

Mineyama High Schoolers Interact with the Local Elderly

The Debut of the “Mineyama Nenrin Salon”

On October 16th, the “Mineyama Nenrin Salon” was held at Mineyama High School.

The salon was held in hopes of providing a place where high schoolers could cultivate a giving heart, while supporting the elderly both physically and mentally. In accordance with the cooperation pact between Mineyama High School and the “Public Utility Foundation: Kyoto Sky Center”, they plan to conduct this event on and off from here on out. This is the second school to put on this kind of effort in Kyoto Prefecture.

The first opening of this event was called for by both the Kyotango City Social Welfare Council and the Kyotango City Longevity Welfare Section. Its main attraction consisted of 7 high schoolers, and 16 elderly people participated. Both elderly and young alike received advice from the Kyoto Sky Center; they learned about preventative calisthenics, weight training and quizzes that keep the brain active.

One participant shared their thoughts, “It was very stimulating being able to weight train and chat with the students. I would love to listen to more of their stories, so I will participate again in the future.

This year’s “Nenrin Salon” was put on as a test run, but future full releases are already being prepared for and are scheduled to start next year.



The Taste of Plentiful, Traditional Rice

Red Rice “Beni Musume” Harvesting Experience

A rice-harvesting experience was conducted on November 3rd at a rice field near the San-in Kinki Expressway Omiya Interchange.

This is a yearly event put on by the Mie-Morimoto Council for Town Growth (represented by Yoshibumi Nitta) and Kyotango Morimoto Agriculture (represented by Naoyuki Yano). The purpose of the event is to have local children experience what it is like to harvest rice in the traditional fashion. All work is done using only ones hands; no machines are utilized.

In total, around 20 locals and staff participated. After harvesting was finished, everyone enjoyed the taste of autumn by scarfing down some onigiri made with red rice and Koshihikari from last year’s crop. 5-year-old Aoi Itoi smiled and reflected back, “Harvesting rice was a blast! The rice balls were frim and delicious.”



Ryukoku University and Ukawa Manufacturing Join Hands

Kyogamisaki Lighthouse Opens for the General Public; Komeko Curry Sold

At the Kyogamisaki Lighthouse parking lot on October 28th, students sold organic curry rice made from rice raised and harvested with local residents at a vacant rice field. These students are enrolled in the Imasato Seminar (run by Professor Kanako Imasato) of the Faculty of Policy Science at Ryukoku University, and they regularly utilize Ukawa as a base for regional revitalization activity.

The seminar students proposed “Komeko Curry”, a dish thickened with rice flour, to introduce this year’s rice crop to the masses. Canned mackerel developed at Kaiyo High School and local produce were also incorporated. Komeko Curry was realized with the help of Ukawa Manufacturing; 100 servings were prepared for the lighthouse’s opening.

Junior at Ryukoku and leader of the group, Kokoro Tsuji, commented the following, “With plentiful produce as a start, we want to broadcast Ukawa’s charm and make ‘Ukawa Fans’ across the country.”

A video introducing Ukawa and the Geopark can be found on the Seminar’s home page.

<https://imasatoseminar.wixsite.com/imasato/go>



For an Inclusive, Peaceful World

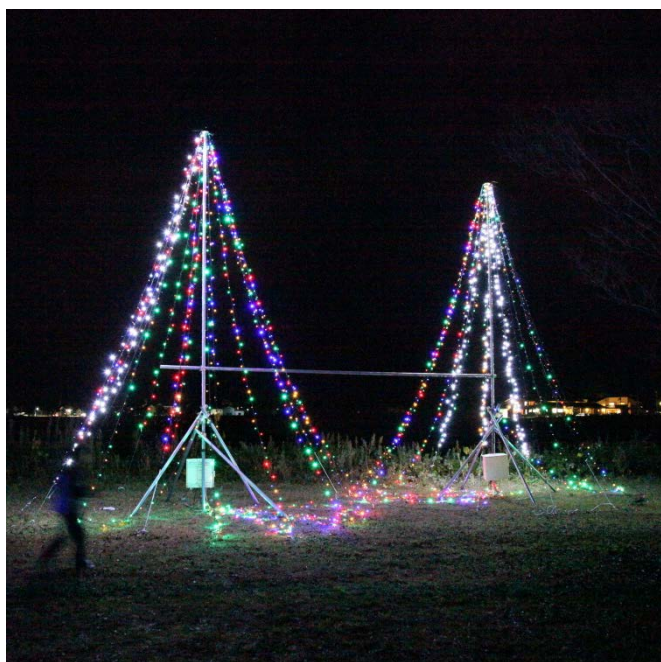
Light Up Decoration at Yasaka Mizube Park

Setup for the light display that will be conducted at Mizube Park in Yasaka-cho has been completed.

This effort is put on by Wings Yasakano (represented by Chiori Imanishi) and will be conducted for the 13th time. Its origin was a quote from Chiori Imanishi, a 93-year-old war survivor. She expressed, "I want everyone who sees this light to feel the importance of an inclusive, peaceful world."

Last year, the decorations broke down due to snow, but this year they have been adjusted anew. Chiori Imanishi happily spoke again, "I want people to see this multiple times. Please enjoy the beautiful illumination."

After the lighting ceremony on November 17th, the display will be open until Mid-February of next year.



The First Hamaimo Grand Prix!

10,000 attend the 28th Kumihama Marukajiri Festival

On October 21st at Kumihama Beach Park, the “Kumihama Marukajiri Festival” (organized by its own executive committee) was held. Underneath the autumn sun and blue sky, the venue was bustling with around 10,000 visitors from Kyotango city and other regions.

On stage there were song and dance performances by local preschoolers, a “Kyotango Nashi” eating competition, bingo games and more. In addition, there were flea markets and food stands on the venue floor, with a huge snake-shaped line leading to the “Nabe Farm Feast” (Furumai Nosaku Nabe).

“Shun no Kyotango • Hamaimo Grand Prix” was held for the first time. 5 publicly recruited shops set up in special tents and provided sweets and food made with sweet potatoes grown in Kumihama sand dunes. They competed to see who could sell the most and earn the most money. To accomplish this, all shops created well thought out menus, but only one could rain supreme. “Fukutan” and their “Fried Sweet Potato Rice Cake” became the event’s first-ever champion.



Children Amazed at Huge Crane

Field Trip to the Juodo Bridge Construction Site

There was a field trip held at the Juodo Bridge, a bridge which spans across the Shinjo River. It is currently being reconstructed in accordance with the prefecture's "River renovation project". 26 students from Amino Southern Elementary School were invited; they observed a crane installing a bridge girder in person.

The children all put on their safety helmets and watched from a place roughly 30 meters away from the crane. Every time the large machine lifted a section of concrete girder, the children cheered in awe. After the construction was over, every child was able to sit in the crane's seat and taste what it feels like to be a crane operator.

Yuki Azuma, a student who rode a crane for the first time, commented, "The sound of the crane at work was really powerful. I am looking forward to seeing the bridge finished."

The Bridge is scheduled to be finished by December 2018.

