

“Improve Farming and Art in Kyotango!”

Comedy Duo “Sen-no-Rikyuu” Moves to Okuono

From April 16, Kumihama



↑ From the left: Mr. Doumoto, Ward Representative Kawaguchi, Mrs. Morioka, Ms. Yoshimura.

From April 16th, the comedy duo Sen-no-Rikyuu (members of the Yoshimoto Creative Agency) moved into Okuono ward in Kyotango City, where they will be working on their comedy while also taking up farming.

This is part of the implementation of the “Kyoto Half-Comedy Half-Farming Project,” a cooperative effort between Kyoto Prefecture and Yoshimoto Enterprises. The comedy duo plan to stay in Okuono for one year, living together with local resident Mrs. Satoe Morioka.

The Sen-no-Rikyuu “straight man” Eiji Doumoto has experience studying agriculture from when he was a student, and enthusiastically said “I want to do my best farming here in this region, and to grow as a comedian. I will also do my best to promote Kyotango!” The duo’s “funny man” Miku Yoshimura said “Kyotango’s scenery looks a lot like my hometown, so it feels like I’ve come home.”

Mrs. Morioka, whom the comedy duo will be living with, expressed her gratitude many times, saying “They fixed my electronics for me, and we go to do the shopping together, and I’m very happy. I’m glad I have these new grandchildren.” Ward Representative Katsuhiko Kawaguchi, who welcomed them, also conveyed his hopes that “As comedians I hope they become famous and promote Kyotango to the entire

country. I definitely want them to use joke material about the region and the lifestyle here.”

The Sen-no-rikyuu duo will be pursuing their farming work in Tango Kingdom “Shoku-no-Miyako” (Yasaka), and in order to proactively participate in the local community, they will also perform a comedy show once per month in the Okuono community center.

Shearing Sheep at Ikari Highlands Farm

Ukawa Nursery School Children’s Experience

May 2, Tango

On May 2nd, the annual sheep shearing took place at Ikari Highlands Farm. Because shearing the wool prevents illness and overheating, and it is done every year at around this time, and this year ten children from Ukawa Nursery School came to visit and watch. After the children watched the farm staff skillfully shear the sheep with clippers, they all gave it a try as well, under close supervision of the staff. Even the children who were frightened and would not get near the sheep got used to them and proactively tried shearing.

After the experience was over, the children were all chattering that “They got cooled off!” and “They look like goats!”



↑ Children approaching the skittish sheep to try shearing them.

High School Students Create Beautiful Flower Beds by Hand

Mineyama High School Yasaka Branch 3rd-Years Plant Flower Beds in Tango Kingdom

April 28, Yasaka



↑ The students working efficiently.

On April 28th, the Mineyama Prefectural High School Yasaka Branch Agricultural Skills Department 3rd-year students planted flower beds in Tango Kingdom “Shoku-no-Miyako.”

These efforts are part of the department’s “Flowering Plants Class,” in which the students do everything from raising trees and plants to management, and each year since 2003, they have continued this planting activity to please the eye of any visitors.

While transplanting seedlings and receiving advice from their instructor, the six students planted five types of seedlings in the flower beds in one corner of the park: marigolds, petunias, scarlet sage, coleus, and plumed cockscomb.

Student Manato Okita said “While I’m planting, I think about how pretty it will look when the flowers bloom. I want lots of people to see them and enjoy them.”

More flower transplanting is planned for autumn as well.

Fully Enjoying a Walk Through the Geopark

A Path to Visit Kyoto's Westernmost Settlement (Shotenkyo to Kamai · Asahi)

May 9, Kumihama

On May 9th, the event titled “San'in Kaigan Geopark Crossing Trail: A Path to Visit Kyoto's Westernmost Settlement” was held, sponsored by the NPO Town Development Support Center (Representative: Tadahiro Nakae).

Thirty-three participants came out to fully enjoy the walk, which spans twelve kilometers winding through Kumihama from Shotenkyo to Kamai · Asahi, following along the coastal promenade. As they walked, they received explanations from a guide from the Support Center. A woman who came from Hyogo Prefecture to participate said “The scenery is wonderful, and the promenade is charming, so I felt great during the walk!”

⇒To contact the NPO Town Development Support Center, please call (TEL 75-1441).



↑ Participants walking along the promenade (along the Kamai coast).

Taiwanese High Schoolers Visit Tango for a School Trip

Students Have International Exchange with Amino High School and the Kakezu Ward

April 18, Amino



↑ As thanks for their welcome, Taiwanese students perform a dance.

Twenty-six first and second-year students from Taiwan's Taipei Municipal He Ping High School came to visit Amino Prefectural High School on April 18th for a school trip.

The Taiwanese students had lunch together with Amino High's second-years, and attended a welcome ceremony. After all of the students received a big welcome, they performed a song and dance routine. In the classroom they had a combined art class, and the students were able to further their exchange by speaking together in English.

After the high school visit, the group of students moved to their lodgings in the Kakezu ward. A local guide took them on a walk along Kotohikihama, and then they had an exchange meeting with local residents, so they were able to see the peaceful nature and charming people in Kyotango.

The Kyotango Tourism Association is continuing to receive school trips with the objective of advancing international relations and attracting more tourists, both for the city and the prefecture.

Lectures Held for Mineyama's Senior Learning College
Throughout the Year, Many Different Lectures Are Planned
April 27, Mineyama



↑ Lecture participants listening to a music performance.

On April 27th, 94 people came to participate in the opening ceremony and lecture for the 2017 Kyotango Senior Learning College, Mineyama Branch, held in the Mineyama Community Center. The Senior Learning College aims to help give opportunities for making friends, giving purpose, and improving health for senior residents.

As an opening event for the start of the lectures, Rie Taniguchi performed on the marimbas, and then there was a lecture titled “About the Sanin Kaigan Geopark,” in which attendees learned about the park’s origin and activities available for visitors.