

Chigasaki Breeze

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

IS YOUR RISK MANAGEMENT COMPLETE?

Keep it in mind to protect yourself from natural disasters!

It's been repeatedly broadcasted on TV or in daily newspapers that there is a high possibility of a major earthquake occurring sooner or later. Actually, nobody knows if it will come in the next 3 years, 10 years, or 20 years, but it's already named **the TOKAI earthquake** in the case of this district as the seismic focus is suspected to exist around Mt. Fuji and the coastal area facing Suruga and Sagami Bay. Our city Chigasaki is in the eastern end of the area and therefore the city publicity reminds the citizens to be prepared to protect themselves from any damage brought about by such natural disasters.

In the history of major earthquakes, there were **the Great Earthquake of KANTO** at 11:58 on September 1, 1923, of which the magnitude was 7.9 on the Richter scale, **the Great HANSHIN-AWAJI earthquake** of magnitude 7.3 at 05:46 on January 17, 1995, and **the Great NIIGATA-KEN CHUETSU-OKI earthquake** of magnitude 6.8 occurred at 10:13 on July 16, 2007.

To be ready for such circumstances of disaster, it is necessary to have at hand a portable radio, flashlights, medical supplies, drinking water, etc., while it is strongly suggested to fix furniture at least so they won't tumble down and cause injury. Also, it is required to maintain heavy roof tiles, block walls, etc., so they won't fall down.

To help people get ready for maintaining these building materials in safety and for strengthening and repairing wooden houses to be compatible, the city is preparing a subsidy system and your consultation with the Building Instruction Section in the city hall has been requested at any opportune movement.

As from October 1, the Meteorological Agency starts sending prompt emergency news through all the communication media for people to prepare to escape from potential damage, and to get updated information. You can visit the following URL or call the municipal office shown below in case something happens.

[URL]: <http://www.seisvol.kishou.go.jp/eq/EEW/kaisetsu/index.html>

Disaster prevention section of Yokohama Regional Meteorological observatory: Tel 045-621-1999

THE CIVIC EVENTS THIS FALL

As we are running into the cultural season of fall, a number of civic events and performances have been scheduled at the city facilities here and there during the next couple months. They include people's gathering at major parks, and a citizen's performance of music and dance, an exhibition of various kinds of art, etc. at the Civic Culture Hall.

On November 3, there is **the FUREAI Festival** at the **Chuō Park**, and on November 18, there is **the RAINBOW Festival** at **SATOYAMA Park**. There, scores of thousands of people visit to enjoy looking at a variety of performances such as dancing by children and adults, playing of drums and baton twirlers, etc. There are also hundreds of booths prepared showing presentations by the city and local NPOs, and selling a variety of goods including foods and handicrafts at reasonable prices. Both are open at 10:00 until 15:00

FUREAI literally means "for people to get in close touch". The park is located on the other side of the Civic Culture Hall on Chuō Dōri. It's within five or six minutes walking distance from the station. **SATOYAMA Park** is located in Serizawa district which is a hilly area with a lot of greenery, where you can observe a lot of nature. From a bus stop near to Mizuho Bank located at the north side of Chigasaki station, free bus services will be available to take you to the front gate of **SATOYAMA Park** in 20~25 minutes. There is a timetable at the bus stop and return buses are available too.

As far as the activities at the Civic Culture Hall are concerned, there will be all kinds of artistic performances to be held almost every day. On weekends, you can enjoy the CIVIC CULTURE FESTIVAL of Japanese classic dance and drumming, and various kinds of music including Chanson and Canzone (10/6), Classic Vocal Concert (10/7), Classic Concert (10/20), Evening Concert (10/21) etc. They will be performed by citizens and you can enjoy seeing and listening to them free either at large or small halls.

On the first floor, you can see exhibitions of Japanese culture; brush painting, flower arrangement, handicrafts, photographs, bonsai, paintings, etc. This is the way people celebrate the fall of yellow and red leaves, and the season before the severe winter comes.



Number of Foreigners in Chigasaki

The registration office reports there are 1,485 foreigners registered with the city as of December 31, 2006. The names of the top 20 countries plus others are as follows:

Country	Total	Male	Female
1. Korea/N. Korea	359 (347)	176 (162)	183 (185)
2. China	264 (249)	98 (96)	166 (153)
3. Philippine	241 (242)	42 (39)	199 (203)
4. Brazil	121 (130)	56 (66)	65 (64)
5. U. S.	82 (92)	58 (71)	24 (21)
6. England	51 (54)	42 (46)	9 (8)
7. Peru	44 (56)	28 (36)	16 (20)
8. Thailand	36 (34)	9 (7)	27 (27)
9. Indonesia	22 (19)	13 (12)	9 (7)
10. Vietnam	20 (24)	12 (14)	8 (10)
10. Canada	20 (24)	14 (16)	6 (8)
10. Australia	20 (14)	17 (11)	3 (3)
11. India	18 (11)	16 (11)	2 (0)
12. Bolivia	15 (16)	11 (12)	4 (4)
13. Malaysia	13 (16)	9 (11)	4 (5)
14. New Zealand	12 (7)	8 (5)	4 (2)
15. Bangladesh	11 (13)	10 (10)	1 (3)
16. Cambodia	9 (9)	5 (5)	4 (4)
17. Pakistan	8 (11)	8 (9)	0 (2)
18. Romania	7 (6)	0 (0)	7 (6)
18. Germany	7 (9)	3 (5)	4 (4)
19. Argentina	6 (6)	5 (5)	1 (1)
19. Columbia	6 (5)	2 (1)	4 (4)
20. Switzerland	5 (5)	3 (3)	2 (2)
20. Singapore	4 (4)	1 (2)	3 (2)
20. France	4 (4)	4 (4)	0 (0)
20. Sri Lanka	4 (4)	4 (4)	0 (0)
20. Ireland	4 (3)	1 (1)	3 (2)
Others	33 (33)	20 (21)	13 (12)
Total:	1, 479 (1, 485)	688 (702)	791 (783)

*Numbers in parenthesis are of the end of 2005.

“Trio-phone” (Three-Way Calling) Interpretation System Introduced by the Prefecture

The Kanagawa Prefectural Counseling Services for Foreign Residents introduced the trio-phone interpretation system to assist communication between foreign residents and the local/national governments and public institutions.

You can use the trio-phone interpretation system when you consult with the administrative services. The time will be limited to about 10 minutes or so.

Available languages include English, Chinese, Spanish, Portuguese, German, Russian, and Tagalog, but they are subject to the day of consultation, the subject and the specific office. Both the Kanagawa Prefectural Government in Yokohama (K.P.G.) and Yokohama City are involved in handling legal, Educational, labor and general counseling.

Inquiries in Japanese:

International Division, K.P.G. Tel: 045-210-3748

Note: No consultation will be available at this number but they will tell you where to call specifically depending on the subjects you would like to discuss.

If further help is needed, please go to the IAC URL:
<http://7jp.com/iac>

IAC ACTIVITY

CHARITY CONCERT



On September 1, the IAC Charity Concert was held at Kagawa Murashima Memorial Hall at Aletheia Heiwa Gakuen in Fujimi-cho. The violinist Nonoko Okada was the star. She returned to Chigasaki for the summer from North Carolina where she belongs to the Charleston Symphony Orchestra as an active violinist. She grew up in Chigasaki and this concert became a special event for her too because Aletheia Heiwa Gakuen is her alma mater.

The purpose of the charity concert was to contribute revenue to children suffering from poverty in such countries as Laos, Nepal, Cambodia, Indonesia, and Peru.

Ms. Okada played affable pieces of various genres from Handel's classical tunes to Gershwin's opera that consists of African-American music such as blues, jazz, and gospel. Her accompanist was Mr. Hiroshi Taguchi who has been Ms. Okada's musical partner for years. He played piano along with her violin. Their performance was praiseworthy, they harmonized very nicely, and it was very much appreciated by the audience.

Next year again, we may be able to listen to the beautiful sound of her violin.

WAI-WAI FESTA

On August 5 (Sun), *WAI-WAI FESTA CHIGASAKI* was held at Civic Culture Hall. Even though it was such a hot day, more than 300 people joined the international exchange program performed by the IAC and it was highly successful. Although the program was mainly for children to come into contact with world culture, across all the ages they enjoyed various activities with collecting different kinds of *HITODE* (starfish) stamps at eight corners. The participants enjoyed foreign-language picture books, coloring, math puzzles, foreign dessert recipes and a picture-story show about a girl who suffered severe burns in the civil war in Kosovo, Bosnia.

Some children made their own tinplate or fabric pins and photo frames by hand, which was part of a charity to support children in Cambodia. Most exciting of all was playing simple games such as JANKEN (Rock, paper, scissors) and YUBIZUMŌ (thumb wrestling) face-to-face with foreign volunteers who came from China, Colombia, America, the Philippines and Indonesia. As a matter of course, it was great fun for many Japanese to have the opportunity to get to know the people from overseas, but it was also a productive and enjoyable experience for foreign volunteers who enhanced mutual understanding through the program.

The IAC hopes to continue developing such programs to create an opportunity for children to know and understand culture in the other countries and desires to see foreign people as well so they can enjoy participating in such activities.

WAI WAI FESTA was sponsored by the city in commemoration of its 60 year anniversary this year.

A GOOD LITTLE THING

ちょっといい話

In a community, there are always some people who do some work voluntarily. It is not for the community necessarily but for themselves, personally.

On *Teppo-michi*, you will see an elderly person every day in the very early morning.

After retirement in January 2001, he decided to do walking for his health. Soon after he got out from home to the street, though, he saw cigarette butts and other litter here and there. This motivated him to do some cleaning by himself. At the beginning, his walking distance was only from his home to where Hamasuka primary school is located, but it gradually extended and has reached now about 3km both ways; from Higashikaigan Kita 5-chome to the crossing at Heiwa Gakuen. What he does is to clean up the street by picking up butts, wastepaper, etc., again strictly as an individual volunteer. With the exception of rainy days, he does it for two hours roughly from 4:30 in the morning. It's a really respectable thing, but regrettably it also means that there still are a number of people who don't care about littering.

If we can be more considerate in such issues, all the streets in town will become cleaner and it will entice more people to choose Chigasaki as a comfortable place to live.

Talking about such street cleaning, there is also an aged man who is always walking following a parade of miniature shrines during the *HAMAORI* Festival. He picks up all the cigarette butts one by one that many youngsters carrying or following the miniature shrine throw away. He is a group leader living in Yanagishima district, but he started doing it by himself years ago.

Some other people have started to follow his lead, and the number has gradually increased year by year.

People In Town

Maria Enderle Wada

*I feel more Japanese
than American.....*



Maria Enderle Wada was born in the U.S. and has lived in Chigasaki since she was eight years old. Her grand parents came to Chigasaki from Germany. She is presently raising four sons with her Japanese husband in Higashi Kaigan. *Maria* sees herself as a third-generation Chigasaki-JIN (Chigasaki citizen). She feels that Chigasaki has changed in many ways since she was growing up. She thinks people are more open to show their "uniqueness" and are more confident to express themselves. She also feels that people are more tolerant of others—especially of those who do not quite "fit in." She is happy to see that more and more families with diverse backgrounds live here in Chigasaki. In 2003, she moved temporarily to Los Angeles with her family to work as a social worker. She wanted her children to experience life in another country. She worked at a non-profit organization that assisted impoverished families who came mostly from Mexico.

Two and half years later, her family returned to Japan. She felt relieved from the stress at work and life in a "foreign" country. She also missed Chigasaki.

Living abroad and raising her children there made her see her hometown in a different light and made her love Chigasaki even more.

Population exceeded 230,000 this year!

The Chigasaki city population was 230,294 as of August 1, 2007 with males numbering 114,109 and females

The Sagami line was originally for gravel transportation.

The Sagami Line is operated today by the privatized Japan Rail Co., but originally it was constructed for investment by a group of people who lived in Chigasaki. It was, therefore, a purely private company aimed at carrying passengers as well as gravel from the Sagami river. Their name was the Sagami Tetsudo Railroad, SOTETSU in abbreviation. They started the transportation service in 1921, the 10th year of Taisho era, between Chigasaki and Samukawa. The distance is only 5.1 kilometers but the line was the main business of the SOTETSU railroad which also operated a railway from Yokohama to Yamato.

The company had no adequate funding at the beginning, and to operate the line they bought very old steam locomotives and passenger and freight cars from the then railroad ministry. However, their service heavily depended on the gravel transportation for the first four and half years. In 1923, a major earthquake called the Great Earthquake of Kanto occurred, and the gravel demand substantially increased almost reaching uncontrollable levels.

To cope with such a demand increase, they constructed a gravel unloading facility at Shiodome station in Tokyo and bought 100 new 15 ton freight cars to be used exclusively for gravel transportation. Also, they extended the line from Samukawa to Kurami in April 1934, and further to Atsugi in July of the same year, connecting the line to Odakyu Private railway.

In 1922, the company's income coming from gravel transportation turned 3.4 times as much as that of passenger transportation, and it became 20 times as much in 1927. The reason was an abundant resource of gravel available at the Sagami river and its geographical advantage that they were close to the heavily populated area of the Keihin district in Kawasaki and Yokohama. In order to carry a huge amount of gravel, they laid sidings from Samukawa, Kurami and Atsugi to dry riverbeds, and the loading work had been carried day and night. There was also a branch line running between Samukawa and the Sagami river bank and it remained operative even after World War II, but it was taken out in 1984.

Today, there is nothing left anymore to remind us of the existence of those old branch railways which carried gravel years ago.

SURFERS and CHIGASAKI BEACH

Those who visit the south side of Chigasaki for the first time will be surprised to see people half-naked or in wet suits carrying a surfboard on a bicycle. Surfers are now characterizing Chigasaki just like Eboshi-iwa does.

Life on this beach side is comfortable. Going surfing before going to work, and having barbecues with my surfer friends on weekends are now an important part of my life. An elder surfer once advised me that too much surfing makes you an idiot, but I wonder why because I see him every time I go surfing. Maybe he has also been surfing too much.

The good thing about surfing is that you can have a 'so-what' attitude towards everything, of course in a good sense. For example, people sometimes choose to end their lives when they lose a job. We surfers would think, "Now I can go surfing everyday". Actually, there is a surf spot called "Risutora"(restructuring). In this spot, there are many surfers even on weekdays, so the rumor says, surfers who lost a job go there.

There are much more important things in your life but not so many.

Ken Yoshida

Life is A Journey.....

I'm a student going to university in Chigasaki and studying cultural interaction of foreign countries. During the summer vacation, I went to Sydney, Australia. This was my second trip as I had stayed three months in Sydney before.

This time, I stayed at a hotel in the city called Budget Hotel where mostly backpackers stay and my room was a four-bed room. I stayed six nights there, and naturally, I had three roommates to share the room with even though they were not always the same people. Even though my purpose was sightseeing, I could have interesting conversation with them. One of them was an Australian and a few others with whom I communicated well were from New Zealand, Korea and Sweden.

First, my conversation with a young man called Philip sparks my memory. He is an Australian but he had been living in Saitama for one year before to study Japanese. He returned to his home country later but again he went to Osaka and stayed five months trying to get a job. Actually he wanted to be a hotel clerk, but because the hotel he approached was looking for a perfect Japanese speaker, he couldn't get the job. His inadequate Japanese skill was supposed to be the reason of his unemployment. Nevertheless, he looked like he had good speaking skills to me because our conversation was only in Japanese and surprisingly he had read a book by Murakami Haruki, a world-known Japanese novelist. He said "Japanese girls are soft and gentle, and I like that!" I think it was fortunate for me to have had a chance to talk to each other like this.

Secondly, I had a funny conversation with another young man from New Zealand. His name was Mathew. He was kind enough to ask me about a proverb, "Do you know Romu?" I said "Romu? I don't know what it is." Then he said Romu is the name of a country, so I asked "Europe?" "Yeah, if you go to Romu you do like Romu people do."

??? I couldn't understand. ??? He again said, "Um... if you come to Australia, you do like Australians do. If I go to Japan I will do like Japanese do. OK?" "Oh, it's a pro...proverb?" "Yes, that's it!"

In this way, I very much enjoyed talking with two of them closely, but other people were also kind to me. They all were cheerful and friendly!

My conclusion here is that I'm hoping Japanese people will become more kind to others, especially to those from overseas, just as these new friends were.

My trip was so meaningful, and I thought my life is like journey.

Daiki Kuroiwa

Japanese Proverbs with the English Equivalents

•出る釘は打たれる Don't make waves.

(Deru kugi wa utareru.)

●The protruding nail will be hammered.

•三つ子の魂百まで The child is the father
of the man.

(Mitsugo no tamashii hyaku made)

●The spirit of a three year-old lasts a hundred years.

•卵と誓は砕けやすい Actions speak louder
than words.

(Tamago to chikai wa kudake-yasui)

●Eggs and vows are easily broken.

IAC Mission Statement

We will contribute to the peace in the world community through mutual understanding, friendship, cooperation, solidarity and human dignity so all people, as "earth citizens", respect and live together beyond the borders of nationality.

Confucious says

"If one acts with one's own profit, there will be much resentment"

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