

# Nishinomiya City News

## February (1) 2025

19th Year, No. 302 (Since August 2006)

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*This newsletter is a partial translation from the February 10th issue of 'Nishinomiya Municipal Bulletin.'*  
*We will be glad to help you seek further information about events or notices announced here.*

### City Municipalization Centennial Commemoration Event to Be Held on April 20



The City will hold its Municipalization Centennial Commemoration Event on April 20 (Sun). A revival performance "Noh Nishinomiya" will also be held in the evening on April 19 (Sat). In addition, other related events, which various

generations can enjoy, will be held around City Hall at the same time. Please visit those events.

#### Events at the Amity Baycom Hall

1) Revival performance "Noh Nishinomiya"

From 6:00pm on April 19 (Sat)

2) Municipalization Centennial Commemoration Event

From 2:00pm on April 20 (Sun)

Outdoor Art Festival (April 19 and 20) and Danjiri parade (April 20) will also be held at the same time.

[Inquiries] Policy Promotion Division (Tel: 0798-35-3125)

### NOTICE OF THE FINAL TAX RETURN FOR YEAR 2024



#### 1) E-Tax by Your PC or Smartphone Using My Number Card

To avoid congestion at tax return processing sites, we recommend you to use the e-tax system. You can file the tax return on the website of the National Tax Agency with My Number Card.

\*If you submit the written form by post, send the original only. Copy should be kept for your personal files.

\*You need to declare the total amount of your "Furusato Nozei" (Hometown Tax Donation System) donations, as the "One-Stop Special Measure" does not apply in the final tax return.

#### 2) Tax Return Processing sites

\*Admission ticket is required.

\*You need to bring your smartphone and My Number Card (with passwords).

\*Please come to the sites by public transportation.

#### Nishinomiya Chamber of Commerce Hall (Hazetsuka-cho)

\*Telephone inquiry services are not available.

[Period] Feb. 17 - Mar. 17 (except weekends and national holidays) from 9:00am - 4:00pm

With many consultation requests, reception may close earlier.

Admission ticket will be delivered from 8:30am.

[Target] Tax refund for medical and other expenses for pensioners and corporate employees

Excluding special refund for sale of lands, buildings or stocks, income from forests/mountains, gift tax, and housing loans.

### Nishinomiya Tax Office

\*Parking lots are not available until Mar. 31

[Period] Feb. 17 - Mar. 17 (except weekends and national holidays) from 9:00am - 4:00pm

With many consultation requests, reception may close earlier.

Exceptionally open on Sunday Mar. 2

Admission ticket will be delivered from 8:30am.

[Target] Business income earners and special refund for sale of lands, buildings or stocks, income from forests/mountains, gift tax, and housing loan

Cases other than those handled by the Chamber of Commerce

\*Admission tickets to Nishinomiya Chamber of Commerce Hall and Tax Office can be obtained beforehand through the LINE Official Account of the National Tax Agency.

\*APIA HALL (Takarazuka city) has a similar site until Feb 13.

[Inquiries] Nishinomiya Tax Office (Tel: 0798-34-3930)

### SHINGLES VACCINATION FOR PEOPLE AGED 50 AND OVER

A partial subsidy is available. Applications must be submitted by March 31.



The City provides partial financial assistance for the cost of shingles vaccinations received between April 2024 and March 31, 2025. Those who have been vaccinated should apply to the Health Care and Disease Prevention Division by the application deadline. For

details on the application process, please check the City's website.

[Eligible people] Residents aged 50 and over who are registered in the City on the day of vaccination.

[Vaccines] Varicella (chickenpox) vaccine (Brand name: BIKEN)

Shingles vaccine (Brand name: SHINGRIX)

[Subsidy Amount & Frequency] ¥4,000 (limited to one dose of either vaccine)

For vaccines requiring two doses, the subsidy applies to only one dose.

[Location] Individual vaccinations at medical institutions (No specific designated institutions; medical institutions outside the City are also acceptable.)

[Application Deadline] Must be received by March 31.

[Note] Starting in April, the shingles vaccination is scheduled to become a routine immunization. Further details on routine vaccinations will be announced as soon as they are determined.

[Inquiries] Health Care and Disease Prevention Division (Tel: 0798-35-3308)

### Caution from Police

#### Number of Refund Fraud Significantly Increasing in the City!



There were six cases of fraud and the damages were about ¥5.3 million in the week of January 11 to 17. This increased about five times in terms of number and about three times in terms of losses, compared to the average number per week of the previous year.

#### Points

\*You cannot receive refund by operating ATM.

\*If someone tells you about refund on the phone, it is fraud.

\*Use features on your landline to screen calls (caller ID, voice-mail or answering machine, etc.), to avoid fraudulent calls.

[Request from police] Your cooperation would be appreciated for our visit for the elderly households.

[Inquiries] Nishinomiya Police Station (Tel: 0798-33-0110)

Koshien Police Station (Tel: 0798-41-0110)

### NISHINOMIYA EXCHANGE FESTIVAL



"Nishinomiya Exchange Festival" will be held on March 1 (Sat), starting at 9:00am at multiple sites, including Nishinomiya City Central Gymnasium and Nishinomiya Sports Center. Everyone, from children to adults, can join various programs and events such as sports experiences, (which give you a chance to learn from athletes), and a traditional Japanese fair. Not only

Nishinomiya citizens, but also workers and students in the city are welcomed.

#### Events

Sports Experience (baseball, 3x3, soccer, kids' running race, parent-child soccer, basketball, Mōlkky, dance, etc.), yoga, picture-book reading and exercise for kids, digital health check, food education class, Paralympic sports plaza, craft workshop, food trucks, etc.

#### Venue

Nishinomiya City Central Gymnasium, Nishinomiya Sports Center, etc.

#### How to apply

Applications will open on February 14 at 9:00am on the Nishinomiya Sports Center's website.

Each event's starting time, eligibility, fee, and other details vary, so please check the website for more information.

[Inquiries] Nishinomiya Sports Center (Tel: 0798-73-7581)

### Make Sure to Implement Fire Prevention Measures



There were 48 structure fire cases in 2024. Although there were 3 fewer cases compared to last year, they resulted in deaths and injuries. Let's thoroughly implement fire prevention measures by referring to the following 10-point rules to save lives.

#### 4 Preventive Habits

- 1) Never smoke in bed or permit others to do so.
- 2) Do not put flammable items around heaters.
- 3) Do not leave the stove unattended while cooking.
- 4) Clean dust around plugs and outlets and unplug appliances when they are not in use.

#### 6 Preventive Measures

- 1) Use heaters, cookers, etc. which are equipped with built-in safety devices.
- 2) Test residential smoke alarms periodically and replace them after 10 years of use.
- 3) Keep your room tidy and use flame retardant bedding, clothes, and curtains.
- 4) Install fire extinguishers, etc. and learn how to use them.
- 5) Always be aware of escape routes/plan and be well prepared.
- 6) Perform community-wide fire prevention measures such as fire drills or door-to-door visits.

[Inquiries] Fire Prevention Division (Tel: 0798-32-7316)

### Mayor Ishii introduces Nishinomiya.

#### KOSHIKIWA SHRINE



Koshikiwa shrine is a peaceful shrine surrounded by the prefectural natural monument forest, and is located foothills of mountains in the City. Its "Shintai", the object of worship housed in the shrine, is granite, approx. 40m in periphery and approx. 10m in height.

It is said that the shrine was founded in approx. 600 and a lot of traditional events are held even today. In every September, "Naki-Sumo", or "Crying Sumo Baby Contest" is held at the sumo wrestling ring in the precincts to wish for good health for children up to 3 years old.

The shrine has been used as a dormitory by Futagoyama sumo stable since 2022, at the time when the spring grand sumo tournament is held in March. Just seeing the big sumo wrestlers walk heavy-footed is spectacular. From the middle of February to March, sumo practices are held consecutive days and big vigorous voices echo in the precincts.

\*The place for visitosector see the sumo practice is limited this year because of the construction in the precincts.

Camellia flowers bloom vividly in the region and natural grown camellia japonica bloom brilliantly around March. At the same timing, "Chinka-sai", or "Camellia festival" is held to pray not to get sick because it was believed that epidemic is spread when the flowers fall. The flower language of camellia, which blooms in cold weather, is "modest kindness" in Japan. At this time of the year when we are almost through the cold season, we feel kindness from the gentle sunshine. Spring is just around the corner!