

Welcome Karen (カレンさん、よろしく)



As most people who have lived and worked in Japan for more than a year know, April is the time of year when staff changes occur. This year we welcome a new Coordinator for International Relations from Brazil, Ms. Karen Maya Narita. She will be working at the Tokachi International Relations Center starting on April 12th. We asked her to send us a brief introduction before she arrives.

My name is Karen Maya Narita (22), I am from Campinas, Brazil. I recently graduated in Statistics from the State University of Campinas, however I have always had an interest in international relations related work. So I am very happy for the opportunity to be a CIR in Obihiro, from April 2013. In addition to my dream to experience Japan coming true, I am also looking forward to learning from everyone in my daily life, and I hope that I will be of help to strengthen Brazil-Japan relations.

Be sure to say hello to Karen and welcome her to Japan if you are at the TIRC.

今月、新しいブラジル出身の国際交流員、カレン・マヤ・成田さんが来ます。成田さんは森の交流館・十勝に勤めます。成田さん、これからよろしくお願ひします。

Japanese Classes (日本語講座)

Japanese classes will be starting on May 14th and will be held every week Tuesday at Obihiro City Hall. Fun Conversation Class will be in the mornings from 10:00-12:00 and Beginner Level Classes will be held from 6:00pm-8:00pm. If you are interested in signing up for classes please contact us at international@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp with the subject "Japanese Classes". Please include your name, home country, contact information, and which class you wish to sign up for.



When: Tuesdays, May 14-July 16
Fun Conversation Class: 10:00-12:00
Beginner Class 1 & 2: 18:00-20:00
Where: Obihiro City Hall 10th Floor
Who: Beginner level Japanese students
Contact: international@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp

5月14日～7月16日、毎週火曜日に日本語講座を行います。楽しい会話クラスは、10:00～12:00であり、初級日本語クラス1と2は、18:00～20:00です。参加したい方は、international@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp までお問合せください。

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Events (pg 2)

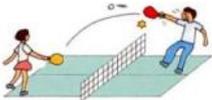


Chef Hector (pg 3)



Movies (pg 4)

Events in Tokachi and Obihiro

When	What	Where/Contact
 <p>4/6 (Sat) 19:00-21:00</p>	<p>Geraldo's Farewell Talk (ジェラウドさん帯広の思い出を語る): Geraldo Takashi Kodaira, Obihiro CIR from Brazil, will talk about his memories and experiences in Obihiro for the past year.</p>	<p>森の交流館・十勝 Tokachi International Relations Center 0155-34-0122 tirc@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp</p>
 <p>4/10 (Wed) 19:00-21:00</p>	<p>International Mini-Volleyball Night (国際ミニバレーナイト): Held every 2nd Wednesday of the month. A simple sport to play and enjoy!</p>	<p>森の交流館・十勝 Tokachi International Relations Center 0155-34-0122 tirc@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp</p>
 <p>4/19-5/6 (Fri-Mon)</p>	<p>23rd Rekifune River Carp Streamers (第23回歴舟川清流鯉のぼり): 236 carp streamers (koinobori) will fly across the Rekifune river in Taiki Town. There will also be a mini-event to celebrate Children's Day on May 5.</p>	<p>歴舟川 Taiki Bridge (along Route 236) For inquiries, contact: Taiki Tourism Association TEL 0155-86-2114</p>
 <p>4/20 (Sat) 19:00-21:00</p>	<p>International Potluck Night (ポットラックナイト): 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 the South American snacks called empanadas.</p>	<p>森の交流館・十勝 Tokachi International Relations Center 0155-34-0122 tirc@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp</p>
 <p>4/24 (Wed) 19:00-21:00</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>森の交流館・十勝 Tokachi International Relations Center Contact: Hector 080-3295-4875</p>
 <p>4/27 (Sat) 9:30-12:00</p>	<p>International Tenipon Meetup (国際テニポン交流会): Meet new friends while learning to play tenipon, a hybrid sport between tennis and pingpong that originated in Hokkaido.</p>	<p>森の交流館・十勝 Tokachi International Relations Center 0155-34-0122 tirc@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp</p>
 <p>4/27-9/30 (Sat-Mon)</p>	<p>Kofuku Station Happy Ceremony (幸福駅ハッピーセレモニー): Experience a wedding ceremony with your loved one and make wonderful memories. Opening ceremony will be on April 27th. Fee is 3000 yen per couple. Reservations are required.</p>	<p>旧幸福駅 Former Kofuku Station For inquiries, contact: Obihiro City Tourism Section tourism@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp</p>

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



In the traditional Japanese calendar, the fourth month of the year is called Uzuki (卯月), which literally means "rabbit month". A common interpretation of the name is that it is short for "U-no-hanazuki" which means "the month when deutzia flowers bloom". Nowadays, to most Japanese, April means the start of a new academic and fiscal year. To everyone entering new schools or starting new jobs, we'd like to wish you good luck and ganbatte kudasai.



Whether you're off to school or work, a good way to start the day is eating a hearty breakfast. In South America, one popular breakfast and snack food is empanada. Empanadas are small pastries with savory fillings, usually shaped like a half-moon. The name comes from the Spanish word empanar which means "to wrap in bread".

Empanadas originated in Spain but have spread throughout Europe, the Americas, and other former Spanish colonies like the Philippines.

There are countless variations of empanadas, though the dough is typically made of wheat flour. Traditional fillings include ground beef or chicken, onions, potatoes, cheese, and boiled eggs. To make the dough, mix flour, water, eggs, butter, and salt together then roll the dough flat. Using a cookie cutter or small bowl, cut out circular pieces of the dough. Prepare and cook the filling you want to use (e.g. fry the ground beef, vegetables and spices together). Place the desired amount of filling on the center of a piece of dough, then fold it in half to form the half-moon shape. Crimp the edges with a fork or fold it like a braid with your fingers. You can bake the empanadas in an oven or deep fry them in oil.

If you want to enjoy South American-style meat empanadas, come join us as at the International Potluck Night on Saturday, April 20 at the Tokachi International Relations Center. You can choose your filling and try your hand at folding and decorating these fun little pastries. Entrance is free! Just bring your appetite and a dish or drink to share with everyone. See you all there!



Come start of the new fiscal year right, with some Empanadas at the TIRC!

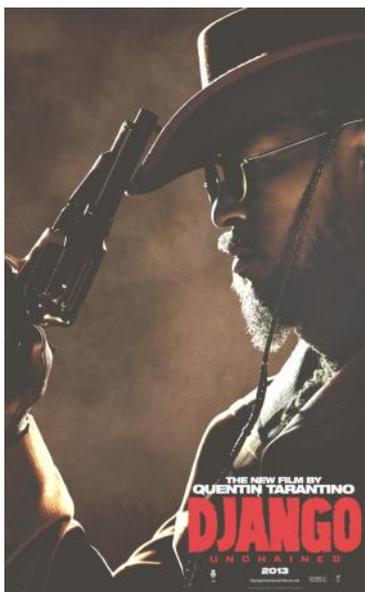
今月は「エンパナーダ」という具入りのペイストリーを紹介します。エンパナーダはスペインで生まれ、現在では南米各国などの定番料理となっています。一般的なレシピは小麦粉の生地です。挽き肉やたまねぎ、じゃがいも、ゆで卵などの具材を半円形に包み、オーブンで焼くか油で揚げます。また、4月20日(土)に森の交流館・十勝で開催する「ポットラック・ナイト」では、エンパナーダ作りが体験できます。様々な料理を楽しみながら外国人と地域の方たちと交流することもできます。参加は無料で、食べ物または飲み物一人一品をご持参ください。

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

Title	Language	Dates
Nou Otoko	Japanese	Ends 18th
Flight	English	Ends 21st
Oz the Great and Powerful	Japanese 3D English 2D	All Month
Doraemon: Nobita no Himitsu Dogu Hakubutsukan	Japanese	Ends 5th
Platina Data	Japanese	All Month
Kiirou Zou	Japanese	Ends 26th
Jack the Giant Slayer	Japanese 2D English 2D	All Month
Wreck-It Ralph (Sugar Rush)	Japanese 3D	Ends 26th
Dragon Ball Z: Battle of Gods	Japanese	All Month
Django Unchained	English	6th-26th
Itai Asu e no Tookakan (Reunion)	Japanese	6th-19th
Lincoln	English	Starts 19th
Crayon Shinchan Bakauma! B-kyu Gurume Sabaibaru!	Japanese	Starts 20th
Detective Conan: Private Eye in the Distant Sea	Japanese	Starts 20th
Ironman 3	Undecided	Starts 26th
Wara no Tate	Japanese	Starts 26th
Toshokan Sensou	Japanese	Starts 27th



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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 (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.