

Thanks for picking up this "Fukushima Dreams - a triannually publication of Fukushima City."

Through this issue, we hope that you will learn more about, and be moved by the various charms that Fukushima city has to offer.

Fukushima is a city of around 280,000 people, surrounded by the beauty of nature. Due to its location, the city has a characteristic basin climate, and is famous as a fruit-producing area, producing many varieties throughout the seasons, including cherries, peaches, Asian pears, grapes, and apples.

We hope that through this edition, you'll come to appreciate even a little what Fukushima City has to offer.



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**① Treasure full of fruits, Fukushima**

"Treasure full of fruits, Fukushima" Here you can enjoy delicious cherries, peaches, grapes, Asian pears, apples etc. during the year. Please come and enjoy picking fruits in local orchards ♡



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**① Fukushima Talent — Interview No. 9**

**Fukushima based, mentally tough racing pilot continues the fight**  
 Yoshihide Muroya, who in May 2015 was appointed "Fukushima City Momorin (Peach and Apple) Ambassador", is an air race pilot and one of only 14 pilots in the world to have taken part in the "Red Bull Air Race" Master Class. He invited the Swiss civilian air acrobatic team "Bright Ring Jet Team" to visit Japan in 2013. He also worked hard for the holding of this years World Air Race Championship in Japan. Muroya, who says he learns things of great importance when viewing the earth from the air, was asked about his fascination with sky sports, and his aims for the future.



**② Air Race Pilot**

**Fukushima City's Momorin Ambassador Yoshihide Muroya**

Born in 1973, he has lived in Fukushima city since 1998. A great admirer of the anime "Mobile Suit Gundam," he obtained his pilot's license in America at the age of twenty. In 1998 he commenced his air show activities. In 2009 he participated for the first time in the "Red Bull Air Race," which claims to be the world's fastest. In 2014 he achieved his first 3rd place prize and has continued his activities not only in Japan but on the world stage. As director of the NPO Fukushima Flight Association, he also works on aviation education, and the promotion of sky sports.

**③ Wants to freely fly the skies**

**Solo flight dream achieved at 19**

Muroya played soccer from elementary to high school, but clung to his dreams of free flying and 360 degree turns. "My dreams came closer to reality after joining the Aviation Club at university". Training constantly, he made his first flight in a glider when he was 19. "For my solo flight, literally I was alone from take-off to touch-down. There was nobody else to rely on, and I couldn't quit along the way. In the world of sky sports, the pressures that are placed on the self control of a pilot are profound. Even if your preparations are in place, bad weather can delay things. For my first solo flight, my feelings of determination and achievement are still fresh in my mind."

**From Fukushima Sky Park base to the skies of the world**

While searching for a base from where he could practice freely, from the sky he saw the runway of "Fukushima Sky Park" stretching among the greenery, and he decided this would be his base. "When I dropped in and asked if it would be OK if I practiced here, all the local people were so nice, and flying up from the metropolitan area the air in the sky above Fukushima prefecture was so clear and the greenery so beautiful - it was a wonderful environment. These were the two deciding factors".

In the year of the Great East Japan Earthquake, Fukushima Sky Park was a base for relief-support helicopters, and Moroya himself staged an airshow for evacuated children and worked hard for the devastated areas. Now, through his worldwide race activities and continuing participation in events in Fukushima, his flight displays give us courage.

④ When times are hard, look up at the sky. Let's make a strong Fukushima!

When I asked Muroya about his fascination with sky sports, he said, "Through free flying you get different viewpoints, feelings and ways of thinking from those of the 3 dimensional world we live in. When you look down at earth with a bird's eye view your values change. I definitely want to give children that experience. That's why I'm also putting a lot of effort into my NPO activities". Aiming for 'The best flying technique in the world', Muroya has struggled extremely hard on his own path, and says, concerning Fukushima after the earthquake disaster, based on his own experience, "By working hard day by day, in 10 years I think we can rebuild Fukushima. Fukushima now is full of possibilities. Fukushima has overcome many difficulties and will continue to do so. By such accumulation 'Fukushima' will be seen to have connotations of 'strength', which will become the Fukushima brand." So everyone, how about watching Muroya sweeping through the skies?



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① Fukushima's Jomon mystery!?

Complete "Jomopia Miyahata" open at last!

Jomopia Miyahata (Miyahata Site Historic Park) is a park built over ruins from the Jomon Period 4500 years ago, and was designated as a National Historic Site in Heisei 15 (2003). In this ruin huge stilt houses and pit dwellings etc. were discovered, and have been restored at their original sites, replicating a 'village' of the time. Also, in the Learning Center opened in August, many artifacts are on display. How about getting the feel of Jomon mystery and romance at Jomopia Miyahata?

Enquiries: Jomopia Miyahata ☎+81-24-573-0015



② The Learning Center

Apart from the Exhibition Room depicting the Jomon lifestyle, there is a lecture hall, and the Jomon Studio for a hands-on Jomon experience. In the spacious entrance a burned pit dwelling is set into the floor. The Exhibition Room has an exhibition on Jomon (four seasons; building techniques; lifestyle and festivals; social interaction) which readily conveys the Jomon lifestyle.

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① Fukushima Sweets Contest 2015 - 7 Prizewinning Creations Decided

Contestants were invited for the 'Fukushima Sweets Contest 2015' using Fukushima peaches. 218 entries were received from all over Japan. The final judging took place on August 22 for the 2 divisions (General/Student and Professional), and 7 winning delicacies were decided, including the Grand Prizewinner. Interested businesses were invited, and the winning creations will be on sale in restaurants and sweet shops etc. in Fukushima City. In November, the winning 'Apple Sweets' delicacies in last year's Sweets Contest will be sold in Fukushima City and environs.



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