



KIFA NEWS

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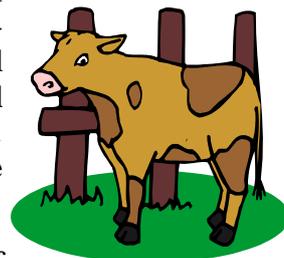


Kameyama International Friendship Association
亀山国際交流の会

Vol. 27

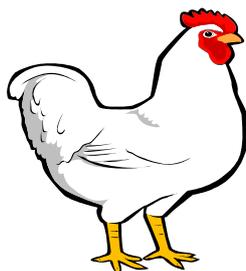
BSE, SARS, and Influenza of Chicken! (私たちは生き延びることができるか?)

The safety of meat has been controversial since the end of last year. One of the issues is the disease of cattle's called BSE. This disease changes the cattle brain to sponge shape first, and causes paralysis of whole body and death. It is assumed that contaminated cattle fodder was distributed and infection spread with it. It is not sure if humans can be infected with BSE. However, the problem is we can not prevent the infection by just cooking the meat.



Another big disaster is called avian influenza which can kill thousands of chickens on a chicken farm. This is an infection case by the migratory birds from China, and the government is closely watching the situation.

According to a doctor, avian influenza may infect to human and cause serious condition. The biggest concern is the denaturation of the new virus which is stronger and more contagious. SARS, which caused a panic especially in China last spring, is assumed to have come from wild animals.



Today, air travel is so popular that it is quite probable to spread the new type of influenza all over the world, and the very urgent actions are required. The Japanese government has stopped the import of beef from the U.S.A. and chicken from China and Thailand. The USA has banned imports of Japanese beef since a case of BSE was discovered in Hokkaido in 2001.

The fast-food industry is suffering severely with this ban. Yoshinoya, which had been attracting customers with its low-priced menu, was forced to stop selling beef bowl. Yoshinoya has also had to stop selling chicken bowl, which was prepared as a substituted menu. But one country has gained attention due to these disasters. It is Brazil, which is a big chicken export country. A lot of chicken meat production has started in Brazil.

The world is already linked. Better or worse, we would sink or swim together.

City Hall Will Open on Sundays (市役所日曜窓口の開設)

There is a lot of moving in March and April in Japan. City Hall of Kameyama will open on Sundays as follows:

1. Date and Times: March 28th (Sun.) 8:00 – 17:00
April 4th (Sun.) 8:00 – 17:00

2. Services:

Shimin-ka – moving, alien registration, national health insurance, etc.
Gakkou Kyouiku-ka – proceedings of changing elementary or junior high school
Hoken Fukushi-ka (Aiai Center) – proceedings of nurseries, etc.
Zeimu-ka – Certificates of tax, tax payment of Kameyama city, etc.

3. The other cities will open on Sundays as follows:

March 28th (Sun.) --- Kuwana, Yokkaichi, Suzuka
April 4th (Sun.) --- Kuwana

Practitioner on Duty during Holidays in March (休日の当番医)

(Normally from 13:00 to 21:00 pm)

7th (Sun.) Taniguchi ophthalmology (Midori-cho Tel. 82-8710)

14th (Sun.) Kamayama clinic (Honmachi 3-chome Tel. 82-0015)

20th (national holiday) Sasaki clinic (Kawai-cho Tel. 83-1331)

Seki clinic (Seki-cho Shinjo-cho Tel. 96-2220)

21st (Sun.) Kameyama dermatology (Shibukura-cho Tel. 83-3666)

28th (Sun.) Momimoki orthopedics (Egamuro 2-chome Tel. 84-1700)



This information, especially the doctor on duty, is sometimes subject to change.

Please call before visiting.

The doctors on duty follow a rotation system. In some cases a doctor does not meet the field, so it is not an absolutely sure system.

You may get Kameyama Area Emergency Medical Information Center (Tel. 82-1199) or City Office (Tel. 82-1111).

General Consultation in March (各種相談)

Human Rights Consultation 人権相談

8th (Mon.), 25th (Thu.) from 13:00 to 15:00

In the "Shimin taiwa shitu (1) "

Legal Consultation (Reservation system) 法律相談

Appointment start: before 1 month each day at the Shiminka-section

17th (Wed.) from 13:30 to 16: 00 in the "Shimin taiwa shitu (1) "

30th (Tue.) from 13:30 to 17:00 in the "Shimin taiwa shitu (1) "

You have to make an appointment with the Shiminka-section. (Tel. 84-5007)

The Vaccinations for Rubella (風しんの予防接種について)

Cost : You have to pay the cost of the rubella vaccination for children who are over the seven and half years old.

But the cost for children who are between one year old and seven and half years old will be covered by public expense.

If you have any questions, please call 84-3316. (General Health and Welfare Center)



The Injection for the Measles (はしか接種年齢のお知らせ)

The baby has to receive an injection for the measles when they are between twelve months old to ninety months old. Before it was said that from twelve months old to twenty four months old was the best age for injection.

But now, **the desirable age has changed to between twelve to fifteen months old.**

If you have any question, please call to 84-3316. (General Health and Welfare Center)

Infant Examinations & Consultation and Lectures in March (健診・健康相談)

1 and half year old infant- examination(born in August, 2002) 1歳6ヶ月児健診

25th (Thu.) from 13:30 in General Health and Welfare Center

Please bring your "mother and child" health booklet and questionnaire.

3 years old infant- examination (born in September, 2000) 3歳児健診

18th (Thu.) from 13:00 in General Health and Welfare Center

Please bring your "mother and child" health booklet and questionnaire, a urine sample and medical checklist.

Information: General Health and Welfare Center. (Tel. 84-3316)



Final Income Tax Return (所得税の確定申告)

“Kakutei Shinkoku” or Final Income Tax Return is the system of calculating your annual income, that is from January 1st to December 31st, and submitting the form to the local Tax Office. Those who are employed by companies do not have to do it because the companies have already done the calculation at the end of the year, deducting the income tax and submitting to the Tax Office.

The local Tax Office always offers explanations to individuals on how to fill in the tax calculation sheet. The time to submit the sheet is from February 16th to March 15th. After receiving your income tax calculation sheet, the Tax Office will analyze your income and return to you part of the tax in case you have over paid. In such case, you need to turn in the “Gensen Choshu Hyo” and the “Yotei Nozei” which is the tax withholding slip and the previous tax payment. A Tax return application is called “Kanpu Shinkoku”.

Tax deduction for hospital expenses: If your medical treatment expenses have exceeded the amount of ¥100,000 or 5% of your income, submit the receipts for tax deduction at the local Tax Office, even if your company has already submitted the tax calculation sheet at the end of the year.

Tax return for those who have lost their jobs before the end of the year: If you have become unemployed before the end of the year and have not submitted the income tax sheet yet, you can apply for tax return.

Documents needed for the application : Gensen Choshu Hyo, inkan, bank account book

If you do not speak Japanese, be sure to take one interpreter with you when going to the Tax Office.



New Municipal Regulation about Old Cars Abandoned

(放置自動車に関する条例)

The number of old cars abandoned in the streets, roads and public places continues to increase. To put a stop to such problems Kameyama City Office has submitted to the Council a new ordinance and requested approval. The new regulation concerns the great number of vehicles parked or abandoned in improper places, obstructing traffic or causing an eye sore in public gardens. The regulation was approved in the Council, and it will take effect on April 1st. It will allow the City to act more energetically in ordering the removal of abandoned cars or punishing the owner of such cars by issuing a fine of up to 200,000 yen, in case the owner ignores the notice ordering the removal of the vehicle. Among the 66 municipalities of Mie prefecture only seven cities have such regulations, which of only 2 cities have regulations determined by the City council, these being Ise and Kuwana City.

According to the new regulation, City officials will have the authority to order the immediate removal of such vehicles upon claims or reports from citizens, or by inspection of city officials in public gardens or public roads. In cases which it's impossible to determine the owner of the vehicle because of the lack of number plates or rust, the City officials will consider it as scrap and will take measures for its disposal. If the owner is later found, the City will have the right to charge the owner for the expenses spent for its disposal. Up to the present, the officials have already found 7 abandoned cars in such public places and have advised their owners of their removal, and have disposed of 10 more cars which have been considered scrap, costing the City from 10,000 yen up to 20,000 yen each.



Tai Jonathan Got the 1st Prize!

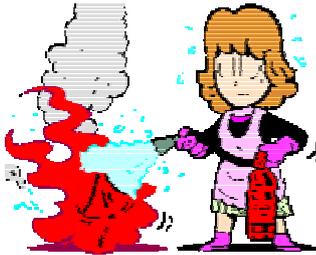
(タイ・ジョナタン君、鈴鹿の弁論大会で優勝)

In the Speech Contest for non-native speakers held by SIFA (Suzuka International Friendship Association) on January 25th, Tai Jonathan, a 6th-grade student of Kameyama Nishi elementary school, got the 1st prize in the elementary school and junior high school students' group. The theme of his speech was "what he has been impressed in Japan". After the contest, he has started studying other subjects hard at school. He is a hardworking boy.



The Fire Prevention Activity in Spring: from March 1st to 7th.

(春の火災予防運動 3/1 ~ 3/7)



This year's slogan is "Negligence is the cause of fires". There were 50 fires in 2003(Kameyama 44, Seki 6) in all. They were caused by arson, doubt of arson, portable cooking stove and bonfire. Please pay attention next points to prevent fires.

- 1) Don't put flammable objects around your house.
- 2) Put the light on the dark place.
- 3) Lock up the storeroom and vacant house.
- 4) Ask your neighbors to watch your home while you are out.

Contact: Firehouse, Yobou-ka, Yobou-kakari Tel: 82-0244

Juvenile Ill-treatment (児童虐待について)

Recently we often hear of the news of "Juvenile Ill-treatment" on TV and in newspapers. Even if the parents think their words and deeds are parental discipline or "the rod of love", they sometimes damage the mental and physical development of their children. This is "Juvenile Ill-treatment".

In case that you have some suspicions of juvenile ill-treatment, please inform (notify) consulting facilities first. If such cases are not found quickly, the mental damage will be more serious. Also some children might lose even their lives.

"Notification" is our obligation. (Juvenile Welfare Law No.25, Juvenile Ill-treatment Prevention Law No. 6) There are many kinds of ill-treatment, such as sexual, physical and mental ill-treatments including neglect or rejection of protection.

<Consulting Facilities>

Section of "Kodomo-katei gakari" in Aiai Center (Tel.) 0595-84-3315

Section of "Seikatsu Anzen-ka" of Police Office of Kameyama (Tel.) 0595-82- 0110



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Social Services Section and Planning Section

協力：亀山市役所 市民課・企画課