Chigasaki Breeze

Truly great friends are hard to find, difficult to leave, and impossible to forget.

No.0004

CHERRY BLOSSOMS and "OHANAMI"

P1



From the later part of March through early April, the cherry blossoms start to bud and come into full bloom. People get together under the cherry trees and enjoy looking at them, eating and drinking *SAKE* or any other liquor, and singing and dancing lively. The cherry blossoms are short-lived and their color is not as bright as many western flowers, but they capture the Japanese heart, which is why it's the National Flower!

The petals of the cherry blossoms reflect the light of paper-covered hand lamps in the night look very beautiful. The scenery is televised all over Japan around this time. Also the tune of *SAKURA* often played on the *KOTO*, a Japanese harp, in this season captures the atmosphere of spring. In old days, when passed or failed the entrance examination for university, it was expressed in reference to the cherry blossoms like *SAKURA-SAKU* or *SAKURA-CHIRU*. I.e., your success was celebrated as if *SAKURA* is in full bloom while your failure was expressed as if *SAKURA* or cherry blossoms are gone.

You can enjoy seeing cherry blossoms at the Chuo Park near the city hall or at Hamami-daira housing development area in the city, but those at the approach to Kamakura Hachiman-Guh Shrine or at Odawara Castle Park are the most beautiful and you will fully enjoy *SAKURA* as well as the gatherings under the trees. Bring back your garbage, however!



OHOKA ECHIZEN-SAI FESTIVAL

Ohoka Echizen-Sai Festival is one of major annual events in Chigasaki. It is performed in memory of a powerful magistrate, **Ohoka Echizen-no-kami Tadasuke**, in **the Tokugawa Shogunate from the Edo era**.

He is historically known not only for his fair judgment in the court but also for his intelligence and great achievement as an administrator. He passed away in 1751 at the age of 75 and his graveyard was kept in *Jokenji* temple located in the northern part of the city. The Ohoka family had its territory in Chigasaki in the Edo period. In 1911, he was awarded the Fourth Order of Merit and on that occasion, the city held the Ohoka Echizen-Sai Festival to recall his achievement. The parade is scheduled on April 23 (Sunday) from 13:00 inviting various musical bands including the American navy band from Yokosuka, high-schools inside and outside of the city, a local dance group, etc. and also many foreigners participate in the procession wearing costumes from the Edo government officials and maids of those days.

The parade starts from the Chigasaki elementary school ground at 13:00, marches through both south and north sides of the Chigasaki station, and finally arrives at the area where Ito-Yokado and Yamada Denki are located. There will be thousands of people lining the streets to see the parade.

CHILDREN's DAY

May 5 is Children's Day. In Japanese it is called *Kodomo-No-Hi*; a day to celebrate children in general. Originally, the day was called *Tango-no-Sekku* or Boy's Festival as it was for celebrating boys to grow up in good health and spirit. On the day, families who have boys display *Gogatsu Ningyo* or May Dolls



for the *Boy's Festival*, patterned after warriors and heroes, and put up *KOI-NOBORI* or carp streamers. The *KOI* or carp is believed to have the ability to climb up waterfalls; going up against the rapid stream of the waterfall fighting all the obstacles. They are thus taken as a symbol of strength, courage and patience of achieving major goals.

For such reasons, there is a custom in Japan to wish for boys to be like *KOI* or carp and live their strong lives by hanging out carp-shaped streamers on May 5. The day also features the practice of taking a bath with *SHOBU*, or sweet flag reputed to have medicinal virtues. Because of this, two types of sweets are typical for this season; *CHIMAKI*, rice dumplings wrapped in bamboo leaves, and *KASHIWAMOCHI*, rice cakes wrapped in an oak leaf. You may like them too!

GOLDEN WEEK

April 29 is Midori-no-hi or Green Day. This day ushers Japan into "Golden Week", a series of holidays. May 3 is Constitution Day, the 4th is a National Holiday and the 5th is Children's Day. When these holidays are followed by Saturday and Sunday, the week has more holidays in a series than any other week except for the New Year Holiday and summer vacations.

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CONSULTATION FOR FOREIGN RESIDENTS

The consultation for foreign residents by the city used to be held only on the 3rd Wednesday every month, but from April onward, the BUNKA SUISHIN-KA will be receiving phone calls at any time so they can arrange, based on the reservation, either interview or consultation after a week or so depending on the availability of interpreters. Visitors should be able to consult not only in English but also in Portuguese, Korean, and Chinese. (Tel: 0467-82-1111 extension: 3309)

Greetings from Malawi, Africa

Dear Mr. And Mrs. Hirose,

Sorry that we did not write immediately after we arrived in Malawi. Life has been hectic and difficult for us to find time to write. Now at least we are getting better. We must thank you again and again for the cash donation to buy school furniture. The money has been enough to buy 15 two-seater desks including chairs for Bemvu Elementary School. Transport to deliver the desks will also be covered by the same money. Please convey the deep felt thanks from the Children of Bemvu Elementary School.

Know that your donation will help 30 students to learn from a desk instead of learning from the floor. We shall be sending you pictures separately in due course.

Greet all the members of the Chigasaki International Friendship Association including Mr. Shimada.

Thank you and God bless you all.

Ambassador John and Margaret Chikago

Medical Information Series IV

Doctors Available for Consultation in English

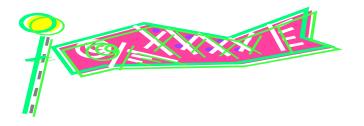
Tsurugadai Sugawara Clinic (I) Tsurugadai 10-7-102 Tel: 52- 3275 Hara Clinic (I, C) Takada 2-1-23 Tel: 54-5400 Masuzawa Clinic (S, G, I, P) Takada 4-7-12 Tel: 54-0311 Mizunuma Clinic (I) Takada 5-5-10 Tel: 52-5550 Aiseikai Clinic (I) Higashi-kaigan Kita 5-10-48 Tel: 88-6560

Remarks:

I = Internal medicine C = Cardiology Circulatory Organs S = Surgery G = Gastroenterology P = Proctology

Note:

In the previous issue, Morikawa Seikei Clinic was erroneously quoted as Morioka Seikei Geka.



<u>Everyday Conversation</u>

What do you say in such a situation?

At the bus stop:

1. Samukawa yuki no basu wa namban noriba desuka? 寒川行きのバスは何番のりばですか?

(What is the number of the bus stop for Samukawa?) **basu** bus

nanban noriba: The number of the bus stop.

- 2. Samukawa made ikura desuka?
- まかかり 寒川までいくらですか? (What is the fare to Samukawa?) *ikura desuka*: How much is it?
- 3. Samukawa ni tsuitara oshiete kudasai.

寒川に着いたらおしえてください

(Please tell me when the bus arrives at Samukawa.) *basu ga tsuitara*: when the bus arrives

Tokiko Kato Recital on May 19

International Soroptimist Chigasaki, the Chigasaki branch of world-famous women organization is going to open a recital of a well-known singer **Tokiko Kato** on **May 19 (Friday)** in the large hall of **The Civic Culture Center**. She is so popular that the hall will be fully seated. IAC supports this activity done by International Soroptimist Chigasaki.

CONFUCIUS SAYS.....

The analects of Confucius are thoughts about change to create a new era and it involves practical thought mainly on morality, ethics and politics. We introduce the analects in a series in this Chigasaki Breeze.

Series 1:

Confucius said "Those who keep on reviewing the old and acquiring the new are worthy of a teacher."

PEOPLE IN TOWN

Beatriz Mori



She comes from Murcia, Spain. It's been over 25 years since she came to Japan to get married to a Japanese business man. As a young bride in a foreign country, she was bewildered at everything she experienced first, but now she says,

" I'm more Japanese than a Japanese woman, as a wife of a salaried-man and a mother of 2 sons"

She is an active Spanish teacher in Chigasaki and she teaches classes of IAC too. Whenever she shows up saying "Hola!", it seems as if she brings the sunshine with her. Her motto in teaching is to make it fun. She carefully selects the books for students.

Her husband, Mr. Mori fell in love with her at first sight when he saw her at Plaza de España in Madrid. He finally made this beautiful girl his bride after 3 years of trying to marry her and brought her back to Japan. (*By E. Iwamoto*)

See Page 4 on GARBAGE COLLECTION CALLENDAR for APRIL, MAY and JUNE

Classified Ads

●Percussion classes – casual and fun! Call 0467-86-3285 for more information. Akira

●Kashmir yoga class at Hachioji Jinja Shrine in Chigasaki. Free yourself from body pain and stress and harmonize the balance between your body and spirit. The lesson will be given in English, together with a Japanese translation. Lesson time: Thursday evening 19:00~20:30

For further information, also about yoga classes in Kamakura (Wednesday evening) and Hayama (Sunday afternoon), please contact: Maurice Joosten. E-mail: <u>bwgcw402@ybb.ne.jp</u> or 080-5651-3380

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- GARBAGE COLLECTION CALENDAR for APRIL, MAY and JUNE 2006
 Garbage has to be put out before 8:30 a.m. on the collection day.
 The city will not handle PC, TV set (Tube type), Air Conditioners, Refrigerators, Freezers, Motorcycles, Pianos, Tires, Industrial Waste, Hazardous Materials, etc.
 For large-sized items such as Desks, Sofas, Sewing machines, Gas range/heaters, Stoves, and the like, it is required to make prior booking by calling 57-0200 to get a ¥500 ticket stamp per item and to attach to the item and placed at the designated collection point.
 Collection point for [Old Paper/Corrugated Paperboard/Paper Carton for Drinks] and [Clothes/Cloth] may differ from the point for other garbage and recyclable garbage.

District Type of Garbage	(1) Kagawa Matsukazedai Amanuma Namegaya Serizawa Tsutsumi Shimoterao Mizuki	(2) Akabane Takata Murota Kowada Hishinuma Shorin	(3) Kozakura-cho Daikan-cho Honjuku-cho Akamatsu-cho Hamatake Deguchi-cho Hibarigaoka Asahigaoka Misumi-cho Matsunami	(4) HigashikaiganMinami Tokiwa-cho Fujimi-cho Heiwa-cho Matsugaoka Hishinuma Kaigan Shirahama-cho Hamasuka Midorigahama Shiomidai	(5) Nishikubo Enzo Tsurugadai Yabata Hamanogo Shimomachiya	(6) Chigasaki Honson Motomachi Wakamatsu-cho Saiwai-cho Shin'ei-cho Jukkenzaka Tomoe	(7) Nango Nakakaigan Higashikaigan-Kita	(8) Hagisono Heidayu-Shinden Imajuku Nakajima Matsuo Yanagishima Yanagishima Kaigan Hamamidaira
(A) Burnable Garbage Food scraps, Paper scraps, Yard waste, Plastic bags/Trays/caps, Toothbrush, Toothpaste tube, Floor mat, etc.	Every Monday & Thursday	Every Monday & Thursday	Every Tuesday & Friday	Every Tuesday & Friday	Every Monday & Thursday	Every Monday & Thursday	Every Tuesday & Friday	Every Tuesday & Friday
(B) Unburnable Garbage Metals, Chinaware, Small-sized Electric Appliances, Glass scraps, Leather goods, Plastic toys, Dry cells, etc.	Wednesday April:1st & 3rd W. May: 1st, 3rd & 5th W. June:2nd & 4th W.	Wednesday April:1st & 3rd W. May: 1st, 3rd & 5th W. June:2nd & 4th W.	Wednesday April & May: 2nd & 4th W. June:1st & 3rd W.	Wednesday April & May: 2nd & 4th W. June:1st & 3rd W.	Wednesday April:1st & 3rd W. May: 1st, 3rd & 5th W. June: 2nd & 4th W.	Wednesday April:1st & 3rd W. May: 1st, 3rd & 5th W. June:2nd & 4th W.	Wednesday April & May: 2nd & 4th W. June:1st & 3rd W.	Wednesday April: May: 2nd & 4th W. May: 2nd & 4th W. June:1st & 3rd W.
(C) Recyclable Garbage Bottles and Cans	Tuesday April:1st & 3rd T. May: 1st, 3rd & 5thT. June:2nd & 4th T.	Friday April & May: 1st & 3rd F. June: 1st, 3rd & 5th F.	Monday April:1st & 3rd M. May: 1st, 3rd & 5th M. June:2nd & 4th M.	Thursday April & May: 1st & 3rd T. June: 1st, 3rd & 5th T.	Tuesday April & May: 2nd & 4th T. June:1st & 3rd T.	2nd & 4th Friday	2nd & 4th Thursday	Monday April: 2nd & 4th M. May: 2 nd & 4th M. June:1st & 3rd M.
(D) Recyclable Garbage Plastic (Pet) Bottles	<u>Wednesday</u> April & May: 2nd & 4th W. June:1st & 3rd W.	<u>Wednesday</u> April & May: 2nd & 4th W. June:1st & 3rd W.	Wednesday April: 1st & 3rd W. May: 1st, 3rd & 5th W. June: 2nd & 4th W.	Wednesday April: 1st & 3rd W. May: 1st, 3rd & 5th W. June: 2nd & 4th W.	Wednesday April & May: 2nd & 4th W. June:1st & 3rd W.	Wednesday April & May: 2nd & 4th W. June:1st & 3rd W.	Wednesday April: 1st & 3rd W. May: 1st, 3rd & 5th W. June: 2nd & 4th W.	Wednesday April: 1st & 3rd W. May: 1st, 3rd & 5th W. June: 2nd & 4th W.
(E) Recyclable Garbage Old Papers, Corrugated Paperboard, Cardboard, Paper Carton for Drinks (over 300 ml)	Tuesday April & May: 2nd & 4th T. June: 1st & 3rd T.	2nd & 4th Friday	Monday April: 2nd & 4th M. May: 2nd & 4th M. June: 1st & 3rd M.	2nd & 4th Thursday	Tuesday April: 1st & 3rd T. May: 1st, 3rd & 5th T. June: 2nd & 4th T.	Friday April & May: 1st & 3rd F. June: 1st, 3rd & 5th F.	Thursday April & May: 1st & 3rd T. June: 1st, 3rd & 5th T.	Monday April: 1st & 3rd M. May: 1st, 3rd & 5th M. June: 2nd & 4th M.
(F) Recyclable Garbage Cloths, Bed sheets, Blankets, Curtains, Towels, Underclothes, etc.	4th Friday	4th Tuesday	2nd Thursday	2nd Monday	2nd Friday	2nd Tuesday	4th Monday	4th Thursday
Remarks	 A.Twigs and trunks acceptable as burnable have to be less than 10 cm in diameter and 50 cm in length. Also included in this category are polystyrene foam, non-recyclable cloth with cotton inside, front door mats, etc. B.Lengths of wood, twigs and trunks have to be 10 cm ~ 20 cm in diameter and 50 cm or less in length. These pieces of wood and lumber have to be bundled. Dry cells (small batteries) have to be put out in transparent bags separately from other unburnable items. C.Bottles include glass bottles for food and drinks. Cans include those for drinks, liquors/wines, cookies, and spray cans. Spray cans have to be emptied and punctured. D.Plastic bottles have to be put out after removing caps, rinsing inside, tearing off labels, smashing and put in transparent bags to be collected. E. [Old Newspaper/Flyers], [Book/Magazines/Catalogs/Wrapping Paper/Paper Bags] and [Corrugated paperboard/Cardboard/Thick board/Paper carton for Drinks] have to be put out separately. F. [Cloths/Cloth] has to be rinsed and cleaned for disposal. Getting wet makes it non-recyclable, so don't put out on a rainy day. 							