


1min.HISTORY

National Health Insurance

Deadline for the 1st payment, 2012, is July 31st. Please take the payment notice to a nearby bank or a convenience store and pay the premium.

 Every **resident** is required to have health insurance in Japan. If you do not belong to a work- place health insurance program, you should sign up for the National Health Insurance.

- 1.Those who are registered as an alien and are entitled to stay in Japan for one year or longer, *OR*
- 2.Those who are covered by Basic Resident Registration System(→TOPICS page)

 **029-232-9166** kokuhō-nenkin-ka 国保年金課/ National Pension Section

■The Okushi Shell Mound and the Giant “Daidarabo”■

During the Jomon period, which dates from 12,000-2,400 years ago, people gathered shellfishes and caught fishes from the sea, ate them, and threw the shells and bones away which created shell mounds.

Here in Mito as well, there is a shell mound in Okushi (=Okushi Shell Mound). Around this mound is now a historic park and there sits a great statue of a giant called “Daidarabo”. Why is there a statue of a giant?

In the historic record called “Hitachi-no-kuni Fudoki” (721 A.D.) is written the legend of a gigantic man who was said to have existed on the hill of Okushi. The people of this time wondered why there is a shell mound in a place far away from the sea, and guessed that an extraordinarily big man had been stretching his arm all the way to the sea to eat shellfishes and fishes.

【The REAL reason why there is a shell mound in Okushi】



Okushi is currently far away from the sea, but it used to be very close during the Jomon period when temperature was warmer and the sea level was higher !

Mito City International Association
Tuesday-Sunday, 9am-9pm
(Closed : Mondays, National Holidays)

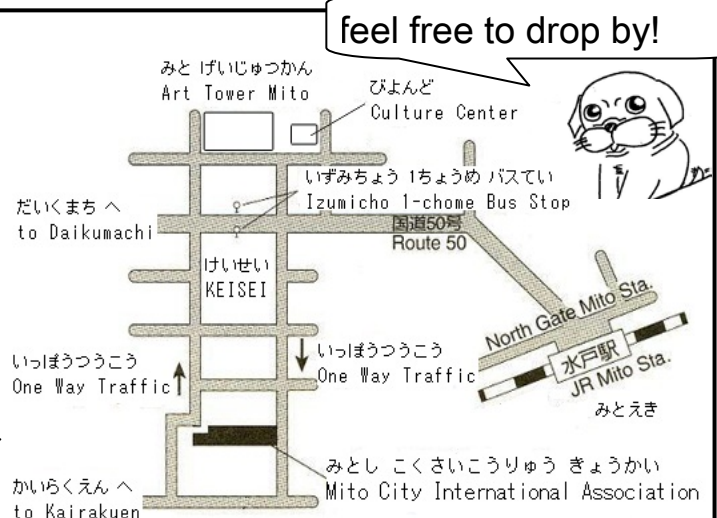
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Please forward us any opinions
or suggestions you may have!



Living Information for Foreign Residents in Mito
 online version
<http://www.mitoic.or.jp/jp/ass/shiryo/cpm.php>



June / July

Culture Pot MITO

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HISTORY

- Okushi Shell Mound and the legend of a giant

▼ Photo: Last year's Mito Komon Festival



“Culture Pot MITO” is a bimonthly newsletter published by the Mito City International Association which aims to share various living information with the city’s foreign residents. In its title, Mito city is likened to a pot stuffed with various cultures which resembles a multicultural city loved by every citizen. We are hoping that this newsletter will be useful in your daily life and that you will feel more attached to Mito City in the near future.