

# Ashiya Newsletter

Volume 10,  
No. 2  
July 1, 2001

Published by: Ashiya City    Address: 7-6 Seido-cho, Ashiya-shi    Phone: (0797) 38-2008  
Home page: <http://www.city.ashiya.hyogo.jp/>    Mail address: [info@city.ashiya.hyogo.jp](mailto:info@city.ashiya.hyogo.jp)

## 40th Anniversary of the Sister City Friendship Tie with Montebello, California (U.S.A.)

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the enactment of the Ashiya International Cultural Residential City Construction Act and the 40th anniversary of the Ashiya-Montebello sister city friendship tie.

The 39th of such relationships to be established in Japan, Ashiya and Montebello share one of the longest-standing sister city relationships, which promotes various exchange activities at the citizen and grass-roots level, including student exchange programs and visits by various delegations to both cities. By further strengthening the ties between the two cities in the future, this sister city relationship will surely contribute to greater world peace.

### Commemorative Parks Constructed

Montebello launched the construction of Ashiya Park, completed in 1972, to celebrate the fifth anniversary of the sister city tie.

This year, the city plans to build the "Ashiya Garden" on the grounds of Montebello City Hall.

Likewise, Ashiya constructed the Montebello Rose Garden in Iwagahira Park in 1973 where seedlings of Montebello's city flower, the "heart's desire" rose — sent by Montebello — bloom beautifully every year. Ashiya citizens also enjoy such sister city gifts as the Friendship Bell and the Friendship Tree, a stately elm.

### Goodwill Delegation Exchanges

Goodwill delegation exchanges are held every five years to promote the cultivation of personal relationships, but a special visit was planned to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the sister city affiliation. A 27-member delegation led by Ashiya Deputy Mayor Yamauchi and City Council President Nakamura was warmly greeted during a visit to Montebello in mid-April. The delegation from Montebello will visit Ashiya this fall.

### 37th Student Exchange Program

Since 1964, a student exchange program has been held to promote international goodwill. Two students visit their respective sister cities for about one month, participate in a homestay, and experience life in another culture. A total of about 150 students and more than 1,200 homestay families have participated in this program.

## Benefit for the Specially Challenged and Welfare Benefit for Foreign Resident Senior Citizens Not Eligible for Pensions

### Payment Increases Effective April 2001

The chart below shows the revised amounts.

Payment	Before Revision	After Revision
<b>Welfare Benefit for Foreign Resident Senior Citizens Not Eligible for Pensions</b>	(¥15,000/month) ¥180,000	(¥20,000/month) ¥240,000
<b>Benefit for the Specially Challenged</b>	(¥35,000/month) ¥420,000	(¥35,000/month) ¥420,000

The City of Ashiya has established programs for people not eligible to receive pensions because they do not fulfill the time requirements stipulated under the National Pension System either by virtue of their nationality or residence overseas. The Benefit for the Specially Challenged is provided to specially challenged people and the Welfare Benefit for Foreign Resident Senior Citizens Not Eligible for Pensions is provided to senior citizens. The benefits are paid in July, October, January and April. Funds will be deposited directly into the recipient's bank account and will cover the period ending with the month prior to the month of the deposit.

### Allowance for the Specially Challenged

To be eligible, persons must be over 20 years of age and hold a Class 1 or 2 Physically Handicapped Certificate, a Level A

Intellectually Handicapped Certificate, or a Level 1 Mentally Handicapped Health and Welfare Certificate, and must meet at least one of the following conditions:

- Non-Japanese citizen who was 20 years old before January 1, 1982 and who became challenged before that time.
- A person whose handicap improved while receiving pension benefits and who therefore became ineligible to receive benefits, but whose handicap subsequently worsened.
- A person whose initial date of diagnosis for a handicap that first occurred overseas was prior to April 1, 1986.

However, the following people are not eligible for this benefit:

- Recipients of public pensions (receiving more than ¥540,000/year)
- Recipients of the Welfare Allowance for Foreign Resident Senior Citizens Not Eligible for Pensions
- Recipients of daily living home care
- Persons whose income the previous year exceeds the designated amount (please inquire for information regarding income limitations).

**Inquiries:** Challenged Persons' Subsection, Welfare Section, Tel: 38-2043

## Welfare Benefit for Foreign Resident Senior Citizens Not Eligible for Pensions

To be eligible, persons must have been born before April 1, 1926, and must meet the following conditions:

- Must have held a foreign resident registration card as of January 1, 1982, and is still currently registered in Ashiya City.
- Must have held a foreign resident registration card prior to January 1, 1982, and obtained Japanese citizenship after April 1, 1961.
- Must be a Japanese person who resided for a long period overseas and who returned after April 1, 1961.

However, the following people are not eligible for this benefit:

- Recipients of public pensions (receiving more than ¥240,000/year)
- Recipients of the Ashiya Benefit for the Specially Challenged
- Recipients of daily living home care
- Persons whose income, or the income of their spouse or guardian, exceeds the designated amount (please inquire for information regarding income limitations).

**Inquiries:** Pension Subsection, Insurance and Pension Section, Tel: 38-2036.

Persons who meet these requirements may apply for benefits at the relevant office.

### Notice to Current Benefit Recipients

Renewal forms have been sent out to current benefit recipients. Those who have not yet submitted the forms should do so immediately.

Benefits for April through June will be deposited on July 19 (Thursday). Please confirm that you receive your benefit at this time.

## Child Allowance Income Limits Raised — Are You Now Eligible to Apply?

The child allowance is paid to people taking care of children until the March 31 following the child's sixth birthday. Persons who meet the following income limit criteria should apply for the allowance.

### Allowance

For one or two children	¥5,000/month per child
For the third and subsequent children	¥10,000/month per child

### Payment Months

June	(for February, March, April and May)
October	(for June, July, August and September)
February	(for October, November, December and January)

## FY2001 Large-Sized Garbage Collection Schedule

(A fee will be charged from October 1)

Town Name	July	Aug.	Sep.
Yama-ashiya-cho, Nishiyama-cho, Nishi-ashiya-cho	2, 30	27	24
Asahigaoka-cho (excluding 2-4, 3-5, 4-5, 6 and 7)	3, 31	28	25
Ise-cho, Takezono-cho, Hama-ashiya-cho, Matsuhama-cho	4	1, 29	26
Sanjo-cho, Tsukiwaka-cho, Hirata-cho, Okuike-cho, Okuike-minami-cho	5	2, 30	27
Chayano-cho, Omasu-cho, Kimmitsu-cho, Narihira-cho, Kami-miyagawa-cho	6	3, 31	28
Miyazuka-cho, Hirata-kita-machi	7	4	1, 29
Kusunoki-cho, Kasuga-cho	9	6	3
Rokurokuso-cho, Iwazono-cho	10	7	4
Funado-cho, Matsunouchi-cho, Shimizu-cho, Maeda-cho	11	8	5
Yamate-cho, Okuyama, Sanjo-minami-cho	12	9	6
Higashiyama-cho, Higashi-ashiya-cho	13	10	7
Uchide-kozuchi-cho, Wakamiya-cho, Uchide-cho	14	11	8
Daito-cho, Kurekawa-cho	16	13	10
Midorigaoka-cho	17	14	11
Nangu-cho, Nishikura-cho	18	15	12
Ohara-cho, Shinnozuka-cho, Asahigaoka-cho (2-4, 3-5, 4-5, 6 and 7)	19	16	13
Tsuji-cho, Kawanishi-cho, Seido-cho, Miyagawa-cho	20	17	14
Hama-cho	21	18	15
Takahama-cho 1 to 4	23	20	17
Takahama-cho 5 to 10	24	21	18
Wakaba-cho 1 to 3, Midori-cho	25	22	19
Wakaba-cho 4 to 7	26	23	20
Hamakaze-cho, Niihama-cho, Yoko-cho	27	24	21
Shiomi-cho	28	25	22

## Ashiya City Health and Welfare Office Program Schedule for FY2001 (Tel: 32-0707)

Program Name	Date/Hours	July	Aug.	Sep.	
Infants Clinic	Apr. ~ Jul. (2nd Thu.), Aug. ~ Mar (2nd Mon.), 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.	12	27*	10	
Child-Rearing Consultations	Apr. ~ Jul. (2nd Mon.), Aug. ~ Mar (2nd Thu.), 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.	9	9	13	
Psychological Health for Parents and Children	Psychological Checkups for 3-year-olds	2nd & 3rd Tue., 9:00 to 9:30 a.m., 10:15 to 10:45 a.m.	10 17	7* 21	11 18
	Psychological Consultations for children	2nd Tue., 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.	10	7*	11
Psychological Consultation	3rd Tue., 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.	17	21*	18	
	1st Wed., 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.	-	1	-	
Tuberculosis Checkup	3rd Tue., 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.	17	21	18	
Clinic - General Health Consultation - Workplace Checkup - HIV Antibody Checkup	Clinic Test Date	1st & 3rd Fri., 1:00 to 2:00 p.m., HIV Test: 2:00 to 2:30 p.m.	6 -	3 17	7 21
	Post-Test Instruction Date	Post-Test Instruction: 2nd & 4th Fri., 2:00 to 2:30 p.m., Checkup Results and HIV Test Results Date	13 -	10 24	14 28
Families of Alcoholics Program	2nd Fri., 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon	13	10	14	
Mentally Challenged Patients' Program "Good Luck"	1st & 3rd Wed., 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon	4, 18	1	5, 19	
Mental Health Volunteers' Gathering	4th Fri., 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon	27	24	28	
Families of Elderly Persons with Senile Dementia "Ajisai Hydrangea Club." Held at Ohara Ikoi-no-ie on dates with ( ).	3rd Mon., 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.	(16)	20	(17)	
Specialized Nutritional Consultation	1st & 2nd Tue., 10:00 to 12 noon	3, 10	7, 14	4, 11	

Note: An asterisk (\*) denotes an amended date due to a holiday or some other reason.

The allowance will be deposited directly into your account on the 15th of the payment month (or on the previous business day if the 15th falls on a bank holiday).

### Notice to Current Allowance Recipients

\* The child allowance for February through May was deposited on June 15 (Friday). Please confirm that you received your benefit.

\* Status forms for FY 2001 were sent out in early June. Please return these as soon as possible.

**Inquiries:** Pension Subsection, Insurance and Pension Section, Tel: 38-2036

## FY 2001 Child Allowance Income Limit Chart

(Units: ¥1 million)

Dependents	Income Limits			
	National Pensions Subscribers		Welfare Pension/Mutual Benefit Association Subscribers	
	FY 2000	FY 2001	FY 2000	FY 2001
0	1.70	3.01	3.61	4.60
1	2.08	3.39	3.99	4.98
2	2.46	3.77	4.37	5.36
3	2.84	4.15	4.75	5.74
4	3.22	4.53	5.13	6.12
5	3.60	4.91	5.51	6.50

# Ashiya Health Center

**Tel: 31-1586, Fax: 31-1018**

Program	Hours	Place	July	Aug.	
Tuberculin skin tests, BCG vaccinations	1:30 ~ 2:30 p.m.	Ashiya Health Center	T. skin test	2	-
			BCG	4	-
Expectant mothers' classes (appointment required)	1:30 p.m. ~	Ashiya Health Center	First period	-	7, 21, 29
			Second period	3, 17	-
Health consultations for pregnant women	1:30 ~ 4:00 p.m.	Ashiya Health Center	16	20	
Home visits to newborn babies	Anytime	Ashiya Health Center	Anytime		
Child-rearing consultations	9:30 ~ 10:30 a.m.	Ashiya Health Center	16	20	
Child-rearing classes	9:45 ~ 11:30 a.m.	Ashiya Health Center	23	27	
Health checkups for 4-month-olds	1:00 ~ 2:00 p.m.	Hyogo Prefectural Ashiya Health Center	11, 25	8, 22	
Health checkups for 1-year-olds	Anytime	Designated medical facilities	Anytime at designated medical facilities		
Health checkups for 18-month-olds	1:00 ~ 2:00 p.m.	Ashiya Health Center	19	16	
Health checkups for 3-year-olds	1:00 ~ 2:00 p.m.	Hyogo Prefectural Ashiya Health Center	5	2	
Allergy consultations (appointment required)	9:30 ~ 10:30 a.m.	Ashiya Health Center	9	13	
Free dental consultations and checkups	1:00 ~ 2:30 p.m.	Dentists Association Hall	18	22	
Home visit to people to prevent their becoming bedridden		Apply with Ashiya Health Center	Anytime		
Home visit for dental care to those who are bedridden					
Citizens' health checkups (lung cancer tests for those aged 40 or above)	9:30 ~ 10:30 a.m.	Ashiya Health Center	6, 10	3, 10	
Anemia tests					
Health checkups (appointment required)	9:15 a.m. ~	Ashiya Health Center	3, 9	6, 7	
Osteoporosis checkups (appointment required)	9:30 ~ 10:30 a.m.	Ashiya Health Center	24	28	
Nutritional consultations (appointment required)	9:30 ~ 11:00 a.m.	Ashiya Health Center	24	28	
Health consultations	1:00 ~ 3:00 p.m.	Ashiya Health Center	10, 17, 24	7, 21, 28	
Stomach cancer tests (appointment required)	9:15 ~ 10:30 a.m.	Ashiya Health Center	Mondays and Thursdays		
Tests for uterine, cervical and breast cancer	Anytime	Designated medical facilities	Anytime at designated medical facilities		
Cancer of the large intestine tests	To be submitted in the morning	Ashiya Health Center	Tuesday mornings		
Nutritional instructions classes (reservation required)	1:30 p.m. ~	Ashiya Health Center	25-27	-	
Health classes (reservation required)	1:30 p.m. ~	Ashiya Health Center	-	-	

## Clinic Open during the Holidays

**Name:** Ashiya Municipal Holiday and Emergency Clinic

**Address:** 5-13 Kimmitsu-cho, Ashiya-shi

**Tel:** 21-2782

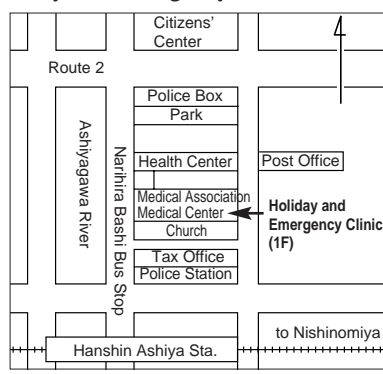
**Medical Departments:**

Internal Medicine, Pediatrics

**Days:** Sundays and national holidays

**Hours:** 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

\* Evening/night services are available on a rotating basis. Please call the Fire Department (Tel: 32-2345) for the clinic on duty.



## Dentists (Hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon)

	Clinic Name	Address	Tel.
July 1	Watanabe Orthodontics/Children's D.C.	3-5 Funado-cho	31-5939
8	Akashi Dental Clinic	9-6 Kimmitsu-cho	31-1560
15	Aramaki Dental Clinic	15-20 Kawanishi-cho	34-6483
20	Ikezawa Dental Clinic	3-9 Matsunouchi-cho	32-1780
22	Ikedo Dental Clinic	10-1 Matsunouchi-cho	35-4182
29	Ishihara Dental Clinic	1-4 Shinnozuka-cho	31-1388
Aug. 5	Inagaki Dental Clinic	5-19 Ohara-cho	22-2870
12	Uga Dental Clinic	5-13 Miyazuka-cho	22-4074
19	Uwazumi Dental Clinic	11-24 Miyazuka-cho	34-1560
26	Oka Dental Clinic	11-24-206 Ohara-cho	22-0139
Sep. 2	Kinoshita Dental Clinic	2-12 Asahigaoka-cho	31-1115
9	Ono D.C., Hamakaze Office	3-5 Hamakaze-cho	23-6474
15	Gon Dental Clinic	6-22-103 Nangu-cho	38-5577
16	Sugii Dental Clinic	3F 1-7 Iwazono-cho	21-2525
23	Takada Dental Clinic	10-5 Hama-cho	31-2229
24	Tabata Dental Clinic	10-18 Funado-cho	21-5655
30	Hirose Dental Clinic	4-8-105 Nishiyama-cho	23-6420

## We Want Your Opinion!!

Ashiya Newsletter is designed to provide information that will enrich the lives of both foreign residents living in Japan for extended periods and those here on short stays. To improve the newsletter and pack it full of the information most desired by the foreign community, we solicit your requests, questions and comments via e-mail, fax or post.

**E-mail:** info@city.ashiya.hyogo.jp

**Fax:** 0797-38-2175

**Send to:** Ashiya Newsletter Editing Staff, Ashiya City International and Cultural Section, La Mall Ashiya, 2-6 Ohara-cho, Ashiya-shi, 659-0092

## 23rd Ashiya Summer Carnival

Held by and for All Residents — The Citizens' Festival

The hopes and dreams of the people of Ashiya glisten brightly in the night summer skies. The Summer Carnival comes to Ashiya again this year!

**Date and time:** August 5, 2001 (Sun.), 2:00 to 9:00 p.m.  
**Place:** Yoko-cho, Ashiya and Minami-ashiya-hama District  
**Program:**  
Festival (about 100 booths), 2:00 to 9:00 p.m.  
Stage events, 2:00 to 9:00 p.m.  
Fireworks celebration (about 1,375), 8:00 to 9:00 p.m.

## 23rd Ashiya Summer Carnival — Pre-Event Seventh Ashiya Cup Dragon Boat Race Championships

**Date and time:** July 29 (Sun.) (Cancelled in case of rough weather)  
Opening ceremony 8:30 a.m.  
Race 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Closing ceremony 5:00 p.m.  
**Place:** Minami-ashiya-hama waterway (Ashiya Seaside Town southside waterway) in Ashiya City  
**Program:** Dragon Boat Races 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (elementary schoolchildren's class, men and women combined class, and men's class)

**Inquiries:** Ashiya City Citizens' Festival Association (Mon., Wed., Fri. 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.), Dai-ichi Brown Bldg. 2F, Room G, 1-1 Chayano-cho, Ashiya  
**Tel./Fax:** 0797-22-6946

### Access:

Hankyu Bus: Hamakaze Ohashi Minami bus stop  
(Additional buses will provide service on this day from the JR Ashiya Station, Hankyu Ashiyakawa Station, and Hanshin Ashiya Station. Also, a shuttle will depart from the Miyagawa Shogakkomae bus stop. You are invited to hop aboard the shuttle.)

## Child Upbringing Center

*Tanabata* — Festival of the Star Lovers

**Date and time:** July 4 (Wed.), 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.  
**Place:** Gymnasium and Youth Center, Kendo Hall/Judo Hall  
**Program:** Summer festival activities including making bamboo decorations, group skits, puppet theater

### Summer Festival

**Date and time:** August 18 (Sat.), 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon  
**Place:** Miyagawa Elementary School gymnasium  
**Program:** Traditional games, fishing game, "Tamaire" (ball game), "Matoate" (dart game), and more  
**Bring:** A plastic bag (for shoes)  
**Inquiries:** Child Upbringing Center, Tel: 31-8006 (inside Seido Kindergarten, 11-10 Kawanishi-cho)

## Famous Music Concert 2001

**Date and time:** August 25 (Sat.) Performance begins at 6:30 p.m. (venue opens at 5:30 p.m.)  
**Place:** Luna Hall (Ashiya)  
**Performer:** Tenor — Shoichiro Tawara and others  
**Program:** *Soshu Yakyoku*, *Vienna Remains Vienna*, *Hymme a l'amour* ("Song of Love"), *Lorelei* and more  
**Admission:** ¥3,000 for advance tickets, ¥3,500 on the day of performance (All seats are non-reserved)  
Tickets may not be sold at the door, if advance sales exceed the number of tickets available  
**Ticket Sales:** Grill Narihara in the Citizens' Center, Mont et Mer Daichiku, City Hall shop, Secilia Instruments, Cultural Promotion Foundation office, Lawson Tickets  
**Inquiries:** Cultural Promotion Foundation, Tel: 31-4962

## ACA

### 1. ACA Twilight Concert 50th Commemorative Concert Contemporary Jazz and Beer Swing

**Performers:** Noriko Harada (vocals), Tadanobu Matsuda (piano), Yoshihiro Mizuta (bass), Hiroshi Fujita (drums)  
**Program:** *Fly Me to the Moon*, *Satin Doll*, and more  
**Date and time:** July 20 (Fri., national holiday), 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

### 51st Taste of Hawaii

**Performer:** Lei of Stars  
**Date and time:** August 17 (Fri.), 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

### For Both Performances

**Location:** La Mall Ashiya 1F Plaza (Atrium)  
**Admission:** Free of charge  
**Capacity:** 100 people

### 2. Cooking Cuisines of the World – 21st Lesson: Italy Teacher: Mr. Ikuo Ogata

**Menu:** Eggplant and fresh tomato terrine, grapefruit pudding, etc.  
**Date and time:** July 14 (Sat.), 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
**Place:** Ashiya Citizens' Center cooking classroom  
**Admission:** Members: ¥1,500, Non-members ¥1,800  
(If you cancel on the day of the event, a ¥1,500 non-refundable fee will be charged.)  
**Capacity:** 23 people (Reservations required) — Men are most welcome!  
**Bring:** An apron, kitchen towels

### 3. Dance Performance and Exchange Party with the Laos Youth Folk Dance Group

**Date and time:** July 7 (Sat.), 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.  
\* A reception will follow the performance.  
**Location:** Ashiya Citizens' Center Rm. 301  
**Admission:** ¥1,500

### 4. 51st ACA Seminar

"What Is Sri Lanka Like?"

**Speaker:** Kumara Dissanayake (graduate student in the Agricultural Research Department of the Kobe University Graduate School)  
**Date and time:** July 14 (Sat.), 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.  
**Place:** ACA  
**Admission:** Free of charge

### 5. Volunteers Wanted!!

- **Web site updating:** Usually every Thursday 7:00 p.m.  
**Place:** ACA  
- **Mailing of Kawara-ban:** August 23 (Thurs.), 1:00 p.m.  
**Place:** ACA  
- **Newsletter translation (from Japanese to English and Chinese):** Can be done from home

**Reservations and inquiries:** Ashiya Cosmopolitan Association (ACA)

**Address:** La Mall Ashiya 2F, 2-6-209 Ohara-cho, Ashiya-shi,

Hyogo-ken 659-0092

**Tel:** 0797-34-6340 **Fax:** 0797-34-6341

**E-mail:** aca@sannet.ne.jp **URL:** <http://www02.so-net.ne.jp/~acal>

## Beginner's Yachting School, Beginner's Canoeing School

**Dates and times:**

Yachting Y4 Course — July 22, 28, 29

Y5 Course — Aug. 26, Sept. 1, 7

Canoeing — July 14

**Place:** Hyogo Prefectural Marine Gymnasium and in the water (30-2 Hamakaze-cho, Ashiya-shi)

**Inquiries:** Hyogo Prefectural Marine Gymnasium, Tel: 0797-32-2255 Fax: 0797-32-2256