

## Enjoy 山の日 in the Mountains!

*Summer has come to Tokachi in full force, with most days reaching highs over 30 degrees! As the white peaks surrounding Tokachi melt away, many find themselves spending more and more time outside. In this month's Obihiro Pioneer, let's learn about Japan's newest holiday and how we can celebrate it here in Tokachi.*

The first 山の日 *yama no hi*, or "Mountain Day," took place just last year in 2016. With Japan being an island country formed by volcanoes, Mountain day is a fitting holiday. But why August 11th? Frankly there is no real significance to the actual date. After being proposed to by the Japanese Alpine Club in 2014, legislators decided on adding a holiday in August to extend the Obon vacation. Why August? In Japanese kanji, August looks like a mountain! 八月 (*Hachi gatsu*)

Climbing the mountains here in Tokachi is daunting, but we can enjoy the views better from afar! Here are a couple of places to take in the beauty of the



mountains:

**Snow Peak Tokachi Poroshiri**  
スノーピーク十勝ポロシリキャンプ  
フィールド

Address: Obihiro Takusei-Cho Dai  
2 Kisen 2-7



Located on the outskirts of Obihiro, Snow Peak Tokachi Poroshiri's campgrounds provide a perfect view of the Tokachi mountain range. The grounds can be used by both regular campers and auto-campers. If you're not quite ready to spend the night outdoors, explore the Snow Peak's high-end camping goods store!

### Obihiro City Hall Observatory Deck 帯広市役所展望ホール

Address: Obihiro Nishi 5, South 7-1

If you live in Obihiro, you're sure to have gone to city hall to get paperwork done. Obihiro City Hall happens to be one of the tallest buildings in the area. Head upstairs to the 11th floor to grab lunch or coffee and enjoy the panoramic view of the mountains!

Enjoy the long weekend and mountains!

## Contents:

Enjoy 山の日 in the Mountains! **1**

Events **2**

Events Continued **3**

Movie Schedule **4**  
Events Continued



Events (pg 2-4)



山の日 Mountain Day  
(pg 1)

Movies  
(pg 4)

# Events at TIRC and in Tokachi and Obihiro

When	What	Where/Contact
8/9 (Wed) 19:00-21:00	<b>International Mini-Volleyball Night</b> Meet new friends from around the world while enjoying a fun and easy sport.	Tokachi International Relations Center 森の交流館・十勝 0155-34-0122 tirc@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp
8/12, 8/26 (Sat) 16:00-18:00	<b>Japanese Conversation and Learning Table</b> Improve your Japanese language skills in a friendly environment.	
8/19 (Sat) 19:00-21:00	<b>International Potluck Night: India</b> Bring a dish or drink to share with everyone and meet new friends while enjoying food from all over the world. This time, you can enjoy cooking Indian Curry!	
8/2 (Tues) 10:00-14:00	<b>2017 Livestock Research Facility Open Day</b> 2017畜産試験場公開デー This is the one day of the year when the public can visit! See the facility by bus and try some of the products. Elementary students can try their hand at being a veterinarian.	Livestock Research Facility Shintoku Town Aza Shintoku Nishi 5-39 0156-64-0616
8/4-8/7 (Fri-Sun)	<b>63rd Obihiro Hirokoji Tanabata Festival</b> 第63回おびひろ広小路七夕まつり Enjoy Tanabata decorations, various summer festival stalls, Karaoke and attractions.	Obihiro Hirokoji Arcade 帯広広小路アーケード 0155-23-5675
8/5 (Sat)	<b>29th Tokachi Harbor Fireworks Show</b> 第29回十勝港海上花火大会 Watch the only seaside fireworks show in Tokachi. There will also be food bazaars and other competitions. Fireworks start at 19:30.	Hiroo Town Tokachi Harbor 広尾町十勝港第4埠頭 01558-2-0177 01558-2-2111 www.town.hiroo.lg.jp
8/5 (Sat) 15:00-20:30	<b>Otofuke Society of Commerce and Industry Summer Festival</b> 音更町商工会夏まつり納涼花火大会 Enjoy stage shows, a beer garden, and a 1,000-shot fireworks show in the evening.	Otofuke Town Shindori Kaikan 音更町新通会館特設会場 0155-42-2246
8/6 (Sun)	<b>28th Rekifune River Festival</b> 第28回歴舟川清流まつり Popular with the kids, there will be a character show in a line of stage performances as well as various shops and booths. Be sure to stay until the fireworks show!	Taiki Bridge (along Route 236) 国道236号沿い 大樹橋上流河川敷 01558-6-2114
8/12 (Sat) 14:00~	<b>Toyokoro Summer Festival</b> とよころ夏まつり Enjoy games, a fuwa-fuwa dome, lantern display, fireworks show and more.	Toyokoro Town Erumukan 豊頃町える夢館駐車場 とよころ夏まつり実行委員会 015-574-2206
8/13-16 (Sun-Wed)	<b>70th Obihiro Heigen Festival</b> 第70回おびひろ平原まつり One of the biggest summer festivals in Tokachi, with a Yumefuruya omikoshi event, a Bon dance competition, Japanese drums, street performances, and more.	Obihiro West 2 South 7 to 11 and Hirokoji 帯広市西2条南7丁目~11丁目 ・広小路 0155-22-8600

## Events Continued

When	What	Where/Contact
8/13 (Sun)	<b>Tokachi Summer Festival and HKS Meeting</b> 十勝夏祭り&HKSハイパーミーティング Enjoy a summer festival at Hokkaido's largest racing circuit.	Tokachi Speedway 十勝スピードウェイ 0155-52-3910 <a href="http://tokachi.msf.ne.jp/">http://tokachi.msf.ne.jp/</a>
8/14 (Mon)	<b>Honbestu Cosplay Bon Odori</b> ほんべつ夏まつり仮装盆踊り大会 Dance the night in your favorite costume. There will be a lottery and mochi for all to enjoy. Feel free to participate the day of!	本別町役場前駐車場 本別町北2丁目 本別町商工会 0156-22-2529
8/14 (Mon)	<b>Churui Furusato Bon Odori</b> 忠類ふるさと盆踊り大会 Enjoy dancing for children and adults. Along with booths, a lottery and mochi, try a different style of dancing, called Su Odori!	Churui Fureai Center ふれあいセンター福寿前駐車場 忠類総合支所地域振興課 01558-8-2111
8/14 (Mon) 12:00- Bon Dance 19:00-	<b>62nd Tokachi Harbor Festival, Furusato Summer Festival</b> 第62回十勝港まつり ふるさと夏まつり Enjoy Hiroo's summer at this festival. There will be stage performances and booths.	Hiroo Town Hall Event Grounds 広尾町役場前特設会場 広尾町西3条7丁目 広尾町水産商工観光課 01558-2-0177 <a href="http://www.town.hiroo.lg.jp/">http://www.town.hiroo.lg.jp/</a>
8/14 (Mon)	<b>58th Furusato Summer Festival</b> 第58回ふるさとサマーフェスティバル Have fun listening to Japanese drums and dancing in the family or costume bon dances!	新得町保健福祉センター 「なごみ」前駐車場 新得町商工会 0156-64-5324
8/15 (Tue)	<b>27th Kuttari Furusato Festival</b> 第27回くったりふるさと祭り Rock on with various stage performances! Put on your best costume and dance for prize money!	Kuttarai Chuo Parking Lot 屈足中央駐車場 新得町商工会 0156-64-5324
8/15 (Tue) 13:00-	<b>Furusato Summer Festival (Urahoro Town)</b> ふるさとの夏祭り There will be bon dancing, games and more!	Cosmic Hall コスミックホール前 浦幌町商工会 015-576-2186
8/15 (Tue)	<b>38th Ashoro Furusato Bon Dance and Firework Show</b> 第38回足寄ふるさと盆踊り両国花火大会 Dress up in your best costume for the bon dance and enjoy a stage show and lottery. Stay for the fireworks show!	Ashoro Citizen Center 足寄町民センター前 足寄町経済課林業商工観光室 0156-25-2141
8/17 (Thu)	<b>Summer Festival Makubetsu Town Bon Dance</b> 夏まつり幕別町盆踊り大会 There will be bon dances for children and adults. Come and enjoy a lottery and various shops.	Makubetsu Town Hall 幕別町役場前通り 幕別町商工会 0155-54-2703
8/17 (Thu)	<b>51st Memuro Town Bon Dance</b> 第51回芽室町納涼盆踊り大会 Make the most of this summer by dancing in the Memuro Town Bon Dance!	Memuro Station Square めむろ駅前広場 芽室町商工観光課 0155-62-9736
8/20 (Sun)	<b>Shihoro 7000 Person Festival</b> しほろ7000人のまつり(本まつり) Enjoy Japanese drums, dance performances, a vegetable market, and more.	Shihoro Town Community Square 士幌町コミュニティ広場周辺 01564-5-5212 <a href="http://www.shihoro.jp/tourism/">http://www.shihoro.jp/tourism/</a>

# 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.jp/cinema/theater/\\_obihiro/movie.shtml](http://www.taiyogroup.jp/cinema/theater/_obihiro/movie.shtml)

Title	Language	Dates
Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell no Tales	Dubbed and Subtitles	All Month
Cars 3 (Cars Crossroad)	Dubbed	All Month
Despicable Me 3	Dubbed Jpn	All Month
The Mummy	TBD	All Month
Transformers: The Last Knight	TBD	From 4th
Spiderman: Homecoming	TBD	From 11th
Wonder Woman	ENG Subtitles	From 26th

## Events Continued

When	What	Where/Contact
8/20 (Sun)	Memuro Machinaka Marche 2017 めむろまちなかマルシェ2017 Explore the walking food paradise that is Memuro's Marche! Enjoy food grown and served from the area.	Memuro Town Main Road 芽室町本通 めむろまちなかマルシェ2017 実行委員会事務局
8/20 (Sun)	Honbetsu Meat Festival 2017 ほんべつ肉まつり2017 Buy various high quality Wagyu beef and cook them right away on free grills!	Honbetsu Park 本別公園 本別町東町 090-8271-0262
8/20 (Sun)	Bakkansai 2017 麦感祭(ばっかんさい)2017 Give thanks for the wheat harvest on a wheat field! This event takes place in Japan's largest producer of wheat, Otofuke town.	Otofuke Nishinaka Otofuke North 14-8 音更町西中音更北14線8 0155-67-6305 <a href="https://www.facebook.com/bakkansai/">https://www.facebook.com/bakkansai/</a>
8/26 (Sat) 17:00-21:00	Shihoro Beef Festival しほろ牛肉祭 Get your hands on some of the best beef in Japan while enjoying stage events, BBQ, fireworks and more!	士幌町コミュニティ広場 士幌町肉牛推進会 01564-5-2614 <a href="http://www.ja-shihoro.or.jp/shihorogyu/index.html">http://www.ja-shihoro.or.jp/shihorogyu/index.html</a>

**Obihiro Pioneer** can be found at the following locations: Obihiro City Hall, Tokachi International Relations Center, Obihiro University International Center, Obihiro Tourism and Convention Center inside the Obihiro JR Station, Obihiro Public Library, Tokachi Plaza, Cinema Taiyo, Joy English Academy and online at [www.city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp](http://www.city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp) (click on "Information for Foreigners")

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