money and moves there. While exploring ways to establish a medical care system and a way to train surgeons, he embarks on his mission to create a self-reliant medical system that does not have to rely on foreign support.

2001

His term with JICA comes to an end. Despite facing a serious lack of funding, he continues his activities in Niger with his own funds. He expands his support network to groups such as the NPO Medical Education Support Consortium, the Yokohama-Kohoku Rotary Club, and within his hometown of Mineyama.

2002

Due to changes in the government's policy, the old Pilot Center becomes nationalized, and Dr. Tanigaki opens the new Pilot Center with his own funds in Tessaoua.

Twenty of his old classmates living in the Tango region establish the Dr. Yuzo Tanigaki Support Society. Over 15 years, the group raised over 33 million yen in support funds. Furthermore, they collected donations that totaled 120 cardboard boxes of towels and gloves from local Kyotango schools to use as gauze bandages at his clinic.

2004

The Society erects a Monument of Friendship at Mineyama General Sports Park, tying Africa and Tango together.



2007

Wrote a proposal about achieving his mission to establish rural surgical care supported by local residents and presented it in front of the Minister of Health in Niamey.



2017

Passes away in Tessaoua, Niger. (Aged 75 years)

2019

The Pilot Center was renamed Yuzo Tanigaki Provincial Hospital and becomes a general hospital with mainstay functions in the Tessaoua region.

2020

The residence where Dr. Tanigaki lived with his wife, Shizuko, was renamed the “Madame Shizuko Health Center.” There is a maternity ward where expectant mothers can safely give birth and has become a clinic that protects the lives and health of both the mother and the child.

*In 2022, the book *The Tale of Surgeon Yuzo Tanigaki* was published. In recent years, there has been more momentum to celebrate the lives of Dr. Tanigaki and his wife, such as the *Dr. Yuzo Tanigaki and Shizuko Tanigaki Honorary Exhibition* held by the Kyotango Rotary Club in 2023. Additionally, the picture book about Dr. Tanigaki called *Hitotsubu no Mugi* (“A Single Grain of Wheat”) was published this year in August.*



City Topics

Confirmed by the City's Regional Public Transport Revitalization Council

Demo Public Ride-share Services will begin November 27th!

To secure transportation options to replace defunct bus lines, the City Regional Public Transport Revitalization Council confirmed the demo service of Kyotango Public Ride-share Service on October 31st. The demo will operate for one month from November 27th in the former service areas of Tankai Bus' Mineyama-Yotsutsuji Line, Mineyama-Nobutoshi Line, and along the Yasaka-Amino Sakkyusen Line. After reviewing the results, the Council will consider moving towards full operations next fiscal year, and potentially expand the public ride-share service to the whole area of the city just in time for the Osaka-Kansai Expo.

Area of Service	Tankai Bus Mineyama-Yotsutsuji Line, Mineyama-Nobutoshi Line, Yasaka-Amino Sakkyu Line (includes the stopped service area from Kumihama Onsen to Shinjo)
Ride Fee	400 yen per ride (Coupons to get your first ride free will be distributed to every household during the demo period)
Operational Period	November 27 th ~ December 26 th , 2024
Service Hours	Weekdays 7:30AM ~ 6:30PM (planned)

By the Policy and Planning Section TEL 0772-69-0120

Kyotango Sea Labo in 2024

Cultivating the Ability for Kyotango’s Students to Thrive in a Global Society

~Raising the Next Generation of Creative Talents~

Through a curriculum developed with researchers from Stanford University and the University of Toronto, Kyotango Sea Labo aims to teach young talents ways of thinking that will lead them to form new ideas from the perspective of design and raise them to become active players in the world.



Kyotango’s Junior High and High School students are taking on new challenges and learning new things!

The Kyotango Sea Labo Workshop is an explorative learning program centered around the three conceptual pillars of Design Thinking, SDGs, and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math). The students use these three concepts to investigate issues affecting their local communities, developing their innovative thinking skills and problem-solving skills through this program. Every year, students from various universities, colleges, and local businesses are involved in the workshops and support the students.

This year marks the third reiteration of the program, and was held over the course of five days from August 5th. The conversations were held primarily in English. Under such a program, the students learned about the thinking process that designers and creatives use on the job and were able to come up with new ideas and solutions to tackle issues local businesses face and some that they were yet to face. During the program, together with their university-aged Design Thinking Coaches, the students did not just sit in a lecture to learn about design thinking, but also had hands-on experiences by visiting the local business to observe the job first-hand.

Some of the business representatives noted, “the students were more proactive than I had expected, and I was surprised by how intellectually curious they were,” “I hope that they can see many different worlds and come back to Kyotango.”

From their visitations and interviews with local businesses, the students came across many questions and issues, thought about why things are the way they are and how to find better solutions, and looked for solutions using design thinking.

On the fifth and final day of the program, the students mustered their confidence and presented their solutions to their fellow peers. One student remarked that they were even able to tackle issues that they had no answer for without fearing doing the wrong thing and felt that they had made personal growth.

By the **Schools and Education Section** TEL 0772-69-0620

U.S. Army Kyogamisaki Communications Site

Greetings from the New Site Commander

Captain Thomas Shannon, the new Commander at the U.S. Army Kyogamisaki Communications Site, visited Kyotango City Hall in Mineyama for his formal greetings on October 16th. Mayor Nakayama expressed his gratitude to the new Commander for the Site's



effort to build a trusting relationship with the local community as good neighbors, and talked about various topics such as traffic safety measures, information relay regarding any possible incidents or accidents, and future Japan-U.S. exchange events. The Commander said the Site will prioritize safety first and work hard to secure peace and safety, and in case anything happens, will work to provide information as quickly as

possible.

How to Sort and Take Out the Trash

Check before Trash Day!

Your everyday trash can be categorized into many different types! Check again about how to properly sort and take out your trash.

By the **Life Environment Section** TEL 0772-69-0240

How to Sort/Take Out Your Trash (ENG)



Collection Calendars by Town (JP)



Please Donate to the Food Pantry!

In order to distribute free food and daily necessities to households struggling with the rising cost of goods, we are accepting and collecting donations for food and daily necessities. Please donate foods or supplies that are unopened, unused with at least two months before their best-by or expiration date, and can be stored at room temperature. We will not accept alcoholic beverages or their non-alcoholic versions, miso paste, homemade fermented foods such as pickles, vegetables, etc. We ask for your cooperation.

Please drop off your food pantry donations to the Social Welfare Council's Main Office (Yasaka) or any of the branch offices.

Office locations (Japanese)



By the **Kyotango City Social Welfare Council** TEL 0772-65-2100

No More Health Insurance Cards Will Be Distributed

You can still use your card until the end of the effective period.

Beginning December 2nd, the government will stop distributing Health Insurance cards. If you have a National Health Insurance Card or an Insurance Card for Advanced-age Senior Care, you can still use your card until the end of its effective period.

If you have the MyNumber Health Insurance Card

You can use your MyNumber Health Insurance Card or your currently issued Health Insurance Card until the end of its effective period.

If you do not have the MyNumber Health Insurance Card

You can use your currently-issued Health Insurance Card until the end of its effective period. After its effective period is over, you may use the Certificate Confirmation Form, which will be sent to you by mail before the end of your Health Insurance Card's effective period.

Be Cautious of Fires Caused by Lithium-Ion Batteries

Lithium-ion batteries in everyday appliances can also be a source of fire.

Lithium-ion batteries are used inside all sorts of electronics around us, such as smartphones, laptops, gaming consoles, e-cigarettes, mobile batteries, and more. As the inside of a battery contains a flammable electrolyte solution, there is a risk that the battery may produce excessive heat or burst into flames if broken or left in high heat conditions.



Warning Signs When a Lithium-Ion Battery May Start a Fire

- ☐ The battery is swollen
- ☐ A strange noise or smell emerges from the electronic when in use
- ☐ The battery runs out faster
- ☐ The battery cannot be charged to full capacity
- ☐ The battery gets unusually hot when charging

If you've checked any of the boxes above, stop using the battery immediately!

To address the issue, please consult with the retailer or the manufacturer/importer's repair service.

Blood Donation Calendar

Date	Reception Hours	Location
12/1 (Sun.)	9:30AM~11:30AM 12:45PM~3:30PM	Shopping Center Mine
12/25 (Wed.)	9:30AM~11:30AM 12:45PM~3:30PM	Kyotango City Hall Omiya Branch

By the **Health Promotion Section** TEL 0772-69-0350

Demographic Changes in Kyotango City

Timestamp	End of Sep. 2024	End of Oct. 2024	Change
Total Population	50,269	50,185	-84
Male	24,185	24,145	-40
Female	26,084	26,040	-44
Households	22,954	22,954	0
Changes by Main Criteria	Move-ins	57	
	Move-outs	78	
	Births	19	
	Deaths	82	
Other reasons		0	

By the **Citizens' Affairs Section** TEL 0772-69-0210

Kyotango Living Tips

Cold Winter Weather means Time for Hot Pot!!

Hot pot is great for enjoying a bunch of different ingredients in one meal. Here are some ingredients that are be great for you and your hot pot.

The first ingredient is ginger. Not only does it help warm your body up, but it is also a rich source of gingerol, which is known for its antibacterial properties, making it great for keeping the winter bug away!

The second ingredient is daikon radish, which is currently in season. Raw daikon radish contains components and enzymes that aid in digestion, so we recommend enjoying grated radish as a condiment with your meal!

The great thing about hot pot is that you can change it up with different soup bases. Why not add hot pot to your winter dinner rotation?

How about a Soymilk Hot Pot in your dinner repertoire?

Here's a quick and easy recipe for a soymilk hot-pot base to make at home!

Must-have ingredients to add in Soymilk Hot Pot!!

We highly recommend adding mushrooms such as enoki or shimeji in your hot pot. Not only are they rich in fiber, but they promote good skin and boost your immune system!

Then, there's fried atsuge tofu. Since it's also made out of soy, it's sure to go perfectly with your soymilk hot pot! When the oil seeps out into the soup, the hot pot deepens with extra flavor! It's also quite filling!

Ingredients (serves 3)

- Additive-Free Soymilk (*muchosei tonyu*) ... 500ml
- Shiro-dashi ... 120ml
- Water ... 100ml

How to Prepare

- Toss in the ingredients you like, turn the stove on to medium heat, and let it simmer! *Bon appetit!*



Get Medical Attention on the Weekends

Doctors Available for an Emergency Diagnosis

Hours: 9AM – 12PM / 2PM – 5PM

Specialty: Internal Medicine

12/1 (Sun)	Tango Furusato Hospital	TEL 0772-72-5055
12/8 (Sun)	Kumihama Hospital	TEL 0772-82-1500
12/15 (Sun)	Tango Furusato Hospital	TEL 0772-72-5055
12/22 (Sun)	Yasaka Hospital	TEL 0772-65-2003
12/29 (Sun)	Tango Furusato Hospital	TEL 0772-72-5055
12/30 (Mon)	Ueda Clinic	TEL 0772-72-0053
12/31 (Tues)	Kumihama Hospital	TEL 0772-82-1500

*Dates after January 1st will be posted on the online December bulletin.

*Please visit the physician on duty if you are experiencing fever or other symptoms, or need your child

to be checked up.

**City hospitals with emergency services are Tango Central Hospital, Yasaka Hospital, and Kumihama Hospital.*

By the **Medical Affairs Section** TEL 0772-69-0360

Events Calendar – December

12/1 (Sun.)

Event Notice from Tango Performing Arts Hall

2024 Tango Culture & Arts Festival

The 29th Tango Wadaiko Festival

Enjoy drumming performances from seven local groups.

Time: From 1:00PM

Admission: Free

Contact: Tango Performing Arts Hall TEL 0772-62-5200



12/7 (Sat.), 12/8 (Sun.)

Hotto Haato Craft Exhibition & Disabled Persons Week Art Exhibition

For Disabled Persons Week from December 3rd to 9th, paintings, ceramics, and handicrafts made by folks at the welfare workshops and other people with disabilities will be on display.

Time: 10:00AM ~ 8:00PM

*Until 5PM on the 8th

Place: Shopping Center Mine

Contact: Disability Welfare Section TEL 0772-69-0320

12/8 (Sun.)

Woodcrafting Plaza

Enjoy woodworking as a family and try using saws and wood planes at this event! There's also a free play space for young kids made out of wood!

Time: 10:00AM ~ 4:00PM

Place: Tango Kingdom Information Exchange Center

Contact: Lumber Freaks TEL 090-4184-1449



12/8 (Sun.) and others

Winter Storytime by Kyotango City Libraries

Mineyama Library

Time: 12/8 (Sun.) from 10:30AM

Place: Mineyama Community Center

Registration: No pre-registration needed. Please walk in on the day of.

Contact: Mineyama Library TEL 0772-62-5101

Omiya Library Room

Time: 12/15 (Sun.) from 10:00AM

Place: Agri Center Omiya

Capacity: First 50 people

Registration: Please call below to pre-register.

Contact: Omiya Library Room TEL 0772-69-0672

Yasaka Library Room

Time: 12/15 (Sun.) from 10:30AM

Place: Yasaka Community Center

Capacity: First 30 people

Registration: Please call below to pre-register.

Contact: Yasaka Library Room TEL 0772-65-2101

Kumihama Library Room

Time: 12/22 (Sun.) from 10:30AM

Place: City Hall Kumihama Branch

Registration: No pre-registration needed. Please walk in on the day of.

Contact: Kumihama Library Room TEL 0772-69-0344

12/14 (Sat.)

Tango Winds Orchestra – The 36th Annual Showcase

A once-a-year concert by the Tango Winds Orchestra. Please come to enjoy an evening of beautiful music!

Time: 6:30PM~ (Doors open at 5:30PM)

Place: Tango Performing Arts Hall

Admission: Presale – 500 yen

At-the-door – 600 yen

**Elementary school age and under enter for free*

Other: Tickets can be purchased from the Tango Performing Arts Hall

Contact: Tango Winds Orchestra (Representative: Yamamoto)

TEL 090-4560-9497



12/14 (Sat.)

Lecture on Nomura Katsuya's Legacy

NOMURA Katsuya is a legendary Japanese baseball player and coach born and raised in Amino. AKAHOSHI Norihiro, a retired professional baseball athlete who used to play for the Hanshin Tigers, will recount his experience under the guidance of Coach Nomura.

Time: From 1:30PM (Doors open at 1:00PM)

Place: Amity Tango

Contact: Lifelong Learning Section TEL 0772-69-0630



12/15 (Sun.)

Dwarf studio's Komaneko Workshop 2024 in Kyotango City

The character, Komaneko, from dwarf studio's new film "Komaneko's Trip Abroad," will come to play at Kotohira Shrine in Mineyama! There will be a stop-motion animation workshop and a mini movie screening on the day of the event.

Time: 10:00AM – 3:00PM

Place: Kotohira Shrine

Contact: Konpira Handmade Market Executive Committee

Rep: Minami TEL 090-2574-3845



12/15 (Sun.)

Learn as a Family!

Class on Renewable Energy and Global Warming

While learning as a family about global warming and renewable energy, let's make a solar house lantern!

Time: 1:30PM – 3:30PM

Place: Kyotango City Hall (Mineyama)

For Who?: Elementary 4th grade ~ Junior High 1st year students
(includes guardians)

Capacity: First 20 people

Registration: Please call or email by December 10th (Tues.) by 5:00PM to sign up.

Contact: Life Environment Section TEL 0772-69-0240

kankyo@city.kyotango.lg.jp



Consultation Services

※The following services are, in principle, free. All matters will be kept confidential.

Consultation Service	Dates	Place	Matters Addressed	Reservations	To Sign Up or Contact
Healing Café Tsusentei	12/4 (Wed.) 10AM~2PM	Machi Machi Information Center	Talk about what has been troubling you in a relaxed space.	Not required	Health Promotion Section TEL 0772-69- 0350
	12/12 (Thurs.) 10AM~4PM	Kissako Tsusentei Café			Tsusentei Management Committee TEL 0772-83-0139
Women's Consultation Service Window	1/15 (Wed.) 1:15PM ~ 4:05PM	Announced when you reserve an appointment	Find solutions to problems you face as a woman with a supportive counselor	Prior reservation required	Citizen's Affairs Section TEL 0772-69- 0210
Hikikomori Consultation Service	Weekdays 9AM~6PM (excluding Wednesday afternoons)	Hitotowa	For people in reclusion, their families, and related persons (50 min slot per person)	Enterprise Union Labor Cooperative Center Project "Hitotowa"	TEL 080-2507- 9010

			Prior reservation required		
Yorisoi Shien Comprehensive Support Center	Mon-Fri 9AM~5PM *Closed on public holidays	Mineyama General Welfare Center, West Annex	A one-stop place to discuss and get support for worries about everyday issues and employment.	Not required	Consultations: 0120-125-294 Yorisoi Shien Comprehensive Support Center TEL 0772-62- 0032
Nurse Employment Consultation Group	12/5 (Thurs.) 1:30~3PM	Hello Work Mineyama	Consult about restarting your career or changing jobs. Gather useful information and information on trainings for re- employment	Not required	Northern Kyoto Prefecture Nurse Support Center TEL 0772-46- 9002
Employment Consultation Service for Young People	Mon, Tues, Thurs. 11AM~4PM *Closed on public holidays	Yorisoi Shien Comprehensive Support Center	Employment support for job hunting 15- to 49- year olds and family members	Prior reservation required	Northern Kyoto Young Person Support Station, Kyotango Satellite Office TEL 050-3559- 2804
Government Administration Consultation Service	12/11 (Wed.) 9:30~11:30PM 12/25 (Wed.) 9:30~11:30AM 1/8 (Wed.) 1:30~3:30PM	(12/11) Yasaka Community Center (12/25) Kumihama Town Hall (1/8) Amino Town Hall	Grievances, opinions, and hopes about national policies	Not required	Kyoto Administrative Monitoring and Administration Consultation Center 075-802-1100
Legal Consultation Service	12/5 (Thurs.) 1:30~4:30PM 12/12 (Thurs.) 3:00 ~ 5:00PM	Mineyama Community Center	Issues regarding household registry, debts, and laws and regulations (30	Prior reservations required	Kyoto Judicial Scrivener's Association Comprehensive

	12/26 (Thurs.) 3:00 ~ 5:00PM		minutes per person)		Consultation Center TEL 075-255- 2566
Administrative Legal Consultation	12/4 (Wed.) 10:00AM~12:00PM 1/8 (Wed.) 10:00AM~12:00PM	Mineyama General Welfare Center	Construction permits, matters concerning the Agricultural Land Act, inheritances/wills, contract writing, etc.	Not required	Prefectural Administrative Lawyer's Association First Chapter Bureau TEL 0772-68-0237
Tax Consultation Service	12/11 (Wed.) 1:00~4:00PM	Mineyama Community Center	Consult about income taxes, etc. with a tax accountant (30 minutes per person)	Prior reservations required	Mineyama Tax Association TEL 0772-62- 5458
Consumer Affairs Consultation Service	Weekdays 9:00AM ~5:00PM *Closed on public holidays	Consumer Living Center	How to go about contracts, cooling off periods, and other consumer affairs	Not required	Kyotango City Consumer Living Center TEL 0772-62- 6768 Consumer Support Hotline (TEL 188)
Human Rights Consultation Service	Every Thursday 9:00AM~4:00PM	Kyoto Local Legal Bureau, Kyotango Branch	Discrimination, harassment, and other infringements on human rights	Not required	Kyoto Regional Legal Bureau Kyotango Branch Office TEL 0772-62-0365
Consultation Service for Young Carers	Weekdays 8:30AM ~ 5:15PM *Closed on public holidays	Mineyama General Welfare Center	Accepts requests from both children who take on responsibilities caring for relatives or doing chores at	Not required	Child & Family Center (within the Childcare Support Section) TEL 0772-69-0370

			home and their guardians		
Child & Family Center			Pregnancy, birth, childcare, home matters. Accepts consultations by phone or in-person visits to the center or home.		
Mental Health Consultations	12/23 (Mon.) 9:00AM~5:00PM	Mineyama General Welfare Center	A public health nurse and a clinical psychologist will listen to your worries.	Prior registration needed	Health Promotion Section TEL 0772-69-0350
Bullying Consultation Hotline	24/7, 365 days a year	N/A	An overseeing staff member and a clinical psychologist will lend an open ear.	Not required	City Bullying Hotline TEL 0120-889-061 Schools & Education Section TEL 0772-69-0620

Kyotango Digital Points

Premium Digital Shopping Vouchers On Sale Now!

With 20% more!

On Sale Starting – December 1st (Sun.)

Valid Until March 16th, 2025

Limit : Up to two sets per member code

Sets Sold: 40,000 sets (*First come, first serve basis)

How to Purchase: ①If you have registered your credit card in the app, you may purchase from the Charge tab in the app. ②If a credit card is not registered in your app or you use the physical card, you may purchase the vouchers at a participating retailer.

The Premium Digital Shopping Vouchers Will Go on Sale Starting December!

Get an **extra 20%** when you purchase the Digital Shopping Vouchers! When you buy one 5,000 yen set, you can get 6,000-yen in vouchers!

**Must have a Kyotango Digital Point Card app or physical card to purchase the Premium Digital Shopping Vouchers. Vouchers cannot be refunded once purchased. Vouchers will no longer be effective after the valid period. Please use the vouchers within the valid period.*

Charge your Point Card directly from the app using your credit card!

When you register your credit card in the app, you can charge your point card directly from the app.

iPhone



Android



New Participating Stores

Re:prism

A combined self-care salon and yoga studio. A space to relax and heal your body and mind.

Mineyama TEL 0772-66-3605

Kabutoyama Camping Ground - Niji no Ie “Rainbow House”

A family-friendly, seafront campsite. You can also enjoy fishing at the site.

Kumihama TEL 0772-83-1457

By the **Kyotango Digital Point Management Council** TEL 0772-69-0440