Nishinomiya City International Association (NIA)

# Nishinomiya City News

May 2024

(公財) 西宮市国際交流協会

19th Year, No. 287(Since August 2006) NIA Volunteer Translators Group TEL: 0798-32-8680/8676 Email: nia@nishi.or.jp

*This newsletter is a partial translation from the April 25<sup>th</sup> issue of 'Nishinomiya Municipal Bulletin.' We will be glad to help you seek further information about events or notices announced here.* 



## LET'S USE BUSES TO MAINTAIN PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

There are many bus routes in the City necessary for those who cannot drive cars such as children, elderly

people, etc. If bus users decrease, it may become difficult to maintain all the bus routes in the future. Let's use buses to keep the city convenient for everyone.

## Present Situations of Bus Services

Bus services, operated by fare income, are facing tough situations due to a decrease in bus users, rise in fuel costs, shortage of drivers, and so on. If such situations continue, the following problems are expected in the future.

1) Fare increase

Fare increase is planned this year following last year and there may be further fare increases in the future.

2) Driver shortage

As working hours are supposed to be limited according to "work style reforms" laws in Japan, it will be more difficult to keep necessary bus drivers in the future.

3) Reduction or abolition of bus services

Even now, the frequency of some bus routes is reduced, or some bus routes are abolished in the City. If bus users decrease, more reduction or abolition of bus services will continue in the future.

## Advantages of Bus Services

a) Good for environment

As many people (maximum about 80) can get on the bus at once, traffic jams and gas exhaust will be reduced compared with individually driving cars.

b) Good for people

Everyone can easily go to their destination by bus without worrying about traffic accidents.

c) Good for household budget

You can save money when using buses if you have commutation ticket, school pass, grand pass, etc. [Inquiries] Traffic Policy Division (Tel: 0798-35-3527)

[Inquiries] Traffic Policy Division (Tel: 0798-35-3527)



## TAX PAYMENT NOTICE

2024 Tax payment notice for municipal & prefectural residents' tax /forestry environment tax, fixed asset tax/urban planning tax, and light motor vehicle tax, etc.

Below is the expected mailing date and payment deadline for municipal & prefectural residents' tax, forestry environment tax, fixed asset tax, urban planning tax, and light motor vehicle

#### tax for 2024.

Type of Taxes Municipal & prefectural residents' & forestry environment taxes •Ordinary tax collection •Special collection	Expected mailing date June 5	Payment due date 1st installment: Jul. 1 2nd installment: Sep. 2 3rd installment: Oct. 31 4th installment: Jan.31, '25	Please make
from public pension Fixed Asset tax Urban planning	May 10	1st installment: May 31 2nd installment: Jul. 31	sure to pay by the said
tax	May 10	3 <sup>rd</sup> installment: Dec. 25 4th installment: Feb. 28, '25	due date.
Light motor vehicle tax (Discount by vehicle type)	April 26	May 31	

\*Regardless of the payment deadlines stated in the above table, the special collection from public pension will be, in principle, deducted at the time of pension payment.

\*The tax notice for municipal & prefectural residents' tax/ forestry environment tax (special collection) that will be deducted from company salary is scheduled to be sent to employers, etc. on May 17.

If the income tax return and municipal & prefectural residents' tax returns are filed after March 16,

•the tax return details may not be reflected in the initial tax payment notice.

•the national health insurance premiums, long-term care insurance premiums, etc. may not be reflected on the taxation (income) certificate in a timely manner.

If payments cannot be made by due date, a request to pay by installments (an oath of payment) is accepted by applying on the "Nishinomiya Smart Application"

	<ul> <li>Municipal &amp; Prefectural</li> </ul>	Citizens Tax Division
	Residents' tax/	(0798-35-3214)
Where	Forestry environment	Property Tax Division
to	tax	(0798-35-3269)
Inquire	<ul> <li>Property Tax &amp; Urban</li> </ul>	Tax Admin. Division
,	Planning Tax	(0798-35-3209)
	<ul> <li>Light Motor Vehicle Tax</li> </ul>	Taxation Mgt. Division
	•.Tax Payment	(0798-35-3238)



#### April HEALTH PROMOTION COLUMN Musings of a frailty countermeasures program manager

◆ Prevent frailty by consuming a variety of foods! ◆

Frailty is a condition of weakened physical and mental strengths

associated with aging. In particular, nutritional deficiencies require special attention as they promote frailty. Being aware of the condition early and taking measures will enable you to improve your health.

It is important to consume a variety of foods to prevent frailty. Consciously eat foods rich in protein (meat, fish, eggs, soybean products, etc.) to avoid the decrease of muscle mass with age, which may cause difficulty in body movement, falls and fractures. Protein is the basis of a strong body. It will be good, for instance, to add natto to your rice or serve pork miso soup (butajiru) instead of simple miso soup. Let's pay attention to the nutritional balance and prevent frailty! [Inquiries] Health Promotion Division (0798-26-3157)



# WESTERN PAINTER AIZO TSUJI EXHIBITION

60 years after death.

Landscape and genre paintings and illustrations.

From Thursday May 2<sup>nd</sup> through Monday July 15<sup>th</sup> (Holiday).

Western painter Aizo Tsuji retrospective exhibition will be held at Otani Memorial Art Museum, Nishinomiya City. The exhibition will consist of 4 sections, "Landscape paintings ", " Genre paintings ", " Illustrations " and " Related painters ". About 130 artworks will be exhibited.

Open hours : From 10:00 am to 5:00 pm (Admission is until 4:30 pm.)

Closed : On Wednesdays

Fee : Adults \$1,200, High school & college students \$600, Elementary and Junior High students \$400. Residents with ID \$1,000 (65 years old and over \$600)

Notes: Workshops, explanatory lectures and so on will be held as well. For more information visit the museum H/P. < Lecture >

Theme: Genealogy of nostalgic modern urban landscape Mainly "Osaka Nostalgic Landscapes "painted by Aizo Tsuji Date & time: At 2:00 pm on Sunday May 19<sup>th</sup>.

Target: Older than elementary school students

Capacity: To be set

Lecturer: Osaka University Honorary Professor Setsuya Hashizume

Application: To the museum by phone

[Inquiries] Otani Memorial Art Museum, Nishinomiya City 0798-33-0164

Picture: "Island well "1960

# EVENT IN FRENTE

[Date & Content] As shown in the following table [Capacity] Limited [Application] The Hall's website [Inquiry] The Frente Hall (0798-32-8660)

Sebastian's Music room [Date] May 11 (Sat) • 25(Sat), from 11:00 am [Content] Etcetera about Chopin [Target] Generally 4th grade elementary students and above [Fee] ¥1,000 each FCS25 Smile and learn in the Receptionist lecture! [Date] Oral lecture : May 15 (Wednesday) · 20 (Mon) from 7:00 p.m. Practical lecture: Jun 1st (Sat) from 1:30 pm 2nd (Sun) from 9:30 am Target] High school students and above [Fee] ¥1,000 Music for Babies [Date] May 17 (Friday) from 1:00 p.m. [Content] The real relationship between Raising Children and Music [Target] Preschool children below 3years old and their

parents [Fee] 1 group ¥1,000

# SPANISH CHAT MEETING

[Date] May 26th (Sun) from 2:00 pm

[Venue] Nishinomiya City International Association

[Target] People who understand Spanish

[Capacity] 25 people first-come-first-served basis

[Application] from May 8<sup>th</sup> on the website

[Inquiry] Nishinomiya City International Association (0798-32-8680)

# NISHINOMIYA CONNECT PARK project starts

With a joint partner, Nishinomiya Connect Park (a business group led by the Shimizu Construction, Nishinomiya City will start the renovation project of the Nishinomiya City Central Athletic park, a sports and recreational core of the city.

In April 2027, the new athletic field will open followed by the new central gym in December 2027. In March 2029, the entire facility will fully open as the Nishinomiya Connect Park. To design a park, open to anyone, the platform attended by citizens will be set up for collecting workshops

and other ideas. A book rental and a golf studio will be scheduled under the concept of locally loved community hub.



[inquiries] Culture and Sports Division 0798-35-3426

### Nishinomiya 100th Anniversary Project NISHINOMIYA PAST AND PRESENT

School Lunch in Nishinomiya

Nishinomiya School Lunch Program is a historic activity which began in 1947. School lunch is not just eating lunch, but it is an opportunity for the children to learn a variety of things such as desirable dietary habits through nutritionally balanced meals, local industries and food culture, the feelings of gratitude towards food and the people related to its service, etc. Nowadays, the food is prepared in each school kitchen so that students can eat fresh food in the best condition. Cooked rice and pilaf which school cooks make in a big rotary rice cooker and curry handmade from the roux are typical menu items that Nishinomiya is proud of.

You can look for the menu and its recipes on our website.

