

# MURORAN



# TIMES

June 1, 2009 No.235

Muroran City Office 1-2 Saiwai-cho, Muroran,  
Hokkaido 051-8511 JAPAN <0143-22-1111>

## News and Topics

### Environmental Friendly Subdivision of ships



“Ship Recycling Symposium in Tomakomai” was held on May 9<sup>th</sup> at the Culture Center in Tomakomai. The meeting was promoted by Muroran Ship Recycling Research Group, a society that researches how ships can be dismantled in ways that are friendly to the environment. About 100 people took part in the meeting to talk about the dismantlement of ships from the point of view of not only protecting the environment but also recycling the resources from scrapped ships.

At the beginning of the meeting Mr.Imade Hidenori from the Maritime Bureau of the Ministry of Land Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, gave a lecture. He mentioned that environmental issues and safety problems occurred when ships were scrapped in Bangladesh and other developing countries. He concluded that it is a duty for Japan to establish a new system to enable the smooth dismantling of ships.

During the symposium which followed the lecture, the participants discussed about whether the dismantlement of ships was possible in Muroran or not. They said that iron recollected from scrapped ships (iron with superior quality) could be processed without transport charges in Muroran because there were steel plants already located in the city. In addition, there is not only a PCB (Poly chlorinated Biphenyl) treatment center but also a shipyard in Muroran. They approved of

Muroran as a suitable place for dismantling of ships. They said that by using these facilities, effective and environmentally friendly dismantling could be feasible in Muroran.

At present, a trial experiment of dismantling a ship is planned in Muroran with government sponsorship.

むろらんしな い きぎょう こうせい むろらん  
室蘭市内の企業などで構成する「室蘭シップリサ  
イクル研究会」では、将来、環境に配慮した安全  
な船の解体が室蘭でできるよう研究を進めてい  
ます。

### Shut Down

Muroran Oil refinery is now under full inspection (so-called Shut Down), which takes place every four years. During that period (a month), 55% of all machineries related to refinement and generation in the factory are stopped, one after another, for inspection, repair, and exchange of parts. This time new construction for saving energy is also taking place. In early May inspection started. On the 8<sup>th</sup> of this month the machines will start again one by one. On June 21<sup>st</sup> the factory will start in full scale.

The total cost of the Shut Down this time is 4.6 billion yen. The total work force is 50,000. The economic effect in Muroran, such as accommodations and meals, is estimated at about 2 billion yen.

しんにほんせきゆせいせいむろらんせいゆじょ ぜんきき せつび  
新日本石油精製室蘭製油所では全機器や設備  
の55%を止めて、点検や補修などを行うシャット  
ダウンを実施中です。この作業にかかわる人は  
のべ5まんにん  
延べ5万人です。

### Yokoso!

### Diamond Princess in Muroran



Diamond Princess, the luxury cruise passenger ship arrived at Sakimori wharf, Muroran on May 9<sup>th</sup> with 2,800 passengers including 1,000 crews members on board. The city of Muroran welcomed her 5<sup>th</sup> visit with hospitality. Passengers from abroad enjoyed a day exploring the area and participating in various welcoming events.

The ship went on a voyage from Tianjin, China, and Muroran was the 7<sup>th</sup> port after 9 days of sailing. According to the personnel of Princess Cruise Corp., Muroran is one of the most popular ports of call among the ones in Japan.

Situated close to Shikotsu-Toya National Park, the Ainu Museum in Shiraoi, and accessibility for making a day trip to Sapporo, etc., the port of Muroran has great potential as a gate to Central Hokkaido. In addition, what most attracted the visitors were various welcoming events organized voluntarily by the residents, local merchandisers and companies.

For example, passengers had an easy access for making a city tour by the shuttle bus service. Some passengers enjoyed experiencing Japanese cultural activities such as Ikebana, Origami, and Calligraphy at the Tourist Information Office (former Muroran Train Station), while the others enjoyed shopping and eating real Japanese Sushi and Muroran Yakitori. Each spot was reserved with English speaking volunteers ready to help with communication, as well as volunteers from the Muroran Tourism Guide Association.

This reporter also worked as an English speaking volunteer organized by an NPO. Honestly, I have never seen so many foreign visitors rush to the local bus, then flood the streets of Muroran. Moreover, for the people who were involved with the project, it was a great experience to see the fruitfulness of the interaction between local residents and visitors to the city.

At the end of the day, the ship left the wharf for the next destination receiving a big send-off by Yosakoi dance demonstration. The hand-clapping echoed from both sides, one from the pier and another from the ship for the promise of coming back in September 2009.

(report: *Naito Naoko*)

## Letter from a Passenger of the Diamond Princess.

My wife and I had the good fortune to visit your delightful city on 9 May while on a cruise on the ship, Diamond Princess. We were extremely impressed by the warmth of your welcome and the preparation and organization that went into greeting our ship.

From the drums and the dancers to the "fierce" junior Samurai who performed on the pier, the citizens of Muroran not only received us hospitably; they also demonstrated pride in their city.

After we left the ship to visit your city we were amazed at the effort, organization, and expense that you had gone to in preparation for our arrival. The transportation planning, the excellent printed material, and the charming hostesses who guided us were outstanding. The entire operation was as close to perfection as it is possible to get.

We are now back home in San Antonio, Texas, with many fond memories of our day in Muroran and the exceptional hospitality of its citizens.

With appreciation and admiration,

Jesse Kelsey



## Influenza Countermeasures

A new type influenza is now spreading worldwide and lots of people have been inflected with it in Osaka, Kobe, Tokyo, and Kyoto.

You need not worry excessively because its virulence is not very strong.

However, each one of you has to take care not to be infected with the virus.

All you have to do is to wash your hands and gargle when you get home each day.

The best way of hand-washing is:

- (1) Get your hands wet and get soap foamed enough
- (2) Wash both palm and back of your hands
- (3) Wash the tip and root of your fingers
- (4) Wash the wrists of your hands
- (5) Rinse well with running water and wipe them with a paper towel.

(6) Turn off the water tap with the paper towel.

## Information and Invitations

### Luxury Cruise Passenger boat "Clipper Odyssey" to enter Muroran port

[Date] June 11(Thur) Arrival: 7:00a.m.  
Departure: 5:00p.m.

[Place] Muroran Port Central Wharf passenger ship berth

\*There is no general opening to the public.

[Information] Port Section of Muroran City Office (Tel: 0143-22-3191)

### French Cooking Class



[Date] June 24(Wed) 11:00a.m. ~ 2:30p.m.

[Place] ミンクール (higashi-machi)

[Lecturer] Mr.Raphael Brunet Gantoran;  
*Hokuto Bunka Gakuen* international cooking technology special school international student

[Limit] 25 people \* by lottery if number of applicants exceeds 25

[Admission Fee] 1,000 yen

[Application] by telephone until June 17

[Information] International communication Section of Muroran City Office (Tel: 0143-43-9092)

### Spring Bonsai Exhibition



[Date] June 13(Sat), 14(Sun) 8:00a.m. ~

[Place] Historical Muroran JR Station

[Information] Mr.Terada(Tel:0143-23-3790)

### The First Ballroom Dance Class

[Date] June 27(Sat) 2:00p.m. ~ 4:00p.m

[Place] Youth Training Center (*Miyuki-cho*)

[Limit] First 12 people

[Fee] 500 yen

[Application] By telephone from June 1

[Information] Youth Training Center (0143-47-5824)

### Ikenobo Flower Arrangement Exhibition of Young Part

[Date] June 28(Sun) 10:30a.m. ~

[Place] NHK Plaza  $\mu$

[Information] Ms.Yoshizawa(0143-87-2754)



### The 24th anniversary of the founding of shanshan republic Festival

[Date] June 27(Sat), 28(Sun) 10:00a.m. ~

[Place] *shanshan* Republic shopping district (*Nakajima-cho*)

[Information] Ms.Saitou(Tel:0143-44-2196)

## Japanese Cooking 210

### Shrimp and Asatuki(Leeks) with Mustard-Miso Sauce

えびとあさつき(リーク)のからし酢みそあえ

#### - Ingredients (serve four) -

fresh shrimp 4 (30g each)

salt

asatuki or leek 1 (200g)

#### <Mustard - Miso Sauce>

• white miso 5 tablespoons

• egg yolk 1

• sugar 3 tablespoons

• vinegar 2 tablespoons

• soy sauce 1 tablespoon

• yellow mustard 2 tablespoons

• broth 2 tablespoons

#### Directions

(1) De-vein shrimp and remove heads.

Hold shrimp with underside up and skewer lengthwise, starting from the head end. Parboil shrimp in salted water for 3 minutes.



Soak in cold water, and when cool, remove skewers.

Shell shrimp and cut each into 2 pieces.

- (2) Score a cross on root end of asatuki(leek), and parboil in ample hot water.

Soak in cold water, and cut into 1cm lengths when cool.

- (3)To make mustard –miso sauce, mix white miso and egg yolk well, add seasonings, dashi, and mix.

Strain sauce through a sieve.

- (4)Spread sauce on serving plates, arrange shrimp and leek on top.

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## About Japan



### Education in Japan

#### < When was Japan's current educational system established?>

The original modern educational system was established in 1872 before that, in the Edo period, *terakoya* was the place where ordinary people received an education.

At first the period of compulsory education was four years, and it was stated that everyone had an opportunity to study in the system regardless of one's social standing, sex, and whether one was rich or poor, as long as the students paid tuition and other necessary expenses.

The system developed under the centralized government. And nationally authorized textbooks came to be used in 1903 compulsory education was extended to six years in 1907.

Until the end of world War II in 1945, education policy based on nationalism was emphasized. At the time, male and female students studied in different classrooms.

The new School Education Law was enacted in 1947, by which the current school system was formed. Under this system, six years of elementary school and three years of junior high school were made compulsory. Advanced education, offered but not compulsory, was three years of high school and four years of university.

#### <What are the schools like?>

The following is a list of schools and length of study:

Kindergarten (1 to 3 years)

Elementary school (6 years, from 6 to 12)

Junior high school (3 years, from 13 to 15)

High school (3 years)

Technical college (5 to 5 1/2 years)

Junior college (2 years)

University (4 years)

Graduate school (more than 2 years)

Specialized training school (more than 1 year)

Vocational school (more than 1 year)

Specialized education school

Elementary and junior high schools are compulsory. The technical college is designed to provide technical for industrial purposes, including shipbuilding, for people with junior high school diplomas or higher academic education.

Special training schools teach courses such as cooking, sewing, bookkeeping and architectural design. These consist of the senior course for junior high school graduates and the professional course for people with a high school diploma or higher academic education.

Special education schools provide education for people with physical disabilities.

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## Cinema Guide

### *Muroran Gekijo (Higashi-machi)*

1. Angels & Demons
2. ROOKIES 卒業 (Japanese)
3. 鑑識・米沢守の事件簿 (Japanese)
4. 余命一ヶ月の花嫁 (Japanese)

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### 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, Naito Naoko, English advisor: Jane Takizawa.