

【A memory of calligraphy ~as writing a signboard of “ageless life support center”】

Hello. This is Omori mayor of Okayama.

Today, Okayama city opened a consulting service “ageless support center” where elderlies get a support to spend a fulfilling and rich life through community activities such as volunteering.

I wrote this center’s signboard, which was quite difficult. I’ve done this seven to eight times before, but they always make me blush because they look poor.

Looking back, I used to go to practice calligraphy for several years when I was a primary school student and also my elective subject at high school was calligraphy. Therefore I feel bond with calligraphy somehow.

However, I didn’t pay attention to calligraphy class at then and devoted myself into making a “ranking table” of sumo with my friend. My teacher caught and made us stand in a hallway, which was the memory I remember most. In my high school at then, only a few students elected calligraphy class and got 4 or 5 on grade (5 is the best) unless in extreme circumstances. Despite of such circumstances, I got 3 for only

this class among all subjects in the school report.

Maybe this became a trauma and the reason I cannot write a signboard well.

Back to “ageless life support center” whose signboard is written by me, this center means not only the playing field for elderly people with eagerness, but also leading to increase healthy life expectancy in the super-aging society. I’m expecting that ageless society in Okayama city gets further development.

The center’s address is 2-4-25, Daiku, Kita-ku Okayama-shi (inside Himawari welfare hall), the phone number is 086-222-8619.

FYI, a friend who made ranking table and made to stand in a hallway with me is now playing an important role as a leading figure in the Okayama agricultural industry.