

## Participate in the Tanbo Art Rice Planting Event

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 this year's NHK Taiga Drama "Tenchiin," and his wife Osen.



Last Year's Tanbo Art

**Date:** May 31<sup>st</sup> (Sun) 9:00~ 13:00

**Cost:** Junior High School Students and above ¥1,500  
Elementary School Students and below ¥1,000

**Benefits:** • Free Lunch  
(rice balls made from delicious local rice, pork soup, tea)  
• 2kg of the harvested rice and ancient kodai rice  
• Free ticket for Onogawa Hot Springs (only valid on day of event)

**Meeting Place:** Misawa Community Center (Near Onogawa Hot Springs)

**Sign Up Deadline:** May 20<sup>th</sup> (Wed) \*Limited to the first 100 people who apply.

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

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

**Sign Ups/In:** Yonezawa City Tourism Division TEL 22-5111

Yonezawa Agricultural Festival Home Page: <http://umai-yone.sakura.ne.jp>

### Did You Know ? ?

#### Hokusanbara Martyr Memorial



Hokusabara, located in Kanaike 6-chome near Yonezawa City Hall, is the site of the former

execution grounds of the Yonezawa domain. It is also the site where 57 Christians, including the entire family of Amakasu Uemon (the chief retainer of the second lord of the Yonezawa clan Uesugi Sadakatsu) were executed in 1629.

The Tokugawa government outlawed Christianity in Japan in 1612 and gradually increased its crackdown on Christians. Although there were many Christians living in Yonezawa as well, they were treated leniently under the first Yonezawa clan lord Uesugi Kagekatsu. However, during the rule of the Uesugi Sadakatsu, the Tokugawa government intensified its persecution of Christians and interrogations and persecutions began in Yonezawa as well. The domain persuaded Christians including Amakasu to convert to Buddhism but they refused and chose martyrdom instead.

In 1929 a large cross was erected at the site of the execution grounds by local Christians. Statues of Jesus Christ, the Virgin Mary, and St. John were later sent as a gift from Germany. The natural stone engraved with a cross located in the east side of the memorial belonged to the Amakasu family.

### Information about Supplementary Income Payments

The application form for the Supplemental Income Payments were sent to each household in April. Have you sent your application in already?

Once you have registered and your application is approved, a notice will be sent to your homes which will specify when the payment will be deposited into your account. The payment is expected to be made under the schedule below. (If there is any information missing on your application, the payment may take longer to process.)

#### Financial Accounts (excluding postal saving accounts)

Application Received	Expected Date of Payment
4/1~10	4/28 (Payment already made)
4/11~20	5/11
4/21~30	5/18
5/1~15	5/28

#### Postal Saving Accounts \* Please note that the payment will take longer to process

Application Received	Expected Date of Payment
4/1~10	4/28 (Payment already made)
4/11~20	5/11

If your application is not made before October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009, your Supplementary Income Payment will become invalid and be returned to the national government.

Inquiries: Supplementary Income Payment Promotion Office TEL 21-0931

# Do you know about Child Benefits?

Costs for child raising will be partially subsidized to improve the standard of living of those who live with and raise children.

## Who can receive Child Benefits?

- Those residing in Yonezawa City, including foreign nationals.
- Those raising children in elementary school or younger.
- Those raising children and whose household income is below the income limit.\*
- If the parent is not raising the child, guardians that live with and raise the child may also receive the Benefit.

## How much are the Benefits?

2 Years Old and Younger	10,000 yen (per month)
3 Years Old and Older	First/Second Child 5,000 yen per month
	Third or any subsequent children 10,000 yen per month

## Those who are currently not receiving Child Benefits

If your household income was below that of the income limit\* last year, you may be able to receive child benefits so please apply.

Application Period: 5/1 (Fri)~5/29 (Fri)

## If you are currently receiving Child Benefits

For those who are currently receiving Child Benefits, an application to check you current status will be sent to your home at the end of May. Please follow the instructions and complete the application.

\* Please contact the Yonezawa City Children Section for further details. TEL 22-5111

## Other Events & Information

### ○Noh Dancing and Singing

Local Noh performers will be providing a complimentary Noh dance and song performance.

When: 5/16 (Sat), 5/30 (Sat), 6/27 (Sat)

Two performances a day,

First Performance 13:30~, Second Performance 14:30~

Where: Denkoku No Mori Entrance Noh Stage

Cost: Free

Inquiries: Denkoku No Mori Okitama Bunka Hall TEL 26-8001

### ○Dramatic Ebisu Festival

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

Dates: 5/29 (Sun) & 6/17 (Sun)

Time: 10:30~15:30

Place: Aramachi Shopping District

### ○Keizo Nakanishi & SEASONS Neo-classic Concert

When: 5/29 (Fri) 11:30~

Where: Denkoku No Mori Okitama Bunka Hall

Cost: All reserved seating 3,000yen  
(3,500yen for tickets bought at the door)

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

Inquires: Denkoku No Mori Okitama Bunka Hall TEL 26-8001

### ○Yonezawa Women's Choir Concert 09

When: 5/30 (Sat) 18:30~

Where: Yonezawa City Shimin Bunka Kaikan

Cost: 500yen (Free for High School Students and younger)

Inquiries: TEL 23-2505 (Endo)

### Yonezawa City International Relations Association (YIRA) Information

## YIRA Café



If you are interested in international exchange or want to chat with people in different languages including Japanese, English, Chinese or Korean, bring your friends along and come join us for a cup of tea!

When: 5/13 (Wed) 14:30~16:00

Where: Yonezawa City Hall 7F 701 Meeting Room

Cost: Free Inquiries: TEL 22-5111

### ○Rakugo Performance

When: 6/7 (Sun) ①11:00~ ②14:00~ (1hr each)

Where: Za No Bunka Denshokan

Cost: Free \* Numbered seating ticket required

Limit: 30 people for each performance

Numbered Ticket: Available at Denkoku No Mori

Inquiries: Denkoku No Mori Okitama Bunka Hall TEL 26-8001

### ○Concert for Kids ~Classics from Age 0~

When: 6/13 (Sat) 11:00~

Where: Denkoku No Mori Okitama Bunka Hall

Cost: All reserved seating Adults 2,500yen,

Children 1,500yen (500 yen more for tickets bought on day of concert) ※Tickets required from age 0

Tickets Available at: Denkoku No Mori, Yonezawa Saty, etc.

Inquiries: Denkoku No Mori Okitama Bunka Hall TEL 26-8001

***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 & 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>