

## Bonnie's Corner

Summer in Japan is very hot and humid, and there are many Japanese customs for warding off *natsubate*, or feeling dull and lethargic from the heat. Delicious cool summer foods include *sōmen* (very thin noodles eaten cold), chilled tofu, and chilled seasonal vegetables such as cucumbers and tomatoes. Foods that might not be eaten cool but possess nutritional qualities that help ward off lethargy include summer eggplant and *unagi*, or freshwater eel.

The benefits of unagi were discovered quite coincidentally: There was a calendar day in summer when it was once customary to eat foods beginning with “u,” whether udon noodles, *uri* (melon), or unagi. Unagi restaurants had the most success capitalizing on this tradition since people began to notice that they actually felt better after eating unagi!

Japan also has customs for feeling cooler psychologically. One is hanging up little chimes called *fūrin*, so people can hear the tingling sound and feel cooler. Another was to tell terrifying ghost stories—if the story was scary enough, people figured, you would get a chill and forget the heat!

Perhaps these creative ways of cooling yourself were better for your body, since overuse of air conditioning can dry out your throat and give you sinus problems. Switching back and forth between a very cool inside and a very hot outside environment is also rough on your body. Plus, in addition to health concerns, we have a special need this year in particular to keep use of electricity down due to the low supply situation. We all want to avoid more scheduled blackouts than necessary in midsummer; do your part and keep yourself in health at the same time by using the air conditioner sparingly!

*Bonnie McClure, a native of Georgia, U.S.A., is Yokosuka City's Coordinator for International Relations. Bonnie's Corner in every issue of What's New in Yokosuka features fun information useful for everyday life and cultural encounters in Japan.*



## Event Calendar

JULY		AUGUST		SEPTEMBER	
15	• Lantern Night Market (Uwamachi Main Street 18:30-)	1	• Food Sanitation Campaign (parade and music under the Y Deck 14:00-)	21	• Music for Children (13:30- Yokosuka Arts Theatre)
16	• Floating Lanterns (Mikasa Park 18:30-)		• Kaikoku Wai Wai Hiroba (until the 5 <sup>th</sup> )	28	• Kitashitaura Summer Hometown Festival
	• Yokosuka Umikaze Carnival 2011 (until the 17 <sup>th</sup> )	5	• Anshinkan Disaster Prevention Summer Festival (6 <sup>th</sup> , 12 <sup>th</sup> , 13 <sup>th</sup> )	10	• Kurihama Hana-no-Kuni Flower World Cosmos Festival (until October 31 <sup>st</sup> )
18	• Aicle Fair (10:00-)	6	• Kaikoku Fireworks		* <i>What's New in Yokosuka comes out again on September 10<sup>th</sup>!</i>
	• Animal Aigo Center Open Day (10:00-)	20	• Otsu Suwa Shrine Summer Festival (until the 21 <sup>st</sup> )		* <i>The schedule posted may be subject to change.</i>
20	• International Youth Forum		• Uraga Port Festival		
31	• Yokosuka Kaikoku Festival Kaikoku Dance Dreams				

Yokosuka City, Policy Promotion Department, International Relations Division

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# What's New in Yokosuka

<http://www.city.yokosuka.kanagawa.jp/0140/english/welcome/documents/cultureinfo.pdf>

Inquiries in English: Yokosuka City, International Relations Division 046(822)8138

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## Coming up: the International Youth Forum!



This summer, students from three of Yokosuka's sister cities—Corpus Christi, U.S.A.; Brest, France; and Medway, U.K.—will be visiting Yokosuka! At the International Youth Forum they will be giving exciting presentations about their hometowns, including information on the cities' fair trade activities. Guest lecturer Michael Rivas, famous as MC of the NHK show Little Charo, will provoke thoughts about fair trade and international cooperation. Entry is free to all, and afterwards there will be an exchange party to which all attendees are invited!



**When:** July 20 (Wed) 14:00 - 16:20

**Where:** Yokosuka City Hall 5FL Auditorium (Seicho Hall)

[Yokosuka City International Relations Division 046 (822) 8138]

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Yokosuka Umikaze Carnival 2011 (横須賀うみかぜカーニバル2011)

A fun event for trying out water sports! Free rides on a banana boat, personal watercraft, motorboat, or Super Kids Boat!

**When:** July 16 (Sat) and 17 (Sun) 9:30 - 15:00

**Where:** Umikaze Park **Fee:** Free

[Yokosuka City Port and Harbor Planning Division 046 (822) 9802]



### JGSDF Camp Kurihama Summer Festival (久里浜駐屯地納涼祭)

Come visit a JGSDF base usually closed to the public and see 200 fireworks light up the night sky! Fireworks will begin at 20:15.

**When:** July 20 (Wed) 17:00 - 21:00 **Where:** JGSDF Camp Kurihama **Fee:** Free

[Camp Kurihama Public Affairs Office 046 (841) 3300 Ext. 213]

### Yokosuka Kaikoku Festival (よこすか開国祭)

A classic annual event celebrating Yokosuka's history as the site of Japan's opening to the world, this festival will feature several exciting events!

**Kaikoku Dance Dreams:** A team-dance competition dedicated to the theme "Don't Give Up, Japan!"

**Kaikoku Wai Wai Hiroba:** Stage shows and food and drink booths in Shiyakusho-mae Park! (in front of City Hall)

**Kaikoku Fireworks:** A magnificent show of 4000 fireworks best viewed from the Mikasa Park area.

**When:** Dance Dreams - July 31 (Sun) 14:00 - 19:00;

Wai Wai Hiroba - August 1 (Mon) - 5 (Fri) 17:00 - 20:00; Fireworks - August 6 (Sat) 19:30 - 20:00

**Where:** Shiyakusho-mae Park (Dance Dreams, Wai Wai Hiroba), Mikasa Park area (Fireworks)

[Yokosuka Sightseeing Association 046 (822) 8301]



### Anshinkan Disaster Prevention Summer Festival (ぼうさい夏まつり in あんしんかん)

Come to the Anshinkan to learn about disaster prevention! Try the earthquake simulator; play educational games about disaster prevention with a chance to win prizes; or join an evacuation obstacle course or a treasure hunt searching through rubble for emergency supplies! A fun educational event perfect for outings with family or friends.

When: August 5 (Sat), 6 (Sun), 12 (Sat), and 13 (Sun)  
10:00 - 12:00

Where: Anshinkan

Fee: Free

[Anshinkan 046 (821) 6488]



### Otsu Suwa Jinja Shrine Summer Festival (大津諏訪神社夏季例大祭)

An annual summer shrine festival that features ten mikoshi shrines paraded through the town. The most exciting moment will be at approximately 17:50 on August 20<sup>th</sup>, when the mikoshi will be carried up the steps to the shrine's main hall.

When: August 20 (Sat) and 21 (Sun)

Where: Otsu Suwa Jinja Shrine

Fee: Free

[Otsu Suwa Jinja Shrine 046 (836) 3570]

### 59<sup>th</sup> Uruga Port Festival (第59回浦賀みなと祭)

A classic festival held annually in the historic port town of Uruga. In addition to dances and music traditional to Japanese festivals, there will be carnival booths and a fireworks show at the end of this bustling festival. Join the crowds and experience a quintessential Japanese summer evening celebration!

When: August 20 (Sat) 10:00 - 20:00

Dedication dance	18:15 -	Shinsui Park
Festival music	18:30 -	Uruga Port
Fireworks	19:30 -	20:00

Where: Uruga Port area

Fee: Free

※There is no parking available; please utilize public transportation.

[Uruga Sightseeing Association 046 (841) 4155; or for on-the-day confirmation, 8:00- :  
Yokosuka Call Center 046 (822) 2500]



### Kitashitaura Summer Hometown Festival (北下浦納涼ふるさとまつり)



An annual festival day full of music and dance! Dance performances this year will include tiger dance, Bon dance, and a soran dance by Kitashitaura Elementary School. Musical performances will include band, wind ensemble and Japanese taiko drum performances. There will also be food stalls for a delicious and enjoyable festival day out in the sun!

When: August 28 (Sun) 14:00 - 18:00

Where: Prefectural Miura Shiratori-en

Fee: Free

[Kitashitaura Sightseeing Association 046 (848) 0411]

## Summer Swimming Info! Pools and Beaches

### Park pools opening for summer

• Mabori Kaigan Park Swimming Pool

A huge pool in a park with a sea view, perfect for a summer day!

Open dates: 7/1 - 8/31; 9/3, 9/4, 9/10

Fee: ¥180 / 3 hr for elementary/junior high school students:  
¥450 / 3 hr for adults

• Shonan Takatori 5 Park #2 Swimming Pool

• Ta-no-ura Park Swimming Pool

• Hirasaku Park Swimming Pool

• Negishi Park Swimming Pool

• Uruga Park 7 Swimming Pool

• Kamoi Park Swimming Pool

• Kurihama Park Swimming Pool

• Nagasawa-muraoka Park Swimming Pool

• Tomiura Park Swimming Pool

Open dates (for all pools besides Mabori Kaigan): 7/4 - 9/7

Fee: ¥50 / 1 time for elementary/junior high school students:  
¥150 / 1 time for adults

### Beaches opening for summer

• Nagahama Beach : 7/9 - 8/31

• Sarushima Beach : 7/9 - 8/31

• Hashirimizu Beach : 7/10 - 8/31



## Final Conversion to Digital TV Broadcasting!

July 24<sup>th</sup>, when all TV broadcasts in Japan will complete conversion from analog to digital, is right on our heels! After the 24<sup>th</sup> you will no longer be able to view analog broadcasts. If you haven't gotten your digital conversion done yet, this is your last chance! What you need to do:

If you have been receiving broadcasts with a VHF antenna:

- Install a UHF antenna (requires a digital terrestrial-compatible TV or digital terrestrial tuner);
- Subscribe to cable TV; or
- Subscribe to FLET'S TV (NTT East Japan FLET'S HIKARI)

If you receive broadcasts with a community antenna:

The antenna must be able to receive digital broadcasts. Contact your custodian, condominium association, landlord, building owner, or community leader.

As always, beware of scams and misinformation. Call the numbers below if you have any questions.



• For general questions on digital TV broadcasting reception:

Digital Support Kanagawa 045 (345) 0110  
(Mon-Fri 9:00 - 21:00, Sat/Sun/holidays until 18:00)

• For inquiries regarding cable television:

J-COM Shonan Customer Center 0120 (999) 000 (Every day 9:00 - 21:00)

• For inquiries regarding Flet's TV: NTT East Japan Kanagawa 0120 (116) 116  
(9:00 - 21:00 every day of the year except for Dec 29 - Jan 3)