

City Office Notices

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August 15, 2019

Topics

- * Auction of foreclosed real estate
- * Torchbearers for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Torch Relay
- * The Peace Declaration
- * Fire safety

Auction of foreclosed real estate

不動産公売のお知らせ(P7)

The City will auction off real estate that has been foreclosed because of not paying taxes.

You can find details of the properties at the Special Delinquency Collection Division (*Tokubetsu Tainō Seiri Ka*) of City Hall, on the City of Hiroshima Website, and on fliers. You can find these fliers in the following places:

- The Special Delinquency Collection Division (see below)
- The Tax Collection Department
- The Municipal Tax Offices
- Your ward's Tax Room (inside your ward office).

WHEN: September 17 (Tues.), 11:00 am onward

Explanation of bidding: 10:30 am onwards

WHERE: Naka-ku Welfare Center (Address: Naka-ku, Ote-machi, 4-chōme 1-1)

INQUIRIES: Special Delinquency Collection Division (*Tokubetsu Tainō Seiri Ka*)

Telephone: 504-2128 Fax: 249-3901

Torchbearers for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Torch Relay

東京 2020 オリンピックの聖火ランナー募集(P7)

Applications are open to run in the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Torch Relay.

WHO: People born before April 1, 2007 who have a connection with any towns and cities in Hiroshima.

WHEN: May 18 (Mon.) & 19 (Tues.) in 2020

WHERE: Various places in Hiroshima Prefecture (details on the relay route have not been confirmed yet.)

HOW TO APPLY: Submit an application to the Hiroshima Prefecture Organizing Committee of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Torch Relay (*Tōkyō 2020 Orimpikku Seika Rirē Hiroshima Ken Jikkō linkai*) postmarked by August 31 (Sat.). For more information, please see the guidelines for applicants.

The guidelines and application form are available in the lobby of City Hall, at your ward office and in other municipal facilities. You can apply online on the Hiroshima Prefecture website. 23 people will be selected (1 person per each of the 23 cities and towns).

INQUIRIES: Hiroshima Prefecture Organizing Committee of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Torch Relay
(*Tōkyō 2020 Orimpikku Seika Rirē Hiroshima Ken Jikkō linkai*)
Telephone: 513-2418 Fax: 224-1977

The Peace Declaration

平和宣言(P3)

During the annual Peace Memorial Ceremony on August 6, the Mayor makes a Peace Declaration to the world. The following is this year's statement by Mayor Matsui:

The Peace Declaration

Around the world today, we see self-centered nationalism in ascendance, tensions heightened by international exclusivity and rivalry, with nuclear disarmament at a standstill. What are we to make of these global phenomena? Having undergone two world wars, our elders pursued an ideal—a world beyond war. They undertook to construct a system of international cooperation. Should we not now recall and, for human survival, strive for that ideal world? I ask this especially of you, the youth who have never known war but will lead the future. For this purpose, I ask you to listen carefully to the *hibakusha* of August 6, 1945.

A woman who was five then has written this poem:

Little sister with a bowl cut / head spraying blood
embraced by Mother / turned raging Asura

A youth of 18 saw this: “They were nearly naked, their clothes burned to tatters, but I couldn’t tell the men from the women. Hair gone, eyeballs popped out, lips and ears ripped off, skin hanging from faces, bodies covered in blood—and so many.” Today he insists, “We must never, ever allow this to happen to any future generation. We are enough.” Appeals like these come from survivors who carry deep scars in body and soul. Are they reaching you?

“A single person is small and weak, but if each of us seeks peace, I’m sure we can stop the forces pushing for war.” This woman was 15 at the time. Can we allow her faith to end up an empty wish?

Turning to the world, we do see that individuals have little power, but we also see many examples of the combined strength of multitudes achieving their goal. Indian independence is one such example. Mahatma Gandhi, who contributed to that independence through personal pain and suffering, left us these words, “Intolerance is itself a form of violence and an obstacle to the growth of a true democratic spirit.” To confront our current circumstances and achieve a peaceful, sustainable world, we must transcend differences of status or opinion and strive together in a spirit of tolerance toward our ideal. To accomplish this, coming generations must never dismiss the atomic bombings and the war as mere events of the past. It is vital that they internalize the progress the *hibakusha* and others have made toward a peaceful world, then drive steadfastly forward.

World leaders must move forward with them, advancing civil society’s ideal. This is why I urge them to visit the atomic-bombed cities, listen to the *hibakusha*, and tour the Peace Memorial Museum and the National Peace Memorial Hall to face what actually happened in the lives of individual victims and their loved ones. I want our current leaders to remember their courageous predecessors: when nuclear superpowers, the US and USSR, were engaged in a tense, escalating nuclear arms race, their leaders manifested reason and turned to dialogue to seek disarmament.

This city, along with the nearly 7,800 member cities of Mayors for Peace, is spreading the Spirit of Hiroshima throughout civil society to create an environment supportive of leaders taking action for

nuclear abolition. We want leaders around the world to pursue negotiations in good faith on nuclear disarmament, as mandated by Article VI of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, and respond to the yearning of civil society for entry into force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), a milestone on the road to a nuclear-weapon-free world.

I call on the government of the only country to experience a nuclear weapon in war to accede to the *hibakusha*'s request that the TPNW be signed and ratified. I urge Japan's leaders to manifest the pacifism of the Japanese Constitution by displaying leadership in taking the next step toward a world free from nuclear weapons. Furthermore, I demand policies that expand the "black rain areas" and improve assistance to the *hibakusha*, whose average age exceeds 82, as well as the many others whose minds, bodies and daily lives are still plagued by suffering due to the harmful effects of radiation.

Today, at this Peace Memorial Ceremony commemorating 74 years since the atomic bombing, we offer our heartfelt consolation to the souls of the atomic bomb victims and, in concert with the city of Nagasaki and kindred spirits around the world, we pledge to make every effort to achieve the total elimination of nuclear weapons and beyond that, a world of genuine, lasting peace.

August 6, 2019
MATSUI Kazumi
Mayor
The City of Hiroshima

INQUIRIES: Peace Promotion Division (*Heiwa Suishin Ka*)

Telephone: 242-7831 Fax: 242-7452

URL: <http://www.city.hiroshima.lg.jp/www/contents/1343890585401/index.html>

Fire safety

住宅用防災機器を贈りませんか(P1)

You must regularly **test** or **replace** your **fire alarm**. Please think again about **fire safety** in your home.

Examples of fire safety

Fire alarms

When a fire has started, **fire alarms** smell the smoke and feel the heat, and warn you with a loud noise. By law, bedrooms and stairwells **must** have fire alarms. However, over time, fire alarms get old and their batteries go flat. **Test** your fire alarms regularly. It is recommended to **replace** them every 10 years.

Fire extinguishers

You can now buy **fire extinguishers** that are made for home use. They are light. They sometimes have no hose. They are easy to use. It is easy to aim them at fires. You do not need to refill or check them, but you must replace them periodically. There are pictures on them to explain what type of fire you can use them for. Also, you can now buy fire extinguishers with colorful designs.

Flame retardant products

Flame retardant products do not catch fire easily, even if they touch matches or lighters. If they touch flames, the part touching will only blacken. Even if they do catch fire, there are chemicals in the product to extinguish the fire, so the flames will not spread easily. Examples of products that can be flame retardant: curtains, carpets, aprons, clothing, bedsheets.

INQUIRIES: Fire Prevention Division (*Yobō Ka*), Fire Services Bureau

Telephone: 546-3476 Fax: 249-1160

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