MURORAN TIMES

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News and Topics

New Course in Muroran IT

Muroran Institute of Technology (Muroran IT, president: Dr.Matuoka Ken-ichi) decided to open a new course in its Graduate School in 2010. It is a course to train specialists for producing and maintaining atomic power plants. It will be the very first of its kind in Hokkaido. In an alliance with the Japan Steel Works (JSW) Muroran Plant, which has a leading share internationally in the field of producing parts for atomic power stations, Muroran IT is going to train experts who will be immediately useful in the workforce.

The demand for atomic power plants is rising internationally because the plants generate low carbon energy. JSW has received orders from all over the world starting with China. But accidents in atomic power stations have had a negative influence, resulting in a diminished number of students studying atomic energy in Japan. At its peak in 1994 that number was 2,312, but in 2005 it was down to 734 (70% of the 1994 number). The Japanese Government, which is apprehensive about the shortage of the work force, is making a big effort to train more experts..

The new course in Muroran IT has been temporarily named "Energy Material Engineering Course". In preparation for the official establishment of the course, a pre-school was started on August 18. Participating in the school are six graduate students from Muroran IT and one employee of JSW. At Muroran IT, they will take lectures about why corrosion and breakage take place in an atomic reactor. At JSW, they will make a one-tenth scale model of a pressure vessel of an atomic reactor using the actual 90-hour working process.

It is fortunate that Muroran IT is located close to JSW, which has advanced technology in the field of atomic reactor manufacturing. With this geographic advantage, Muroran IT is hoping that the new course will create a livelier institute. At the same time, JSW wants to build up a system to secure well-trained staff locally. Because of the tremendous merits to both sides, there are great expectations for this project.

室蘭工業大学（松岡健一学長）は、原子力発電施設の製造・保全のスペシャリストを育成する、道内初の専門コースを2010年度に大学院に開設する方針を決めました。

Questionnaire for Neighborhood Associations

The results of questionnaires, which were sent to 172 neighborhood associations in Muroran for the first time, were published. According to the outcome, 48% said that the number of households joining in the associations had decreased. Concerning apprehensions about running the associations, the top was "Shortage of officers"(77.4%), followed by "Low interest for the activities"(49.7%), and "Not enough participants in events and dull activities"(29.7%). The activities that they want to hold the in future are "Disaster Prevention"(the top), "Visiting the aged living alone", "Opening culture or hobby courses" and "Supporting child raising," respectively. Incidentally, the fee for the association is from 0 to 1,600 yen a month, with an average of 432 yen per month.

市内にある１７２の町会を対象に実施したアンケートによると、役員になってくれる人が少ないとの悩みをもつ町会が約80%もありました。

Information and Invitations

Ainu Cultural Festival

[Date] September 6(Sat) 1:00p.m. ~ 4:00p.m.
[Place] Muroran Citizen's Hall
[Contents] A lecture of the *Ainu* culture, performance of the Muccri, (an Ainu musical instrument), and craft goods are exhibited. A Muccri will be handed out to everybody who attends.
[Tickets] Free
[Information] Ainu Culture Promotion & Research Promotion Mechanism
(011-271-4171)

General Opening of the Cape *Chikyu* Lighthouse (free of charge)

[Date] September 7(Sun) 10:00a.m. ~ 3:00p.m.
[More Information] Muroran Maritime Safety Office (Tel: 0143-23-3133)

Kumagai Masaru Photograph Exhibition "Four seasons of birds in *Iburi* Ⅱ"

[Date]September12 (Fri)-15(Mon) 10:00a.m. ~

[Place] NHK Plaza μ

[Information] Mr.Kumagai(Tel: 0143-24-3423)

Science Festival

[Date] September 14(Sun) 10:00a.m. – 4:00p.m.
[Place] Muroran Science Museum
[Entrance Fee] Free ∗Charge for planetarium
[Contents] Making a giant bubble, experiencing minus 200 degrees using liquid nitrogen and etc.
[More Information] Muroran Science Museum
(Tel: 0143-22-1058)

DANPARA Autumn Festival

[Date] September 15(Mon) 9:00a.m. ~3:00p.m.

∗A bus will leave from Etomo park at 7:47 a.m.

[Place] DANPARA Park and the lodge
[Application] on that day
[Contents] Horse riding: 10:00a.m. ~ 3:00p.m. Thoroughbred horse (500yen) Pony (300yen)
Picking mushrooms: Please come to Danpara lodge by 9:30a.m. Limit is first 30 people. Free of charge. Please wear a long sleeves, long trousers, and boots.
Fresh vegetables market: 10:00a.m. ~ It ends as soon as the vegetable are sold out. .
Whole roasting of venison: 10:00a.m. ~ It ends as soon as the meat is eaten.
Park golf rally: 9:30a.m. ~ Limit is first 72 people. Fee is 600 yen. Apply beforehand by telephone until September 14(Mr.Yamanishi 0143-27-0007 or Hakucho Golf Park 0143-27-5266)
Making PET bottle rockets and electric radio control airplanes:
[Conditions] elementary school to junior high school aged students; must be accompanied by guardian.
Making PET bottle rockets: 9:10a.m. ~ 12:00noon (Registration start from 9:00a.m.) Limit is first 70 pairs
Making electric radio control airplanes: 1:30p.m. ~ 3:00p.m (. (Registration is from 10:00a.m. ~12:00noon)

Limit is first 30 pairs∗by lottery if number of applicants exceeds 30
[More Information] DANPARA Park Lodge
(Tel: 0143-43-5600)

Search for new pet owners, free medical examination, and breeding consultation

[Date] September 20(Sat)

∗It may be cancelled in case of rain.

[Place] The plaza in front of the *Washibetsu* public hall in *Noboribetsu* City.
[Registration time] Search for new pet owners: 10:00a.m. ~ 10:20a.m. (if applicants exceed limit, application will be determined by lot) ∗

If you have a puppy or kitten you want to find a home for, please contact the *Iburi* Branch Administrative Office beforehand.
[Time] Medical examination and breeding consultation: 10:00a.m. ~12:00noon
[Information] *Iburi* Branch Administrative

Office (0143-24-9578), City of Muroran (0143-25-2382)

Ikenobo Flower arrangement exhibition

[Date]September26 (Fri)–29(Mon) 10:00a.m. ~
[Place] Marui Department Store
[Information] Mr.Tsukazawa(0143-22-3053)

The 31st *Noboribetsu* Fishing Port Festival

[Date] September 13(Sat) 10:00a.m. ~ 9:00p.m.
14(Sun) 10:00a.m. ~ 4:00p.m.

[Place] *Noboribetsu* fishing port
[Contents] Marine products spot sale, Open market(eating and drinking shop stalls, and planst, etc.), Bingo rally
Fireworks:September 13 9:00p.m.~
Rice cake scattering: September 14 3:40p.m. ~.
[Information] *Noboribetsu* fishing port festival execution committee secretariat :Mr.Honda (Tel:090-6876-1639)

Call for Muroran IT Festival free market tenants

[Date] September 27(Sat),28(Sun) 10:00a.m. open(application will start at 9:00a.m.) ＊It may be cancelled in case of heavy rain.
[Admission Fee] 200 yen per one division(1.5m ×2.5m),one day

[Conditions] Tenants should be the representative of a group or an individual older than high school age.
[Application] E-mail or Postcard (please write on representative's address, name, age, telephone number, number of divisions desired (up to three), and the desired day until September 20.

*First-come-first-served basis

[Information] Muroran IT studio events Free Market in charge: Mr.Yaegashi (Tel: 080-6074-9538
E-mail:flea_saiji@hotmail.co.jp)
<Mail applications to> Muroran IT studio events Free Market in charge 27-1 Mizumoto-cho, Muroran
〒050−8585:室蘭市水元町２７－１
室蘭工業大学スタジオ催事フリマ係

The MURORANPIC (Sports Event for the Citizens of Muroran)

[Date] September 28(Sun)

8:50 a.m. ~ 2:30p.m.＊ Postponed to October 5(Sun) in case of rainy weather.
[Place] Irie Sports Field
[Application] application will start at 8:20a.m. on that day
[Contents] Let's enjoy autumn sports with original games such as "Let's get some vegetables," as well as some familiar sports day games.
[More Information] Muroran City Gymnasium (0143-44-7521)

Would you like to participate in broadcasting station 84.2MHz FM "FM びゅー" ?

"FM びゅー" is a community broadcasting station in Muroran that opened on August 10. Music requests, listener impressions, and announcements will be accepted. Please send a postcard or call, e fax, and E-mail. You can visit at broadcasting station and you can watch live broadcasting, and it is possible to make music requests at that time. You can see the program schedule on the homepage.
[Information] FM びゅー (Tel:0143-84-1662 Fax:0143-84-1663 E-mail:842@fmview.jp HP address:http://www.fmview.jp)
<Mail applications to> FM びゅー 2nd floor 1-32-8 Wanishi-cho, Muroran 〒050−0085:室蘭市輪西町１－３２－８ ２階 FM びゅー

Japanese Cooking 202

Tofu and Wakame Miso Soup

豆腐(とうふ)とわかめの味噌汁(みそしる)

How to make dashi stock

- Ingredients (serve four) -

konbu	10 cm
katsuo-bushi	30 g
water	4 cups
tofu	1/2 pack (150g)
salty wakame	40 g
miso	4 tablespoons

Directions

(1) Wipe both sides of the konbu with a wet cloth.
Place water and konbu into a pan, and leave for about 20 minutes.
(2) Place over high heat, remove konbu just before it comes to the boil.
(3) Add katsuo-bushi immediately, and reduce heat to low for 3 or 4 minutes.
Turn off heat;leave it to settle t the bottom of the pan.
(4) Drain through a sieve.

How to make miso soup

After making the dashi stock, the rest is easy.

Add the other ingredients, dissolve the miso paste and it's ready.

(1) Cut tofu into 1cm cubes.
(2) Soak wakame in water and cut into 3cm square pieces.
(3) Bring dashi stock to he boil, add (1), (2) bring back to the boil then reduce heat to low.
(4) Put miso into a miso sieve, and use a spatula to dissolve the miso into the pan of dashi stock.
(5) The smell of miso will evaporate if it is left on the heat, so turn off the heat before boiling.

About Japan

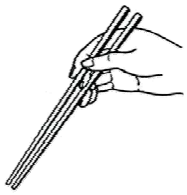
Cuisine in Japan

<What is the proper way to hold chopsticks?>

Many youngsters nowadays are not able to hold chopsticks properly. Perhaps the reason is that they are more accustomed to eating Western food with forks and spoons.

To hold chopsticks properly, start by separating the two chopsticks, then place them horizontally parallel to each other on the index finger and under the thumb. Put the middle of the upper chopstick between the finger pad of the index finger and the nail side of the middle finger. Place the thumb on top of the upper chopstick. Use the finger pad of the middle finger and the nail side of the ring finger to hold the middle of the lower chopstick. Using the principle of leverage, you only move the upper chopstick to pick up food.

It is considered ill-mannered to poke food with chopsticks, to lick the tips of the chopsticks, or to use chopsticks for picking your teeth!



How to hold chopsticks

Cinema Guide

Muroran Gekijo (Higashi-machi)

1. HANCOCK

2.20世紀少年～第1章～ (Japanese)

3.崖の上のポニョ (Japanese)

4.デトロイト・メタル・シティ (Japanese)

About the Muroran Times

The Muroran Times is designed to bring information about local events to the international community of Muroran. Staff: MuroITani Yoichi, Ishizawa Yuko, Yamashita Mayumi, Tagashira Kazui, Nomura Ikuko, Nakamura Mari, English advisor: Jane Takizawa.

We are happy to receive your comments and information!!

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