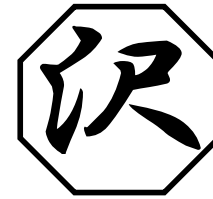




# YONEZAWAJIN



No.14 May 2008 (English Edition)

## Tanbo Art: Experience Rice Planting!

Come participate in a rice planting event near Onogawa Hot Springs! Participants will be planting different colored rice seedlings which, when fully grown, will form an image of Naoe Kanetsugu, the protagonist of next year's NHK Taiga Drama, "Tenchijin."

**Date:** May 25<sup>th</sup> (Sun) 9:00~ 9:30 Registration  
9:30~10:00 Opening Ceremony  
10:00~12:00 Rice Planting  
12:00~13:00 Lunch  
13:00~13:30 Closing Ceremony

**Cost:** Junior High School Students and above ¥1,500 (Includes Lunch & Gift)  
Elementary School Students and below ¥1,000

**Meeting Place:** Misawa Community Center

**Application Deadline:** May 14<sup>th</sup> (Wed) \*Limited to the first 100 people who apply.

**What to Bring:** Towels, sandals, change of clothing, mat or rug, rain gear, etc.

(Please wear clothing that you don't mind getting dirty. The rice planting will be done barefoot.)

**Application:** Yonezawa City Tourism Division TEL 22-5111



(Last Year's Tanbo Art)



## Kamoshika Sighting in Yonezawa



The kamoshika, or Japanese serow, is a goat like animal with short horns. They are native to Japan and can be seen in the mountains of Yonezawa. Because they are a nationally protected species, anyone who captures or kills a kamoshika is subject to penalties. They often come down the mountain near people's homes during their birth period (May~June) and breeding period (September~November), and are often seen during early morning and evening. Although they usually do not attack humans, they may attack if you get too close to one, so please be careful. If you see an injured or dead kamoshika, please contact the City Culture Department immediately. Even though they may not be moving, they may suddenly attack with their horns so please act safely when you get near one.

Inquiries: City Culture Department TEL 22-5111

## May is Illegal Dumping Patrol Month

**You will be penalized by the law if you dump trash illegally. (Penalties include a maximum 5 years in prison, or a maximum 10,000,000 yen fine)**

Please report if you see any illegally dumped trash.

Illegal Dumping Hotline:

• TEL 26-6034

(Okitama Governmental Office)

Illegal Dumping Consultation Hotline:

• TEL 22-5111

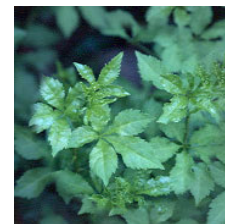
(City Environment & Living Division)



## DID YOU KNOW????

**Ukogi**

うこぎ



Ukogi is a plant that belongs to the Aralia plant family. It has long been used in Yonezawa for both food and as hedges because of the thorns on its branches. Ukogi hedges were particularly encouraged by the 9<sup>th</sup> lord of the Uesugi clan, Lord Uesugi Yozan. The new leaves that that come out between spring and early summer are delicious and can be enjoyed as ohitashi (steamed with soy sauce) and as tempura. Although it has a distinct bitterness, it is high in nutritional value and has recently become popular as a health product. Yonezawa has the largest amount of Ukogi in Japan and many ukogi hedges can still be found around the city. The leaves on the ukogi hedges in front of city hall can be picked by citizens for free.



# Volunteer Japanese Language Classes in Yonezawa



Below are volunteer groups in Yonezawa that offer Japanese classes. Please contact each group directly for details.

Group Name	Contact	Class Description
Global Communication Circle Yonezawa (G.C.C.Y)	Hiromi Suzuki TEL 38-3576	3 terms a year (1 <sup>st</sup> Term: May ~ July, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Term: September~November, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Term: January~March) Date/Time: Tuesdays 19:30~21:00 Place: Nanbu Community Center TEL 24-2011 Cost: 700 yen per term
Volunteer Circle GAEA	Yuki Sato TEL 28-1527 (After 19:00)	Date/Time: Wednesdays 19:00~21:00 Place: Nanbu Community Center TEL 24-2011 Cost: 500 yen per month
Eki-Mae Salon	Chiaki Higuchi Yonezawa Station Front Shopping Area Promotion Association TEL 23-4531	Date/Time: Mondays 15:00~17:00, Wednesdays 16:00~18:00 Place: Yonezawa Station Building 2F Multipurpose Hall Cost: 1,000 yen per month



## Other Events & Information



### Let's Chat! ~Come and enjoy speaking in English!~

Date: 5/16 (Fri), 5/22 (Tue)

Time: 2:30pm~4pm

Place: City Hall Room 701 Cost: Free

Inquiries: City Secretarial & Public Relations Division  
TEL 22-5111

### Clean & Green Operation

We will be cleaning public facilities in the city. Participants will receive a flower seedling as a gift.

Date: 5/18 (Sat) Time: 6am~8am

Meeting Place: ① Uesugi Jyoshien Store parking lot,  
② Uesugi Family Mausoleum

What to Bring: Gloves, weeding tools.

Inquiries: Yonezawa Hojinkai TEL 22-5401

### Tozaka Yama Spring Hiking

Date: 5/18 (Sun) Time: 9am~12pm

Meeting Place: Tozaka Yama Kindergarten Parking Lot  
Limit: 30 people

Contents: Climb Mt. Tozaka where the queen who ruled the Okitama area in ancient times is buried and enjoy the spring view of the Yonezawa valley.

Sign Up Deadline: May 15<sup>th</sup> (Thu)

Inquiries: Kamigo Community Center TEL 28-3401

### Yonezawa Women's Choir Concert '08

Date: 5/24 (Sat)

Time: 6:30pm~

Place: Yonezawa Shimin Bunka Kaikan

Cost: 500 yen (High school students and younger free)

Limit: First 30 people to apply.

Inquiries: TEL 23-2505

### Dramatic Ebisu Festival

This fun street festival features over 100 food & craft tents, street performances, and much more.

Dates: 5/27 (Sun) & 6/17 (Sun)

Time: 10:30am~3:30pm

Place: Aramachi Shopping District

### Eric Heidsieck Piano Recital

Date: 5/31 (Sat)

Time: 6:30pm~

Place: Denkokoku No Mori Okitama Bunka Hall

Cost: 3,000 yen general, 1,000 yen students (500 yen extra for at-the-door tickets)

Tickets: Available at Onuma Yonezawa Store, Yonezawa Saty, Denkokoku No Mori, etc.

Inquiries: Denkokoku No Mori TEL 26-2666

## Yoji-Jukugo of the Month

ichijitsu senshu

一日千秋

(One day, a thousand autumns.)

Meaning: Waiting for what seems like an eternity. (Spend) many a weary day.

*If you would like to be put on our mailing list, or if you have any feedback for the newsletter, please contact us at:*

Civic Exchange Section

Secretarial and Public Relations Division

Yonezawa City Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

5-2-25 Kanaike, Yonezawa, Yamagata 〒992-8501

TEL: 0238-22-5111 Ext. 3005

FAX: 0238-24-4540

Email: hisyo-ka @city.yonezawa.yamagata.jp

Homepage: <http://www.city.yonezawa.yamagata.jp/shisei/matidukuri/kokusai/index.html>