

MURORAN

TIMES



February 1, 2009 No.232
Muroran City Office 1-2 Saiwai-cho, Muroran,
Hokkaido 051-8511 JAPAN <0143-22-1111>

News and Topics

Rubber Sleigh

A volunteer group, which is involved in providing fun and hope to children through events, made a sleigh course near Danpara Ski Run, in Kagawa-cho, Muroran. The two sleigh courses (100m each) were made in the meadow in summer. This time the group provided fifty rubber sleighs, rubber tubes, with a subsidy from the municipal government. The slope has a guard on both sides and is slightly uphill around the goal to control the speed. The rubber sleigh (1m in diameter) is big enough for even adults to ride on. Three people are stationed for safety.

From February 1st through 15th everybody can enjoy without any charge. The opening hours are from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. So far there have been inquiries from two primary schools in the city. On February 15th the Winter Festival will be held at Danpara Ski Run. A lot of people are expected to enjoy the course. The volunteer group hopes to continue the service next year.



かがわちよう じょうしゅうへん についたち
香川町のだんパラスキー場周辺では、2月1日

から15日^{じゅうごにち}まで、ゴム^{せい}製チューブ「ゴムスレー」でコース^{かつそう}を滑走^{むりょう}することができます(無料)。

Community FM



Half a year has passed since frequency modulation on radio, FM View (84.2 MHz), started in Muroran. A survey of listeners of the broadcast was conducted at some events and the other places in Muroran and Noboribetsu, from September through November last year. 331 people answered the survey. According to it, the broadcast has been turn out to be infiltrated gradually. 36% of the respondents (the most) told that the radio station, which they most listened to between 6:00 am and 7:00 pm, was FM View. A look in detail at the ages of listeners, 46% were between 30 and 40 (the most), followed by 38% between 50 and 60. As for when they listened to the broadcast, “while driving” was the most at 53%, followed by “while doing housework” at 34%.

The CEO of the company, Mr. Yuuya Numata, commented, “We are happy that we have more listeners than we expected. But we have only reached 30% of our goal for commercial contracts, which bring us profit. Therefore we have to look for not only higher quality broadcast but also more sponsors”.

むろらん ^{かいきよく} ^{ちいき}
室蘭で開局した地域コミュニティFMラジオ「FMび
ゆー」(84.2メガヘルツ)に関するアンケートで、
^{やくさんじゅうろく} ^{ひと} ^き
約36%の人が聴いていることがわかりまし
た。

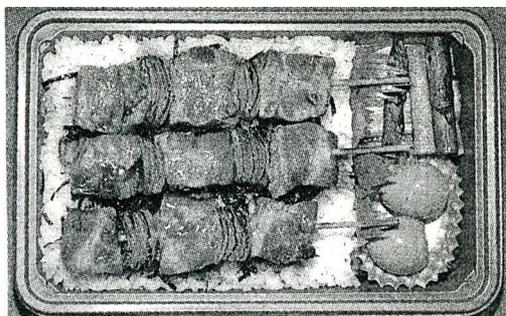
Muroran Yakitori Box Lunch

Hokkaido Kosan Company (president, Mr. Kenji Kameda) in Muroran has put box lunches made of Muroran yakitori (grilled pork) on sale at the convenience store in Higashi-Muroran Station Building from January 5.

The box lunches of Muroran yakitori are popular, as they are sold out soon every time, although only ten are on sale each day and only on weekdays.

The main ingredients for the box lunch such as rice, pork, onion and quail's egg are products

of Hokkaido, Iburi district or Mutoran.
 The box lunch is arranged with a sheet of sea weed on the rice, and three sticks of Mutoran yakitori on it. Special sauce and mustard are put in another container.
 The Mutoran yakitori box lunch is sold for 780yen from 11am at the store.



ひがしむろらんえき なか ほっかいどう
 東室蘭駅の中にある「北海道キヨスクコンビニ
 ひがしむろらんでん むろらん べんとう はんばい
 東室蘭店」で室蘭やきとり弁当を販売していま
 す。平日のみ1日10個の限定で午前11時頃か
 ら販売し、1個780円です。

Information and Invitations

Craft Exhibition by Workmen

[Date] February 4(Wed)~9(Mon) 10:00a.m.~
 [Place] Marui-imai Department Store
 [Information] Mr. Osawa (0143-22-4844)

Shotaro Sakamoto Sculpture Exhibition of Iron

[Date] February 7(Sat)~9(Mon) 10:00a.m.~
 [Place] Marui-imai Department Store
 [Information] Mr. Sakamoto (090-1380-9621)

Let's Enjoy Playing in old times!

[Date] March 14(Sat) 1:30p.m. ~
 [Place] Bokoi Station
 [Admission Fee] Free
 [Contents] Beanbag, marbles, and patch, etc.
 [Information] Mr. Nigishi (0143-23-3801)

"Lifestyle and Culture of a Foreign Country" Lecture



[Date] February 21(Sat) 2:00p.m. ~ 3:00p.m.
 [Place] International Community Center (Old Nakajima Service Center)
 [Admission Fee] Free
 [Contents] Ms. Naoko Naito will speak about her experience in Brazil as a JICA Japanese social young person volunteer
 [Application] by telephone at February 9
 [Information] International Relations at Mutoran City Office (0143-43-9092)

Danpara Winter Mutoran Festival

[Date] February 15(Sun)
 [Place] Danpara Ski Ground
 [Admission Fee] free
 [Contents]



- **Snowboard Lesson** Applications will be accepted at 9:30 on that day.

[Conditions] over the third grade of elementary school
 [Limit] first 50 people
 [Application] by telephone until February 13



- **Ski Lesson** Applications will be accepted at 9:30 on that day.

[Conditions] elementary school children and junior high school children
 [Limit] first 50 people
 [Application] on that day



- **Walking Ski Lesson** Applications will be accepted at 9:30 on that day.

[Conditions] over the third grade of elementary school
 [Course] 3km or 5km
 [Application] on that day

10:00a.m.~ Opening Ceremony,
 10:00a.m.~3:00p.m. Bobsledding by rubber tube
 0:30p.m.~ Large Janken rally: There is no age limitation. Winner will get a present.
 1:30p.m.~ Treasure search of snow mountain :under junior high school student
 [Information] Lodge Danpara (0143-43-5600)

Winter Festival in KARURUSU Hot Spring

Let's go into the hot springs at KARURUSU after enjoying many games

[Date] March 1(Sun)

[Place] Noboribetsu *SANRAIBA* skiing area

[Contents] 10:00a.m.~ looking for oranges in the snow 10:30a.m.~ Parent-and-child bobsled competition (Limit:first 50 pairs, Registration begins from 9:45 a.m.) 2:30p.m.~ Scattering Mochi(rice cake) on the snow,etc.

[More Information] Noboribetsu Sightseeing Association (Tel:0143-84-3311)

Kick Baseball in the Snow

[Date] February 22(Sun) 9:00a.m.~

[Place] *Danpara* park exercise field

[Contents] School children division, a general division (older than a junior high school student)

[Limit] first 20 teams (7~10 persons)

[Participation Fee] 2,000 yen per team

[Application] Please apply directly at Muroran Gymnasium or *Irie* Swimming Pool from February 3 until February 19. Please pay the participation fee and fill out a registration form at that time.

[More Information] Muroran Gymnasium (Tel:0143-44-7521)

Bobsledding by rubber tube in Danpara Ski Ground

[Date] February 1(Sun) ~ 15(Sun) 9:00a.m.(February 1 open at 10:00a.m.) ~ 3:00p.m.

[Place] The specially-installed course in front of Danpara ski area lodge.

[Fee] Free

[More Information] Corporate NPO dream atelier Tom Sawyer club secretariat (Tel:090-8273-7417)

Japanese Cooking 206

Simmered Pork with vegetables

ぶたにく やまい に
豚肉と野菜のうま煮



- Ingredients (serve four) -

Pork loin	400 g
Bamboo shoots	200g
Carrot	100 g
Pumpkin	200 g
Fresh shiitake mushrooms	4
Fresh ginger	20g
Green beans	4
Salt	pinch
Vegetable oil	2 tablespoons

《Sauce》

• broth	500 cc
• sake	100cc
• sugar	3 tablespoons
• mirin	1 tablespoon
• soy sauce	4 tablespoons

Directions

- (1) Peel carrots and pumpkin. Cut pork, bamboo shoots, carrot, and pumpkin into 3cm cubes. Trim mushroom stems and quarter the caps. Slice ginger into fine slivers.
- (2) Parboil green beans in lightly salted water, and cut into 3cm lengths.
- (3) Heat oil in a skillet, and stir-fly pork and ginger. When meat is brown, add carrot, pumpkin, bamboo shoots, and shiitake in order, and sauté well. Add broth and sake, and simmer over medium heat for 20 minutes.
- (4) Add sugar, mirin, and light soy sauce, and cook 15 minutes.
- (5) Add green beans, and remove from heat.

About Japan

Japanese Culture

<When did *kabuki* originate?> Bunraku

Kabuki is believed to have originated around



1603, when a woman attendant from the *Izumo Shrine* named *Okuni* performed a dance called *Nembutsu odori*.

However, in 1629, women were banned from the stage, leaving only men to perform; and by the Genroku period (1688-1704), the current *kabuki* style was perfected.

With the Meiji period came a sudden influx of Western culture, and *kabuki* even attempted to incorporate some of these new influences. However, in the 20th century, the trend focused on preserving *kabuki* as a traditional theatrical form, a trend which continues to this day.

It is a world that preserves conservative traditions, such as actors according to family lineage.

In Tokyo, a permanent *kabuki* theater called the Kabuki-za stages performances throughout the year.

<When did *noh* originate?>

Noh theater is expressed through music and dance. *Noh* is based on the song and dance taken from *sangaku*. *Sangaku* was a form of entertainment introduced from the continent during the Nara period and included acrobatics, magic, and song and dance. This song and dance developed in a uniquely Japanese way, and by the latter half of the Kamakura period, the stylistic features of the *noh* theater were completed.

In 1374 the shogun, Ashikaga Yoshimitsu, watched a *noh* performance and was deeply impressed; after this, the *noh* theater advanced under his patronage. Kan'ami and his son Zeami developed the artistry of the *noh* theatrical form and established its theoretical underpinnings.

Today, there are five schools of *noh* theater: the Kanze, Hosho, Komparu, Kongo and Kita.

<What is the relationship between *noh* and *kyogen*?>

They are like twins. A form of comic imitations, originating from *sangaku* which is also the origin of *noh*, developed over the years into a farcical drama based on comic dialogue

which then became *kyogen*.

On the other hand, it was the more serious song-and-dance dramas known as *utai* and *mai* which became the *noh* theater.

Today, staging of *noh* is usually presented in the order of *noh*, *kyogen* and *noh*.

<When did *bunraku* begin?>

Bunraku is a form of puppet theater unique to Japan in which the puppets are manipulated from behind. They are manipulated in accordance with music and chants known as *yoruri*. One puppet requires the coordination of three people.

This form developed around the Bunroku and Keicho period (1592-1614) at the end of the Azuchi-Momoyama period, and came to flourish in various regions beginning in the Edo period (1600-1868).

Around the end of the 17th century, Takemoto Gidayu perfected the manipulation of the puppets, while a great number of dramas were written which reached a new height of artistry.

Bunraku performances are regularly staged at the National Theater in Tokyo and at the National Bunraku Theater in Osaka.

Cinema Guide

Muroran Gekijo (Higashi-machi)

1. おくりびと (Japanese)

2. 誰も守ってくれない (Japanese)

3. 感染列島 (Japanese)

4. THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON



About the Muroran Times

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