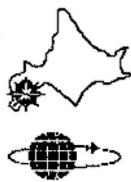


MURORAN TIMES



October 1, 2010 No.251

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

News and Topics



Dolphin and Whale Watching

The company KK.ERUMU, which has run the Dolphin and Whale Watching tour in Muroran, had decided to close the business next year. However, due to some local volunteers capitalizing in the company, and thereby getting shares in the company as well as some administration positions, the business will be able to continue.

This coming December a new person will manage the business. The new management will limit the operation of Dolphin and Whale Watching to only one cruiser (capacity: 32 people), from May through August. A staff of the International Exchange Center at Muroran Institute of Technology said, "Foreign students were invited to the cruise every year. The tour is so popular that the applicants were sometimes beyond capacity. Therefore we are very happy for the continuation of the business."

In addition, HEISEI SANGYO in Shukuzu, Muroran, which operates a night cruise, will also join the business for three months from next June in a joint effort to stimulate the sight seeing business in Muroran. Muroran Tourism Association said, "Dolphin and Whale Watching takes root among tourists in Muroran. We want to promote the tour more widely, and coordinate the unification of the fares and the use of the pier so that the two companies can co-exist."

らいねん むろらん
来年から室蘭でのイルカ・くじらウォッチング

じぎょう にしゃ おこな
事業は2社で行われることになりました。

Emergency Response Increasing

Muroran Fire Department announced the number of ambulance calls from January to August this year.

According to the announcement, the total number of cases was 2,628, which is an increase of 307 compared to that of last year. It is increasing faster pace than in 2005, when the number of ambulance calls reached its highest. .

At the same time, a spokesman from the fire department said there are some cases which are not urgent or in which the symptoms are light enough to take a taxi. , there are some cases that not urgent situations or light symptoms call the ambulance instead of calling a taxi. There are even some citizens who are so selfish that they call an ambulance just so they can see a doctor immediately.

The Fire Department is calling on citizens to use the ambulance properly, and only in case of a true emergency.

むろらんししよぼうしよ きゆうきゆうしゃ しゅつどう ぞうか
室蘭市消防署における救急車の出動が増加し
ており、なかには軽症でも呼ぶケースも目立っ
ています。

Information and Invitations

Luxury Cruise Passenger Ship & Sailors to Enter Muroran Port



“*Kaio-maru*”

[Date] October 14(Thur)

Arrival: 10:00a.m. Departure: October 18(Mon)
10:00a.m.

[Place] Muroran Port Central Wharf passenger
ship berth

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

Citizens' Marathon

[Date] October 11 (Mon) 9:50a.m. ~



*Marathon will be held even if there's light rainfall.

[Place] The circumference of Nakajima Park
[Course] 1km, 3km, 5km, Long distance relay

(Three-person group per 1km)

[Admission Fee] 300 yen (junior high and under)
500 yen (high school and over)

[Application] Come to Muroran Gymnasium on that day after 9:00a.m.

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

Flea Market and Mini Harvest Festival

[Date] October 10(Sun) 10:00 a.m.~2:00p.m.

*Postponed to October 11 in case of rainy weather.

October 11 may be cancelled in case of heavy rain.

[Place] Multipurpose plaza in front of *Genki* pavilion "Petotoru"

[More Information] Nishi-iburi Recycle Plaza (Tel: 0143-59-0319)

Sun Life Muroran's Course

• Hand-made Noodle Course

[Date] October 23(Sat) 9:30a.m. ~12:00noon

[Limit] 10 people for each time slot * by lottery

if number of applicants exceeds 10

[Admission Fee] 1000 yen

*Please bring your own apron, a plastic bag for taking noodles home, two towels and triangular cloth (or bandana)

[Application] by telephone until October 13

• Lymph physical exercise course

[Date] October 23(Sat) 10:00a.m. ~12:00noon

[Limit] 15 people for each time slot * by lottery

if number of applicants exceeds 15

[Admission Fee] 700 yen

*Please bring your own towel and drink.

[Application] by telephone until October 16

[More Information] Sun Life Muroran (Tel: 0143-55-3040)

Mushroom Collection Association, Exhibition, and Lecture

• Mushroom Collection Association

[Date] October 10(Sun) 9:00 a.m ~11:00 a.m.

[Place] In front of the *Chimaibetsu* filtration plant

[Admission Fee] 500 yen

[Application] on that day from 8:00a.m.

• Mushroom Exhibition

[Date] October 10(Sun),11(Mon) 10:00 a.m ~4:00 p.m.

[Place] *Puratto Tetsuichi* at Wanishi

• Mushroom Lecture

[Date] October 11(Mon) 1:00 p.m ~3:00 p.m.

[Place] Muroran Citizens Hall

[More Information] Muroran Mushroom Meeting Mr.Igarashi (Tel: 090-5220-4082)

Muroran Plastic Model Association Exhibition

[Date] October 9(Sat) 12:00 noon ~

October 10(Sun) ,11(Mon) 9:30a.m.~

[Place] NHK Plaza μ

[More Information] Mr.Uno(Tel:0143-86-7179)

Japanese Lesson

“Nihongo de hanasou”



< Topic of the month >

Health-Sports Day : 体育の日 [taiiku-no-hi]

Vocabulary

physical education : 体育 [taiiku]

sports meeting : 運動会 [undou-kai]

tournament : 大会 [taikai]

game, match : 試合 [shiai]

player : 選手 [sensyu]

judge : 審判 [shinpan]

foul : 反則 [hansoku]

cheer : 応援する [ouen-suru]

win / loose : 勝つ [katsu] / 負ける [makeru]

baseball : 野球 [yakyu]

swimming : 水泳 [suiei]

Phrases

(1) 「何かスポーツはしますか。」

[nani ka supo-tsu wa shimasu ka]

Do you play any sports?

(2) 「最近はスポーツ観戦で、日ハムを応援

しています。」

[saikin wa supo-tsu kansen de, nichihamu wo ouen shiteimasu]

Recently I prefer watching games; I cheer the “Nichihamu”*

*Explanation

What is the most popular sport in your country? In this world cup year, “samurai” soccer players in blue uniforms caught everyone’s attention. However, baseball still remains the most popular among Japanese people. The local team of Hokkaido is “Hokkaido Nippon Ham”. People call by it’s shortened name, “Nichihamu”.

Japanese Cooking 225

Simmered eggplant and chicken

なすと鶏肉の南蛮煮
とりにく なんばんに

- Ingredients (serves four) -

eggplant 4

chicken thighs 250 g



Japanese leek 2
red chili pepper dried 2
ginger 15 g
broth 200 cc
soy sauce 3 tablespoons
sake 2 tablespoons
sugar 2 tablespoons

Directions

- (1) Cut eggplant in half lengthwise and slit. Soak the eggplant in salted water and dry. Deep-fry the eggplant at 170°C(340 F).
- (2) Cut chicken into bite size pieces.
- (3) Cut Japanese leek into 3cm lengths. Cut red pepper in half and remove seeds.
- (4) Put broth, sake, sugar and soy sauce in a pan and cook. Add chicken and cook until white. Add eggplant and Japanese leek and cover with a drop-lid and cook 10 ~ 15 minutes .
- (5) Serve in small in bowls and top with slivered ginger.

Interview

Konnichiwa “Muroranese” [Vol.13]

Mark Hochstetler

by Mike Nima



Mark Hochstetler is from Mackinaw, Illinois, in the U.S. He’s been living in Muroran since March, 2009. He teaches English as an ALT for the Muroran Board of Education. He also gives private eikaiwa lessons. We talked about his experiences in the serene lobby of the Shiminkaikan in Wanishi. (First of three parts)

Tell us about what you were doing before you came here, and why you decided to come.

I came to Japan straight from college. During my third year of college, I did a three-week study course at Sophia University in Tokyo, and that was my first experience here. When I got back to the U.S., I decided to apply for the JET (*Japan Exchange and Teaching*) program, and that's how I ended up in Japan.

What was your hometown like, and how is it different here in Hokkaido?

I'm from a small town in Illinois, so I guess you could say it's *inaka*—the same as Hokkaido. The main difference would be that there are no mountains whatsoever in Illinois, and the ocean would be a several days' drive away. I love the outdoors, so Hokkaido is a good place for me. Corn is very prominent in Illinois, so as far as the eye can see, there are corn fields when you're driving, especially in August and September before the crops get harvested.

What kind of work have you done in Japan since you came here?

When I first came to Japan on the JET program, I was in Akabira city, which is between Asahikawa, Furano, and Takikawa—kind of a little triangle there that's really nice. When I was there, I went primarily only to junior high schools for three years. Then I moved from there to Iwamizawa and became an elementary school ALT for a year—that was fun, but also an exhausting experience! I went back to the U.S. and lived in Hawaii for six months as a Japanese tour guide. And then I ended up back in Hokkaido as a direct hire ALT for Muroran, where I go to junior high and elementary schools and teach English.

What do you enjoy about being an ALT?

I really like it when I can connect with students and maybe make a difference in their way of thinking. It's not so much about helping their English, but in helping them maybe think more openly or decide to go see another country. And then the younger students are a lot of fun, too. You can make good impressions on

them and teach them a lot of things about the world that they don't know—other countries, that the world is big, that Japan is small. Of course, there are difficulties as well. Being able to connect with students is probably the best part about the job.

Tell me about where you've been to in Japan and then briefly talk about what Hokkaido's been like for you.

When I was in Tokyo, I was young, so it was very enjoyable. But besides that and Hokkaido, I haven't been to very many places in Japan. I went to Nikko, and I've been to Tohoku, but that's not so dissimilar from Hokkaido. So actually, I like Hokkaido so much that I haven't bothered to see any other parts of Japan. What I like so much about Hokkaido is: the people are very kind, its *inaka* style, and the countryside, the mountains, the rivers, the ocean, and the wildlife are all fantastic—it's easy to live in Hokkaido!

About the interviewer: Mike Nima is an ALT for the Muroran Board of Education. He teaches English at Muroran Institute of Technology. He also gives private eikaiwa lessons.

Cinema Guide

Muroran Gekijo (Higashi-machi)

- 1.海猿(3D) (Japanese)
- 2.君に届け (Japanese)
- 3.十三人の刺客 (Japanese)
- 4.THE KARATE KID



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, Mike Nima, English advisor: Jane Takizawa.