

# Bienvenidos a Obihiro!

New alert! The International and Domestic Relations Section (IDRS) has recently recruited a new member to the team. I sat down for a hard hitting interview with the new CIR from Peru.

## **Vital Statistics**

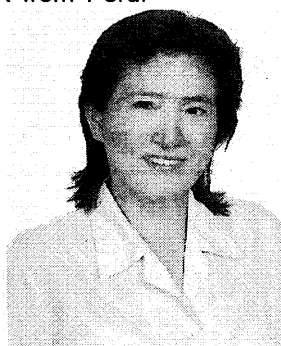
Full Name: Rocío Lareyne Ushijima Cruz

Age: Classified

Hometown: Lima, Peru

Favorite Color: Orange

Beer or Sake: Neither!



**The new Obihiro CIR, Rocío  
(pronounced ro-shee-oh)**

WHiO: We all know that you're going to be a Coordinator for International Relations, but why do you want to do this job?

Rocío: I want to meet lots of different people from different countries, perfect my Japanese, and learn about Japanese culture and clothing.

WHiO: What were you doing before you got this job?

Rocío: I was an elementary school teacher. I also taught Japanese lessons for children.

WHiO: What would you like to do here in Obihiro?

Rocío: Learn Japanese, learn about many different places, and teach many different things about my own country.

WHiO: What are your hobbies?

Rocío: Studying Japanese, listening to Peruvian and Latin music, cooking Japanese food, traveling etc.

WHiO: So if you don't like beer or sake, what DO you drink?

Rocío: I like fruit juices, Coca-Cola Zero, and tea.

WHiO: Tell me something interesting about your Lima.

Rocío: It's a quiet city. And it's a long trip to the center of the city (takes about 1 hour!), but the people are very friendly.

WHiO: Tell me something interesting about Peru.

Rocío: Peru is a country with thousands of years of history. It has beautiful cities; especially Cuzco (they have the ancient Machupicchu). There is a lot of rich folklore, and the dances have color and flavor. Maybe someday you should come to my country.

WHiO: Tell me something interesting about yourself.

Rocío: I like to meet people and I like to talk a lot.

I have 4 sisters, 2 nieces, and 3 nephews. My oldest niece likes learning Japanese. This summer I had the opportunity to teach her some lessons. She said she wants to travel to Japan "like my aunty Rocío".

WHiO: What a cutie! Well, welcome to Obihiro, and we hope you have lots of fun meeting and talking with all the kind residents of Obihiro and Tokachi!

## **Guidebook!**

### **RE: The Tokachi Living Guide for International Residents**

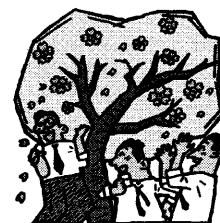
There are approximately 900 foreigners living in Tokachi, including all of you reading this WHiO. This number increases every year, and lots of problems between foreigners and Japanese residents occur. This is not surprising due to differing culture and values, not to mention the language barrier! It is not easy to live in a different culture, so the Tokachi International Association (TIA) made a Tokachi Living Guide for International Residents. This guide book has basic and crucial living information for international residents of Tokachi. We hope this guide will help to make your daily life in Tokachi easier. This guide book includes information about emergencies, disasters, marriages, and more. If you would like to have one, just stop by the International & Domestic Relations sections at City Hall or at the TIRC!

\*\*\*\*We appreciate all those who volunteered to help us make this great guide book!\*\*\*\*



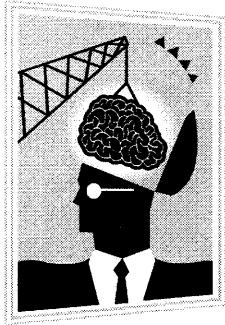
# Tokachi Events

## May 2007



When	What	Where/Contact #
4/29 – 10/31 (Sun- Wed) 9:30 – 17:00	<b>Fuwa Fuwa Dome:</b> This is definitely a must see place in Tokachi. Giant air-filled domes for jumping on. I can't explain it any better than that, so go check it out!	 エコロジーパーク Ecology Park (Near the Tokachigawa onsen) www.tokachi-ecopark.jp
5/12 (Sat) 10:00 – 13:00	<b>Obihiro Area Wholesale Market:</b> This is going to be a "Gardening Market" where Obihiro merchants will be selling flower and vegetable plants wholesale.	帯広地方卸売市場株式会社 Obihiro Area Wholesale Market Inc. 0155-37-3333
5/12 (Sat) 9:00 – 13:00	<b>Clean Walk Tokachi in Satsunai River:</b> Let's ponder how much a blessing this clear river while picking up litter to clean it up. There may be a 500 yen insurance/lunch fee. Limited to 300 people.	愛国大橋下帯広市側河川敷 Under Aikoku Ohashi (bridge) on the Obihiro side of the river 0155-48-8380
5/12 (Sat) 14:00 – 16:00	<b>American Culture Introduction:</b> Come eat American food, dance American dances, all while learning about American culture from an American living here in Obihiro! FREE, but in Japanese	森の交流館・十勝 Tokachi International Relations Center TEL 0155-34-0122
5/13 (Sun) 10:00 – 15:00	<b>Obihiro Sakura Festival:</b> Come view the beautiful sakura (cherry blossoms) at Obihiro's Midorigaoka Park, while playing fun games and listening to some good music.	帯広緑ヶ丘公園のグリーンステージ Big "Green" Stage in Midorigaoka Park in Obihiro 0155-22-3906
End of April to End of May 17:00 – 22:00	<b>Shintokuyama Nature Park Light-Up:</b> This park in Shintoku is famous for its beautiful sakura. They will be lighting up approximately 3000 sakura trees so that everyone can do hanami (flower viewing) all day and night!	 新得山自然公園 Shintokuyama Nature Park 0156-64-0525
5/19 (Sat) 10:00 – 15:00	<b>Love Country Sakura Festival:</b> Live concerts and character performances, good food, and fun games. Should be a big crowd and a fun time!	北愛国交流場 Kita Aikoku Event Grounds 0155-48-8380
5/25 – 5/27 (Fri- Sun) 9:00 – 16:00	<b>Tokachi's Flower – Free Market:</b> Flower market, but you can buy other gardening goods as well.	帯広駅の北多目的広場 North side of Obihiro Station 0155-22-7555
5/26 (Sat) 14:00 – 15:00 RSVP by 5/26	<b>Story Telling Around the World:</b> This month Magui, a JICA is going to share a story from her homeland, Uruguay. The children's book will be read in both Spanish and Japanese. Target audience: children from 3 yrs. old to 2 <sup>nd</sup> grade elementary students. RSVP by TEL, FAX, or email.	森の交流館・十勝 Tokachi International Relations Center TEL 0155-34-0122 FAX 0155-34-0165
5/27 (Sun) 14:00 – 15:00	<b>Unicycle Group Tournament:</b> Come see unique unified unicyclists complete in unitards! Ok, so I made up the unitard part...	藤丸デパート広場 In front of Fujimaru department store in Obihiro TEL 0155-23-7101

# Wisdom from your Senpai



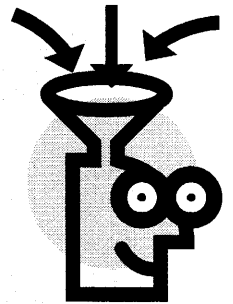
Attention all new people in Obihiro and Tokachi! Here's some bits of wisdom from your senpai (experienced superiors) here in Obihiro and Tokachi. Study the tidbits well, as your life may depend on it! A big thanks to everyone who contributed to this month's column. I hope to hear from even more people for next month's column. I really have no idea who is reading this newsletter, so if you don't email me to compliment, contribute, or complain, I will have no idea that you even exist! So please write in, I would love to hear from you!

I've found it more important to go out of my way to cultivate a good relationship with coworkers first. Then the cool times with the students comes afterwards.

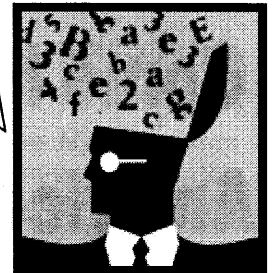
Banks are closed on holidays. That means it will be extremely difficult to get money during those days so be prepared.

Anything you can boil water on is not for drying clothes. In other words, keep your clothes away from the heater!

Bring your favorite recipes or a good cookbook from back home or know where to find good recipes from home on the net. Once you're out of the honeymoon phase of eating tempura, yaki-niku, and any unidentifiable fishy foods, it's nice to be able to prepare and sit down to a nice beef stew, some cheese stuffed manicotti or some Lemon squares.



Don't be afraid to make mistakes. As long as you live through them, they'll make great stories to tell later.



## The Japanese Corner (vocab found in or related to this month's issue)

智 (ち): "Wisdom" To understand something completely and be able to make correct judgments regarding it.

ペルー (ペルー): "Peru" The country.

姪 (めい): "niece"

フワフワ (ふわふわ): "fluffy" or "soft". Sometimes associated with the image of floating like a fluffy cloud...

桜 (さくら): "cherry blossom" A highly used symbol in Japanese culture. These short lived, yet beautiful little flowers can represent the short lived beauty of life. They also represent change in Japanese culture as many things change in April when most sakura bloom (school starts, new jobs start, etc.)

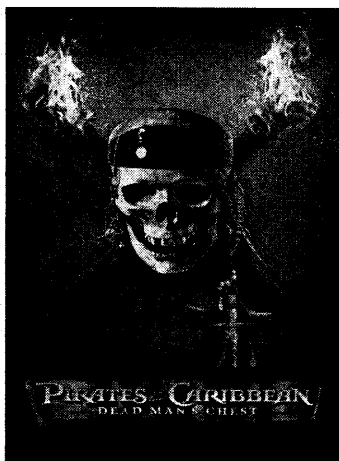


Times are subject to change. To confirm, call or check online at: <http://www.taiyogroup.jp/cinema/index.html>

# May Movies At Cinema Taiyo, Obihiro

(Nishi 3, Minami 7) Tel: (0155) 20-1525

Title	Language	Starts - Ends
Ore wa kimi no tame... (I will go to my death for you)	Japanese	May 12 - June
Spider Man 3	English	April 30 - June
Supaida Man 3	Japanese	April 30 - June
Bizan	Japanese	May 12 - June
Hannibal Rising	English	April 28 - June
Pirates of the Caribbean 3: World's End	English	May 25 - June
Goal! 2	English	May 26 - June
Meitantei Konan (Great Detective Conan)	Japanese	May - June



Gegege no Kitaro	Japanese	April 28 - June
Crayon Shinchan	Japanese	April 21 - May 11
Blood Diamond	English	April 7 - May 24
Rocky Balboa	English	April 20 - June
Hannibal Rising	English	April 28 - June
Tokyo Tower	Japanese	April 14 - June
Babel	English	April 28 - June
Taitei no Ken	Japanese	April 7 - May 11

"An Inconvenient Truth"

When: April 28<sup>th</sup> to May 11<sup>th</sup>

Where: CINE Tokachi Prince Theater

Nishi 1, Minami 9, Obihiro

Price: 1400 yen in advance or 1700 yen at the door

**Come learn about  
American culture !**

**5/12 (Sat)**

**14:00 to 16:00**

**FREE FOOD!**  
**FUN DANCING!**

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

Location:

**Tokachi International Relations Center**

**Nishi 20, Minami 6-1-2, in Obihiro**

**TEL (0155) 34-0122**

**FAX (0155) 34-0165**

## Editor's Board

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**What's Happening in Obihiro?**

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, Joy English Academy and

**online at [www.city.obihoro.hokkaido.jp](http://www.city.obihoro.hokkaido.jp)**

"WHIO?" Is a newsletter published monthly by the Obihiro International Relations Section for residents of the Tokachi District and related parties. The contents of this newsletter do not necessarily represent the official views or opinions of the International Relations Section or the City of Obihiro. Questions? Tel (0155) 65-4133 or send e-mail to WHIO Editing Team at [international@city.obihoro.hokkaido.jp](mailto:international@city.obihoro.hokkaido.jp).