

## New CIR—Geraldo Takashi Kodaira (新しい国際交流員 ジェラウド・タカシ・コダイラ)



On April 13th the newest member of the Obihiro International and Domestic Relations Section arrived in Obihiro. His name is Geraldo Takashi Kodaira, and we decided to interview him to let everyone know a little bit more about him.

### Please tell us a little bit about yourself (country, hobbies, what you prefer to be called, etc.)

I'm from São Paulo City, in São Paulo State, Brazil.

I like to go walking, seeing the places I've never been before.

I prefer to be called "Geraldo" because that's my Brazilian name, although I have my middle name and surname in Japanese, respectively, "Takashi" and "Kodaira".

### Why did you want to come to Japan?

First of all, I wanted to come to Japan because I appreciate this country. Here, we have peace, and, the Japanese people are

kind and polite.

Another reason is because of the personal and professional experience that I get staying here.

### What do you want to do while in Obihiro?

While in Obihiro, I'd like to try all the famous dishes and visit as many as possible tourist attractions.

### You've been here for about a month now, how is Obihiro?

Yes, it's almost a month since I arrived in Obihiro. My impression about this city is that everywhere here is wide, the streets, the avenues, the supermarkets, and even the houses. The climate is a little bit cold, but most of the days are enjoyable ones.

### Is there anything else you would like to tell our readers?

I think it will be a great experience for my life, talking to Japanese people and foreigner residents living here, speaking many different languages, such as Japanese, Portuguese, English and Spanish. In addition, I think this is a great opportunity to know about Japanese culture, explain Brazilian culture and to say to everyone that despite the cultural differences between the two countries, there are some points in common, for example, the fact that both Japanese and Brazilians like to be kind to people.

Thank you Geraldo for telling us a little bit more about yourself. Geraldo is currently working at the Tokachi International Relations Section. Please come to the TIRC for all our great events and be sure to say hi to Geraldo if you see him.

4月13日にブラジル出身のジェラウド・タカシ・コダイラさんが帯広市の新しい国際交流員として来帯しました。ジェラウドさんは森の交流館・十勝で働いています。森の交流館・十勝へ来館される皆様、ぜひジェラウドさんに声をかけてください。

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## Events in Tokachi and Obihiro

When	What	Where/Contact
6/3 (Sun)	<b>33rd Hiroo Tsutsuji Festival (第33回広尾つつじまつり)</b>	広尾町大丸山森林公園 Hiroo Town 0155-82-0177
6/10 (Sun)	<b>DRIFT D1 Division Series Tokachi Tournament (DRIFT「D1 Divシリーズ十勝大会」):</b> Have you figured out that the editor likes cars?	十勝スピードウェイ Tokachi Speedway 0155-52-3910
6/13 (Wed) 19:00-21:00	<b>Mini-Volley (ミニバレー):</b> 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.obihoro.hokkaido.jp
6/16 (Sat) 19:00-21:00	<b>International Potluck Night (ポットラックナイト):</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 try making snacks from the African country of Benin.	森の交流館・十勝 Tokachi International Relations Center 0155-34-0122 tirc@city.obihoro.hokkaido.jp
6/17 (Sun) 10:00-14:30	<b>Tea Ceremony (森の茶会):</b> Come and experience the traditional Japanese way of serving tea. There will be 4 sessions for the tea ceremony, and 2 sessions for tea-serving etiquette. Please sign up by June 16 (Saturday).	森の交流館・十勝 Tokachi International Relations Center 0155-34-0122 tirc@city.obihoro.hokkaido.jp
6/17 (Sun) 10:00-14:30	<b>32nd Yachiyo Farm Festival (第32回八千代牧場まつり)</b>	八千代公共育成牧場 Yachiyo Farm 0155-59-2323
6/23 (Sat)	<b>Candle Night 2012 in Satsunai River (キャンドルナイト2012in札内川園地)</b>	中札内川園地 Nakasatsunai Park 0155-67-2495
6/23-6/24 (Sat-Sun) 11:00-24:00	<b>Obihiro University Dormitory Festival (帯広畜産大学寮祭):</b> The annual "Ryousai" features various food stands, stage performances, and other events organized by Obihiro University students.	帯広畜産大学 Obihiro University of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine
6/27 (Wed) 19:00-21:00	<b>Tokachi Amigos Mini-Volleyball (とちあミーゴスミニバレー):</b> 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 Contact: Hector 080-3295-4875



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

June has come again, and many people are getting out under the sun to do weekend barbecues. Though the cherry blossoms in Hokkaido have all but fallen to the ground, this clears the stage for the other famed flowers of the region, including lilies of the valley (suzuran), pink moss (shibazakura), and azaleas (tsutsuji).



Lest this be called a climate corner rather than one about cuisine, let's start talking about food. This month, we'll take you all the way to the West African country of Benin. Though most Japanese only know of the TV personality Mr. Zomahoun when asked about Benin, the country and its people are quite diverse, as is their cuisine.

Corn, beans, chicken, and fish are common ingredients in southern Benin, while yams, pork, and beef are the food of choice in the north. Main dishes are usually served in tomato or peanut-based sauces. Tropical fruits such as mangoes, bananas, oranges, and papayas are also available in abundance. The Beninese also love to eat snacks, and most of these are deep-fried delights. Yovo doko are balls of flour, baking powder, and sugar deep fried in oil and sprinkled with more sugar. Tale-tale is another deep fried snack made of crushed bananas and flour. Akpan is a traditional fermented drink made of maize and milk, flavored with lemon, raisins, or other dried fruits and aromas.

If you'd like a taste of these Beninese snacks or even try making them on your



own, come join us at the International Potluck Night on Saturday, June 16 at the Tokachi International Relations Center. Beninese residents will be there to share their cuisine, and it's also a great place to meet new friends. Participation is free, just bring a dish or drink to share with everyone.

For other food events in Tokachi this month, you can check out the Tokachi Beef and Asparagus Festival in Shimizu Town on the 9th, where you can enjoy an outdoor barbecue of beef, asparagus, and other local produce for a 1000 yen fee. There's also the Yachiyo Farm Festival on Sunday the 17th, where you can buy various Tokachi products, try making your own pizza, and enjoy a lot of other fun activities.



Come try out some tasty Beninese cuisine at this month's Potluck Night.

今月の料理コーナーでは、ベナン料理について紹介します。ベナンでは、とうもろこしやヤムイモ、豆、米を主食に、トマトやピーナツソースで煮込んだ肉がよく食べられます。バナナやマンゴーなど、トロピカルフルーツも豊富です。伝統的なおやつは「タレタレ」という揚げバナナや「ヨヴオドコ」という揚げドーナツなど、色々あります。また、6月16日(土)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、ベナンのおやつ作りが体験できます。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。

# 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
Larry Crowne (shiwase no kyoushitsu)	English	Ends 22nd
Dark Shadows	English (PG12)	Ends 29th
Men in Black 3	Japanese (3D) English (2D)	Ends 29th
We Bought a Zoo (shiwase no kiseki)	English	Starts 8th
Snow White and the Huntsman	English	Starts 15th
The Amazing Spider-man	Not yet decided	Starts 30th
Detective Conan: The Eleventh Striker	Japanese	Ends 8th
Bokura Ga Ita (Second Half)	Japanese	Ends 29th
THERMAE ROMAEE	Japanese	Ends 22nd
Uchuu Kyoudai	Japanese	Ends 29th
Hotaru no Hikari	Japanese	Starts 9th

## Friends of the World 2012 (世界のともだち2012)

Only one more month until the Friends of the World festival. Just like last year there's going to be all sorts of great activities and wonderful food. A large number of volunteers are needed to help make the event a success. So if you are interested in volunteering please contact the TIRC. The staff at the TIRC speaks English, so don't hesitate to give them a call!



Contact the TIRC:  
Tokachi International Relations Center  
0155-34-0122  
[tirc@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp](mailto:tirc@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp)

来月、世界のともだち2012が開催されます。今年も様々なゲームと美味しい食べ物がたっぷりです。そして、ボランティアも募集しています。ボランティアを希望される方は森の交流館・十勝へ連絡してください。電話0155-34-0122 メール [tirc@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp](mailto:tirc@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp)

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**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, Cinema Taiyo, Joy English Academy and online at [www.city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp](http://www.city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp) (click on "Information for Foreigners")

"Obihiro Pioneer" is a newsletter published monthly by the Obihiro International and Domestic 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 and Domestic Relations Section or the City of Obihiro. Questions? Tel (0155) 65-4133 or send e-mail to the Editing Team at [international@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp](mailto:international@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp).