



兼六園の雪吊り、カニの解禁、能登の波の花など、11月の寒さとともに石川の冬を彩る風物詩に関するニュースが舞い込んできました。

来年4月から無料化される能登有料道路も、公募の結果、「のと里山海道」という新名称が決定され、県庁ロビーに垂れ幕が設置されるなど、1982年の全線開通から30年、新たなスタートを切ろうとしています。

また、収穫を終えた輪島の千枚田も太陽光発電の発光ダイオード(LED)による演出により、「太陽光発電LEDの最大ディスプレイ」として、ギネスの世界記録に公式認定されました。

さて、観光もさることながら、野々市市の2011年度の人口増加率が全国788の市の中で第1位となり、少子高齢化の中でも保育園の新設が相次ぐなど、市制1周年を迎え活気にあふれています。

訪れてよし、住んでよしの石川県。みなさま、これからも一段と本県をごひいき頂きますようお願いいたします！

今回の新聞情報

- (1)石川・金沢市の兼六園で「雪吊り」始まる
<http://news24.jp/articles/2012/11/01/07216921.html>
- (2)解禁カニ「買ってって」近江町市場に並ぶ
<http://www.hokkoku.co.jp/subpage/TR20121108701.htm>
- (3)のと里山海道:新名称PR 県庁に懸垂幕
<http://mainichi.jp/area/ishikawa/news/20121109ddk1704064000c.html>
- (4)白米千枚田:棚田の光、ギネスに 石川・輪島
<http://mainichi.jp/select/news/20121111k0000e040119000c.html>
- (5)野々市市、保育園ラッシュ 人口増加率日本一
<http://www.hokkoku.co.jp/subpage/HT20121120401.htm>

※次回は12月末にお届けする予定です。

* The next edition is scheduled to be issued at the end of December.

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Various news came along with the cold of November, featuring the winter landscape of Ishikawa such as the Kenrokuen garden's yukizuri, the opening of the crab fishing season and the nami-no-hana (flower-like waves) of Noto.

First, the Noto toll highway will become free from next April. The new name for the highway, decided by popular vote, will be Noto Satoyama-Kaido and a hanging banner was set in the lobby of the prefectural government's office for the occasion. 30 years have passed since the highway opened to traffic in 1982 and the new name marks a new beginning.

After the end of the harvest period, the rice fields at Shirayone Senmaida in Wajima were illuminated by solar powered LED lights and were officially recognized by the Guinness Book of World Records as the largest display of solar-powered LEDs.

In addition to the tourism aspect, the population growth rate in Nonoichi city for the fiscal year of 2011 came in first place among the 788 cities across Japan. Despite the declining birth rate and aging population, new nursery schools were established and the city is infused with energy after celebrating its first anniversary.

Ishikawa, a good place to live in, good to visit! I would like to ask you to continue your support of Ishikawa.

Recent News

- (1)The work of fitting the yukizuri on the trees of the Kenrokuen garden was initiated on the first day of this month. Yukizuri is the Japanese name for the ropes placed around trees to protect the twigs from breaking and prevents trees from bending due to the weight caused by the accumulation of snow on the leaves.
In previous years, the rope work began with the tree called Karasakimatsu, which is famous for having the best shape among the trees in the Kenrokuen garden, but due to unfavorable weather in the morning, the work of this year began with a pine tree that is near Kasumigaike.
About 800 trees in the interior of the garden will be surrounded by the protection of ropes until the middle of next month.
- (2)November 6 marked the opening of the crab fishing season in Ishikawa where one can find opening of the seafood that is typical of Ishikawa like the zuwaigani and koubakogani (snow crab, queen crab) in fish markets. In the Omicho-ichiba market in Kanazawa one often hears the sellers calling out. The crab fishing season is open! Buy one, bring one! Kanogani (crabs) at Ooguchi Suisan (Omicho-ichiba) sold at a price of between 14,000 and 16,000 yen for one, while average price for zuwaigani was 700 yen per 100 grams. Because of the bad weather, the new inventory has been low and the price was a little higher than in previous years but the autumn colored leaves in front of the shops attracted many citizens and tourists to the market.
- (3)A huge banner (8 meters x 2.5 meters) was placed outside the prefectural administration building in order to increase awareness of the new name for Noto toll road which is to be renamed the "Furusato to Kiko Noto Satoyama-Kaido" on the 1st of April. The highway will be made free of charge to attract tourists to Noto Peninsula awaiting the Hokuriku Shinkansen that will open in 2014.
The new name which was selected from 4782 publicly contributed candidates will promote tourism including to "Noto's Satoyama Satoumi" destinations which were designated as World Agricultural Heritage sites. Kawakita Ohashi Toll Bridge and Tazuruhama Road will also be made free of charge starting April 1st.
- (4)A fantastic light-up event "Footpaths sparkling" where 20,000 solar-power LEDs edge the terraced rice paddies of Shirayone Senmaida (Noto Peninsula), which were designated by the FAO as a World Agricultural Heritage site, began on November 10th and will last till the 17th of February.
This year, the number of lamps was increased by 8,000 in an attempt to set a new Guinness record for the "largest solar-power LED display". The new record is to be officially recognized on the 14th.
- (5)More and more new nursery schools are opening in Nonoichi city which manages to keep up the highest population increase rate despite the country's low birth rate. The first nursery school, built in cooperation with a sports club, has been planned to open in 2014, thus increasing the number of nursery schools in Nonoichi from 10 to 14 since 2006 and enhancing the city's image as one with a growing population.
According to Ishikawa prefecture office Nonoichi population is assessed at 54,136 people and has increased by 1205 people during the last year.
According to the Citizen basic register investigation by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications of Japan, Nonoichi population rate of increase for 2011 was 2.66%, the top result for the country.

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

- (1)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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