

Upper right

Strengthening Friendship, Promoting Peace: Courtesy Visit by Mayor of Sunnyvale

Written by Chitose Hirayama for the Mainichi newspaper, September 30th 2017. Translated by Mami Ito.

Sunnyvale Mayor Glenn Hendricks made a courtesy visit to Iizuka on September 29th. This is his first visit to Iizuka, and he will stay until October 1st. Mayor Hendricks spoke at a City Council meeting, saying “as sister cities we have agreed to strengthen our current friendship, promote peace through mutual respect and understanding, and provide mutually beneficial exchanges of information pertaining to city life”. Last year the Sunnyvale Sister City Association started an Adult Exchange Program, and is exploring a business exchange program for the future .

Mayor Hendricks visited Kinki University and the Kyushu Institute of Technology, and met with local IT and business persons at a welcome reception prepared for him.

Sunnyvale is a city in the heart of California's Silicon Valley. Iizuka signed a Friendly Exchange Relations Agreement with Sunnyvale in 2013 and the cities became sister cities last year. The Iizuka Friendship Network has donated 57 *sakura* trees to Sunnyvale. On this trip, Sunnyvale Mayor donated a sofa to Iizuka for the sister city booth in city hall.

Upper left

Our relationship continues to grow and blossom just like the cherry trees.

Written by Akiko Hirota for the Nishi-Nihon newspaper, September 30th 2017. Translated by Mami Ito.

Sunnyvale Mayor Glenn Hendricks made a speech at Iizuka City Hall on September 29th. He mentioned the cherry trees donated to Sunnyvale by the Iizuka Friendship Network, saying “our relationship has continued to grow and blossom, just like the beautiful cherry trees in our parks” he said.

Sunnyvale is in the center of Silicon Valley and is home to a great number of IT companies. This is the first courtesy visit made by a mayor of Sunnyvale since both cities signed a Friendly Exchange Relations Agreement. After his speech, Iizuka city welcomed Mayor Hendricks with a reception. On the 30th he will visit Iizuka Hospital and take a general tour of the city.

Iizuka City Hall is to will have a booth showcasing pictures of Sunnyvale on the second floor. The city of Sunnyvale donated a sofa to go with it.

Lower right

Sunnyvale Mayor Visits Iizuka

Written for the Yomiuri newspaper, September 30th 2017. Translated by Mami Ito.

Sunnyvale Mayor Glenn Hendricks visited Iizuka on September 29, during which he visited a meeting of Iizuka's City Council to deliver a speech. He said, "as Sister Cities, we have agreed to strengthen our current friendship, promote peace through mutual respect and understanding, and provide mutually beneficial exchanges of information pertaining to city life".

"My daughter Grace participated in the student exchange program and she had a wonderful experience here in your city with her host family".

Iizuka and Sunnyvale signed a Friendly Exchange Relations Agreement in 2013 and became sister cities last year. Mayor Hendricks' visit continues until October 1st.

Lower left

Expected Interaction in Business Fields

Written by Masahiro Kakibana for the Asahi newspaper, September 20th 2017. Translated by Mami Ito.

Mayor Glenn Hendricks of Sunnyvale, Iizuka's sister city, visited Iizuka on September 29th. At that day's City Council meeting Mayor Hendricks said, with translations by Sunnyvale Sister City Association Mark Kato, that he looked forward to both cities strengthening their relationship, and that the Adult Exchange Program's success bodes well for the proposed business exchange program.

In his remarks Mayor Hendricks said "as sister cities, we have agreed to strengthen our current friendship, promote peace through mutual respect and understanding, and provide mutually beneficial exchanges of information pertaining to city life". His daughter participated in last year's Sunnyvale to Iizuka student exchange program and "had a wonderful experience in Iizuka with her host family". She continues studying Japanese even one year later.

Mayor Hendricks, who is still involved with the IT field, continued by saying, "I'm sure [the Adult Exchange Program] will be just as successful as the Student Exchange program". He formally invited Mayor Katamine and Chairperson Seiichi Fujiura to visit Sunnyvale. He hopes the two will have the chance to see in person how Sunnyvale's residents benefit from the sister city relationship.