

3月は学生にとって別れと旅立ちの季節です。県内各地の学校で卒業式が行われ、卒業生は恩師や保護者への感謝と新生活への希望を胸に学び舎に別れを告げ、新たな目標に向けて歩み始めました。

能美市のいしかわ動物園では15日、国の特別天然記念物で、絶滅危惧種の「ニホンライチョウ」の一般公開が始まりました。日本の高山帯に生息しているライチョウは、近年、生息数を急激に減らしており、2009年に白山でおおよそ70年ぶりに確認されたことを契機に、本県ではライチョウの保護増殖に取り組んできています。多くの来園者の方に、ライチョウを見ていただき、自然保護の重要性や、地球環境について興味を持っていただくことを期待しています。

金沢大学が珠洲市で実証実験を行う自動運転車に、今月3日、住民が初めて試乗しました。試乗した住民は、乗り心地の良さや安全性などを確認し、「自動で運転しているとは信じられなかった」といった声も聞かれました。住民の移動には自動車が欠かせませんが、高齢化が進むにつれて自動車の運転に支障がでるケースが多く、買い物や通院などの移動が困難になることが懸念されているので、「住民の足」の候補として、自動運転車に期待したいですね。

14日には、北陸新幹線の金沢開業から5年目に入りました。2015年に開業してから、国内外から多くの方々が石川を訪れるようになり、想定を超える開業効果がありました。石川を訪れた方に、「来てよかった」「また来たい」と思っていただけのように、石川の魅力にさらに磨きをかけていきたいと思います。

今回の新聞記事

- (1) 県内の高校で卒業式 希望と感謝 巣立ちの春  
<https://www.hokkoku.co.jp/subpage/E20190301002.htm>
- (2) ライチョウ15年ぶり公開 いしかわ動物園など全国4カ所  
<https://www.hokkoku.co.jp/subpage/E20190315001.htm>
- (3) 自動運転、住民が体験 金大など開発、珠洲中心街走行  
<https://www.hokkoku.co.jp/subpage/H20190305105.htm>
- (4) 北陸新幹線の金沢開業から5年目  
<https://www.hokkoku.co.jp/subpage/H20190314101.htm>

【参考】北国新聞ホームページ <http://www.hokkoku.co.jp/index.php?genre=ishikawa>



“Ptarmigan” ©いしかわ動物園提供

※次回は4月末にお届けする予定です。

\* The next edition is scheduled to be issued at the end of April.

March is a time when students separate from old friends and start a new journey. Graduation ceremonies were held this month at schools all over Ishikawa Prefecture. Newly graduated students expressed their gratitude to their teachers/parents and said good-bye to their schools. They set off for their new goals with new hopes.

At the Ishikawa Zoo in Nomi, a public exhibition of 'Nohon Raicho (snow grouse)', which are designated as an endangered species as well as a special natural treasure of Japan, started on March 15. The Raicho birds live in the high mountains in Japan, however, their numbers have been drastically decreasing lately. Therefore, the prefectural government has started a project to protect the Raicho bird and to increase their numbers since their existence was confirmed in the Hakusan mountain region in 2009. We expect that many visitors will come to see the Raicho birds and become interested in the importance of nature conservation and global environmental issues.

On March 3, local people in Suzu experienced riding in self-driving cars for the first time, which Kanazawa University has been experimenting with in Suzu. The people who rode in a driverless car checked the comfort and safety of the car. After riding in it, some of them said, 'I cannot believe that the car was driven by itself.' Cars are necessary to move around. However, as people are getting old, driving is getting difficult so that for senior citizens shopping and seeing a doctor becomes a problem. The autonomous cars are expected to solve these problems by becoming alternative 'feet' for those people.

March 14 was the fifth-year anniversary of the opening of the Hokuriku Shinkansen bullet train to Kanazawa. Since the Shinkansen bullet train opened in 2015, many tourists have visited Ishikawa Prefecture. The effect of the new bullet train was far greater than expected. The prefectural government will continuously work harder to make Ishikawa more attractive so that visitors are satisfied and want to come again.

### Recent News

**(1) Graduation ceremonies were held at high schools in Ishikawa Prefecture. Spring is a time for new hope, gratitude, and departure.**

In this month, commencements were held at schools all over the prefecture.

**(2) Raicho snow grouse were on public display at four places in Japan, including the Ishikawa Zoo, for the first time in 15 years.** The Raicho birds, an endangered species, have been on exhibit at the Ishikawa Zoo since March 15.

**(3) Driverless cars, developed by Kanazawa University and others, were ridden by local people in Suzu.**

Local people in Suzu rode the robot cars for the first time. The new cars have been tried on in an experiment in Suzu.

**(4) The fifth anniversary of the opening of the Hokuriku Shinkansen bullet train to Kanazawa. The popularity of it has grown.**

On March 14, the fifth-year anniversary of the opening of the Shinkansen bullet train to Kanazawa was celebrated.

詳しい情報のアクセス先 For more information, please access the following links:

- (1) 公益財団法人石川県国際交流協会 IFIE (Ishikawa Foundation for International Exchange) <http://www.ifie.or.jp/index.php>
- (2) 石川エクスプレス Ishikawa Express (Multilingual Webmagazine) <http://www.ifie.or.jp/express/>
- (3) ほっと石川旅ねっと Hot Ishikawa Tabi-Net (Ishikawa Prefecture Tourism Guide) <http://www.hot-ishikawa.jp/>
- (4) 石川県 Ishikawa Prefectural Government Official Website <http://www.pref.ishikawa.lg.jp/>
- (5) いしかわ同窓会 Ishikawa Alumni Association <http://iaa.ifie.or.jp/ishikawabbs/>
- (6) 石川県公式フェイスブック Ishikawa Prefecture official Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Discover-Ishikawa-Japan-1707686196110375/>
- (7) 石川県公式ツイッター Ishikawa Prefecture official Twitter <https://twitter.com/hot-ishikawa>
- (8) 石川県公式インスタグラム Ishikawa Prefecture official Instagram [https://www.instagram.com/hot-ishikawa\\_official](https://www.instagram.com/hot-ishikawa_official)

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Ishikawa Prefectural Government - International Exchange Division

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