

MURORAN TIMES



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

News and Topics

No Smoking in Muroran IT



One year has passed since Muroran Institute of Technology (Muroran IT, president: Dr. Sato Kazuhiko) entirely prohibited smoking on the premises. This decision has been so effective that some students, who had habitually smoked so far, are challenging to quit smoking. In 2004 smoking was banned in all of the buildings of the institute, so that smoking was permissive only at outside smoking stands. Finally, last April smoking was completely prohibited on the premises for better educational conditions and students' health. As a result, the percentage of students who smoke plunged from 28.7% in 2006 to 12.3% in 2009. In the case of the fourth grade students, the number of students who smoked was reduced by half from 40.8% in 2006 to 19.3% in 2009. The institute is putting a great deal of effort into health consulting and guidance to quit smoking. Many of the fourth grade students, who want to quit smoking, have visited the guidance or consulting. The reason for this is that many students declared to the company that they are going to work for that they do not smoke when they were questioned about their smoking habits during the employment test.

There are still many teachers who smoke in their offices and students who throw their butts on the street after smoking. The institute is going to exert efforts to inform students about the well known harmful effects of tobacco, and is urging students to take a look at the homepage or bulletin board of the institute.

むろらんこうぎょうだいがく
室蘭工業大学がキャンパス内を禁煙にして1年

がたち、たばこをやめる学生も少しずつ増えてい
ます。

Barrier-free Map



Muroran City Office renewed the ten-year-old map which contains information about barrier-free equipment in the public institutions in Muroran.

The map is made for physically handicapped people and senior citizens to access public facilities easily and safely. It consists of nine A3-sized (419 mm & 297 mm) full-color pages, and divides the whole city into nine areas.

Each institution shows respective symbols from a list of 36 types of services or facilities, such as "Wheelchairs available" or "Helpers available". Copies of the map can be found in Pia 21, the welfare center for handicapped people in Higashi-machi, Muroran City Office in Saiwai-cho, and the Citizens' Hall in Wanishi-cho.

For more information, call the Welfare Section for Handicapped People in the City Office.
0143-25-1155

むろらんしやくしょ
室蘭市役所では障害者や高齢者のために、市内
の主な施設におけるバリアフリーの状況がわか
るマップを作成しました。

RFL Symposium

RFL (Relay For Life), which is a charity event for supporting cancer patients, will be held on August 28 and 29 in Muroran. A symposium regarding the event was held in advance at the Muroran Municipal Hospital on April 17. RFL this year will be the third time the event has been held in Muroran in conformity with the wishes of the deceased Ms. Kaneko Akemi, her husband, Mr. Kaneko Kenji, will succeed as the leader of the executive committee this time. She was a cancer patient herself and organized the RFL in Hokkaido two years ago despite her struggle with cancer.

The symposium was held for more publicity. On that day a member of the staff of the Japan Cancer Society, who is engaged in nationwide RFL activities, gave a lecture. The lecturer said, "Muroran RFL stands out in my mind as a handmade event. Be confident that you have the

best program in the nation Having confidence that Muroran RFL is number one, I hope the staff will do their best.” One participant proposed to the secretariat to make an easier system for joining the preparation activities, because many people want to help. The participants confirmed that those who want to offer help should apply to the secretariat (cell phone:080-4046-4232). This year RFL will be held in Toubetu-cho as well. Ms. Kaneko’s will and passion will surely reach to all Hokkaido.

がん患者を支援するイベント「リレー・フォー・ライフ(RFL)」が8月に室蘭で開催されるにあたり、シンポジウムが開かれました。

Information and Invitations

Final Craft Exhibition by Workman in

Muroran

[Date] May 5(Wed) ~ 10(Mon)

10:00a.m. ~ 6:00p.m.

[Place] Old Providence Brewery (*Kaigan-cho*)

[Stage] Traditional comic story telling and Nanjing bead screen – May 6(Thur)

6:30p.m. ~ 8:30p.m.

Ocarina performance, light music performance, poetry reading and images

[More Information] Mr.Osawa
(0143-22-4844)



Mt. Sokuryo Opening Ceremony

[Date] May 16(Sun)

*Postponed to May 23 in case of rainy weather

[Place] Mt. Sokuryo Karamatsu-daira

[Contents] Muroran walking - 9:15 a.m.~

*Please come to Sho-koen (small park) in

Chuo-cho. Please use the city office parking lot or the parking lot facing the old Providence Brewery if you come by car

Stage events - 10:35a.m. ~2:00p.m.

*games, songs, dance,etc

The Genghis Khan roast meat sale - 10:40a.m.~

Advanced tickets are being sold by the Muroran

Sightseeing Association. *Please note: Special

traffic regulations will be in effect from 9:00a.m. to 2:00p.m.on that day. Fireworks will be set off at 7 o'clock of that day if the event will be executed

[More Information] Muroran Sightseeing Association (Tel: 0143-23-0102)

Luxury Cruise Passenger Ships to Enter Muroran Port “Diamond Princess”



[Date] May 8(Sat) Arrival: 8:00a.m.

Departure: 6:00p.m

[Place] Muroran Port Sakimori Wharf

"Clipper Odyssey"

[Date] May 26(Wed) Arrival: 8:00a.m.

Departure: 1:00p.m. *The day of entering the port might be delayed.

[Place] Muroran Port Central Wharf passenger ship berth

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

Cherry Blossoms Festival

Row of Cherry Blossoms under Mt. Bokoi-Fuji

[Date] May 1(Sat)–16(Sun)

[Contents] 29 kinds and about 130 cherry blossoms are maintained. Please use public transportation facilities as much as possible.

[More Information] Mr.Wakabayashi
(Tel: 090-4874-0054)



• *Hakucho-dai* Cherry Blossoms Festival

[Date] May 16(Sun) 10:00a.m.~3:00p.m.

[Place] *Hakucho-dai* North Park

*Please use public transportation facilities because there is no parking available in the

surrounding area

[Contents] Dance (Yosakoi Soran) *It will be held in Motomuroran elementary school gym in case of rain.

Market and Large bingo rally
[More Information] Mr.Denpoya
(Tel:0143-59-2338)

• Cherry Blossom Festival on the Banks of

Washibetsu River

[Date] May 29(Sat),30(Sun) 1:00p.m.~

[Place] Takasago 3 cho-me Park

*Please use public transportation facilities

because of there is no parking lot in the surrounding

[Contents] 1500 double-flowered cherry trees in full

bloom along the river are masterpieces.
Jazz Dance, Yosakoi Soran Dance, Large lot(29),
Yukie Hakamada's folk song show(30)
Large bingo rally(30)
[More Information] Mr.Sakuraba (Tel: 0143-46-1404)

Japanese Lesson

“Nihongo de hanasou”

Topic of the Month: “Spring” : 春[haru]

Words

- *entrance ceremony for
 - a school: 入学式[nyuugaku shiki]
 - a company: 入社式[nyuusya shiki]
- *freshman: 新入生[shin nyu sei]
- *new employee: 新入社員[shinnyu shain]
- *making changes in the staff: 異動[idou]
- *Retire: 退職する[taisyoku suru]
- *farewell party: 送迎会[sougei kai]
- *welcome party: 歓迎会[kangei kai]
- *cherry blossoms: 桜[sakura]
- *Japanese plum blossoms: 梅[ume]
- *ohanami: お花見[o hanami]
- *Showa Era Memorial Day (April 29th)

: 昭和の日[syouwa no hi]

Phrases

- (1)「(ご)入学*おめでとうございます。」
[(go) nyugaku omedetou gozaimasu]
Congratulations on your entering school.
- (2)「今晚*歓迎迎会を行います。」
[konban kansougeikai wo okonai masu]
We are having a farewell and welcome party tonight.

Explanation

Spring is a time of rebirth: here in Japan, the cherry blossom, “桜”[sakura] is the biggest seasonal icon. For our daily lives, it is time of “coming and going”. Listed above are some of the useful words and expressions for seasonal occasions.

For phrase (1), you can change the underlined word such as; (ご)卒業[(go) sotsugyou] for graduation, and (ご)就職[(go) syusyoku] for being employed. *(ご)[go] is a prefix which makes the expression more polite. Let's see phrase (2), “歓迎迎会”[kan·sougei·kai] is a combined word of “kangeikai (welcome party)” and “sougeikai(farewell party)”.

As you may know, the Japanese fiscal year “nendo(年度)” begins on April first. For example, this year “Heisei 22 nendo” (平成 22 年度) starts on April 1st, 2010, and ends on March 31st, 2011.

Japanese Cooking 221

どら焼き Dorayaki



Dorayaki is usually served at tea time. Sweet beans are normally used for filling, but jam or cream may be substituted. On special occasions make dainty little cakes.

- Ingredients (serve four) -

packaged pan cake mix	2 cups
eggs	2
water	
Yokan	½ (200g)
water	1/2 cup

Directions

- (1) Add enough water to 2 beaten eggs to make 1 and 1/2 cups.
Mix the liquid with pan cake mix and make batter.
- (2) Heat frying pan and put aside.
Drop batter on frying pan to form 4 cakes about 3 and 1/3 inches (9cm) diameter for 1 serving.
- (3) Chop YOKAN (sweet bean paste cake) and knead with wooden spoon until smooth, adding water to make a paste.
- (4) Make a ball with paste about 2.5cm in diameter, flatten it and put it between 2 pan cakes.

About Japan

Keigo (敬語)

<What is Keigo?>

In speaking and writing alike, Japanese expects the speaker or author to pay proper respect to the audience and to the individuals who might be referred to. There is also a certain formality expected in formal situations, and this compounds the emphasis on showing respect through language. While not unique to Japanese, the language used to show this respect is called *Keigo*.

<Different Ways to Say the Same Thing>

Even the simple act of someone's going somewhere is expressed differently depending upon who is going where. If you yourself are going to see a higher-ranking person, the verbs for "go" are *mairu* and *ukagau*. (Because this is used to indicate your own lower status, they might be called "humblifics" as opposed to honorifics.) Should a higher-ranking person go somewhere, the honorific verbs would be *irassharu* and *oideninaru*. There are also levels of formality. If you are talking with close friends, "go" would easily be a casual *iku* with the masculine *yo* or the feminine *wa* markers added on. But in a more formal situation, even among equals, it would be *ikimasu* or *ikundesu*.

In effect, the verbs in formal situations take the more polite-*desu* or *masu* endings, making these what are called "*desu/masu*" situations.

<Formal Expressions and Everyday Expressions>

Keigo is usually understood to mean these three (honorifics, humblifics, and polite language), but there are also other ways to show respect for other people or places. For example, rice (and by extension, food) can be referred to as *meshi* or *gohan*, the stomach as *hara* or *onaka*, and more – the just-us-guys expression first and the mixed-company expression second in both examples. By the same token, using Chinese-origin terms is seen as more formal than indigenous Japanese terms, examples being *hajimeru* vs. *kaishi-suru* (both meaning "to start"), have vs. *seiten* (clear skies), and *sugu* vs. *sassoku* (soon). It is not only words that have different levels of formality and deference. The same thing happens to entire phrases. For example, moving from informal to formal / deferential, "I'm sorry" can be *gomen*, *gomen-nasai*, or *moushiwake-arimasen*; "yes" *hai*, *sou-desu*, and *sayoude-gozaimasu*; and "I understand" *wakatta*, *kashikomarimashita*, and *shouchi itashimashita*.

Cinema Guide

Muroran Gekijo (Higashi-machi)

1. Alice in Wonderland
2. のため^{さいしゅうがくしゅう こうへん}最終楽章(後編) (Japanese)
3. ^{めいたんてい}名探偵コナン (Japanese)
4. TRICK (Japanese)



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.