



# Ashiya Newsletter

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No.4

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## 23rd Ashiya Cherry Blossom Festival



**Inquiries: Citizens' Participation Section  
(Ashiya Cherry Blossom Festival Committee), Tel. 38-2007**

This year the 23rd Ashiya Cherry Blossom Festival will be held along the Ashiya River on the 2nd and 3rd of April, under the auspices of its organizing committee.

On Ashiya Sakura Street on the west side of Citizens' Center, about 40 stalls will be operated by groups affiliated with businesses, and delightful music will be played from a specially-set stage on the riverside.

The venue will also offer street performances. It will be a pleasure to have you all there!

**Dates:** April 2nd (Sat.) and 3rd (Sun.), 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**Place:** The street on the west side of the Citizens' Center (between Taisho Bridge and Narihira Bridge on Route 2)

**Attractions:** Street stalls, stage events

●The cherry trees will be lit up at dusk.

### Volunteers are welcome!

People who can help managing the event, security and cleaning are welcome. Please contact the organizing committee for further details. You can sign up even on event days at the festival front office. We are counting on your cooperation.



## "Childcare" available from April

As part of the child-raising assistance program, from fiscal 2011, "Childcare" will be available at municipal kindergartens after school hours and during school holidays. Details are as follows:

▼30 children are accepted at each designated kindergarten below:

- Kozuchi Kindergarten                   15-7 Uchide-kozuchi
- Asahigaoka Kindergarten       10-3 Asahigaoka -cho
- Shiomi Kindergarten                 1-3 Shiomi-cho

■Conditions:

Children enrolled at any of the 3 kindergartens above, not behind in paying fees, and falling in any of the 3 categories below:

1. Parents/guardians wishing to make use of childcare due to work or studies
2. Parents wishing to make use of childcare because of illness, accident, pregnancy, nursing care of family, having to attend children's classroom or parent-teacher meetings, or due to any other unavoidable or urgent circumstances
3. Other cases deemed suitable by the kindergarten chief

■Period available:

4-year olds – From first lunch day in early May to March of the following year

5-year olds – From April 1 to the day before completion/graduation of kindergarten (2011 school year: from the day after term opening day)

■Hours:

During school days     After school hours until 4:30 p.m.

During school holidays   From 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

\* Closed on the following days: Saturdays, Sundays, holidays, compensatory holidays, school term opening and closing days, and other days determined by the kindergarten chief.

\* Note: children should bring their own *Obento* (lunch box).

■Fees:

During school days – 400 yen per day

During school holidays – 800 yen per day

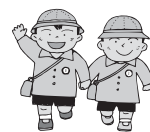
\* There is an extra 50 yen charge per day for materials and snacks.

**Inquiries: Ashiya City Board of Education,  
Education Management Section, Tel. 38-2085**

### For children of foreign nationality wishing to enter a municipal elementary and/or junior high school in Ashiya

People with children of foreign nationality wishing to enter a municipal elementary and/or junior high school in Ashiya (including from 1st year) should file an application in advance.

Please bring a seal and each child's Alien Registration Card to the Board of Education Management Section on the 4th Floor of Ashiya City Hall North Wing.



■Applications:

Please hand in the application at the kindergarten, by the 25th of the month before the intended month.

## Garbage Collection Schedule by Area

Inquiries: Refuse Disposal Center (Collection Subsection) Tel. 22-2155 Fax: 32-6247

| Type of Garbage              | Time          | Days              | Area   |
|------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|--|
| Burnable                     | By 8:30 a.m.  | Monday & Thursday | Chayano, Funado, Hama-ashiya, Higashi-ashiya, Higashiyama, Hirata, Hirata-kita, Ise, Kawanishi, Kimmitsu, Kurekawa, Maeda, Matsuhama, Matsunouchi, Miyagawa, Miyazuka, Nishi-ashiya, Nishiyama, Ohara, Okuike, Okuike-minami, Okuyama, Omasu, Sanjo, Sanjo-minami, Seido, Shimizu, Takezono, Tsuji, Tsukiwaka, Yamate, Yama-ashiya |
|                              |               | Tuesday & Friday  | Asahigaoka, Daito, Hama, Iwazono, Kami-miyagawa, Kasuga, Kusunoki, Midorigaoka, 10 to 19 Minami-hama, Nangu, Narihira, Nishikura, Rokurokuso, Shinnozuka, Suzukaze, 10 to 20 Takahama, Uchide, Uchide-kozuchi, Wakamiya, 8 to 20 Yoko  |
| Nonburnable                  | By 12:30 p.m. | Mondays           | Kasuga, Midorigaoka, Miyagawa, Nishiyama, Seido, Takahama, Uchide, Uchide-kozuchi, Wakamiya, Yama-ashiya   |
|                              |               | Tuesdays          | Hirata, Hirata-kita, Kawanishi, Maeda, Nishi-ashiya, Okuyama, Sanjo, Sanjo-minami, Shimizu, Tsuji, Tsukiwaka, Wakaba, Yamate   |
|                              |               | Wednesdays        | Daito, Funado, Hama, Higashi-ashiya, Higashiyama, Kaiyo, Matsunouchi, Nangu, Nishikura, Okuike, Okuike-minami, Yoko  |
|                              |               | Thursdays         | Asahigaoka, Chayano, Kami-miyagawa, Kimmitsu, Kusunoki, Midori, Minami-hama, Miyazuka, Narihira, Omasu, Shiomi, Suzukaze,  |
|                              |               | Fridays           | Hama-ashiya, Hamakaze, Ise, Iwazono, Kurekawa, Matsuhama, Nihama, Ohara, Rokurokuso, Shinnozuka, Takezono  |
| Paper recyclables and others | By 8:30 a.m.  | Wednesdays        | Throughout the city  |

### Collection Schedule for Nonburnable & Paper Recyclables

| Week #   | Nonburnable               | Paper Recyclables and Others                                |
|----------|---------------------------|---|
| 1st Week | Bottles                   | Cardboard   |
| 2nd Week | Other nonburnable garbage | Magazines, flyers and other paper items                     |
| 3rd Week | Cans                      | PET bottles (except for 1 to 9 Takahama-cho and Wakaba-cho) |
| 4th Week | Other nonburnable garbage | Newspapers, paper cartons                                   |
| 5th Week | Cans                      | Cardboard   |

- Other burnable garbage that does not fit in the pipeline slot is collected on Thursday of the 2nd week.
- If available, bottles should be disposed of at bottle receptacles.

### High-Rise Residential District Special Garbage Collection

|                     |                           |                            |                       |
|---------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 to 9 Takahama-cho | Cans                      | Every week                 | Monday by 12:30 p.m.  |
|                     | PET bottles               | 1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th week | Thursday by 8:30 a.m. |
|                     | Other nonburnable garbage | 2nd and 4th week           | Monday by 12:30 p.m.  |
| Wakaba-cho          | Cans                      | Every week                 | Tuesday by 12:30 p.m. |
|                     | PET bottles               | 1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th week | Thursday by 8:30 a.m. |
|                     | Other nonburnable garbage | 2nd and 4th week           | Tuesday by 12:30 p.m. |

## Notification from the Tax Section



### Municipal Taxes Due in March

**Municipal Corporate Tax / Business Facility Tax**  
(for those closing their fiscal year January 31)  
Contact: Tax Section Management Subsection, Tel. 38-2015  
Deadline for filing and payment: March 31 (Thu.)

### Municipal Taxes Due in April

**Fixed Assets & City Planning Taxes** (1st period)  
Contact: Tax Section Fixed Assets Tax Subsection, Tel. 38-2017  
**Municipal Corporate Tax / Business Facility Tax**  
(for those closing their fiscal year February 28)  
Contact: Tax Section Management Subsection, Tel. 38-2015  
Deadline for filing and payment: May 2 (Mon.)

### Municipal Taxes Due in May

**Light Vehicle Tax**  
Contact: Tax Section Management Subsection, Tel. 38-2015  
**Municipal Corporate Tax / Business Facility Tax**  
(for those closing their fiscal year March 31)  
Contact: Tax Section Management Subsection, Tel. 38-2015  
Deadline for filing and payment: May 31 (Tue.)

### Municipal Taxes Due in June

**Individual City and Prefecture Resident Tax** (1st period)  
Contact: Tax Section Resident Tax Subsection, Tel. 38-2016  
**Municipal Corporate Tax / Business Facility Tax**  
(for those closing their fiscal year April 30)  
Contact: Tax Section Management Subsection, Tel. 38-2015  
Deadline for filing and payment: June 30 (Thu.)

## City Taxes due before leaving Japan

Individual city and prefecture resident taxes are assessed every year on individuals who were living in Ashiya City as of January 1, and a fixed assets tax and a city planning tax are levied every year on those who owned fixed property in Ashiya (land, buildings or depreciative properties) as of January 1.

If you are planning to leave Japan, please contact the office to find out how to arrange for a representative to handle your tax payments in your absence.

#### ► Inquiries:

**Individual City and Prefecture Resident Tax:**  
Tax Section Resident Tax Subsection, Tel. 38-2016

**Fixed Assets Tax and City Planning Tax:**  
Tax Section Fixed Assets Subsection, Tel. 38-2017

**Tax filing consultation:**  
Tax Collection Section, Tel. 38-2014

**Information on account transfers:**  
Tax Section Management Subsection, Tel. 38-2015

## 50 YEARS OF ASHIYA CITY INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE



▲May 24, 1961—signing ceremony of the Sister City Agreement in the auditorium of Seido Elementary School



▲August 1972—completion of Ashiya Park in Montebello



▲Recent picture of Ashiya Park in Montebello



▲Montebello Rose Garden (within Iwagahira Park) – Opened in October 1973 to celebrate the Sister City Agreement. Location: 28 Iwazono-cho, ZIP 659-0013

## The 50th Anniversary of the Sister City Agreement with Montebello Celebrated!

~May 24th is the “Anniversary of the Sister City Agreement” with Montebello~

*Inquiries: Citizens’ Participation Section International Exchange Sub-section:  
Tel.38-2008 (by March 31st, 2011)*

50 years ago on May 24th, 1961, with the aim of fostering international understanding and world peace through cultural and economic exchange, a sister city agreement was signed between Ashiya and Montebello, California, in the U.S.A. Also, in August of the same year, the Ashiya Sister City Association (which evolved into the present NPO Ashiya Cosmopolitan Association) was inaugurated to further these ties and deepen the exchange between citizens of both cities.

In the following year, 1962, a delegation led by the governor of California visited Ashiya. From then on, Ashiya and Montebello have not only been sending official envoys and visiting delegations, but have also actively promoted exchange at the citizens’ level through the Sister City Association.

As routinely announced in the July issue of the Ashiya Newsletter, the annual Student Ambassador Exchange Program was initiated in 1964 and is now in its 47th year.

Montebello is a residential city of about 60,000 people within a 15-minute drive from Los Angeles. The name Montebello is originally Italian and means “a beautiful mountain”. A gift from Montebello, roses - the city flower -, bloom gorgeously every May in the Montebello Rose Park, located within Iwagahira Park in Iwazono-cho, Ashiya.

Ashiya and Montebello will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Sister City Agreement this year. We hold even higher expectations of a more and more fruitful exchange and stronger friendship in the years to come.



◀2010, the Mayor of Montebello with the student ambassadors

## Ashiya City Information in Foreign Languages

| Item published                            | Languages                    | Contents  |
|---|------------------------------|---|
| Ashiya City Website                       | English, Chinese, Korean     | Automatic translation service<br><a href="http://www.city.ashiya.lg.jp/foreign/index.html">http://www.city.ashiya.lg.jp/foreign/index.html</a>  |
|   | English                      | Ashiya Newsletter – available in PDF format<br><a href="http://www.city.ashiya.lg.jp/sankaku/kokusai/newsletter.html">http://www.city.ashiya.lg.jp/sankaku/kokusai/newsletter.html</a>  |
| Ashiya Newsletter (paper edition)         | English                      | Paper edition of the Ashiya Newsletter (published quarterly, in July, October, December and March)  |
| Ashiya City Guide map (last issue: 2007)  | English                      | Ashiya environment, history, events, city facilities information, evacuation sites, useful Japanese phrases, how to dispose of garbage, etc. User friendly, it carries photos, pictures and maps.<br><u>Available</u> at Citizens’ Participation Section International Exchange Sub-section |
| List of Ashiya City Consultation Services | English, Portuguese          | <u>Available</u> at Citizens’ Participation Section International Exchange Sub-section, Reception desks at City Hall North and South Wings, La Porte Citizens’ Service Corner   |
| Garbage Collection Calendar               | English                      | <u>Available</u> at City Hall (Reception desks in the North and South Wings, Environment Section, Citizens’ Section), La Porte Citizens’ Service Corner, Citizens’ Participation Section International Exchange Sub-section   |
| How to Sort Out Garbage                   | English, Spanish, Portuguese | Detailed explanations on how to sort out garbage<br><u>Available</u> at Citizens’ Participation Section International Exchange Sub-section  |



# EVENTS

## Junichiro Tanizaki Memorial Museum

Tel.: 23-5852, Fax: 38-3244  
**Hours:** 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (admission closes at 4:30 p.m.)

▷ The museum is closed on Mondays (open on Mondays that are public holidays, and closed on the subsequent Tuesdays).

Temporary closing for change of display: March 28 (Mon.) to April 1 (Fri.)

◆ Fees: Adults 300 yen, college and high school students 200 yen, free for junior high school students or under, residents of Ashiya aged 65 or over 150 yen

### (Exhibition Room) Spring 2011 Special Exhibit

#### “The Showa Era of the Four Sisters” – The Rebirth of the World of the Makioka Sisters (*Sasameyuki*)–

■ From April 2 (Sat.) to June 26 (Sun.)

● Theme: The exhibit focuses on the Showa Era, the scenario of the lives of the 4 sisters portrayed in *The Makioka Sisters (Sasameyuki)*, Junichiro Tanizaki’s masterpiece.

#### (Lobby Gallery)

#### Takayoshi Shintani “A Glass Room” Stained Glass Exhibition

■ From April 6 (Wed.) to May 15 (Sun.)

● Theme: stained glass art items made in the image of adorning flowers

#### Hatsumi Morikawa Doll Exhibition

■ From May 18 (Wed.) to June 26 (Sun.)

● Theme: Display of items by doll artist Hatsumi Morikawa

#### Friday Cinema Salon

Tel: 31-2301

● Starting Time: 1:30 p.m.

(Doors open at 1:15 p.m.)

● Place: Ashiya Municipal Library, 2F Meeting Room

■ March 4: “*Mélo die en sous-sol*” (*Chikashitsu no Melody*)

1963, France, 2 hour 2 minutes

Director: Henri Verneuil

Starring: Jean Gabin, Alain Delon

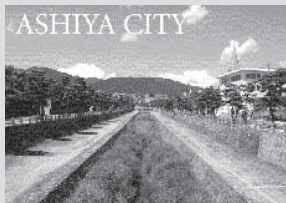
■ March 18: “*Porte des Lilas*” (*Rira no Mon*)

1957, France, 1 hour 38 minutes

Director: René Clair

Starring: Pierre Brasseur, Dany Carrel

## Free copies of ASHIYA CITY guidebook in English



This leaflet carries information about the City’s nature, history, events, seasonal announcements, evacuation sites in case of emergency, the various facilities in town, basic Japanese phrases, how to dispose of garbage, etc. It is in an easy-to-use format with photographs, illustrations and maps.

Available at: Citizens’ Participation Section  
International Exchange Subsection

## YODOKO GUEST HOUSE

Tel.&Fax: 38-1720, 3-10 Yamate-cho, Ashiya

### [Hina Festival Dolls Exhibit]

● Display of 33 *Hina* festival dolls, bridal dolls and cherry blossom viewing dolls made from 1900 to 1901. The dolls retain their original beauty even though over 100 years have passed.

Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (last admission at 3:30 p.m.)

■ Dates: February 11 (Fri.) to April 3 (Sun.), 2011

▷ Closed on Mondays and Thursdays (Only during this exhibition)

(but open on March 3 (Thu.) and March 21 (Mon.))

◆ Fees: Adults and college students 500 yen, elementary/junior high/high school students 200 yen



## Ashiya Kirakuen Gallery

Tel. 34-4351

Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (On the final day closes at 3:00 p.m.)

### [ALL Ashiya Kirakuen Exhibition]

■ Dates: March 6 (Sun.) to 30 (Wed.)

● Art display by Kirakuen residents and users

### [Takahiko Nagakari 7th Travel Photo Exhibition]

■ Dates: April 1 (Fri.) to 15 (Fri.)

● Nagakari Japan Travelogue Art Exhibition

### [Masamichi Takeda Unfinished Photo Exhibition]

■ April 17 (Sun.) to 30 (Sat.)

● Photographs of overseas and Japanese scenic places

## Events at Ashiya Municipal Hospital

Tel. 31-2156

### [Matinee Concert]

**Place:** 5F Outpatients Lobby, in front of the yellow piano

**Time:** 2:30-3:30 p.m.

### Cherry Festival Concert

■ Date: March 27 (Sun.)

● Performers: Tomoko Iiyama (soprano) and the Angels

■ Date: April 10 (Sun.)

● Ashiya Sign Language Singing Group

### [Citizens’ Gallery]

**Place:** Gallery on the 5th Floor connecting corridor

**Theme:** Artwork “Exhibition of Plants and Other Art Items”

■ Dates: April 1 (Fri.) to May 6 (Fri.)

● Author: Maki Niki

## Main Events at Municipal Schools (March to June 2011)

Ashiya City Board of Education School Education Section Tel. 38-2087

|       |                                  |  |
|-------|----------------------------------|--|
| March | Feb. 26 (Sat.) to March 6 (Sun.) | Plastic Arts Education Exhibition (at the Museum of Art and History) |
|       | 11 (Fri.)                        | Graduation ceremony at junior high schools                           |
|       | 17 (Thu.)                        | Graduation ceremony at kindergartens                                 |
|       | 18 (Fri.)                        | Graduation ceremony at elementary schools                            |
|       | 22 (Tue.)                        | Term closing ceremony at kindergartens                               |
| April | 25 (Fri.)                        | Term closing ceremony at elementary and junior high schools          |
|       | 7 (Thu.)                         | Term opening ceremony at elementary and junior high schools          |
|       | 8 (Fri.)                         | Entrance ceremony at junior high schools                             |
|       | 11 (Mon.)                        | Entrance ceremony at elementary schools                              |
|       | 11 (Mon.)                        | Term opening ceremony at kindergartens                               |
| May   | 12 (Tue.)                        | Entrance ceremony at kindergartens                                   |
|       | 23 (Mon.) to 27 (Fri.)           | Toraiyaru (Let’s Try) Week for Shiomi Junior High School students    |
|       | 30 (Mon.) to June 3 (Fri.)       | Toraiyaru (Let’s Try) Week for Seido Junior High School students     |
|       | 30 (Mon.) to June 3 (Fri.)       | Camping School for Hamakaze Elementary School students               |
| June  | 6 (Mon.) to 10 (Fri.)            | Toraiyaru (Let’s Try) Week for Yamate Junior High School students    |



## Applications for Japanese Classes are Open!

Inquiries: Ashiya Public Study Center, 8-24 Narihira-cho, Tel.35-0700

People from the world over live in Ashiya. Foreigners interested in learning speaking, reading and writing Japanese and learning more about Japan are welcome.

**Days:** Every Thursday (you can start anytime; please note that lessons are not available during the summer *Obon* holidays and year-end/New Year’s holidays, Dec. 27 to Jan. 4)

**Place:** Ashiya Citizens’ Center

**Requirements:** have residence in Ashiya and be in need of speaking, reading or writing skills

**Content:** Daily conversation, reading and writing

**Hours:** 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. (90-minute lessons)

**Fees:** 2,000 yen for a set of 10 lessons (including materials)

**Day care for children:** 400 yen per lesson; 2 years old or over preschool-aged children

**Applications:** Make a telephone call to “*Kominkan*” Ashiya Public Study Center

