

## Fascinated by Artistic Azabu ⑪

# Let's Go To the Snoopy Museum! Open Commemorative Exhibition: My Favorite Peanuts



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The Snoopy Museum opened in Roppongi on April 23, 2016. It is a museum celebrating Snoopy, a familiar character even for Japanese people. We can expect a lot from the exhibits and events in this museum.

### What are the "Peanuts"?

As many of you know, "Snoopy" is a beagle dog that appears in the cartoon strip "Peanuts" created by the American cartoonist, Charles M. Schulz.

For those who don't know, I would like to add that he (Snoopy) is not the main character. Who is the main character? In fact, a boy called Charlie Brown is, and Snoopy is his dog. The underlying theme of the comics is the psychology behind the comical conversations between the other unique characters including Snoopy, around the main character, Charlie Brown.

The main attraction of this commemorative exhibition is the 60 original "Peanuts" drawings carefully selected by Mrs. Jean Schulz, Mr. Charles Schulz's wife. These original drawings were given by Mr. Schulz to her as Valentine's Day presents, are now being exhibited for the first time in the world. Even you are not a big fan of "Peanuts", you will be excited to see them. (Unfortunately, the showing of these original drawings ended on September 25, 2016).

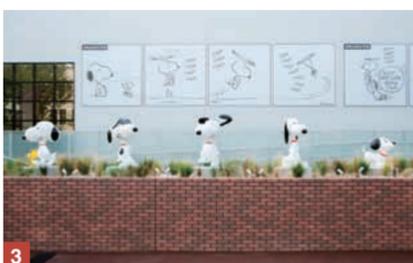


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Our Snoopy Museum plans to show parts of the valuable collections from the original museum, the "Schulz Museum", once a year for six months a year, consecutively. This Snoopy Museum is the world's-first satellite museum of the Schultz Museum. We say, "Welcome to Roppongi!" with great anticipation.

### Welcoming you at the Entrance

Five historically correct Snoopy dolls welcome you at the entrance. It is called "Welcome Snoopy". Perhaps you already knew, but I was surprised that Snoopy in the early days walked on all four legs. I heard that the author, Mr. Schulz said that he had changed the Snoopy character the most. He then became more popular than the main character due to his lovely appearance. This is why the name of the museum is the "Snoopy Museum". The exhibition, starting from the entrance showing



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how Snoopy had changed and his lovely appearances, we enjoyed very much.

### Highly Anticipated Exhibits

When I entered the museum, some truly great art works immediately come into view. When I approached a heart-warming work where Charlie Brown and Snoopy get close to each other, I discovered a 3D artwork consisting of many cartoon works. Its design contains 4,452 cartoon works created from 1951 to 1975.

This space is very comfortable and we discovered many things.

There are an audio-visual room, original drawings which are the attractions of this exhibition, and many collections. You will certainly be satisfied, as it is full of attractions such as "BROWN'S STORE", named after Charlie Brown, and the "Café Blanket" named after Linus's "Security Blanket", and you can enjoy a happy and relaxing time.

### Outside the Museum

Having forgotten the hustle and bustle of the city, and feeling fully recharged, I left the Museum. Then, I realized that "This is the right place" for this museum with its tranquil atmosphere, even though it's in the center of Roppongi. I was healed a lot by Snoopy, while I was collecting information. The exhibition period is until September 2016, but I cannot help wishing that Snoopy would stay much longer. Even if you were not a big fan of Snoopy, you would surely want to come to this space again. Please experience it.

I will say again, "Welcome to Roppongi!!!" with our mix of emotions, knowing it's not forever.

www.snoopymuseum.tokyo/visit  
 Tel: 03-6328-1960

The second exhibition "HELLO AGAIN, SNOOPY" is being held from October 8 (Sat), 2016 to April 9 (Sun), 2017.



© PNTS



- 1 Elegantly presented, and gives us a clear impression of the original museum, the "Schulz Museum".
- 2 Very rare original color drawings, which were given to Mrs. Schulz from Mr. Schulz as Valentine's Day gifts.
- 3 Welcome Snoopy at the entrance. The one on the right is Snoopy in the early days, walking on all four legs. The styles representative of Snoopy now appearing serially from 1950 to 2000 are displayed. In every version, however, Snoopy is equally adorable.
- 4 An illustration by Mr. Yoshiteru Otani, in the airy and open hall depicting Charlie and Snoopy happily together. The same type of exhibit is displayed in the original museum, the "Schulz Museum".
- 5 It consists of as many as 4,452 cartoon works. The magnificent scale surprises us. It would be interesting for you to find your favorite works there.
- 6 The admission tickets have a cartoon comic picture on them, issued on the date of entry, which is a nice collectible item for each visitor.
- 7 The colorful tables in the shop are inspired by Linus' Blanket. Café Blanket has a tranquil atmosphere with an open terrace.
- 8 There are a large selection of menu items on offer at the café. You can feel like Snoopy with its original Snoopy dog-dish style and design.
- 9 The colorful exhibits displayed against the white-based bright gallery are really eye catching. Regardless of your age or sex, anyone can comfortably enjoy this exhibition.
- 10 Many goods are offered in BROWN'S STORE. Surprisingly, almost all goods are limited items provided only here.



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# 麻布

"Azabu - A Human Story"



**Terumasa Tsuchiya, M.D., Ph.D.**

President of Photon Medical Group

## Home Doctor in Azabu, connecting patients, their families and the local community

This time, a medical doctor, Mr. Terumasa Tsuchiya is introduced. He was born in 1960 and grew up in Azabu, graduated from Minato City Municipal Higashi Elementary School and Jonan Junior High School (Presently Roppongi Junior High School). He opened a clinic in his hometown, Azabu. He is a distinguished home doctor for the people in the Azabu area, and donates his time and devotes his life to the "Total Care Management" system construction and operation through the cooperation of his heartwarming medical service, nursing-care and physical care.



Principle of the Clinic — Heartwarming Medical Service, Nursing-Care and Mental Care: This calligraphy was made by Dr. Tsuchiya's wife who is a calligraphy teacher.



### Integrated Cooperation Care System Expert, Opening a New Path

The small local clinic, "Azabu Photon Clinic", is located along the office-building street running from Keyaki-zaka to the former TV Asahi Street. Surprisingly, they provide medical services even on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. Dr. Tsuchiya, the director of the clinic and president of Photon Medical Group told us "There are many large hospitals in Minato City. Because most of the doctors commute from the area out of Minato City or in the suburbs of Tokyo, the medical institutions tend to be shorthanded on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. Therefore, in our clinic, doctors can compensate for this with a shift-work system".

Dr. Tsuchiya used to do genetic research at the Institute of Medical Science in the University of Tokyo, but his interest shifted from basic research to the application of clinical medicine through his research life at Harvard Medical School in the Harvard University. After he came back to Japan, he was very surprised that the system supporting medial services, nursing-care, patients and their families was insufficient in contemporary Japan, with its serious problems of many one-person households and aging population. He decided to come back to Azabu and open a clinic. "I was lucky to find an appropriate property close to my house, and in my familiar area of Nishi-Azabu 3-Chome. It is best that our patients' houses are close to the medical doctor's facility. I visit patients' houses in the area within a 5 kilometers radius from the clinic".

However, visiting time to patients is no longer than 30 minutes per week. It cannot be said to be sufficient support. Therefore, he opened a care manager and helper office on the 4th floor of the clinic and employed staff members to enhance home nursing care support.

On the other hand, there are many elderly persons who have good health, but feel anxious living alone. Because of this, he cooperates with the housing with support services for independent elderly persons to widen the selection of care services, and places where they can live alone at ease.

Moreover, for the people who need medical care, "Aoyama Medicare" with hospice availability and a home-nursing station, provides care 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Facilities available for short stays and day services are also attached to the clinic to complete the "Integrated Total Care System, which can respond to various care-stages and needs. He added, "However, I did not plan to establish such a comprehensive system as we have today at the time when I opened the Azabu Koki Clinic. I tried a lot of different things, and at last reached the present level of facility. My blood type is B, and they say that people with blood type B are impatient. I am surely impatient, and I have pushed hard, and even when I hit a wall, I overcome difficulties. I never regard obstacles as impossible to overcome. However, others might look at it as a long and hard road". He looked back at the long way he has come.

### Starting Point, and Motivation for his Accomplishments

Ten years have passed since he opened the clinic, and Dr. Tsuchiya is at the forefront of home medical care and visiting nursing-care. His starting point goes back to his childhood. His father, who ran a trading company in Ginza, passed away suddenly on Christmas Eve just before his senior high school entrance examination. Dr. Tsuchiya was unexpectedly confronted with the capriciousness of life and death at an early age. He was a boy of fifteen, and had a younger sister and a baby brother. However, his class teacher at that time kindly went through the procedure to help him obtain a student loan. After that, he went to senior high school, university and post-graduate school, and finally just a few years ago, repaid the loan. His motivation is to return this favor to the generation and local community that supported the scholarship at that time.

### Never taking it all upon himself, cooperating with various people and switching between work time (ON time) and private time (OFF time)

Dr. Tsuchiya makes the various facilities cooperate with each other and also opens study meetings or seminars even on the weekend. In this interview, he was in full operation, at full speed and extremely energetic. Even in the course of this interview, when family members of patients were visiting the clinic, he coped with all of it. Then after that, he returned to the interview and continued the conversation with us slowly, systematically, and carefully and was easy to understand. Also in the car on the way to the facility in Aoyama, he gave every spare moment to answer our detailed questions. In his daily hectic schedule, "Outpatient and house visiting services are performed by appointment only. Therefore, I have two days off a week". I was very interested in how he could master and manage such a schedule.

"Because it is impossible for me to take it all on myself, I rely on the doctors in charge and staff members as much as possible on the medical front. This way I can develop excellent human resources. When something wrong happens, I will take charge and settle it, and ultimately take responsibility. For computer work, it would be better to ask the young staff members who were born in the Heisei era (after 1989). My only hobby is fishing for ayu (sweetfish) with live bait. I came back to Japan, because I wanted to do this", he said laughing. "My father's grave is located in Izu. Whenever this season comes, I go to fish for ayu with live bait in the Kawadu River, and also to pay a visit to my father's grave and meet relatives. Fishing is very difficult and I give it my heart and soul, sometimes at the expensive of my home life and work! Because of this, it is great fun. If it were easy, I would not have become interested in it so much". This clearly shows the attitude of Dr. Tsuchiya, who always overcomes difficulties. The more difficult, the more valuable they are for him.



The book titled "How do we live out our last days in a large city" written by Dr. Tsuchiya, was why we decided to interview him. This book is full of great suggestions for medical care, nursing care and providing for our old age.

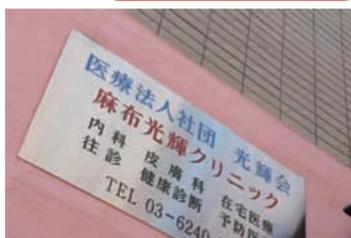
Ayu swim up the river. Generally, baby ayu go up the river in spring and become adults in the clear upstream. Then, in autumn, they go down the river to lay eggs. Dr. Tsuchiya grew up in Azabu, took an active part in and out of Japan, and came back to his hometown. Then, he has contributed to the local community for ten years. Which direction does the future of medical service and nursing care, our old age lives and our super-ageing society go?

In this paper, we will continue to pursue the direction of future medical services and welfare in Azabu.

In Minato City's Senior Citizens Consultation Centers, we provide consultation for the residents at any time, as the base of the elderly support network.

**Azabu Area Senior Citizens Consultation Center**  
Tel: 03-3453-8032 Fax: 03-3453-6269  
Address: 1-5-26, Minami-azabu Minato City  
Counter Open Time: From 9:00am ~ 19:30pm, Monday to Friday  
Sundays, National Holidays and Year End and New Year Holidays: 9:00am ~ 5:00pm  
(Telephone consultation service is available 24 hours a day).

### Azabu Photon Clinic



Building with a gentle pink tone along the former TV Asahi Avenue

### Aoyama Medicare



An arrangement is made so that old town names around Azabu area are given to each of the residents' private rooms, which are familiar to the community, to put residents at ease.



Appearance of "Aoyama Medicare" located in quiet residential area



Bright and clean private room: cushioned floor equipped with floor heating system, makes you warm mentally and physically.



Emergency buzzer is provided at the foot of the resident that can be reached even when the resident gets sick.

地域社会  
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"The Local Community"

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# Minato City Bicycle Sharing Service

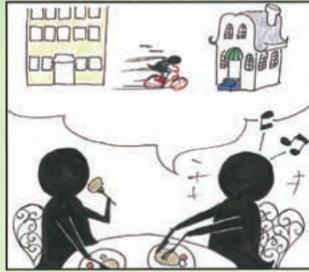


The Minato City Bicycle Sharing Service started two years ago. Perhaps you've already seen an office worker riding a red power-assisted bicycle around Minato City. This project was started as a measure to control illegally parked bicycles and because bicycles are environmentally friendly and convenient for short distances, the number of people using this bicycle sharing service has been gradually increasing. So, for those of you who aren't yet acquainted with the service, check out the instructions below on how use the service and how to ride the bikes

## How to Use Freely Drop-off Rental Bicycles



I've been commuting from Kawasaki to Roppongi by train, but have begun developing metabolic syndrome. I'd be better off going to Roppongi from Shinagawa by bicycle. And if I got caught in a sudden summer afternoon shower, I could just drop off the bike and use the subway.



I want to go to a restaurant that has a good reputation for delicious lunches. If I go on foot, I might not make it back to the office within my lunch hour. If I use a bicycle, I'll be back in time

I buy wine at a discount sale, but four bottles are too heavy to carry home. However, if I use a power-assisted bicycle, there will be no problem even on a steep slope. I might as well get an extra bottle or two!



I'm going to play tennis in Ariake-no-Mori. It is fine day today, so I will go there by bicycle and get a warm-up into the bargain. Later if I go to after-party, I'll just drop off the bike and take the subway home.

I'm in Roppongi during rush hours and have only 20 minutes before my meetings start in Shibuya. The bus might not reach Shibuya in time. If I go to Aoyama-Itchome Station by bicycle, and then use the subway, I can arrive in Shibuya with time to spare



With **Bicycle Sharing** you can rent and return a bicycle at any **cycle port** (bicycle rental and return station) in Chiyoda City, Chuo City, Koto City or Minato City. <http://docomo-cycle.jp/minato/>

### The procedure is easy with your mobile phone and credit card.

#### First, register as a member

You can register easily anytime online.

Access the site "<http://docomo-cycle.jp/minato/>" (or search with the words "Minato City bike-sharing service", and access the site). Then choose a password and user ID and fill in the boxes with the required information.



Mobile Site

After that, register the payment information (credit card or payment through docomo keitai payment or other service).

After you select public transportation IC cards etc., as the "key" for bicycle rent is selected, the procedure is complete.

#### How to Rent

Go to your nearest cycle port and follow this procedure.

- (1) Press the "START" button on the bicycle operation panel.
- (2) Pass the registered "key" over the panel.
- (3) When the bicycle is unlocked, remove it from the rack. And away we go!



Cycle Port located in the Ark Hills South Tower in Roppongi 1-Chome

Note that when you use the system for the first time, you must enter the 8-digit pass code issued at the time of registration

#### How to Return

Find the nearest cycle port and follow the procedure.

- (1) Set the bicycle on the rack. Lock it manually and confirm that the lamp on the operation panel has turned green.
- (2) When the "ENTER" key on the panel is pressed, you will receive the return confirmation mail on your mobile phone.



Key for unlocking the bicycle; In addition to public transportation IC cards such as Suica and PASMO, mobile wallet and dedicated IC card are available.

### Where can I find a cycle port?

The marks in the map on the right show the cycle ports.

The Experiment is being extended across Four of the Tokyo Wards!

In February this year, an intra-cooperation service with the neighboring three cities (Chiyoda City, Chuo City and Koto City) was begun, thus expanding the reach to four cities.

Moreover, in October this year, it has been planned that Shinjuku City is also planned to take part in this project, making it even more convenient for users. For more details, access <http://docomo-cycle.jp/tokyo-project/> or read the booklet provided at each branch of the Minato City Office.



#### Background for this Project

- There are at present 44 cycle ports in Minato City with 710 bicycles already provided for rental. With usage steadily growing, a total of 1,710 bicycles will be provided within this fiscal year.
- The aim is to increase the number of cycle ports to 170 ports within this year. This means that there will be a port available within a 333m radius. We are still looking for sites to establish new cycle ports. If you want to establish one close to your house, contact the Minato City Bike Sharing Office: Tel: 0120-116-819 or Community Transportation Subsection in the Minato City Office: Tel: 03-3578-2212.

### Cycle Port Map around Azabu Area



(As of August 2016)

- There are some popular cycle ports and some that are not so popular. Nine trucks circulating the four cities re-arrange the bicycles in each port and adjust them every day.
- For battery charging or unit breakdown, these circulating trucks will transport them to the depot in Harumi.
- Because GPS and FOMA units have been connected to the back of each bicycle, the location information and battery levels can be centrally managed.
- When a port is full, just use the next closest port to it at return. However, where there is no vacancy, just place the bicycle close to a rack where the electric wave can be sensed and it will be accepted.
- These bicycles are covered by property insurance in case of accident.

### Precautions

- For riding the power-assisted bicycle refer to the following photos. Keep both feet on the ground when starting off because the bicycle accelerates suddenly, which might cause you to become unbalanced.
- After the revision of the Road Traffic Law last year, bicycles were included in traffic regulations and rules. So, before using a rental bicycle, check the rules through <http://docomo-cycle.jp/minato/manner/>.
- When a bicycle is parked in a bicycle parking prohibited area, it will be removed even if the bicycle is for bicycle sharing. Always park the bicycle in an appropriate area.

If you many slopes in the Azabu area put you off bike-riding, how about trying one of these power-assisted bicycle and enjoy city cycling under the blue autumn sky

### Usage Fees (Planned)

In addition to Monthly Membership and One-Time Membership, a One-day Pass is available. Except for the One-day Pass, usage time is calculated in blocks of 30 minutes. For One-Time members, the fee is ¥150 + consumption tax for the first 30 minutes. For Monthly members, the first 30 minutes is free of charge.

Both for One-Time members and Monthly members, the additional fee is ¥100 plus consumption tax for each additional 30 minutes over the initial when 30 minutes.

### Safe Start-up of Power-Assisted Bicycle



1 First up, adjust the height.



2 Next, push the bike off its stand and get on.



3 Make sure everything is clear in front and behind, and start pedaling!



His Excellency Dr. Hans Carl von Werthern  
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Japan

### Federal Republic of Germany

Area: 357,000km<sup>2</sup> (About 97% of the area of Japan)

Population: 81,770,000 (in 2015)

Capital City: Berlin

Head of State: President Joachim Gauck

Legislature: Bicameral System (provided that the authority of the lower house of the German parliament is limited compared to that of the federal parliament)

Reference: Website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
<http://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/area/germany/>



Federal Republic of Germany

Interview Support:  
Embassy of the  
Federal Republic of Germany

Visiting Embassies 36

## From the "World" of Azabu



# GERMANY

## Fascinating Germany with European Economic Base and Mature Life Balance

The Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany is located along the Nanbu-zaka slope at the side of the Arisugawa no Miya Memorial Park. The Ambassador's residence is attached to the Embassy building, surrounded by a deep green garden with a lawn, a pond and large trees. This time, we were given special allowance to conduct our interview with the Ambassador in his residence. Although the diplomatic calendar of the Ambassador was crowded, such as for the Ise-Shima Summit in May, we were privileged to take a walk in the large garden where Prime Minister Merkel also took a long walk when she came to Japan. We had a great opportunity to come into contact with German culture.

### Principle of German-Style Life Balance

*Life includes all sorts of things like work, holidays and family etc., so Work and Life should not conflict with each other. If your work is good, you should be willing to do it, and it will be a meaningful part of your life.*

### We reflected on the points in our societies and cultures that we have in common, and those that are different.

The overseas postings of His Excellency Dr. Hans Carl von Werthern, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Japan (hereinafter called "Ambassador"), started in 1987 in Hanoi in Vietnam. He was then transferred to many countries including Belgium, Paraguay, England, and Beijing in China. He has served as the Ambassador to Japan since 2014.

He came to Japan for the first time in 1989 while serving in Hanoi. When we asked him about his impression of Japan compared to that time, he answered "Although there have been many changes such as in urban development, etc., the fundamental spiritual climate of Japan, the image of Japan, that is, a polite and kind country, has not changed as far as I can see. When I came here for the first time, I was young and fresh diplomat, but I returned later as an Ambassador. I myself have experienced great personal and professional developments. However, Japan hasn't really changed. This is one of the most fascinating points of Japan". Moreover, the Ambassador commented that the spirit of respecting tradition, and having a serious and sincere attitude, are common to the German national character as well.

For example, both for the popularity and market share of imported vehicles, German vehicles are at the top. In Germany, Japanese vehicles are highly evaluated for their technology and degree of perfection; the approval rate is ranked higher. When considering German key industries, such as machinery manufacturing, electrical engineering, and the pharmaceutical industry, we can see how their national character is reflected, as it is here in Japan.

Speaking of vehicles, the autobahn (highways) that stretches as far as 12,000km, is well known, but how they developed is spectacular. Amazingly, they built the autobahn completely without signals. The road width is 4m. Such highways are built to a high degree of perfection, with a passing lane fully provided. One of the Ambassadors hobbies is cycling. He told us that he realized that the many slopes and hills we have in Minato City and in the Tokyo Metropolitan area are great for cycling. However, having bicycle lanes on the streets should be a very important issue not only in Minato City, but also all over Japan for the future.

What the Ambassador emphasized as a big difference between Japan and Germany was not a

"Work-Life Balance" as is mentioned often, but a "Life Balance". This is because work is part of our life, so work is not separate to life in general. This is best represented in the high number of paid holidays people take in Germany. It serves as a good model for those of us who do not take time off from work here in Japan.



### Topics of Laws on Beer and Pet Tax

The Ambassador enjoys jogging and his life in Tokyo. When we told him that both wine and beer were definitely delicious in Germany, he happily nodded his head. Then, he told us amazing true story about beer.

It is about the history of beer as it relates to "respecting tradition", common to the character of both German and Japanese people. What symbolizes this character is the law on beers "Reinheitsgebot" (Beer Purity Law). The Duke of Bavaria, Wilhelm IV, decided 500 years ago in 1516, that beer's raw materials should be barley, hops and water (later yeast was added). Since then, for German beers, the same manufacturing method has been consistently applied all over Germany for as long as five centuries. Amazingly, this year is the 500th anniversary. A grand ceremony was held in Japan as well as in their home country, Germany.

In his spare time, the Ambassador likes to appear in a Japanese style bar, when he has time. He told us that his favorite snacks for drinks are edamame (boiled green soybeans), sashimi and katsuo no tataki (lightly roasted bonito). He is quite familiar with Japanese food culture.

The Ambassador's talk touched on various everyday things in German society. His topics included the "Pet Tax", which does not exist in Japan.

In Germany, people who keep a dog need to pay a "Pet Tax". The Ambassador told us "Most of the people in Germany think that it is natural for them to pay this tax". This is part of their idea of "Life Balance", and this tax has also been introduced in Austria, Holland, Finland and Switzerland as well as in Germany. They say that the number of dogs kept by about 80 million people, is about 5 million. This tax is a kind of municipal tax. The tax rate varies depending on the city, town or village. The tax amount for a dog is about 100 euros per year. This type of tax is a "general duty", not a special-purpose tax, one that is used only for specific purposes. The inhabitant tax is for humans and pet tax is for dogs. As for controlling the population of cats and dogs, which has recently become a problem in Japan, he said that they don't have any culling site in Germany. They

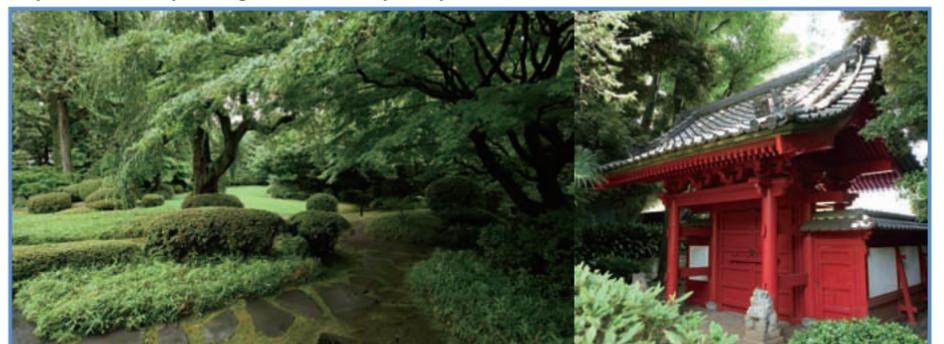
protect dogs, cats, horses, pigs, rabbits and snakes, etc., in more than 500 shelters called "Animal Houses", and look for foster owners for them.

For animals, in his blog titled "Japan as seen by the German Ambassador" he mentioned that he went to Jigokudani Yaen Koen in the snow (Nagano Prefecture) to see snow monkeys with his family. His story covered a broad range of topics. We are looking forward to see the updated blog of the Ambassador, on the German Embassy web site.

● Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany Web Site  
<http://www.japan.diplo.de/Vertretung/japan/ja/Startseite.html>



The Ambassador's residence was built in 1957. The design was performed as the joint project of Germany and Japan's Matsuda Hirata Sekkei Co., Ltd.



● Garden: The living room in the Ambassador's residence can also be used for a party, and guests can easily access the garden. There are carefully kept lawns and woods, and a pond at the side of the building.

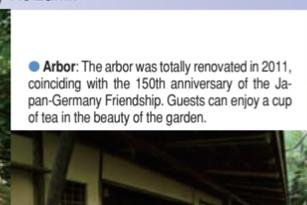
● Samurai Residence Gate: The vermilion-lacquered samurai residence gate reinstated by Koizumi is located on the east side of the garden. On the roof of the gate, small statues of a demon and a lion for protection against bad luck and evil are arranged.

### Visiting Garden in the Embassy Premises

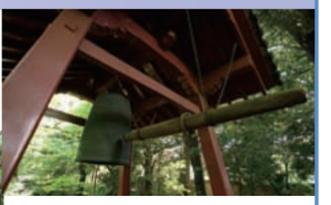
The premises of German Embassy have an area as large as 14,500m<sup>2</sup>. In the Taisho Era, there were Western-style buildings for guests, and a residential Japanese-style building built by the politician Sakutarō Koizumi (1872 ~ 1937). Koizumi was a dedicated collector of antique arts and these works are still scattered around the garden. After the death of Koizumi, Hyogoro Sakurai (1880 ~ 1951), the founder of Nihon Typewriter Co., Ltd., and a member of the House of Representatives lived there. The Embassy building was built in 1956. The garden still has the same atmosphere as when it was first laid out by Koizumi.



● Small Shrine for the God Inari: It is thought that this small shrine was already in place when Koizumi had the garden laid out. It is located at the South rear of the garden. On a fine day, Mt. Fuji was seen from here in those days. Therefore, this shrine was called "Fujimi Inari" (Mt. Fuji viewing Inari Shrine).



● Arbor: The arbor was totally renovated in 2011, coinciding with the 150th anniversary of the Japan-Germany Friendship. Guests can enjoy a cup of tea in the beauty of the garden.



● Bell Tower: Koizumi relocated the bell of a Buddhist temple made in Nara in 1703 to this site. During WWII, it was confiscated in response to the Metal Collection Act. In 1953, Mr. Magokichi Yamaoka, the founder of YANMAR Co., Ltd., donated it. We heard that, in particular, foreign guests sometimes strike the bell even today.

● Reference: "Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany: Buildings and Garden" issued by Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Tokyo

# The Azabu Future Photo Studio

## Nadare-zaka Slope

—A Mysterious and Complicated Slope in Many Ways—

In order to highlight the area around the attractively redeveloped Roppongi 1-Chome, we visited the “Nadare-zaka Slope”, now with its name only in Hiragana (Japanese phonetic syllabary) characters, which is rare in this neighborhood. I am really looking forward to new discoveries.

### The Name of the Slope is also Complicated.

This name “Nazare-zaka” was originally written using various Kanji (Chinese) characters, but the common name for this slope was not fixed. According to the Minato City information sign, this slope had other names, “Kokoku(ji)-zaka” and “Ichibee-zaka”. The present name is “Nadare-zaka” written in Hiragana. The origin of the slope name has not been clearly identified, but there are various theories.

### Complicated Topography

This slope extends to present day Roppongi 3-Chome, the former names of the town were Azabu Imaicho, Azabu Ichibeecho, and Azabu Tansumachi, and goes from the ridgeline of Ichibeecho, down to Roppongi Dori Avenue valley. It is located in a place with very complicated topography. The other name for this slope, “Ichibee-zaka”, is understandable because it would have been taken from the town name. However, I could not find “Kokoku(ji)” temple on old antique maps. There are truly many temples here. “Shin-sen Tokyo Meisho Zukai” (Newly Selected Tokyo Sightseeing Spots Illustration), introduces it this way: “the Soma Family house is a spare residence of Soma Daizen-no-suke and located presently in Imai-cho 40-Banchi. This slope is located in front of the Zengaku-ji temple and Enrin-ji temple. In Japanese, “Nadare” means a slope with a gentle incline. The name of this slope perhaps came from this topography”.

This spare residence of the Soma Family was located in the present day Nadare-zaka Shita, 2-chome, Roppongi, on the other side of Roppongi Dori Ave., as viewed from the slope.

### Even the Residents were Complicated!?

“Soma Daizen-no-suke”, mentioned in this illustration, means the feudal lord of Mutsu Province, Soma Nakamura Han (feudal domain), which is famous for Soma Nomaioi (Wild Horse Chasing). The Soma Family is a prestigious family in the Taira clan, and ruled the present Soma City and Minami-Soma City for 740 years from the period after the Hiraizumi Expedition in the former half of the Kamakura Period to the end of the Boshin War in the late Edo Period. There were only a few feudal lords who managed to reign for such a long time, for example, the Shimazu Family (Kagoshima Prefecture) and the Sagawa Family (Kumamoto Prefecture). This is also quite rare even in world history. I suppose that the way to success must be very hard.

There is an episode in which Soma Daizen-no-suke joined the West squad, looking up to the Hitachi Province Satake Family as their leader, in the Battle of Sekigahara during the Age of Civil Wars, and lost the battle. The Satake Family was deprived of samurai status and their domain, and was forced to relocate. At that time, Daizen-no-suke brought a case requesting the reversal of this judgment against the Shogun, Ieyasu Tokugawa, and went as far as to turn down the invitation by the leader, Yoshinobu Satake, and obtained Honryo-ando (recognition and guarantee for inherited estate). This episode helps us understand his inflexible attitude and love for his home province.

### Roppongi Prince Hotel to TV Tokyo New Main Building

As the slope name has come to suggest, “Nadare” (avalanche), even at present, this area is changing drastically

The Roppongi Prince Hotel opened in 1984, and was a symbol of aspiration until the economic bubble burst. The hotel was closed in 2006 after the collapse of the bubble economy. At present, the redevelopment project is making steady progress, and TV Tokyo is planned to come in. The land around the “Nadare-zaka” slope is still complicated in various ways. I believe that there are still many charms hidden in the “Nadare-zaka” slope.



In 1975: “Viewing from the foot of Nadare-zaka slope”



In 2013



In 2016



“Viewing towards the foot of Nadare-zaka slope” in 1975



In 2013

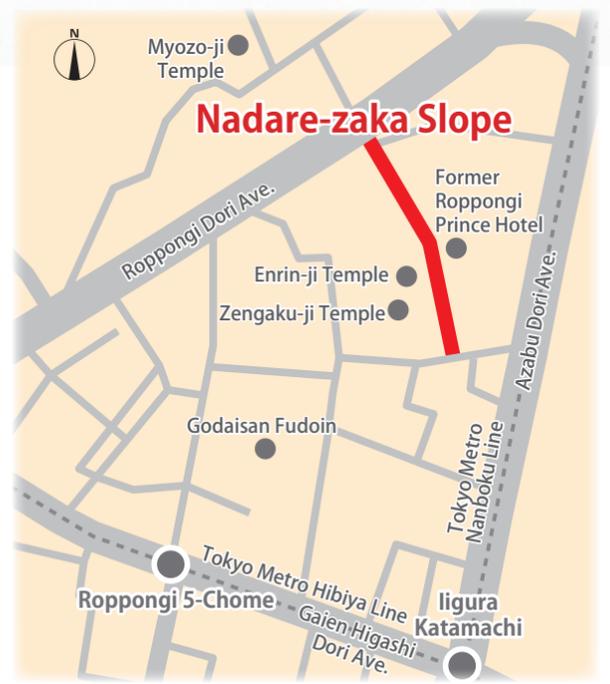


In 2016, it feels more spacious overall. In days of old, the spare house of the Soma Domain could be seen from here.

The picture of Nadare-zaka slope in 1975 was shot by Mr. Masanori Taguchi and provided by Mr. Shigehisa Taguchi.



Ancient Map around Nadare-zaka slope in the Edo Period (Minato City Modern Period History Illustration Book: Azabu and Roppongi)



Around Present Nadare-zaka Slope (Roppongi 3-Chome)

●References●  
Minato City Industry and Tourism Network MINATO “à la carte” (<http://www.minato-ala.net/>)

### About the Azabu Future Photo Studio?

Since 2009, the Azabu Regional City Office has been organizing activities with Azabu Future Photo Studio in an endeavor to capture the changes to the cityscape of Azabu. They’ve been working together with local residents and businesses to collect old photographs of the Azabu region, as well as taking photographs at fixed-point locations.

Through the collection and preservation of things from the Azabu region, these activities are designed to preserve and pass down historical and cultural resources that are familiar to long-time local residents down to future generations, as well as expanding their utilization in the future. At the same time, the project aims to make the history and culture of the town known to even more people, contributing to the deepening of their affection for the town.

**The Azabu Future Photo Studio is looking for old photographs.**

If you have any old photographs of the Azabu region that you feel should be preserved and passed on with a view to the future, please contact the Azabu Regional City Office. For details, please contact the Community Policy Subsection, Collaboration Project Section, Azabu Regional City Office.  
**Inquire: Tel: 03-5114-8812**



Mr. William Vories and Mrs. Makiko Vories had happy lives full of love (Collection of Public Interest Incorporated Foundation OMI Brotherhood Company)

## Bonds of Friendship between Mrs. Asako Hirooka and Mr. William Merrell Vories & Mrs. Makiko Vories

A magnificent wedding ceremony was held in the detached residence of the Hirooka Family mansion at 63, Zaimoku-cho, Azabu-ku (Present day Roppongi 6-Chome) on June 3, 1919. The bridegroom was William Merrell Vories and the bride was Makiko Hitotsuyanagi, a noblewoman. Asako Hirooka, the God Mother of the Hirooka Family, was not present. However, Asako supported the marriage when she was alive, but this was certainly not without many difficulties. This story describes the love and bonds of Asako in her later years with young Vories and Makiko.



Asako Hirooka, passionately opened up a new path of life (Photo provided by Japan Women's University)

### Three Characters

Asako Hirooka (1849 ~ 1919), a model for the NHK Morning Drama Serial "Asa ga Kita", was not only a business leader that significantly developed her family business (the family Asako married into), but also contributed greatly to the establishment of Japan Women's University. Although the subject never came up in the drama, it's known she came to believe in Christianity as a way to seek truth, and was baptized when she was over 60 years old. She continued to proselytize the Christian faith throughout her life. Such activities included acceptance as a member of the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) of Japan central committee, and chairperson of YWCA Osaka foundation preparation committee. She wrote articles for "Kirisutokyo Sekai" (Christianity World) magazine under the pen name "Kyu Ten Jikki Sei". She died on January 14, 1919 at 71, counting by the old Japanese system (The Azabu Vol.35).

As for William Merrell Vories (1880 ~ 1964), he is famous for the various beautiful buildings he left behind in many places in Japan. However, precisely speaking, Vories did not come to Japan as an architect. He was a pious Christian and decided to engage in missionary work overseas while studying at the University of Colorado. After graduation, he was sent on a mission by the YMCA (Young Men's Christian Association) and arrived in his new post in what is now called Omi Hachiman City in 1905. He opened a Bible class while he served as an English teacher. Three years later, taking the opportunity to become involved in the construction of Kyoto YMCA Hall, he established a design and supervision office. He then founded the Omi Sales Company and sold construction materials, furniture and general goods. Later, he became acquainted with the founder of the Mentholatum Company, Inc. and started to sell Mentholatum products. After that, he developed the Omi Mission project, which included missionary work, a profitable business and educational operation. Immediately before WWII, he was naturalized as a Japanese citizen, began introducing himself as "Mereru Hitotsuyanagi" and decided to make Japan as his permanent home. The Omi Brotherhood Co., Ltd. group accepted his dying wishes.

Makiko Hitotsuyanagi (1884 ~ 1969) was the younger sister of Keizo, the husband of Kameko, the only daughter of Shingoro and Asako Hirooka. The Hitotsuyanagi Family was the former lords of the domain of Ono. Her father Suenori came up to Tokyo after the Meiji Restoration and studied at Keio Gijuku (present day Keio University), and was named a Viscount under the new status system. However, Makiko stayed with the Hirooka Family, relying on her brother Keizo for support after she graduated from Tokyo Women's Higher Normal School due to her resistance to the male-dominated society in the old family system. When she graduated from Kobe College Music School, she went to the US. Nine years later, in 1918, she had a fateful encounter with Vories. After her marriage, she made great efforts to support the Omi Mission together with Vories, and in particular, contributed to the development of preschool education.

### Intersection of these Three People

The Hirooka Family asked Vories to design many buildings including their private houses in Kansai and Tokyo, and the office buildings of their family business, the Daido Life Insurance Company. They say that Asako had close relations with Vories both in public and in private. How did they meet for the first time? Based on the information from Mr. Tomoyuki Serino of W. M. Vories & Company Architects Ichiryusha, the record of their first encounter appeared both in the OMI Mission activity appeal magazine "The Omi Mustard Seed" and in the missionary's home life magazine "Kohan no Koe", June issue, in 1915. I checked it, and found the record that Asako at 67 years old, visited Omi Hachiman with the participants of a national propagation of Christianity conference and that Vories attended a lecture given by Asako there. Asako's enthusiastic lecture seemed to attract many people and be very impressive. At the time, Vories was 35 years old. I guess that Asako empathized greatly with young Vo-

ries who believed in the same religion as Asako and was opening a path in unknown place. In addition, Mr. Serino surmised that the Vories' unique business method would attract the attention of Asako, as a business leader. Vories obtained human resources, merchandise and information through the YMCA world network and acquired many customers through various relationships with missionaries and Japanese wealthy people. In "The Omi Mustard Seed" February issue in the year of 1919, when Asako passed away, the memorial writings ran to as many as three pages. In the writings, it says that Asako recognized Vories as one of the half-dozen of her best friends. Vories sent a memorial poem to her (at the lower section of this page).

Meanwhile, because Makiko lost her mother when she was 10 years old, she adored Asako as if she were her own mother. It would be through Asako's connections, that after Makiko graduated from Kobe College she was able to temporarily teach English and piano as assistant housemaster of the Banko-ryo dormitory at Japan Women's University. In addition, she decided to go to the US, perhaps inspired by Asako's strong can-do spirit. Then, she participated in the meeting for the construction of the Hirooka Family house in Kansai, as an interpreter, where she met Vories for the first time. Coincidentally, this meeting was held in the detached residence of the Hirooka Family's mansion in Azabu Zaimoku-cho mentioned above. She also attended the dinner party held that night, with Mr. Roland Morris, the United States Ambassador to Japan. Vories immediately fell in love with Makiko and she accepted his proposal for marriage. However, marriage of nobility to any foreigner was unprecedented. Mr. Keizo and Mrs. Kameko Hitotsuyanagi were at first strongly opposed to the marriage, because they thought it was absolutely unthinkable. At the time, only Asako respected their decision, and made Keizo promise not only to accept the marriage, but also to hold a proud and magnificent international wedding ceremony. Makiko decided to abandon her title and marry Vories.

### Happy Wedding Day

In this way, the wedding day arrived on June 3, 1919. 250 guests were present at the wedding ceremony in the Chapel (as it is today) of Meiji Gakuin University, which was designed by Vories. The wedding party was held in the detached residence of the Hirooka Family's mansion in Azabu Zaimoku-cho. Many prominent guests were among the participants, such as Hirooka Family members, Hitotsuyanagi Family members, Mitsui Family members (Asako's parents' house), Yorisada Tokugawa who was involved in the Nanki Gakudo establishment project in Azabu Ilgura together with Vories. The wedding ceremony was very magnificent, just as Asako wished, and articles appeared in many newspapers. In particular, the Yomiuri Fujin Furoku (Yomiuri Newspaper) reported it with the title, "Ideal Marriage" as Asako herself had said. The good relationship between the two couples, Vories and Makiko, and Keizo and Kameko remained strong after the marriage. They went together on an inspection tour of architecture in the US and the Hirooka Family continued to provide economic support for Vories' business projects.

To finish off, I would like to mention that Makiko took part in the translation of a book about Asako. "The Autobiography of Asa-ko Hirooka" is a privately published English book published by Keizo and Kameko, in memory of their mother's life. This book consists of the autobiographical section, "Isshu Isshin" Asako published in 1918, and an additional preface written by E. W. Clement, an educator and journalist, whom Asako knew best, and a poem sent by Vories. The image of Makiko showing appreciation for Asako, and working heartily on the project, forms in my mind. Asako's spirit remains alive, and is still there for people with her forward-looking attitude, generosity, love and encouragement. Both in public and in private, they make a lasting impression on us, even those of us in the present.

### IN MEMORIAM.

Watching beside thine out-grown house of clay,  
I know thou art not overcome of death:  
Thy life was more than that expiring breath  
That left the flesh! Thy Self hath gone away,  
Leaving the night-bound tent, to seek the Day!  
That eager, forward-reaching, prophet-mind  
Cannot have ceased to be, like passing wind;  
That spirit staunch, a snuffed-out candle-ray!

Ah no! e'en while I watch bereft, I feel  
Thy presence near, yea nearer than of old:  
Thou hast not really gone from us afar:  
Still thou wilt share with us our woe and weal,  
Still pray the Father lead us to His Fold;  
Waiting to greet us where the blessed are!

W. M. V.

Madam Hirooka died January 14, 1919

Memorial Poem appeared in "The Autobiography of Asa-ko Hirooka"

### References

- "THE BRIDGE OF LOVE" written by Grace N. Fletcher, supervised and translated by Koen Hiramatsu, published by Suiyosha
- "Hito wo Osorezu Ten wo Aoide: Reissued 'Isshu Isshin'" written by Asako Hirooka, commentary by Reiko Kageyama, published by Shinkyo Shuppansha
- "Journey With Asako" written by Yuko Nakao, Forest Book Editorial Section, Forest Books published by Word of Life Press Ministries
- "The Autobiography of Asa-ko Hirooka" written by Makiko Hitotsubashi (Mrs. Vories), collection of Naruse Memorial Hall, Japan Women's University
- "The Omi Mustard Seed" June issue in 1915 and February issue in 1918, collection of Public Interest Incorporated Foundation OMI Brotherhood Company
- "Kohan no Koe" June issue in 1915, collection of Public Interest Incorporated Foundation OMI Brotherhood Company
- "Japan Women's University Forty Years' History" issued on April 20, 1942 by Japan Women's University
- A reprint of "Asahi Newspaper 79", collection of NIHONTOSHO CENTER
- Online Data Base Yomidasu Rekishikan (Yomiuri Newspaper)
- Data Collection Support
- Mr. Tomoyuki Serino, Manager for Historical Research & Public Relations Section in W. M. Vories & Company Architects Ichiryusha

# 麻布の軌跡

The Phenomena  
of Azabu

Wedding ceremony held in the Chapel of Meiji Gakuin University. Three of Keizo and Kameko's daughters are in the flower girls (Collection of Public Interest Incorporated Foundation OMI Brotherhood Company). The three historical buildings in Meiji Gakuin University, including this chapel (in 2016: at its centennial anniversary), will be open during Tokyo Cultural Assets Week (from Nov. 1 to 3, 2016).  
<http://www.meijigakuin.jp/>



# Cooperation Project between Minato City and Toyo Eiwa Jogakuin

Land/house prices which are the basis of the fixed assets tax, can be inspected from April (in the 23 wards).

Azabu District (Azabu Regional City Office) and the Educational Institute "Toyo Eiwa Jogakuin" reached a basic agreement on August 2 (Tue), 2016 for mutual cooperation to develop projects in cooperation in the field of community promotion and international cultural exchange, etc.

The lecture featuring Mrs. Hanako Muraoka, a graduate from Toyo Eiwa Jogakko (presently Toyo Eiwa Jogakuin), and the model for the NHK Morning Drama Serial "Asa ga Kita", will open in October this year. Commemorating this lecture, the "Hanako Muraoka Memorial Lecture" Opening Project Seminar series are held by Toyo Eiwa Jogakuin.



- Fixed Capacity** 200 persons each time (in order of arrival)
- Seminar Fee** Free of charge
- Venue** Toyo Eiwa Jogakuin Graduate School Room #201 (Roppongi Campus)
- Address** 14-40, Roppongi 5-chome, Minato-ku
- Time Limit for Application** Two Weeks before Each Seminar Series
- Application Method** Send the application to the Center for Continuing Education Yokohama Campus Office by e-mail, fax or double postal card.
- Required Items** Your name, address, telephone No., facsimile No., which seminar you want participate in (two or more seminars available)

\* Please bring with you the reply mail or reply postcard on the seminar day; this will be your ticket. When you send the application by e-mail, please bring something to confirm, such as a picture of the reply mail display screen.

Date and Time		Description
1st Seminar	October 15 (Sat), 2016	"Female Education and Mission School" <Panel Discussion> • Takayo Kano, President of Kwassui Women's University • Yoichiro Murakami, Councilor of Toyo Eiwa Jogakuin, etc.
2nd Seminar	October 29 (Sat), 2016	"Female Students' Daily Life based on the materials collected by the Archives" <Lecture> • Toyo Eiwa Jogakuin Archive
3rd Seminar	November 19 (Sat), 2016	14:00~16:00 (Common to all five seminars) "Understanding the Modern Period in Japan from the Perspectives of Three Women" <Lecture> • Keiko Yonaha, Professor of Tokyo Eiwa University
4th Seminar	January 21 (Sat), 2017	"Women who supported the Modernization of Japan" <Lecture> • Akifumi Ikeda, President of Toyo Eiwa University
5th Seminar	January 28 (Sat), 2017	"Future Society and Christian School" <Panel Discussion> • Eri Muraoka, Writer • Masanobu Fukamachi, President of Toyo Eiwa Jogakuin, etc.

\* Venue is Roppongi Campus for all seminars  
Application and Inquiries: Toyo Eiwa Jogakuin Center of Continuing Education (Yokohama Campus Office)  
Address: 32, Miho-cho, Midori-ku, Yokohama, Kanagawa Pref.  
E-mail: shougaictr@toyoeiwa.ac.jp Tel: 045-922-9707 Fax: 045-922-9701

## Message from the Metropolitan Tax Office

The due date for the payment of fixed assets tax and city-planning tax in the third quarter comes December (within the 23 wards).

Please pay your taxes by December 27, 2016 (Tuesday) at financial institution or convenience store listed on the reverse side of your payment statement. Account transfer is a secure and convenient way of tax payments. The payment by credit card through PC or smartphone is acceptable. For more details, please refer to Tokyo Metropolitan Government Bureau of Taxation website or contact the offices as below.

- Inquiries:**
- <Taxation> Fixed Assets Tax Subsection, Minato Metropolitan Taxation Office  
Tel: 03-5549-3800 (Rep.)
  - <Tax Payment> Tax Collection Management Subsection, Minato Metropolitan Taxation Office Tel: 03-5549-3800 (Rep.)
  - <Bank Transfer> Tax Payment Promotion Section, Tax Collection Division, Bureau of Taxation Tel: 03-3252-0955

### Office Hours during Year-End and New Year Holidays

The services of tax declaration, tax payment and certificates of metropolitan taxes are available until December 28, 2016 (Wednesday) and from January 4, 2017 (Wednesday) at the Metropolitan Taxation Offices, Taxation Branch Offices, Tokyo Metropolitan Tax Operations Center or Automobile Taxation Offices.

If you want to file a tax return or submit an application during holidays, please use the "Declaration Card Box" located at the Metropolitan Taxation Offices or Taxation Branch Offices, etc. between December 29, 2016 (Thursday) to January 3, 2017 (Tuesday).

**Inquiries; Minato Metropolitan Taxation Office Tel: 03-5549-3800 (Rep.)**

## Notification about "Temporary Welfare Benefits" and "Benefits for Basic Pensioners with a Disability or Surviving Families" (Temporary Welfare Benefits to support Pensioners, etc.) in the Fiscal Year of 2016

"Temporary Welfare Benefits" to ease the burden of the rise in the consumption tax rate, and "Benefits for Basic Pensioners with a Disability or Surviving Families" (Temporary Welfare Benefits to support Pensioners, etc.) for supporting low-income pensioners, are to be awarded. To those who are eligible, the application forms were sent on September 26, 2016 (Monday). The application acceptance period is until January 13, 2017 (Friday). If you have not sent us the application, please send it earlier.

### Eligibility and Allowance

	Temporary Welfare Benefits	Benefit for Basic Pensioner with a Disability or the Surviving Family (Temporary Welfare Benefit to support Pensioners, etc.)
<b>Eligibility</b>	Individuals who have Minato City residence certificates as of January 1, 2016, and on whom the ward tax (per capita rate) is not imposed for FY2016, are eligible. * Dependents of persons on whom the ward tax is imposed, or livelihood protection recipients in the social security system, are not eligible.	Out of those who are eligible for Temporary Welfare Benefits in FY2016, individuals who have received the benefits for basic pension with disability or basic survivor's pension in May in FY2016, are eligible. * Recipients of Benefits for Elderly Persons are not eligible.
<b>Allowance</b>	Three Thousand Yen per Eligible Person	Thirty Thousand Yen per Eligible Person

\* For the Benefits for Basic Pensioner with a Disability or the Surviving Family, the applications have been sent based on the data obtained from Japan Pension Service. However the data has not been reflected for part of the pensioners. Therefore, the applications for the Benefits for Basic Pensioner with a Disability or the Surviving Family have not sent to such persons. In the case that you are supposed to be the eligible person and have not received the application, please contact the following office.

**Application Procedure** Fill in the necessary items on the application form and send it together with the required document using the enclosed return envelope. When you come to the office, go to the following temporary reception counter.

- **Shiba Regional City Office (The Minato City Hall Main Office): Until January 13, 2017 (Friday)**  
\* Reception Hours: Weekdays (excluding Saturday, Sunday and Holidays), From 8:30am to 5:00pm (until 7:00pm only on Wednesday)

Be careful not to fall victim to bank transfer scams, having your benefits being taken advantage of, or being fished for your personal information.

**Inquiries: Temporary Welfare Benefit Subsection, Health and Welfare Section, Public Health and Welfare Support Department Tel: 03-3578-2846**

## Notification from Azabu Fire Station

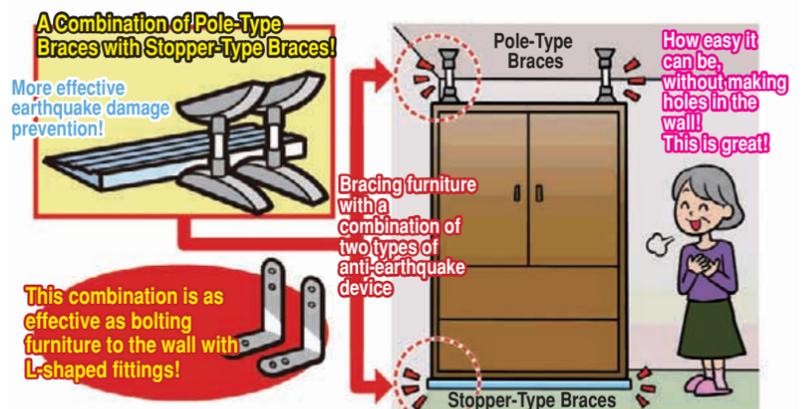
Perform "Kaguten": Taking the opportunity during Year-end Cleaning

This year is ending soon. We guess that there may be many people who have already started their year-end cleaning. Year-end cleaning is a good opportunity to move large furniture that is not usually moved. How about performing "Kaguten", taking the opportunity to do so now.

### What is "Kaguten" (Furniture Overturning Prevention)?

"Kaguten" stands for taking steps to prevent furniture or home electronics etc. from overturning due to an earthquake and preventing injury in these circumstances.

Overturning furniture during an earthquake could pose threats such as injury, obstructions during evacuations or fires. Doing "Kaguten" prevents such things, and is the first step when taking measures to keep you safe. This can be done easily, to prevent damage to yourself and your family, which could be caused by an earthquake. When such damage can be avoided by doing "Kaguten", it should be done. You can perform "cooperative" activities; cooperating and helping each other with your neighbors and others in the community.



Perform "Kaguten" to save precious lives from an earthquake.

**Inquiries: Azabu Fire Station Tel: 03-3470-0119**

# Information from Azabu Regional City Office



An Experience based Sports Event, men and women of all ages, Japanese and Foreigners, can participate in.

## AZABU YURU SPORTS UNITED

Participation Fee: Free of charge

### What is "YURU Sports"?

These games include "hand soap ball" where they play a slippery handball game with soap applied to their hands, "Imomushi (caterpillar) rugby" where they play rugby, but have to move over the ground like caterpillars, and "Kotatsu hockey", where they play an air hockey game using Japanese teacups warming themselves in a Kotatsu (Japanese foot warmer). Everybody, men and women of all ages, those who are good at or not good at sports, can enjoy themselves in a casual manner.

For more information, click "Search" for World YURU Sports Association



### Your participation is warmly welcomed!

The "YURU Sports" we hold this time is an event with the theme of "International Friendship", for as many participants as possible, where experiencing these games together can unite foreigners and Japanese.

In this event, the participants can experience new "YURU Sports" games such as "Sports Games that can be played by parents and children", "Sports Games that can be played while seated on the floor" and a "New Ball Game Team Competition" created by outside applicants. Why don't you experience "YURU Sports" games together with the other participants?



Minato-ku official HP Application Form

### January 15, 2017 (Sunday) 13:30pm to 16:00pm

**Participants** Anyone can participate in the event (including foreigners).  
\* An English translator will be provided.

**How to participate** Come directly to the venue on the day.

#### Precautions

- In case of rain, the event will take place in the gymnasium. Make sure to bring slippers.
- Come to the venue wearing sports clothes or clothes that are easy to move around in.
- For each game, intended ages have been set.
- We shall not be responsible for loss or theft for valuables. Please take care of them yourself.
- If you need help by an English interpreter, please let us know by January 12, 2017 (Thu).

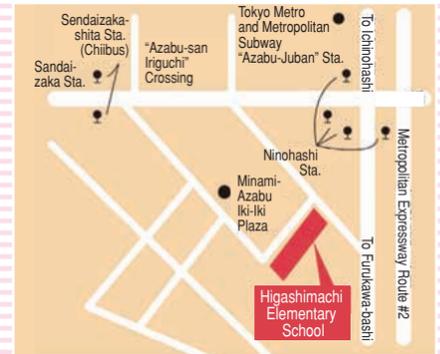
Contact (English available) Minato Call: 03-5472-3710

#### Venue

Higashimachi Elementary School  
(1-8-11, Minami-Azabu, Minato-ku)  
In case of rain, the games will be in the gymnasium.

#### Program Schedule (Planned)

- From 13:30 Opening and Reception Start
- Start of Each Game (Participation available at any time)
- From around 13:45 New Ball Game Team Competition (First Round) Start
- From around 14:45 New Ball Game Team Competition (Second Round) Start
- 16:00 End of All Games and Closing



Inquiries: Community Policy Subsection, Collaboration Project Section, Azabu Regional City Office Tel: 03-5114-8812

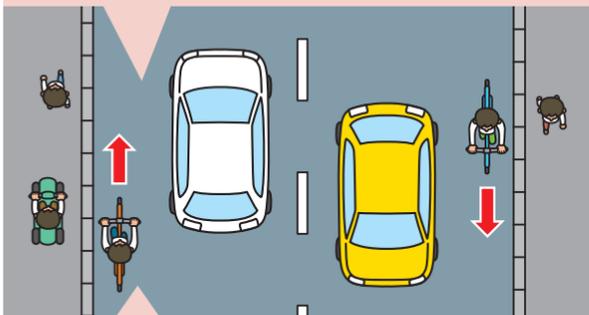
## Five Rules for Safe Bicycle Operation

Stop using smart or mobile phones, and do not carry umbrellas or listen to music while riding! Doing so can cause serious accidents.

### 1 Ride bicycles on the road, not on the sidewalk. Riding on the sidewalk is to be done only in exceptional circumstances.

Exceptional Circumstances:

- Riding a bicycle on sidewalks is allowed when indicated by traffic signs, etc.
- When the driver is 13 years old or less, 70 years old and over, or a disabled.
- When riding on the road is difficult because of roadwork or lines of parked cars.



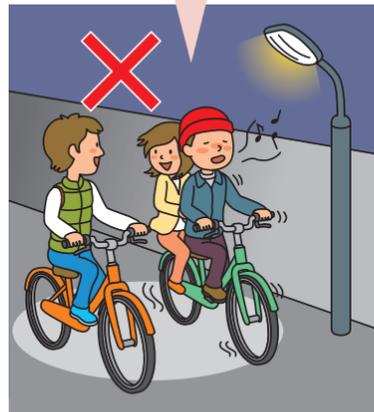
### 2 Use the left lane of the road.



### 3 Sidewalks are pedestrian priority zones. If a driver has to ride on a sidewalk, ride slowly and as close to the road as possible.

### 4 Follow the safety rules.

- Tandem riding and riding side by side are not allowed.
- Drinking alcohol and riding is prohibited.
- Turn on your headlight at night.
- Stop and confirm safety at all crossroads.



### 5 Children should wear a helmet.

When tandem riding with an infant is to be performed, or a child is to ride a bicycle, make them wear a helmet.

Going shopping?  
Visit our local shopping streets.

Please send us your comments or requests regarding

The Azabu



Please send your application with your address, name, occupation (school name), telephone number, and the reason why you are interested (in Japanese or English, format and number of letters have not limit), and deliver directly, mail, or fax to the following: Community Policy Subsection Collaboration Project Section, Azabu Regional City Office, 5-16-45, Roppongi, Minato City, Tokyo (106-8515).

● Tel: 03-5114-8812 ● Fax: 03-3583-3782

We are looking for Editorial Staff

You can also access this newsletter from the Minato City website.



## AZABU

● Locations of the Newsletter: Roppongi 1-chome, Roppongi, Hiroo, Azabujuban and Akabane-bashi subway stations, The Chi Bus, Minato Library, Azabu Library, Minami-azabu Iki-Iki Plaza, Nishi-azabu, Iki-Iki Plaza, Iigura Iki-Iki Plaza, Azabu Civic Center, Azabu Regional City Office, etc.

● Usage of articles, illustrations, and photographs from this newsletter is prohibited.

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- Makoto Sekiguchi

### Editor's Note

We perspired quite a bit in this heat, during interview after the Snoopy Museum closed, and chasing the doctor as he ran about with minute-by-minute changing schedule. Also, while shooting pictures of the garden in the German Embassy premises, and researching the bicycle sharing project. Researching the history of the Nadare-zaka slope and the story of Asako Hirooka and Mr. and Mrs Volles required reading a large number of materials. Each job was very hard, but we were rewarded more than we expected. We, the editorial committee members, all wish to create "The Azabu" with deep affection, now and also into the future.

(Aki Tanaka)

The original article is written in Japanese.

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