## Fukui City Newsletter

March 25<sup>th</sup> Edition

## Folk Dancing Class

When: Sun. April 15th, 9:50am - 4pm

\*Sign-ups begin at 9:20am

Where: Fukuishi Gymnastics

Target: Persons living in Fukui City

Details: Local dances and fun folk dancing

Fee: 300 yen (insurance fee included)

Items to bring: Indoor shoes, uchiwa (fan), hand towel, lunch, and mat

Phone: 090-4687-1487

# 33<sup>rd</sup> Fukui Cherry Blossom Festival

Opening Ceremony and Cherry Blossom Light-up Ceremony

We will start with a Fukui tradition - manju (buns) giveaway. The front of JR Fukui Station will also

be lit up in cherry blossom colors. Please join us!

Date & Time: March 31st (Saturday)

6pm-7pm

Place: Happiterrace (Happiring)

### Town Tour by Bus

Dates of operation: Every Saturday, Sunday & holiday starting March 31st

\*Will operate every day during the cherry blossom season

Hours of operation: 10am to 6pm, every 10 mins

Route: JR Fukui Station East Exit => Kitanosho Castle Ruins Park => the Foot of Mount

Asuwa Park => Mount Asuwa => Atagozaka => Hamamachi => Katamachi => Courthouse =>

History Museum => Fukui Castle Ruins => Fukui Station East Exit

Fare: ¥200 flat fare

Inquiries & Homepage: Keifuku Bus

0776-54-5171

# Echizen Asakura Itozakura Matsuri (Weeping Cherry Blossom Festival)

At the Ichijodani Asakura Ruins, various events will be



held for both adults and children to enjoy. Starting on April 6<sup>th</sup> (Friday) the weeping cherry trees will be lit up.

Date: April 7<sup>th</sup> (Saturday)

Place: Ichijodani Asakura Ruins

\*In case of rain, the festival will be held at the Ichijo Town Hall (Ichijo Furusato Koryukan)

Inquiries: Asakura Conservation Association

0776-41-2330

### Asuwa River Cherry Blossom Row Light Up

The cherry blossoms along Asuwa River will be beautifully illuminated. This year there will be sections that will be lit up in 3 colors.

Date & Time: March 31st (Saturday) through April 15th (Sunday)

6pm to 9:30pm

Place: Asuwa River, left bank (Kobashi to Shin Akaribashi)

\*On April 14<sup>th</sup> (Saturday) & April 15<sup>th</sup> (Sunday), a special 2-day illumination event will be held at Tsukumobashi

### Asuwa River Bonbori Monogatari (Lantern Storytelling)

Dokurakugin (poetry about life's simple pleasures) written on lanterns by junior high school students will be hung along the Asuwa Riverbank.

Date & Time: March 31st (Saturday) through April 15th (Sunday)

5pm to 9pm

Place: Asuwa River, left bank (Kobashi to Tsukumobashi)

### Mount Asuwa Hanami Bonbori (lanterns lit for cherry blossom viewing)

Enjoy a fantastic night under the cherry blossoms lit by lanterns

Date & Time: March 31st (Saturday) through April 30th (Monday, holiday)

Place: Mount Asuwa

### • Free Seedlings

Date: April 14th (Saturday)

Place: Happiterrace (Happiring)

Details: Rhododendron - 11am, first 250 people

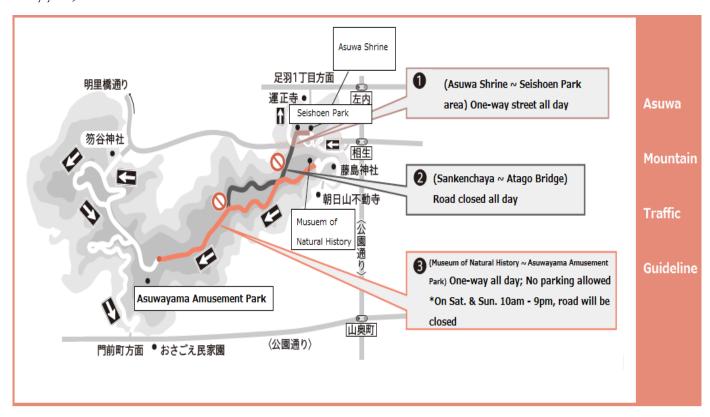
Camellia - 1:30pm, first 250 people

Inquiries: Forestry and Fisheries Department

0776-20-5430

### Asuwa Mountain Traffic Guideline

From Sat. April 7<sup>th</sup> to Sun. April 15<sup>th</sup>, certain roads in Asuwa Mountain will be affected. For inquiries, call 0776-34-0621.



### **Echizen Historical Parade**

Warriors and princesses from the Warring States Period will walk through Fukui Castle. This year, the stunning troop of women is a must-see. Also, keep an eye out for a lively group of Fukui City residents, who are marching in the parade for the first time.

Date & Time: April 14th (Saturday)

1pm to 5pm

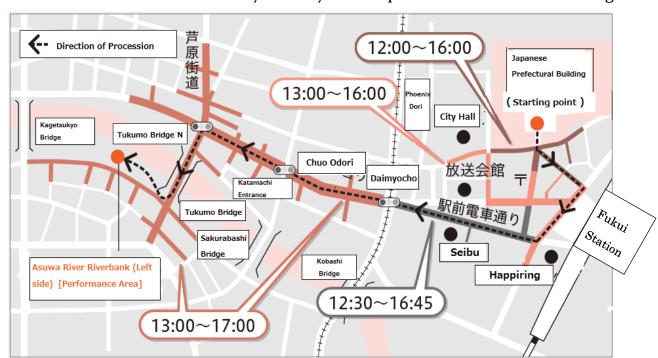
**Route:** Fukui Prefectural Building => Front of Happiring => Train Road (the street adjacent to Fukui Station with tram tracks that run towards Seibu) => Tsukumo Bridge => Asuwa Riverbanks (approx. 1.8km)

**Special Appearances: Kunihiro Shimizu** (Fukui native, volleyball player) as Shibata Katsuie; **Masako Shintani** (Fukui Representative to the 2018 Miss Universe Japan pageant) as Oichinokata.

**Inquiries:** Hospitality and Tourism Department 0776-20-5346



◆ Traffic regulations during the Echizen Historical Parade Traffic will be regulated along the route and the surrounding areas. Since it will be extremely crowded, please use public transportation. Please note that on some routes, the Fukutetsu Tram, Fukutetsu Bus, Keifuku Bus and Community Bus Smile will operate on a different schedule. In addition, the prefectural office premises are closed to the public except for parade officials, staff & participants. We apologize for the inconvenience and thank you for your cooperation and understanding.



# Atagozaka Illumination

Please enjoy springtime in Fukui City. Atagozaka will be lit up with 140 candle lamps

Date & Time: March 31st (Saturday) through April 15th (Sunday)

6:30pm to 9:30pm

Place: Atagozaka (Mount Asuwa, north side)

\*Event may be canceled in case of inclement weather

Inquiries: Cultural Promotion Division

0776-20-5367

### **Events:**

Atagozaka Hanami Rakugo (flower-viewing and comic storytelling)

By the Tachibana Akemi Literature Memorial Museum's exhibit, "Writers and Cats", there will also be performances by cats.

Date & Time: April 8th (Sunday)

Day session: 2pm-3pm Night session: 4pm-5pm

Fee: ¥100

2018 Atagozaka Cherry Blossom Concert with Hatao &

Nami

Date & Time: April 14th (Saturday)

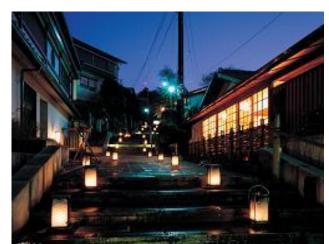
5:30pm to 6:30pm

Target: Middle school students and older

Performances: Irish flute by Hatao

Irish harp by Nami

Fee: ¥500 (includes matcha)



#### General information for both events:

Place: Tachibana Akemi Literature Memorial Museum
Max. No. of Participants: 60 (first come, first served)
\*Tickets are issued an hour before the shows
Inquiries: Tachibana Akemi Literature Memorial Museum
0776-35-1110

Spring Concert at the Fukui City Griffis Museum

Schedule: Piano & Clarinet Performance - April 7th (Saturday), 4pm to 4:45pm

Soprano, Flute & Piano Performance – April 14<sup>th</sup> (Saturday), 4pm to 4:45pm

Place: Fukui City Griffis Museum

Max. No. of Participants: 20 seats (standing room available)

Inquiries: Fukui City Griffis Museum 0776-50-2911

### Night Museum - Astronomical Observation Event

The museum will be open at night during the cherry blossom season. From the rooftop you can see the city lit up by the illuminated cherry blossoms. If the weather is clear, there will also be astronomical observations from the rooftop

observatory.

Date and Time: April 7th (Saturday) & April 8th

(Sunday)

6:30pm to 9pm

Location: Natural History Museum

**Inquiries:** Natural History Museum

0776-35-2844

## Exhibit: Let's Go to the Moon

What difficulties or challenges are faced when traveling to the moon? Let's play Sugoroku-style game and set our sights on the moon.

Date: Until April 9th (Monday)

Holidays: Every Tuesday, every 2nd Wednesday, weekday

after a holiday

Place: Seiren Plant (Happiring, 5th floor)

Entry fee: High school and college students - ¥300

General admission - ¥400

Middle school students and younger, those over 70 years of age, people with disabilities and their

guardians - Free

**Inquiries:** Seiren Planet

0776-43-1622



# Best Viewing of Venus: Astronomical Observation Event

It's the best time of the year to have a look at Venus, as well as the stars that shine brightly in the winter & spring.

Date & Time: April 5th (Thursday)

7pm to 8pm

(In the event of rain, the event will be canceled)

Place: JR Fukui Station West Exit, Dinosaur Area

\*Please go directly to the venue

Inquiries: Seiren Planet 0776-43-1622

### Music Hour at the Dome Theater: The World of Anime

Songs that will remind you of scenes from certain animated films will be played.

Listen and let your imagination run wild.

Date & Time: Every Friday, Saturday & day before a holiday starting April 6<sup>th</sup> (Friday)
5:30pm to 6:15pm

Place: Seiren Planet

\*There is an admission fee to the Dome Theater

Inquiries: Seiren Planet
0776-43-1622



### Yokokan Garden's Spring Tea Ceremony

While viewing Yokokan Garden, why not enjoy some tea and Japanese sweets in the moon viewing room?

**Dates:** Saturdays, Sundays and holidays from April 7<sup>th</sup> (Saturday) through May 13<sup>th</sup> (Sunday)

\*Excludes April 22<sup>nd</sup> (Sunday), May 6<sup>th</sup> (Sunday) & May 12<sup>th</sup> (Saturday).

\*There will be days when matcha and/or sencha will be served.

**Time:** 10am to 4:30pm

\*Tickets for the tea ceremony will be sold until 4pm

Place: Yokokan Garden

Fee: ¥500 (includes a pastry)

\*Admission to the garden is separate

\*On April 15<sup>th</sup> (Sunday) entry to the garden is free.

**Inquiries:** Cultural Promotion Division

0776-20-5367

### Free Early Morning Admission to Yokokan Garden

Why not enjoy a refreshing early morning stroll around the garden?

Date & Time: April 1st (Sunday) through

September 30<sup>th</sup> (Sunday) 6am to 8:45am

Place: Yokokan Garden

\*Only the east gate will be open. The building will be closed off. Only walking through the perimeter of the garden is permitted. An entry fee will be charged starting at 9am.

Inquiries: Cultural Promotion Division

0776-20-5367



## Library Spring Break Events

### • Exciting Books for Spring Reading

We will lend out sets of 2 books recommended and packaged by theme. They will be wrapped like fukubukuro (lucky bags), so please choose your favorite theme.

Date: April 1st (Sunday) through April 30th (Monday, holiday)

Place: Şakuragi Library

Target: 4 year olds to elementary school students

#### Children's Spring Break Movie Screening

Date 4 Time: April 4<sup>th</sup> (Wednesday)

1:30pm to 3pm



Place: Miyama Library

Target: 5 year olds to elementary school students

Details: Walking with Dinosaurs will be shown

#### Let's Make It with Felt

Make a four-leaf clover card and write a year's worth of goals and wishes. Books about the four-leaf clover will be introduced and read.

Date & Time: April 5th (Thursday)

2pm to 3pm

Place: Sakuragi Library

Target: 5 year olds to elementary school students

Max. no. of participants: 20 (first come, first served)

Inquiries

Sakuragi Library 0776-20-1530 Miyama Library 0776-90-1700

## **Spring Sports Classes**

• Invigorating Gymnastics Exercise Classes

Date & Time: Every Tuesday from May 8th through July 10th (10 classes)

10am-11am

Max. no. of. Participants: 200 (chosen by

lottery)

 Genki Up Gymnastics Classes - Increase Your Vigor

**Date & Time:** Every Thursday from May 10<sup>th</sup> through July 19<sup>th</sup> (a total of 10 classes)

7:30pm to 8:30pm

**Max. no. of participants:** 100 (chosen by lottery)



### **General Information:**

**Place:** City Gymnasium

**Target:** Fukui City residents and commuters

Students 18 years and older

**Details:** rhythmic gymnastics using big movements

**Fee:** ¥1500 (includes insurance premium)

**Registration:** Postcards or emails with your basic information and gender must arrive

by April 5<sup>th</sup> (Thursday) the latest.

\*If you registered by email, and you haven't received an email confirmation

after a week, please contact us.

**Inquiries & Registration:** Fukui City Hall

Sports Division

910-8511

Telephone: 0776-20-5355

Email: <a href="mailto:sports@city.fukui.lg.jp">sports@city.fukui.lg.jp</a>

## Target Bird Golf: Cherry Blossom Tournament

There will be individual and pair competitions.

Date & Time: April 15<sup>th</sup> (Sunday)

8am to 3pm

(In case of rain, the tournament will go on as planned. In case of inclement weather, the event will be canceled.)

Place: Fukuishi Sports Park (Yasuda-cho)

Target: Fukui City residents, commuters &

students

Fee: ¥500 (includes insurance and lunch)

Items to bring: Pitching wedge, moving mat (You can also rent them)

**Inquiries:** Fukui City Bird Golf Association

090-2122-5517

### **Mallet Golf Lessons**

**Date & Time:** Every Wednesday from May 9<sup>th</sup> through June 20<sup>th</sup>, June 28<sup>th</sup> (Thursday) [8 lessons]

9:30am to 12pm

Place: Fukuishi Sports Park (Yasuda-cho)

**Target:** Fukui City residents, commuters and students

Max. no. of Participants: 30 (chosen by lottery)

Fee: ¥3000 (includes insurance)

Registration: Postcards with your basic information and

gender, must arrive by April 20<sup>th</sup> (Friday)

Registration and Inquiries: Fukui City Mallet Golf

Association

Masayoshi Shingo 21-43 Nishitani-cho Fukui City, Fukui 918-8022

Tel: 090-5685-9254

## Boys' Festival & Yoroikizome Exhibit

On display will be the armor and helmet worn by Fukui's 11<sup>th</sup> feudal lord, Shigemasa Matsudaira, during *Yoroikizome* (ceremony in which a warrior wears his first armor); arts and crafts related to *Yoroikizome*; etc.

Date & Time: March 24th (Saturday) through May 6th (Sunday)

9am to 7pm (last entry at 6:30)

Holiday: April 16th (Monday)

Place: Fukui City History Museum

Admission fee: ¥210 (Middle school students and younger, those 70 years and older,

those with disabilities and their companions can enter for free)

Inquiries: Fukui City History Museum

0776-21-0489

# Fukui Citizens Spring Orienteering Lesson and Tournament

Date & Time: April 15<sup>th</sup> (Sunday)

10am to 12pm (Reception from 9am-10am)

Place: Fukui Kenko no Mori (Makuri-cho)

Fee: Fukui City Residents ¥200

Non-residents ¥500

(Fee includes insurance; preschoolers

can enter for free)

Registration: By phone



\*Registrations will also be accepted the day of the event

\*The orienteering lesson for beginners will start at 9:30am. Preschoolers must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Inquiries & registration: Fukui City Orienteering Association (Suzuki Wakisaka) 0776-36-2790