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information on pages 6-7,

Cover Photo: Akihime Strawberries in various stages of
ripeness.

Back Cover Photo: Candles lit in memory of the victims of
the Great East Japan Earthquake and as a symbol of hope
for Iwaki and Fukushima's reconstruction.

Photo Courtesy of Iwaki City Hometown Public Relations
Division.

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From the Editor

This edition of Iwaki Vision is in memory of those victims of
the Great East Japan Earthquake that occurred five years
ago on the 11th of March 2011. Iwaki not only received
damage from the earthquake and Tsunami like the rest of
Tohoku, but also suffered as a result of the Fukushima
Daiichi Nuclear Disaster. Iwaki has faced many challenges
since then, accepting large numbers of evacuees from the
nuclear disaster, and just like the rest of Fukushima, trying to
overcome the challenges of concerns about food safety and
radiation levels in the city. However over the last five years,
Iwaki has made tremendous efforts to rebuild and revitalize
as well as promote itself as a "bright and energetic city".

Inside this edition we hear from Heidi Bresler, who lived in
Iwaki before the disaster and came back as part of the
Sabogaeri Project to help in the recovery efforts. We also
visited three strawberry gardens in Iwaki to learn more about
Iwaki's thriving agriculture and the Iwaki Performing Arts
Centre Alios, which serves as a major part of Iwaki's cultural
district.

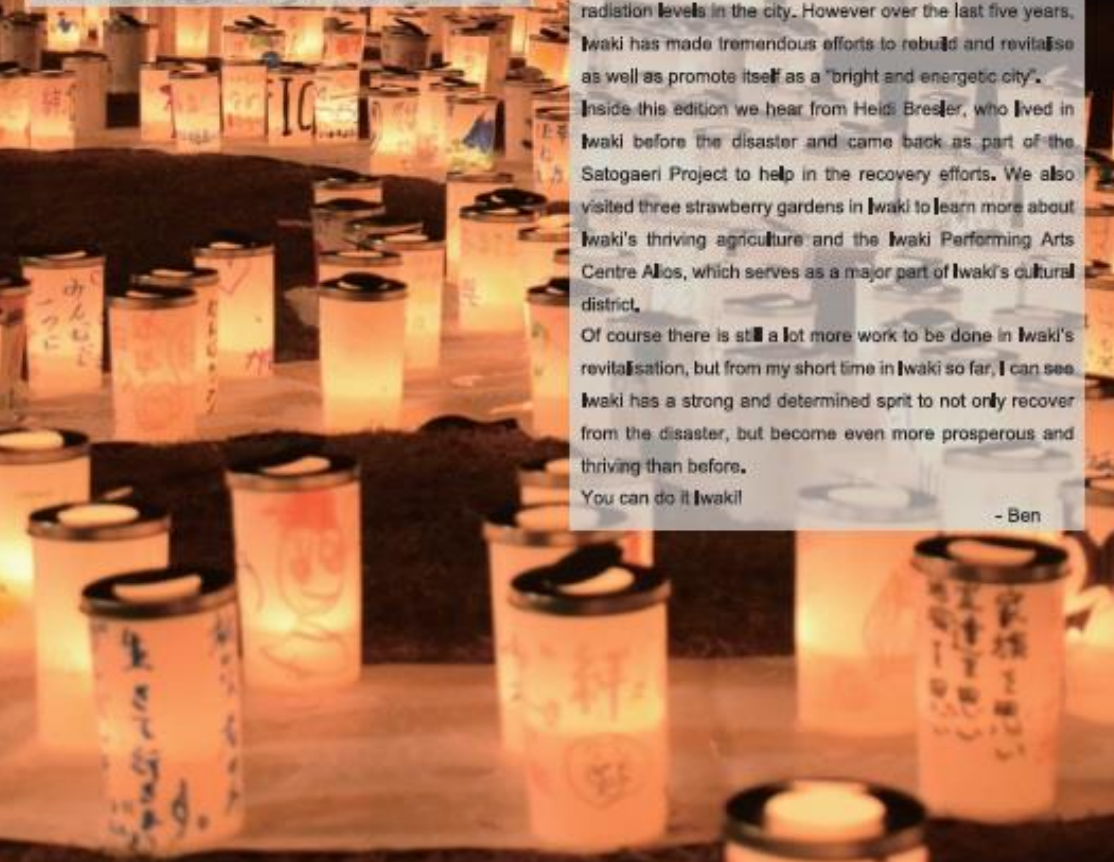
Of course there is still a lot more work to be done in Iwaki's
revitalisation, but from my short time in Iwaki so far, I can see
Iwaki has a strong and determined spirit to not only recover
from the disaster, but become even more prosperous and
thriving than before.

You can do it Iwaki!

- Ben

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