

# 伊達

PUBLIC  
RELATIONS  
MAGAZINE

DATE

ENGLISH  
DIGEST

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# DATE CITY NEWS

The following are synopses of the news articles found in the Japanese edition.

Municipal water is safe and refreshing even in summer; apparent cloudiness is a result of temperature differences



National Health Insurance invoices to be sent; please remember to pay on time

Senior medical insurance second-term expense notices to be mailed this month

Please submit notices of pregnancy by your 11th week; medical and financial assistance is available



Atomic bombing memorial exhibit on display at municipal facilities

Dates	Locations
Thursday, August 1st to Friday, August 9th	Date City Health & Welfare Center, 1st Floor Lobby
	Yanagawa Municipal Branch Office, Main Entrance Lobby
Thursday, August 15th to Friday, August 23rd	Ryōzen Central Exchange Hall, Main Entrance Lobby
	Date City Hall, 1st Floor "Silk Hall"
Thursday, August 29th to Friday, September 6th	Tsukidate Municipal Branch Office, 1st Floor "Furusato Fureai Hall"

Times: From 9 AM to 5 PM (However, ends at 4 PM on the last day at each location)

Discount shopping vouchers available for sale to families with children, as well as low-income residents

Coming-of-Age Day ceremonies to be held across city on January 12th, 2020



## Summer Festival Information

Date City's summers are HOT!  
Let's go to the summer festivals!

**Hobara Summer Festival 2019**  
Held Saturday, August 10th from 11:00 AM to 8:45 PM at the *Chin-chin* Train Plaza on Jinya Street in Central Hobara Town

**Date Taiko Festival (the 35th Annual Ryōzen Taiko Festival)**  
Held on August 25th from 9:30 AM to 9 PM at the Hobara Total Park

**Date Hometown Summer Festival**  
Held Sunday, August 11th from 11:45 AM to 9 PM at the Hirosegawa Shinsui Park and Hirose Street (Route 349) in Yanagawa Town

**Roadside Station "Date-no-Sato RYŌZEN" Summer Festival 2019**  
Held on the weekend of August 10th and 11th at the Date-no-Sato RYŌZEN Roadside Station

**Princess Ote Hometown Summer Festival**  
Held Friday, August 16th and starting at the Tonogami Neighborhood Assembly Hall in Central Tsukidate, from 4 to 9 PM

# Mobile Pump Deployment Competition

On June 23rd, I took part in a firefighting skills competition for the first time. I had been a member of a community firefighting team before moving to Date City, but at that time I hadn't heard much about such competitions, other than "Yanagawa is really good." So I was elated when, only six months after joining a community firefighting team in Date City, I was told that not only would the city host a competition, but that I could possibly compete as well. When practices started, I was under the notion that speed was most important, and being confident in my own sprinting ability, I started practicing for the second position, the role that involves the most running. However, I eventually came to realize that making precise and well-timed movements has a greater effect on the score. No matter how hard I tried, though, memorizing the correct movements was taking a long time.

Then one night during practice, while I was tying a line beside the exhaust pipe of a gasoline-powered portable pump, the exhaust gasses exploded and burned my arm. I wasn't able to practice for the rest of the night, and coupled with a separate work-related absence, I found myself falling further and further behind.

I felt certain that I wouldn't make the cut for the competing team, but when the day came to announce the members, I was surprised to hear my own name. I had been selected as the team assistant, whose primary task is to keep the end of the suction hose submerged in a pool of water. When I first



practiced my new role, I mindlessly let air enter the pump, and the flow of water came to an irreversible halt. From that time on, I kept in mind that the team assistant plays a critical role.

Even though my task was simple, I took it seriously and practiced diligently. Eventually the day of the competition arrived. Our Date Town team was scheduled to perform in the latter half of the competition, so I was able to spend the first half watching the other teams perform. Just as I had heard before, the teams from Yanagawa Town were incredible, and left me deeply impressed. When our team finally competed, I performed just as I had practiced, and water flowed uninterrupted throughout our routine.

Unfortunately, our Date Town team did not place or receive any awards. However, through practicing for the competition I have developed confidence in using firefighting equipment, which is much more important than receiving any award. Thanks to the painstaking effort of all those who patiently trained me for this competition, I can now help protect Date City with confidence.

## Date City Official SNS

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Look for our content too!



Shannen Donovan

Anthony Gillan