



News from Ishikawa Prefecture

2月4日、立春の朝に製造した日本酒「立春朝搾り」が白山市の酒造店から出荷されました。立春とは名ばかりで、寒い日が続いていましたが、ソチ五輪での日本人選手の活躍に日本中が熱く盛り上がりました！石川県でも、五輪効果により県内のスケートリンクで来客数が過去最多となるなど、大盛況となりました。寒い日は、体を動かして温まるのもいいものですね。

来年3月開業の北陸新幹線の新型車両「E7系」の試乗会が3日間行われ、その公募の倍率は61倍と大人気でした！いよいよ来年に迫った金沢開業に向けて、県内ではさまざまな取組みがなされています。金沢城では、冬の観光イベントとして、歴代加賀藩主がたしなんだ鷹狩りの訓練「放鷹術」が初めて実演され、大勢の市民や観光客が詰めかけました。

さて、角界の新鋭力士・遠藤関の3つの後援会が発足しました。遠藤関は石川県穴水町出身の力士で、今年1月の大相撲初場所では11勝を挙げ、敢闘賞を受賞しました。また、角界一のイケメンとの呼び声も高く、人気・実力ともに全国区となってきました。遠藤関の今後の一層の活躍を期待しましょう！

今回の新聞情報

- (1)「立春朝搾り」出荷 鶴来の酒造店、日本酒1620本
<http://www.hokkoku.co.jp/subpage/E20140204001.htm>
- (2)五輪効果でリンク盛況 金沢の健民スポレクプラザ
<http://www.hokkoku.co.jp/subpage/H20140212103.htm>
- (3)北陸新幹線E7系、大宮～長野で試乗会
<http://www.hokkoku.co.jp/subpage/H20140208101.htm>
- (4)「鷹狩り」金沢城沸く 初の実演
<http://www.hokkoku.co.jp/subpage/H20140210101.htm>
- (5)遠藤関「もつと上へ」 金沢で3後援会発足
<http://www.hokkoku.co.jp/subpage/H20140216101.htm>

※次回は3月末にお届けする予定です。
* The next edition is scheduled to be issued at the end of March.

4th February marks the first day of spring in the traditional Japanese calendar known as “Risshun”. Marking this day, “Risshun Asa Shibori” Japanese sake made on the morning of Risshun was shipped out from a brewery in Hakusan City. The first day of spring is only in the name as it has been cold for weeks, but the excitement generated from the success of the Japanese athletes at the Sochi Winter Olympics fired up the whole country! The impact of the Olympics had an effect on Ishikawa too as there were more visitors than ever at the ice rink in the prefecture which was great for business. Getting active sure is a great way to get warm on a cold day.

3 days of test runs were carried out for the new E7 series train carriages that will be in service for the Hokuriku Shinkansen bullet trains next year in March, and the 61 fold increase for the open recruitment showed how popular it was! Various events are taking place up and down the prefecture in the build up to the long awaited service from Kanazawa next year. At Kanazawa Castle, many locals and tourists crowded to see demonstrations of how the successive Kaga Domain Lords would practice falconry techniques which were on show for the first time as a winter tourist event.

In the world of sumo, 3 fan clubs for the sumo starlet Endo have been set up. Endo is a sumo wrestler from Anamizu Town in Ishikawa Prefecture, and he won 11 times at the New Year’s Grand Sumo Tournament this January which earned him the Fighting Spirit Award. Many have called him the hunk of the sumo world, and the combination of his popularity and skills are making him into a national hit. We can expect many things from Endo in years to come!

Recent News

(1) On 4th February, the Kobori Brewery in Tsurugi Town, Hakusan City shipped out “Risshun Asa Shibori” that was made on the morning of the first day of Japanese spring. 1620 bottles containing 720ml was shipped out by employees and sake dealers.

(2) With the Sochi Winter Olympic Games in full competitive swing, Ishikawa’s only ice rink at the Kenmin Sports Recreation Plaza is gaining crowds. It recorded its highest number of visitors with 678 skaters on 11th February since its opening in 2009. The staff had an extremely busy time dealing with the rental skates and really felt the impact of the Olympics.

(3) Test runs for the Hokuriku Shinkansen E7 series train carriages that will be in service at Kanazawa by March 2015 started on 7th February and continued for 3 days between Omiya and Nagano. The first day took 700 people on a run that consisted of families,

and train fanatics allowing them to enjoy the beauty of Japan from within the carriage for a satisfying trip that lasted a little over an hour.

(4) On 9th February at Kanazawa Castle Park, a falconer put on a show displaying his falconry practice techniques for the first time ever. The falconry that successive Kaga Domain Lords would have enjoyed was watched by packed crowds of locals and tourists as they cheered at the sight of the bird dynamically circling the citadel walls.

(5) 3 fan clubs for the Ishikawa Prefecture Anamizu Town born sumo wrestler Endo were set up on 15th February by people connected with his old school. A joint rallying event was held on the same day and Endo who received warm cheers from around 260 members stated “I will work hard and come back with a much higher rank” as he looks confident to push on.

詳しい情報のアクセス先 For more information, please access the following links:

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| (1) 公益財団法人石川県国際交流協会 IFIE (Ishikawa Foundation for International Exchange) | http://www.ifie.or.jp/index.php |
| (2) ほっと石川旅ねっと Hot Ishikawa Tabi-Net (Ishikawa Prefecture Tourism Guide) | http://www.hot-ishikawa.jp/ |
| (3) 石川県 Ishikawa Prefectural Government Official Website | http://www.pref.ishikawa.lg.jp/ |
| (4) 首相官邸 Prime Minister of JAPAN (Countermeasures for the Great East Japan Earthquake) | http://www.kantei.go.jp/ |

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