Obihiro Pioneer

Issue 4 August 2011

Disaster Preparedness Training (防災訓練)

Twice a year the city of Obihiro puts on a disaster training and preparedness program. Normally we would be having the second one this month, but it appears that it has been cancelled. Because of that, it seems like it is worthwhile to be aware of some basic things in case of a disaster. such as: securing furniture and other heavy objects in your home, knowing where your designated evacuation location is, and creating an emergency kit.

Here is a list of things you should have in your emergency kit. Also, it is important that you leave your kit somewhere that can easily be reached in case of an emergency (such as a closet in your home's entryway).

You can pick up an earthquake preparedness information pamphlet at

First Aid Kit

Obihiro city hall. We also have emergency contact information and evacuation area maps available in English on the city website at http://

www.city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp/ (click the "Information for Foreigners" link on the top right side).



Blanket



List from Japan Fire and Disaster Management Agency's Earthquake Emergency Procedures booklet (available at Obihiro city hall).

Clothes

2011 Friends of the World Thank You (世界のと もだちの感謝)

We have completed another successful Friends of the World this year and would just like to thank everyone who showed up and participated in the festivities. We would also like to give an extra special thank you to everyone who volunteered and helped out to make this year's festival a huge success.

7月3日(日)に開催された「世界のともだち2011」は、今年も多くの皆様のご来場をいただき、天候に も恵まれ大成功のうちに終了することができました。また、ご協力をいただきボランティアの皆様には心 よりお礼申し上げます。ありがとうございました。

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Events in Tokachi and Obihiro















When	What	Where/Contact
8/5 (Fri)	14th Beat The Heat Festival (第14回暑さを吹きとばそうワイワイ祭)	家具のヤマシタ駐車場 Yamashita Furniture Store Parking Lot (South of Obihiro Station) 0155-23-0111
8/6 (Sat) 19:30	56th Tokachi Port Festival "Tokachi Port Fireworks Display" (第56回十勝港まつり「十勝 港海上花火大会」)	十勝港第4埠頭 Tokachi Port in Hiroo 0155-82-0177
8/10 (Wed) 19:00-21:00	Mini-Volley (ミニバレー): Held every 2nd Wednesday of the month. A simple sport to play and enjoy!	森の交流館・十勝 Tokachi International Relations Center 0155-34-0122 tirc@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp
8/13 (Sat) 19:30	61st Tokachi Fireworks Show (第61回勝毎花 火大会): Enjoy the competition between various pyrotechnic teams. Free!	帯広市十勝川河川敷特設会場 Obihiro's Tokachi River Special Function Grounds 0155-22-7555
8/14 - 8/16 (Sun - Tues) 11:00-21:-00	64th Obihiro Heigen Festival (第64回おびひろ平原まつり): It's time once again for one of the 3 biggest festivals in Obihiro. Come join us in downtown Obihiro on the evening of the 15th where we will dance the Bon dance as the "Friends of the World" group. To sign up, please contact TIRC.	帯広市西2条南7丁目~11丁目 Obihiro West 2 South 7 to South 11 0155-22-8600 To register for Bon Dancing, contact: 森の交流館・十勝 Tokachi International Relations Center TEL 0155-34-0122 tirc@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp
8/20 (Sat) 18:00-21:00	Shihoro 7000 People Festival (しほろ7000人のまつり): There will be hot air balloon rides, taiko performance, bon odori competition, and more.	士幌市街コミュニティ広場及び西2線道 路 Shihoro Community Center & West 2nd 0156-45-5212
8/20 (Sat) 19:00-21:00	International Potluck Night (ポットラックナイト): Bring a dish or drink to share with everyone and meet local and international residents while enjoying food from all over the world. This time, you can enjoy the cold Filipino dessert called Halo-halo.	森の交流館・十勝 Tokachi International Relations Center 0155-34-0122 tirc@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp
8/24 (Wed) 19:00-21:00	Tokachi Amigos Mini-Volleyball (とかちアミーゴスミニバレー): Let's meet friends from all over the world while enjoying a fun and easy sport! Fee: 100 yen	森の交流館・十勝 Tokachi International Relations Center 0155-34-0122 tirc@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp
8/27 (Sat) 19:00	22nd Doushin Tokachi River Fireworks Show (第22回道新十勝川花火大会)	十勝川•十勝大橋下流河川敷 Tokachi River Bridge (between Obihiro and Otofuke) 0155-24-2154
8/28 (Sun) 9:00-14:00	International Park Golf Tournament (国際親善パークゴルフ大会): Come and join local and international residents for a friendly round of park golf. We will also have a barbecue after the tournament! To register, please contact TIRC.	森の交流館・十勝 Tokachi International Relations Center 0155-34-0122 tirc@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp

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Chef Hector's Cuisine Corner (ヘクター調理人の料理コーナー)

The sweltering summer heat has well and truly come to Obihiro, and the long, frigid Hokkaido winter may seem like a distant memory (or at least for another 3 months). The buzzword in Japan this summer has been "setsuden" (節電) or "energy saving", which means even hotter days due to less use of air conditioning (not that there are a lot of air conditioners in Hokkaido anyway).

So, to borrow a cliché, how do you beat the summer heat? For most Japanese children, cooling down in summer means eating kakigōri (かき氷), or shaved ice flavored with syrup. But what we'd like to introduce to you on this month's Cuisine Corner is a different kind of shaved ice dessert. It's called "halo-halo", a popular dessert in the Philippines.



The name halo-halo is derived from the Tagalog word "halo", which means "mix". Halo-halo is basically a colorful mixture of shaved ice, milk, and various sweets and fruits, served in a tall glass or bowl. It is usually eaten as a dessert after a meal or as an afternoon snack on



its own.
To make halohalo, half-fill a tall glass or bowl with 1-2 tablespoons each of sweetened jackfruit, kaong (sweetened palmfruit), macapuno (sweetened coconut

strips), sweetened kidney beans, sweetened red mung beans, sweetened garbanzos (chick peas), sweetened plantains or banana, nata de coco, ube (purple yam), and leche flan (caramel custard). Fill the glass with shaved ice, then add 1/4 cup of evaporated milk. Add a scoop of your favorite ice cream on top. Most Filipinos mix everything first before eating it with a spoon.

It may be a bit hard to find some of the traditional ingredients here in Japan, but they can be bought in bottles from online stores. And the great thing about halo-halo is that you can experiment by adding whatever ingredients you like. Still, if you'd really like to experience the taste of traditional halo-halo without going to the Philippines, then you should join us at the International Potluck Night, to be held on Saturday, August 20 at the Tokachi International Relations Center. Halo-halo servings are limited, so please come early. Don't forget to bring a dish or drink to share with everyone!

今月の料理コーナーでは、フィリピンの代表的なデザート「ハロハロ」を紹介します。ハロハロ(halo-halo)とはタガログ語で「混ざる」という意味で、その名の通りかき氷とミルクをベースに、各種のフルーツや甘く煮た豆、ナタデココ、プリン、アイスクリームなどの食材が入っていて、かき氷と一緒に混ぜて食べます。また、8月20日(土)19:00に森の交流館・十勝で開催する予定の「ポットラック・ナイト」では、ハロハロが試食できるコーナーを設置いたします。数量が限られておりますのでお早めにお越しください。参加は無料で、食べ物または飲み物一人一品をご持参ください。多くの皆さんのご参加をお待ちしております。



Beat the heat with a cool treat!

Movies At Cinema Taiyo, in Obihiro

(Nishi 3, Minami 11) Tel: (0155) 20-1525

Times and movies are subject to change! (for space reasons not all movies are listed) To confirm, call or check online at: http://www.taiyogroup.ip/cinema/theater/_obihiro/movie.shtml

Title	Language	Dates
I Am Number 4	English	Ends 5th
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2	English & Japanese	All Month
X-Men: First Class	English	Starts 27th
Transformers 3: Dark of the Moon	Japanese	All Month
Cars 2	Japanese	All Month
Kung Fu Panda 2	Japanese	Starts 19th

Movies Ending This Month: I Am Number 4, Andalucia Goddess of Retribution

Understanding Written Japanese: Aids That Boost Your Kanji Reading (Part I)



When you read Japanese, one thing you want to have handy is a dictionary, right? They are useful, no question about it. But have you ever found yourself spending a long time looking up, one by one, every kanji word you find in a text? Whether it's a high-tech electronic dictionary or an old-fashioned paper one, one of their limitations is that



Although very useful, dictionaries won't spare you the trouble of looking up every kanji you don't know.

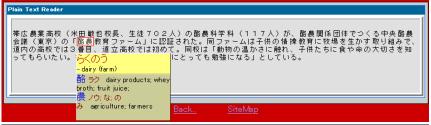
they only allow you to search for one word at a time. If there are too

Paste your text into the box and press GO! to display it on a page where you can see readings and meanings for all the kanji in your text. Easier and faster than a dictionary!

many words you don't know, looking them all up may slow you down to the point you give up reading before you finish.

Wouldn't it be nice if you could search at once all the kanji in your text with a single click? That's what Todd Rudick's Rikai (www.rikai.com) allows you to do. On the website, you can input any piece of text in Japanese and have it reloaded on a page where readings and meanings for kanji words pop up as you mouse over them. Cool, huh?

Ok. That sounds good...but wait. But what if it's a mail notice, a page from a book or anything you can't just copy and paste into a text box? On Part II, we're going to see how you can use a scanner and an OCR (optical character recognition) software to convert text printed in paper to information you can readily use in your computer. See you next time!



*Note: make sure to select 'Japanese to English' on the top right corner of the page.

日本語を勉強する方は「rikai」というサイトを使えば、簡単に漢字の読み方や言葉の意味などがわかるようになります。

International and Domestic Relations Section Obihiro City Hall Nishi 5, Minami 7 Obihiro, Japan 080-0867

Phone: (0155) 65-4133 Fax: (0155) 23-0171

Email: international@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp

Obihiro Pioneer can be found at the following locations:

Obihiro City Hall, Tokachi International Relations Center, Obihiro I

Obihiro City Hall, Tokachi International Relations Center, Obihiro University
International Center, Obihiro Tourism and Convention Center inside the Obihiro JR
Station, Obihiro Public Library, Cinema Taiyo, Joy English Academy
and online at www.city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp

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