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Do You Know the Minimum Wage?!



* Minimum wage (system)...The government determines the smallest hourly wage that can be paid (money that a company pays its workers). In this system companies must pay their workers that amount of money or more.



In October a new minimum wage was announced, wasn't it? Tochigi Prefecture's minimum wage is 826 yen per hour..

826 yen? The company I work at in Tochigi Prefecture pays 800 yen per hour.



That's strange. You should try talking with your company.

①

~A few days later~

My company told me that "The head office is located in Fukushima Prefecture, and the minimum wage there is 772 yen, so there is no problem."



That's not true. The amount you should be paid is the minimum wage for the prefecture you actually work in.



I see. In this case, who should I consult with?

②

~Places you can consult regarding labor issues~



【Tochigi Labor Bureau Foreign Worker Consultation Corner】

【Consultation line for foreign workers】

| | |
|----------|---|
| Venue | 1-4 Akebono-cho, Utsunomiya-shi |
| Language | English, Spanish, Portuguese |
| Day/time | Mon, Fri 8:45AM - 12:00PM 1:00PM - 4:30PM |
| TEL | 028-634-9115 |

| Language | Day | Time | TEL |
|------------|-------------|--|-------------|
| English | Mon - Fri | 10:00AM Until 3:00PM (Except from 12:00PM - 1:00PM) | 0570-001701 |
| Chinese | | | 0570-001702 |
| Portuguese | | | 0570-001703 |
| Spanish | Tu, Th, Fri | | 0570-001704 |
| Tagalog | Tu, Wed | | 0570-001705 |
| Vietnamese | Wed, Fri | | 0570-001706 |

③



Thanks for telling me. My company paid me the lacking money.

No problem. I encourage anyone who has a concern with their job to consult about it.



④



The minimum wage differs depending on the type of work. For details please access the QR code in the lower left or do a search on the Internet for "Ministry of Health, Labor, and Welfare specified minimum wage."



⑤



Your life in Japan will be more convenient with a "My Number" card!

Just as with a residence card or passport, a "My Number" card can be used as a form of personal ID.

A "My Number" card can enable you to print out a residency certificate, seal registration certificate, or taxation and income certificate (income certificate) at a convenience store.



In the future it will be able to be used for a variety of services!

The government is considering allowing "My Number" cards to be used for the following purposes in the future.

- As a health insurance card (Planned for the 2020 fiscal year)
- As personal ID at the Tokyo Olympic & Paralympic venues
- As personal ID for Internet banking (Bank transactions using the Internet)

For detailed information on the paperwork, etc., please contact the Citizen's Division ☎ 028-632-5266

Otariyasai Festival

~One of the local festivals in Tochigi Prefecture~

This Futaarayama Shrine festivals is held twice a year, on December 15 and January 15.

Both the December festival and January festival are called "Otariyasai" although the way they are written in kanji is different.

The festival in January involves burning old good luck charms, such as amulets and daruma, etc., and gives one the sense that the New Year holiday is over.

It has been said that if one comes in contact with this smoke, then something good will happen to you, like having good luck, health, or fire prevention, etc., so many people come.



- ▽ Planned schedule
 - 10:00AM - 7:00PM Bonfire (Burn amulets)
 - 4:30PM Shutsugyosai (Leave shrine festival)
 - 5:00PM Otabijyosai (Shimonomiya, Dengakumaihono) (Dancing, etc.)
 - 5:30PM Shinaitogyo (Festival going around city)
 - 7:00PM Kangyosai (Return to shrine festival)

▽ Venue: Utsunomiya Futaarayama Shrine
 (1-1-1 Baba-dori)
 ☎ 028-622-5271

Watch the first sunrise of the new year from Utsunomiya Tower!

🕒 January 1 (Tues/national holiday) 6:00AM - 7:15AM

😊 Watch the first sunrise of the new year from Utsunomiya Tower

Sign up • On a prepaid return postcard, write the event name ("Watch the first sunrise of the new year from Utsunomiya Tower"), the names of all of the people who want to participate, the name of the group representative, and his/her address, phone number, number of people, and notate the name of the representative and his/her address on the return side, and send it in to:
Hachimanyama Koen Kanri Jimukyoku, 5-1-1 Hanawada, Utsunomiya-shi, 320-0027.

• Send in by December 13

• Up to 5 people can sign up on 1 postcard. The same person cannot sign up multiple times.

For People living in Utsunomiya City

Max 80 people by lottery

@ Hachimanyama Koen Utsunomiya Tower Tenbodai

☎ Hachimanyama Koen Kanrijimusho (Administrative Office) 028-624-0642



South Library Christmas Music Event

🕒 Dec. 16 (Sun) 【Part 1】 10:00AM - 12:00PM
【Part 2】 1:30PM - 3:30PM

😊 Christmas songs by piano, cello, and soprano, etc. 🎵

Max First 300 people (No need to sign up)

@ Minami Toshokan (South Library)
Southern Cross Hall

☎ Kankyo Gakushu Center
(Environmental Studies Center)
028-655-6030



Utsunomiya First Market of the Year

🕒 Jan. 11 (Thurs)
10:00AM - 10:00PM

😊 Many booths will line the streets. It is a New Year's event in Utsunomiya where many people buy amulets, such as daruma, bean drums, carp, etc.

@ Kamigawara-dori (1-chome, Odori, Utsunomiya, and other locations)

☎ Tochigi-ken Gaisho Kyodo Kumiai (Tochigi Prefecture Street/Business Collaboration)
028-627-5011



International Exchange Salon 🎵

🕒 Every 4th Saturday 4:00PM - 6:00PM

Dec. 15 Christmas special event
(Only the 3rd Saturday of Dec.)

Jan. 26 Traditional Japanese games

😊 An event at which you can talk with people from various countries 🎵

Cost Free

@ Utsunomiya International Plaza
028-616-1563

New Year Rice Cake Pounding Event

🕒 Jan. 7 (Mon)
11:30AM - 1:00PM

😊 You can try pounding rice cakes. The first 100 people can eat it, and once they run out, then there is no more.

For People who live, work, or go to school in Utsunomiya City

Cost 100 yen (incl. ingredients)

@ Seishonen Katsudo Center (Try Higashi)
(Youth Activity Center) (Try East)

☎ 028-663-3155



Utsunomiya Futaarayama Shrine



I'll tell you about Utsunomiya Futaarayama Shrine where the Otariyasai Festival takes place that was explained on page 2. Come see Japanese culture!



Torii gate as seen from main road



Main building of shrine

The Utsunomiya Futaarayama Shrine has a long history, with its origin being approximately 1,600 years ago, enshrining Toyoki Irihikonomikoto, who created Utsunomiya. Futaarayama is the center of Utsunomiya's history, and most of the festivals in the city are Futaarayama festivals. Even now many citizens visit the shrine for New Year's events, the 7-5-3 kids' celebration, etc.

Address: 1-1-1 Baba-dori, Utsunomiya City

TEL: 028-622-5271

<http://futaarayamajinja.jp/>

Utsunomiya International Plaza (UIP) Services

Consultation for Foreign Residents



| | | Spanish Portuguese | Chinese | Thai | English |
|--|------------------|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| UIP ☎028-616-1564 | 3:00PM - 6:00PM | Mon | Tues | Wed | Fri |
| | | 4 th Sunday of month (appointment needed) | | | |
| City Hall ☎028-632-2834 (during office hours) | 9:00AM - 12:00PM | Thurs | 2 nd Thurs | — | — |
| | 2:00PM - 5:00PM | Thurs | — | 2 nd Thurs | 2 nd Thurs |
| Administrative Scrivener ☎028-616-1564 | 3:00PM - 5:00PM | 3 rd Monday (appointment needed) | | | |

Interpreter Volunteer Service

Go with someone needing language assistance to such places as national and prefectural facilities and the city hall, and interpret for them

▶ Monday – Sunday
8:30AM – 7:00PM

▶ 1 time (2 hours) 2,000 yen

▶ Please fill our application form at UIP, pay the fee, and submit the application.

“Oh-i!” is published in easy Japanese, English, Chinese, Portuguese, Thai, and Vietnamese is also available on the UCIA website. <http://www.ucia.or.jp> There, you can enjoy reading past issues of the “Oh-i!” too.

Clip art on page 1 provided by: Yurika Usui & Natsuki Nemoto