

Chigasaki Breeze

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

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 3RD ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM

The city implemented the following plan as a policy to tackle new administrative reform:

1. The 1st Administrative Reform (1996-2002) resulted in reducing the expenditure in the amount of ¥4.7 billion through the reviewing of office work.
2. The 2nd Administrative Reform (2003-2007) materialized a reduction in the amount of ¥2.8 billion by implementing new financial management.
3. In the 3rd Administrative Reform, the city will implement new administrative subjects swiftly and appropriately in anticipation of the diversification of citizens' needs, expected development of NPOs that will help with public services, etc.



- Set a concrete program and a numerical target and realize the implementation of this plan every year.
- Make the progress public through KOHO (the city's periodic publication) and the city's home page.

Target: Materialization of high quality administrative management working together with diversified bodies.

☆ Plan materialization of the 8 priority items and its concrete direction:

1) Better administrative services:

- Grasp of the citizens' needs
- Offer of administrative services by the cooperation of neighboring cities and towns
- Study of the general picture
- Offer of administrative services through the application of I.T.

2) Present positive information and accountability:

- Accessibility of information by internet
- Official announcements on the results of office business
- Promotion of civic participation

3) Use of private companies' energy:

- Promotion of consignment to private organizations
- Practical use of the designated management system
- Introduction of the public service reform law (a market test law)

4) Promotion of working-together type businesses:

- Promotion of the collaboration of businesses
- Collaboration with the local community
- Structuring of the system for public service diversification

5) Efficiency and priority of office administration:

- Review of office business
- Reduction of expenditure
- Clarification of the priority of duties
- Restraint of personnel expenses (Salary/staff allowances)
- Review on a way to deal with affiliated organizations

6) Reshuffling of administrative management system:

- Promotion of the personnel evaluation system
- Substantially improve staff training
- Solid management of staff capacity
- Review of the organization mechanism
- Improvement of internal office work through the application of I.T.
- Enforcement of inspections and audits

7) Financial management based on the view of corporate companies:

- Promotion of the action on the reform of public accounting
- Security of the annual revenue
- Promotion of public facility management
- Review of benefits' cases
- Sound management of the municipal hospital

8) Fulfillment of administrative assessment system:

A tool for implementation

- Introduction of measuring policy evaluation
- Introduction of an external evaluation system
- Enforcement of the investigation on citizen satisfaction



A MESSAGE TO OUR IMPORTANT READERS!

The International Association of Chigasaki (IAC) and the city of Chigasaki are going to work together and issue the Chigasaki Breeze as from July 1, 2008. Its main purpose and intent are to offer a new civic service by sending necessary information on administration, actual living, history, culture, civic activities, events, etc. to foreign residents using English as a common language. We think it is great if we can develop opportunities for them to receive our information and to be able to enjoy living in Chigasaki. We hope you will continue sharing interest in this local newspaper.

NEW REGISTRATION SYSTEM OF UNUSED ARTICLES

Do you have something that is usable but not needed?

In order to progress "Recycling", the city has enacted a system to accept registration from citizens of articles which are not used and kept in good condition.

Target: Residents in Chigasaki. No business concerns.

Registration Term: 3 months (From the month of registration till the end of the month 3 months later.)

The place to provide Registration Cards for unneeded articles:

-Consumers' Center in City Hall - Registration Corner for unneeded articles
-Koide Branch office -Kominkan (Community Hall) -Library -Women's Center -Citizen's Window Center

* Registration is free in principle.

As a necessary expense for donator, the fee will be up to ¥10,000.

* The unused article REGISTRATION CARD can be downloaded from the city's home page.

The card, if it's filled out in EXCEL, can be sent to kouhou@city.chigasaki.kanagawa.jp

The flow of the unused article card from registration to final settlement:

(1) Submission of Unused article Registration Card

(2) Completion of the card registration

(3) In the file, the following will be recorded:

Information on article to be registered: The name of registrant The name of district Telephone number of registrant

Files kept at: Consumer Center (The City Hall's Main Bldg 1F)

or Unneeded article card Registration Corner (The City Hall's Main Bldg 2F)

(4) Information on the article will appear in the city KOHO (Publication dated the 1st of every month) and in the city

URL <http://www.city.chigasaki.kanagawa.jp/newsection/kouhou/recycle/index.html>

(5) Consult with the Consumer Center or direct contact and consultation from those who want to register

(Please be aware that delivery of articles is directly between the people concerned.)

(6) When settlement is complete, either the registrant or those who wanted the article are required to contact the Consumer Center.

Remarks: In case of settlement as in (6) above, the registration will be eliminated.

In case consultation was made to the Consumer Center, and it was not settled within 3 months, the registration will be eliminated.

[Source: The Hisho Kouhou-ka in charge of consumers' living (inside the Consumer Center)]

HISTORY OF CHIGASAKI

ŌKA ECHIZEN-NO-KAMI TADASUKE AND JOKENJI TEMPLE

The story of *Ōka*, a judge at a law court in the Edo period was reported to be very popular among people for fairness in those days and his name remains popular even today as in the drama of Edo Minamimachi Bugyo (the Director of Edo Minamimachi) *Ōka Echizen-no-kami Tadasuke*, which has been broadcast on TV. His judgment was wonderful in terms of fairness and he gained popularity because he settled all the trials so well. Most of them are legendary stories, but the reason why *Tadasuke* became so popular was for his personality of doing his best at any time in the duty he had, and helping people in bad situations.

There is a graveyard for *Ōka*'s whole family in the *Sōgetsuzan Jokenji* temple. This was appointed to be a historic spot of Chigasaki city and has about sixty *Ōka* family tombstones.

Ōka Echizen-no-kami Tadasuke was the fifth generation of the *Ōka* family and when *Tokugawa Yoshimune* became the Eighth Shogun (the Eighth General) in 1717 (Kyoho year 2), he was selected for the position of *Machibugyo* of Edo (the Director of Edo) and was called *Echizen-no-kami*. Even in the heyday of the Bushi class (the samurai class), *Echizen-no-kami* was very popular, they say, as he had excellent judgment irrespective of rank, and was fair and made witty decisions.

Originally, the *Ōka* family was from Mikawa (present Nagoya), but as the second generation *Tadamasa* had served under the General *Tokugawa Iyeyasu*, he came to the Kanto area and in 1591 (Tensei year 19) he was given the land in *Tsutsumi* village, *Kōza-gun*, *Sagami-no-kuni* (present *Tsutsumi* in Chigasaki city). This was the start of the relationship between Chigasaki and the *Ōka* family. Twenty years later, he constructed the *Jokenji Temple* to pray for the repose of the soul of his father *Tadasuke* and his elder brother.

Ōka Tadasuke passed away in 1751 (Horeki year 1) at the age of 75. But because of his many contributions he was presented with the honor of *Ju-yon-I* in 1912 (Tensei year 1), and in the following year, the festival for the presentation of the honor was held in front of the grave of *Tadasuke-ko* (the *marquis Tadasuke*). This was the beginning of the *Ōka Echizensai Festival*. The festival was stopped by the Great Kanto Earthquake and other disasters, but in 1956 (Showa year 31) it was revived as the spring festival in Chigasaki.

For your information, the *Ōka Echizensai Festival* will take place on April 19 and 20, and the big parade starts at 13:30 from Chigasaki elementary school yard on the 20th (Sun) going through the district south of Chigasaki station, the north entrance of the station, and will finish at the end of *Emeroad Street* at 15:00. In the parade, a number of young foreign people will join in, including those who are learning Japanese at IAC Japanese language classes.

IAC Activity

●“ONLY ONE FLOWER IN THE WORLD” ... JAPANESE SPEECH CONVENTION



As we reported in the previous issue, a speech convention by foreign residents was held on March 16 and ended up being quite a success having nine speakers representing Korea, Serbia, China, Vietnam, and Colombia. The first prize went to a Korean speaker who was strongly impressed by the song, “ONLY ONE FLOWER IN THE WORLD”. The story will be introduced in the next issue.

●A WORLD TRAVELLER’S TALK WENT ON SUCCESSFULLY

On February 23 (Sat.), 2008, there were 61 people gathered to listen to a speech by *Masaki Nishioka* who has traveled to 60 countries since 2001 by riding his 650 cc *TRANSALPH* motorbike. His experiences during his travels crossing the earth either vertically or horizontally in a month-long period and his encountering unknown people impressed the audience so much. He is a teacher at a primary school in the city, and as soon as he gets ready financially, he takes off to unknown countries. According to him he felt safe as long as there were people around, and he explained that everyone in respective countries were all kind and cooperative regardless of the country.

LARGE-SIZED GARBAGE COLLECTION SYSTEM CHANGES

CHARGED HOUSE-TO-HOUSE GARBAGE COLLECTION TO BE MADE BY PRIOR BOOKING

Appointment by calling (57) 0200

- ŌGATA GOMI - LARGE-SIZED GARBAGE (¥500/item)

<More than 50cm but not exceeding 2m in length (And not weighing more than two adults can handle)> * Other than [Specific large-sized garbage]

- SPECIFIC LARGE-SIZED GARBAGE (¥1,000/item) * Two ¥500 certificate stickers needed

<Designated item of over 1m and not exceeding 2m in length (The weight has to be limited so as to be handled by two adults) >

DESIGNATED ITEM (The size has to be measured beforehand.)

[Sofas, dressers, bookshelves, cupboards (sideboards), beds (except mattresses), tables, drawers, desks]

- DESIGNATED BULKY GARBAGE (¥500/item)

<Dangerous items for collection and transportation>

Gas table ranges, gas fan heaters, gas rice cookers, cassette portable stoves, fire extinguishers, oil heaters, oil fan heaters, tire chains (metallic), iron dumbbells, barbells, propane gas cylinders.

(Containers of 10kg or less with the contents drained) * Other like items

After booking, please purchase the city revenue sticker, write down your name, put it on the garbage, and dispose of it at the collection point on the designated day by 8:30a.m.

The booking at one time can be for up to five pieces of garbage.

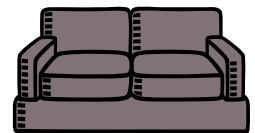
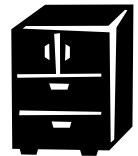
Please measure the size beforehand.

It's not permitted to change or add to the item(s) after the booking is made.

Please ask stores in case you want to dispose of electrical appliances which are the objects of the Electrical Appliance Recycling Law (Air conditioners/TV sets (cathode-ray tube type)/ refrigerators/freezers/washing machines)

- EVEN IF THE SIZE IS OVER 50cm IN LENGTH, THE FOLLOWING ITEMS MAY BE DISPOSED OF AS [NONCOMBUSTIBLE GARBAGE]

Dress containers, Dress cases (single rack), Umbrellas, Carry bags, Guitars, Golf clubs, Golf bags, Tricycles for children, Bamboo swords, Ski poles, Scoops, Wash Tubs (Plastic), Fishing rods, Tennis rackets, Bats, Sunshades, Planters (Plastic), Bathtub covers, Brooms, Polyester tanks, Polyester buckets



A GOOD LITTLE THING

“ECOCAP” CAMPAIGN

A VOLUNTEER ACTIVITY BY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

In the previous issue, we introduced the activity of a garment supplier who had been trying to help people suffering from poverty in overseas countries. This time, we would like to introduce a similar activity by junior high school students who are trying to save the lives of children in developing countries.

At *UMEDA* Junior High School in Chigasaki, the student council has been working on a program called “**ECOCAP Collection Campaign**” since August, 2007. They collect caps of used plastic bottles and donate them to the Japan Red Cross through the ECOCAP Promotion Association, one of the NPOs in the city. They say 800 caps can give a polio vaccine. The school council has been successful in collecting over 481,800 caps so far and they are continuing this campaign this school year too. Collection boxes have been placed not only at their school gate, but also at Chigasaki general gymnasium, Chigasaki youth hall and JUSCO in Chigasaki. Somewhere in the world, there must be somebody who will be waiting for our help.

If each one of us takes action, even if it's small, just like *UMEDA* school boys and girls, it can end up saving children in the world and this earth will become a wonderful place to live. Don't you agree?

The following is the above NPO's URL <http://www.ecocap007.com/index.html>

HERITAGE IN CHIGASAKI STATUE of NINOMIYA KINJIRO

Soon after you go through the gate of Chigasaki elementary school located on Southern Street near Chigasaki station, you will find a statue on the left side standing under some large trees as if the statue is guarded by them. The figure is of *Ninomiya Kinjiro* (or *Sontoku*) who lived from 1787 through 1856, and the statue was meant for young generations of those days to pay respect for his way of living. *Ninomiya Kinjiro* was simple-minded, thrifty, dutiful and diligent in his life, and he was an ideal symbol when the hardship on nations was so large. The government wanted to encourage the nation to behave like him.

Ninomiya Kinjiro, born in Odawara, made a thorough study of The Analects of Confucius from his boyhood, learned the spirit, and made it his own.

By the special order of the Hanshu (the head of a feudal domain), he calmly and deliberately carried out the drastic reform of the impoverished farming villages with his tough spiritual power and with perfect moral behavior, and he had great success realizing the ideal rural communities. This would be accepted by people even today. He trained capable people providing an opportunity for not only a number of pupils but also leaders of the farm villages.

The figure of *Kinjiro* stands carrying firewood on his back and reading a book of the Analects of Confucius while walking, and actually he was very popular as a hard worker. In Chigasaki, there are three other statues that you will see at three elementary schools in Koide, Tsurumine and Shorin. It might be interesting to see and compare them. These statues might have you think *Kinjiro* was small and cute, but the real *Kinjiro* was as tall as 182cm and he weighed 94kg. So he was a very big guy, which must have been very unusual in those days.

Japanese Proverbs And the English Equivalents

- 馬鹿 も 一芸
BAKA MO ICHIGEI
Even a broken clock is right twice a day.
(Even a fool has one talent.)
- 負ける が 勝ち
MAKERU GA KACHI
The race is not to the swift.
(To lose is to win.)
- 残り物 に 福 がある
NOKORIMONO NI FUKU GA ARU
Last but not least.
(The leftover will have luck.)
- 八方美人 は 薄情
HAPPO-BIJIN WA HAKUJO
Fair and fickle.
(An eight-sided beauty is cold hearted.)

Something special in Chigasaki

PACIFIC BEACH CLUB



A really attractive project is now under preparation in Chigasaki. That is the "Pacific Beach Club" led by Mr. Shiozawa, a representative of the Chigasaki Outrigger Canoe Club.

The "Pacific Beach Club" is, as its name implies, a club where people can enjoy marine sports around Chigasaki, but it is not an ordinary type of sports club. Its interesting characteristic is that it is one of the national projects under the name of "Synthetic Community Sport Club" and they aim at introducing to citizens the sports that are conducted by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology.

Mr. Shiozawa thinks it's too bad that marine sports are not major sports in Japan compared to other countries (they're not popular even in the sea-faced-city of Chigasaki!). He says it's a shame that people in Chigasaki don't try to start doing sports in the sea that effectively teach both adults and children not only canoeing but also about the environment and global warming. That's the reason why he launched this project.

If you participate in the club and if you want to try, you can enjoy outrigger canoeing, paddle surfing and other marine sports. This interesting canoe is 15m long, and 6 people row together mainly in the sea. The history of the outrigger canoe originated in Polynesia and dates back 2000 or 3000 years. (It is said to be the first transportation tool invented by human beings!). It seemed very wild and cool, but, to our surprise, it was easy to start. (Actually many children and women take part in the activity.) After several classes you can row this canoe and go as far as Eboshi rock, about 1,800meters from the beach!

Their class is open on weekends at Headland Beach in Chigasaki. You can take part in as many activities as you want for ¥3,985 per month for either canoeing or paddle surfing, and ¥5,985 per month for both. They also offer free classes several times a month. These are also held at Headland Beach around noon on weekends. (The schedule of free classes is shown in the URL below. For learners, it is necessary to take an initial instruction course for tools and rules first.)

Mr. Shiozawa says there are some members from foreign countries too. So why don't you start something new? It could be exciting!

URL : <http://www.pacificbeachclub.net/index.html>

TEL : 0120-14-0454

Mail : info@pacificbeachclub.net

Confucius says

"Now a man of humaneness, wishing himself to be established, makes others established, and wishing himself to accomplish his task, makes others accomplished in their tasks. The ability to compare what is near at hand with the treatment of others may be called the rule of humaneness."

The Chigasaki Breeze has been issued by the International Association of Chigasaki (IAC). If you wish to subscribe, please send ¥480 in stamps for 6 issues to the International Association of Chigasaki c/o Bunka Suishinka, Chigasaki City Hall, 1-1-1 Chigasaki, Chigasaki City 253-0041. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to send e-mail to [shimadayut@jcom.home.ne.jp] Chief editor: Yutaka Shimada. Editing staff: Riko Arimura, Yoshiyasu Itoh, Satomi Furube, Seiji Nakane, Mayumi Okuyama, Daiki Kuroiwa, Ayako Sakai, Yukiko Wada, and Hideo Yuge.