



暦の上では春とはいえ、真冬の寒さが続いておりますが、金沢駅での加賀友禅オブジェの設置や、能登の農耕機礼「あえのこと」の世界発信など、石川県は寒さにも負けずに元気いっぱいです。2月といえば、プロ野球のキャンプの季節ですが、今年は3月にワールド・ベースボール・クラシック(通称WBC)が開催されるため、3連覇を目指す日本では、例年にも増して野球に対する注目度が上がっています。BCリーグ・石川ミリオンスターズにも元大リーグの木田投手が入団し、話題となっております。木田投手と親交のあるお笑い芸人の明石家さんまさんが石川での試合観戦も約束してくれたとのこと。みなさんも機会があれば、ぜひ、球場に足を運んでみませんか？

最後に、能登と加賀からの話題を一つずつ紹介します。まず、能登では、人気ワイナリーで修業を積んだ若者が父の郷里である輪島市門前に移り住み、ワイン醸造所を構えることとなりました。能登牛や日本海の新鮮な魚介に合わせて飲める「能登ワイン」に続くおいしいワインの誕生が期待されます。一方、加賀では、小松市の小学校で日韓の児童による「石川・慶南小学生ツバメ交流会」が開催され、インターネットで活動を報告しあいました。2008年に小学校でツバメの生態を調べる取り組みを始めた慶尚南道が、石川県の調査法に興味を持ち実現したのが今回の交流会でした。ツバメが元気に飛び回る季節が待ち遠しいですが、ツバメが結んだ児童の交流、今後温かく見守ってほしいですね。

Although according to the calendar it is already spring, the midwinter chill is still around. Despite the cold, Ishikawa is in full swing with many events going on, such as the international promotion of Aenokoto (a traditional agricultural ceremony in Noto) and the installation of Kaga Yuzen art objects at Kanazawa Station. February is the month for professional baseball camps. Baseball is enjoying increasing attention in Japan as the country's national team gears up to win its third consecutive championship at the WBC, to be held in March. Another hot topic is former major league pitcher Kida, who has joined Ishikawa Million Stars (BC League). The famous showman Akashiya Sanma, who is a friend of Kida's, has already promised to visit Ishikawa to see him in person. You should also get out and enjoy the baseball atmosphere in full! And finally, here are another two pieces of news from the Noto and Kaga regions. After training in a famous winery, a young man moved back to Monzen, Wajima, his father's hometown, where he decided to build his own winery. We are looking forward to the birth of a new delicious wine that will pair well with Noto beef and fresh seafood while continuing the tradition of Noto wine. At an elementary school in Komatsu, Japanese children participated in an online activity report exchange with children in South Korea through the Ishikawa Prefecture-South Gyeongsang Province Elementary School Swallow Survey Exchange Program. The program was initiated when South Gyeongsang Province became interested in Ishikawa's swallow survey method after launching its own swallow survey program for elementary schools in 2008. Although there is still some time before the swallows will be flying around in Ishikawa, they played an important part in forming the friendship between the children of two countries, and we hope to keep that friendship alive.

Recent News

(1) Kanazawa has embarked on a promotion campaign of the city's traditional handicrafts creating new art objects as the Hokuriku Shinkansen bullet train line starts operation soon. A fancy piece of artwork decorated abundantly with Kaga Yuzen (printed silk) is now the first thing to greet visitors who arrive at Ishikawa's front door (JR Kanazawa Station). The object is designed to draw one's curiosity, in order to attract the attention of young people who are generally considered to be out of touch with traditional handicrafts. Now with this new piece of art Kanazawa Station is finally ready to hit the summer season and accommodate numerous tourists and natives.

(2) "Aenokoto" (a ceremonial ritual for good harvest) of Noto will appear worldwide on video. A video with one introduction of the ritual in English was featured on Youtube until January 29th, and in February the staff of a travel TV program from France came to visit Noto and collect material for use in its program. The personnel related to the Satoyama Satoumi believe that this will be an opportunity for people to know the natural features and the spiritual culture of the region and have great expectations for the global dissemination of the Aenokoto ritual. Three people from the staff of the French program will come from February 15th and will remain in Noto for 10 days. This program belongs to a channel specializing in 1-hour trip programs on French cable TV and will be aired throughout the entire country.

(3) After being approached by pitcher Kida Masao, the famous TV comedian, Akashiya Sanma, became a member of the fan club of the baseball team Ishikawa Million Stars. Kida, who is friends with the comedian, negotiated with Sanma in Tokyo and obtained his consent. When he broached the subject of having Akashiya come watch a game, Akashiya replied, "Oh, I'll come", making a promise to Kida. Veteran right-handed pitcher Kida, who is not only a pitcher but is also a manager, is very strategic even outside of the baseball field, not even waiting for the start of the season to begin activities. He said, "I will do everything I can to make sure a large number of people come to see our matches." The owner of Ishikawa Million Stars said

今回の新聞情報

(1) 高級オブジェで出迎え 金沢駅に設置へ

<http://www.hokkoku.co.jp/subpage/HT20130219401.htm>

(2) 「あえのこと」映像世界に 英語で動画サイトに、仏の番組も取材

<http://www.hokkoku.co.jp/subpage/HT20130130401.htm>

(3) BC石川、さんまさんが後援会員に 木田投手が直接交渉

<http://www.hokkoku.co.jp/subpage/HT20130208401.htm>

(4) 門前にワイン醸造所 父の故郷で挑戦

<http://www.hokkoku.co.jp/subpage/HT20130201401.htm>

(5) ツバメ調査で韓国と交流 小松・日末小、ネットで対面

<http://www.hokkoku.co.jp/subpage/HT20130215401.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.

enthusiastically of Kida, who is now living in Kanazawa, "He is someone we can depend upon both on and off the field. We can hardly wait for the start of the season."

(4) In September, Masaki Takasaku (30) of Yokohama will open a new winery in Monzen, Wajima on a hill facing the Sea of Japan. After accumulating knowledge while working in a famous winery, Takasaku moved to his father's hometown of Monzen, Wajima last spring to attempt to build his own company and fulfill his dream of starting a business of restaurants and inns. After receiving one and a half years of training, Takasaku began to search for a location with good soil quality and appropriate climate conditions where he could open his own winery, and his search took him to his father's hometown. Takasaku, who studied abroad in Switzerland when he was in senior high school, says, "I can still remember the landscape of Switzerland's beautiful wine fields and was looking for something similar. I will be very happy if this winery can contribute to the revitalization of Noto." Another winery, "Noto Wine", founded in 2004 in Anamizu Town, has been expanding its consumer base and hopes to take advantage of the Noto Yuryo Toll Road becoming free to attract more tourists.

(5) On February 14th, children at Hizue Elementary School in Komatsu exchanged swallow survey reports online with children at elementary schools in South Gyeongsang Province in South Korea on the first "Ishikawa Prefecture - South Gyeongsang Province Elementary School Swallow Survey Exchange Project". The Ishikawa Prefecture Healthy Citizens Campaign Promotion Headquarters that manages the swallow survey wants to use this program to promote international exchange among elementary school students. Using a web conferencing system, 22 sixth grade students from Hizue Elementary School held a videoconference with children from Bongkok Elementary School in Jinju City and Usan Elementary School in Changwon City. The Health Promotion Headquarters hopes to extend these online exchanges into actual visits in the future, and states, "We would be happy if the activity report exchange helps the children from both sides develop a deeper interest in each other's countries and continues to facilitate exchange."

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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