

PUBLIC RELATIONS MAGAZINE

DATE

伊達

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

From City Hall Annex to a Place Loved by Residents: Nicknames Sought for “Open Space”

One room of the second floor of the Date City Hall Yanagawa Branch Office, formerly used as the Date City Hall Annex, will be renovated into a space for study, reading, working, and social networking. A nickname is being sought to allow residents to feel familiarity with it upon its opening. A commemorative gift will be presented to the submitter of the chosen name.

- **Application Period:** Begins Wednesday, January 6th; must be received by Wednesday, February 17th
- **Application Recipient:** Administrative Management Section of the General Affairs Department (3rd floor of the City Hall’s East Building)

The Concept of an “Open Space”

- ◆ A place where people congregate, making use of the proximity to a train station
- ◆ A study and reading space with a calm and quiet environment
- ◆ A casual place to meet, study, and talk



New Year Present from Date City’s Municipal Library

The library opens for the new year on Tuesday, January 5th. Throughout January, handmade bookmarks will be distributed as presents. Those interested are asked to please inquire at the service counter.

PCR Test Subsidies for Youth Returning Home from Outside the Prefecture

Eligibility: For those who reside outside the prefecture and fall under either ① or ② below

- ① Students of schools at high school level or above
- ② Those born between April 2nd, 2000 and April 1st, 2005

Eligible Return Period: December 26th, 2020 ~ March 31st, 2021 (An eligible trip home is one taken after test results are confirmed)

Application Period: Applications must be received by March 31st, 2021

Social Welfare Loan Program for Single Mothers, Single Fathers, and Widows

In order to improve the well-being of children, as well as the economic independence and lifestyle stability of single-parent households, various loans are offered to support education and school attendance.

Abukyū CycleTrain in Yanagawa Video, Hosted by Date Hometown Ambassador NAGASAWA Yū, Now Available



Period Available: For one year, starting December 28th

Upload Site: Date City Official YouTube Channel

CycleTrain Campaign: Weekdays, 10 AM ~ 2 PM; all day on weekends



Let’s receive vaccinations for measles and rubella

~ Early vaccination prior to entering elementary school encouraged ~

Eligible Recipients

Vaccine Name	Eligible Ages
MR Vaccine Stage 1	From age 1, but before reaching age 2
MR Vaccine Stage 2	Born between April 2nd, 2014 and April 1st, 2015 (vaccination period ends on March 31st, 2021)

Handmade Face Masks

In 2020 we all began to wear face masks often than before, and I suspect that this year will be no different. The novel coronavirus pandemic has changed many things in Japanese society, but one change I've welcomed is that wearing a colored, reusable face mask has become socially acceptable.

Actually, even before our current pandemic, I had already developed the habit of wearing a facemask almost daily, at least through the winter. Though I wore (and threw away) a white, single-use surgical mask daily, I felt that as a daily habit, it was a bit wasteful; the same way one might feel about using a disposable cup every day for their morning caffeine. Then suddenly last year, buying those disposable masks became nearly impossible.

Thankfully, a number of kind people gave me reusable masks, handmade from fabric; and I was even able to buy a few knit masks made within Date City. Yet the masks made for me by my little sister at our family home in America are my favorite. Last year in early spring, I requested that my worried family send me disposable masks,

but by then they had become unavailable in America as well. In their place, my sister put our late grandmother's sewing machine to use with fabric of my favorite navy blue, and skillfully crafted eight face masks that somehow found their way through the postal service to Japan. As one could only expect from her, they are durable creations, strong enough to last for countless years to come. Arguably better for the environment than disposable surgical masks, as well as arguably more attractive, I am wholeheartedly thankful for them.

Every morning, as I put one of those handmade masks to my face and tie up the laces behind my head, I think of my little sister who made them, and the other members of my precious family who are sticking it out in the United States. Everyone, let's protect our loved ones every day by wearing a mask!

