

Chigasaki Breeze

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

No.0023

INFLUENZA PANDEMIC.....NOTIFICATION FROM THE GOVERNOR

On April 30, Kanagawa Prefectural Governor Matsuzawa made a statement for citizens to be prepared for the influenza pandemic. Some months have passed now, but the influenza is still here and has been predicted to return this fall. So, let us quote the governor's statement anew as an emergency notice and reconfirm as to how we should cope with the possible development of infection.

Emergency Notice

Today, the World Health Organization (WHO) has raised its alert level of the influenza pandemic (swine influenza) to Phase 5 based on the situation that the flu virus has further spread from human to human, and outbreaks of the influenza are witnessed in larger groups.

We, the Kanagawa Prefectural Government, already established the Health Crisis Management Headquarters, and according to the Kanagawa Prefectural Action Plan against the influenza pandemic, we are promptly implementing various measures to protect prefectural citizens' health and prevent infection.

We will continue to take all possible measures against the influenza, so we would like to ask the citizens to calmly respond to the situation based on the accurate information.

To the Prefectural Citizens

- To defend against infection of the influenza pandemic, it is important to obtain the latest accurate information and respond calmly. Please try to get official information provided by the prefectural, national, and municipal governments, as well as news from the newspapers, TVs, and radios. The prefecture's official website will carry the latest information on the influenza, too.
- To prevent infection, it is important to take precautionary measures in daily life, such as wearing a mask, washing your hands, gargling often, and avoiding crowds. Please also observe the rules of etiquette, such as covering your mouth with a handkerchief when you cough.
- If you have developed influenza-like symptoms, for example, a fever, coughing and suffering from fatigue, after returning from Mexico, U.S. and other regions where the flu infection had been confirmed, be sure to make a telephone call first for consultation to the "Hatsunetsu Sodan Center" (high-fever consultation centers) at the Kanagawa Prefectural Public Health and Welfare Centers, or the Public Health Centers of Yokohama, Kawasaki, Yokosuka, Fujisawa and Sagami-hara Cities before visiting a medical institution.
- If you plan to visit Mexico and other regions where the flu infection has been confirmed, please consider cancelling the visit. You can obtain the relevant information on the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- You will not be infected with swine influenza virus by eating pork and processed pork products. Influenza is not transmitted through foods, so eating foods made in Mexico will not cause infection.

Do not get confused by inaccurate information.

Shigefumi Matsuzawa Governor of Kanagawa Prefecture April 30, 2009

Inquiries in foreign languages to be accepted until November:

English 045-314-9917 Spanish 045-314-9918 Portuguese 045-314-9919 Chinese 045-314-9927

HAMAORI-SAI AND MIKOSHI 浜降祭と神輿

Hamaori-Sai is well known as a dawn festival and the scene of a number of Mikoshis, the sacred portable shrines, going into the sea wildly dancing for purification.

This year, *HAMAORI-SAI* is scheduled on July 20th, Monday, and about 40 *Mikoshis* will get together at Chigasaki Nishihama Beach from 5 o'clock in the morning carried by many people in special clothing from around Chigasaki and Samukawa. Some of them come from a fair distance carrying Mikoshi on their shoulders shouting "*Dokkoï, Dokkoï*" in a special rhythm. And at around 7 o'clock, all of *Mikoshis* get together and the joint "ritual" of praying for a rich harvest of the five kinds of grain is held. As soon as the ritual finishes, *Mikoshi* start to return to their own shrines.

How and when *HAMAORI-SAI* started is not necessarily clear, but it is said that in 1838, one of the *Mikoshis* was lost when there was a fight between parishioners of Samukawa shrine and the shrines of a neighboring town at a pier on Sagami-gawa near Samukawa shrine. The lost *UJIGAMI-SAMA* was found in the sea of Chigasaki by a fisherman named *MAGOHICHI* of Nango a few days later. Then parishioners of Samukawa shrine visited Chigasaki beach to express their appreciation for the discovery.

On the other hand, *Tsurumine-Hachiman-Sha* shrine is said that they had offered *Mikoshi* to Chigasaki beach a long time before Samukawa shrine started to visit the beach in order to pray for the well-being, good health and safety of the family; the so called purification ceremony.

Unexpectedly, both *Tsurumine-Hachiman-Sha* shrine and *Samukawa* shrine had a common ritual to offer *Mikoshi* to Chigasaki beach. So they discussed the joint ritual repeatedly since the Meiji era and finally agreed for *HAMAORI-SAI* to be held on July 15th every year since *Taisho* 12 (1923) and it has continued for dozens of years.



MINI CONCERT AT THE CITY HALL ON AUGUST 18 (Tue)

The mini concert at the main lobby of the city hall is scheduled on August 18 (Tue) at 12:20 ~ 12:50. To be performed is a folk song and guitars by 6 members. This music concert at the main lobby happens once every three months for the purpose of having citizens feel welcome at the city hall and closer to the administration. Please come and enjoy listening to their folk song and the sound of guitars this time.

Inquiries: Bunka Suishin-ka (Cultural Promotion Section) 82-1111



A SUMMER EVENT OF CHIGASAKI FIREWORKS ON THE BEACH

On August 8, from 18:30 to 20:20, there will be a fireworks display at Chigasaki Southern Beach. As one of the major events performed by the city, 50 thousand people come to watch. It's a typical scene in the summer which adds a poetic charm to the season.

With a skyrocket, you can send a message to your family or friends to celebrate something though there is a charge of ¥10,000. Also, there are pay seats available.

Whoever is interested in visiting Southern Beach to enjoy the fantastic sight in the night sky, contact Chigasaki Fireworks Display Executive Committee at 0467-84-0377.



“NANDEMO YOICHI”

なん よいち
何でも夜市

A FLEA MARKET IN THE EVENING AT CHUO PARK

A part of the title "*Nandemo Yoi*" literally means "Anything is acceptable", but here it means you can buy anything at the flea market to be held at Chuo Park on August 7 (Fri), from 16:00 ~ 20:00.

There will be 80 booths selling some charming goods, so you will be able to find almost anything you may want to buy including daily necessities, clothing, foods and drinks, and so on.

Also, you may come across an interesting or lucky find and it should be a pleasant evening market. How about visiting Chuo Park with your family?

FROM HELLO KANAGAWA

SCHOLARSHIP LOAN PROGRAM FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS 高校生の奨学金制度

●Students to be covered: K.P.G's education loan is available for students who, in principle, live in the prefecture and need financial assistance for school expenses.

●Regular recruitment of applicants: April (Screening will be conducted if there are many applicants.)

●Eligibility requirement: The annual family income must be about ¥8,000,000 or less (in case of a four-member household.)

●Monthly loan: ¥20,000 for a public school student. ¥40,000 for a private school student (The loan must be paid back after graduation.)

●To apply: Please apply for the scholarship loan through the high school after enrollment.

{Inquiries in Japanese} High School Education Division, Education Bureau

PARTICULAR WORDS USED WITH THE SIREN

JISHIN

じしん
地震

KOZUI

こうずい
洪水

KAJI

かじ
火事

TSUNAMI

つなみ
津波

At 5 o'clock in the evening in summer time, you will hear a voice through a loud speaker in town saying that it's five o'clock, but it's not only for notification of the time, but it also refers to missing people telling you of the person's description.

In the meantime, the municipal administration is trying to sound a siren as *KUNREN* or practice to let us know of the potential of an earthquake, flooding, a large fire, tsunamis, etc. When they say *KUNREN*, it means a practice, so you don't need to feel scared, but you never know what will happen in nature and we hope you will remember the sound of it.

The siren for a *KUNREN* or practice will begin to say it at the beginning, but their whole purpose is for you to be warned and prepared in any happenings or disasters in the future.

If you suddenly hear the loud sound of a siren blown, it will certainly be an earthquake, flooding, fire, tsunami, etc. So, we hope you'll remember the sound of *JISHIN* meaning earthquake, *KOZUI* meaning flooding, *KAJI* meaning a fire, and *TSUNAMI*.

If you're living near the beach, the word of *TSUNAMI* will definitely have to be remembered.

IAC Mission Statement

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

Email address of the Chigasaki Breeze
chigasakibreeze@7jp.com
IAC URL <http://www.7jp.com/iac>

HISTORY OF CHIGASAKI

FOREIGNERS' CEMETERY IN AKABANE CATHOLIC CHIGASAKI CEMETERY

Not many people would know, but there is a Catholic Cemetery in Chigasaki that dates back more than 65 years. It's in Akabane district located on a gently sloping hill surrounded by a quiet forest close to Shonan Country Club.

White crosses on the cemetery are all small, but placed in good order on the lawn, they look really simple, and the scenery is different from a typical Japanese graveyard as you could imagine.

Before 1945, a German Monastery was taking care of a cemetery, but after 1945, the cemetery was taken over by the Canadian Convent on the land they owned. The surrounding calm forest would have fit the religious life of self-sufficiency. Actually though, they cut down more than a hundred pine trees and covered it with a thicket.

In 1953, the application to use the land as a cemetery was accepted, and then it was donated to the religious organization, Catholic Yokohama Bishop Section in 1958.

After that, the cemetery was expanded and now there are 732 divisions in the 2,928 square-meter area. The management of the cemetery is done by the Catholic Yokohama Bishop Section and the administration is by the Chigasaki Catholic Church. Those who are able to use this cemetery are the Christians who belong to Catholic Churches in Chigasaki, Hiratsuka, Oiso and Ninomiya.

The Chigasaki Catholic Church was originally set up in Satake villa in Nakakaigan in 1948, and the present church was constructed on the site of Kawakami villa in Nakakaigan in 1952.

The cemetery is well maintained by Christian volunteers. The Convent located near the cemetery moved to Nasu, Tochigi Prefecture in 1988, and apartments were built on the site.

There may be more residential houses to be built in this area from now, but the quiet atmosphere of the cemetery will not be lost.

Unfortunately, entry to the cemetery is not permitted.



IAC ACTIVITY

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS
FROM FRANCE VISITING AGAIN

From June 26 through July 26, a group of 6 university students from France is going to do a home-stay in the city staying separately with volunteer host families. Their purpose is to brush up their Japanese they learned in their home country and also study Japanese culture based on programs planned by the IAC. They will visit junior and high schools in Chigasaki, experience a tea ceremony/kimono wearing, try ZAZEN (zen meditation) in Kamakura, and so on. However, the close relationships and daily communication with host families including children seem to be the most exciting part of the trip, and they always return to France with fond memories.

This one month stay by students from France started in 1999 and it's going to be the 11th visit this year, those students represent a two top class universities, and their experience is reportedly well reputed among the students in France.

If you happen to see them riding a bicycle in town, feel free to say hello.

For further information, call Noriko Fukumura on 85-1337.

CROSS-CULTURAL EXCHANGE AND EVENTS
PLANNED FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AT KAIGAN
YOUTH HALL

いぶんかこうりゅう
異文化交流

Calligraphy on July 18

Sumi-e (an India ink drawing) on August 8

Kaigan Youth Hall near the baseball stadium in Nakakaigan and the Int'l Association of Chigasaki (IAC) plan to have young Japanese people enjoy a cross-cultural exchange in July and August inviting foreign visitors/residents to the following events.

Those who can participate are from Junior high school students to people under the age of 30. The participants are required to bring writing implements, towel, hat, work gloves, and canteen.

For both programs, the number of applicants openings: 30 (On a first-come, first-served basis.)

(1) July 18 (Sat) 16:00 ~ 19:30

Study *Shodo* or Calligraphy

Try to make shaved ice, udon, hand-rolled sushi

There will also be 6 university students from France joining in.

(2) August 8 (Sat) 17:00 ~ 20:30

Study Sumi-e or India ink drawing

Try to make salad, hand-rolled sushi and have watermelon

Watch the fireworks display very closely from the musical room on the 3F.

There will be several foreign residents from the city.

Note for the above two programs:

(A) Those who can participate are from Junior high school students to people under the age of 30.

(B) Please bring brush pen if available.

(C) Number of participants: 30 (On a first-come, first-served basis)

(D) No participation fee

CHIGASAKI KAIGAN YOUTH HALL • THE INT'L ASSOCIATION OF CHIGASAKI

Application & Inquiries: Kaigan Seishonen Kaikan Tel: 85-0942



PEOPLE IN TOWN

Christine Hashimoto
from the Philippines

I love living in Chigasaki because of the people and it's near the beach....



Christine Hashimoto's home is Marikina City, about an hour drive from the capital city of the Philippines, Manila. She married a Japanese man who was traveling around Marikina, and came to Chigasaki. It's been 18 years since she started to live in Yabata, they presently have three daughters, and the girl in the picture is her third daughter Lei. She is going to Tsurumine elementary school and is in third grade now.

She feels very happy living with her husband's parents making the family seven in all.

Now, her father-in-law (she fondly calls him *Ojichan*) runs a Yakitori restaurant *TORIKAZU* at Yabata, near Shimamura, and their *Motsuni* (a simmered pork intestine with lots of vegetables) is said to be the special on the menu there.

One thing she noticed living in Japan is the lack of parks where kids can play freely. To her, play is an important aspect in children's lives, but she has to go by car to go to a larger park. She hopes the Japanese government will do something about this.

Nevertheless, she feels so lucky that she is raising her kids in Chigasaki because of its openness and laid back environment. When she came to live with her in-laws, the number of foreigners was very few, and in order to meet other people, she joined various groups such as the AFWJ (Association of Foreign Housewives of Japan), and the IAC for a few years, but she left mainly because she became busy taking care of her family.

She says she loves living in Chigasaki because of the people and being near the beach, and she thinks Chigasaki beach is the best place to spend the early hours walking. Though it does take 45 minutes on foot from her home to the beach.

A year ago, with the support of her family, she started an after-school program for kids in Yabata. You can see from the picture above that she loves kids. After her children grow up, she hopes to travel all over Japan though to her Chigasaki may be the best place in many ways; people, climate, and social systems including schools and hospitals.

ENVIRONMENT

SOLAR ENERGY GENERATION PANEL
AT "SAPOSEN"

SAPOSEN is an abbreviation of the Support Center for Citizen's Activities located near the JUSCO super store, on the other side of Chuo-Dori.

There, a solar energy generation panel is going to be equipped on its roof to start operation from July 5.

This is the first attempt by an NPO called The Renewable Energy Network (REN) to reduce CO2 emission using such public utilities as SAPOSEN.

The total construction cost is 5.46 million yen, of which 85% or 4.64 million yen plus the solar panel system is contributed by the Green Power Fund sponsored by Tokyo Electric Power Generation Co. (TEPCO), a major power supplier, while REN uses its reserve fund of 220,000 yen for setting up the equipment. The rest of the total costs in the amount of 600,000 yen is planned to be collected by donations from the citizens who support this project.

The system has a 7.77KW generating capacity but the generated power equals one third of the whole energy the SAPOSEN consumes in a year. Staff say they sell the generated power to TEPCO and donate the earnings to the Chigasaki Hometown Fund of the city office. The staff added that they plant *morning glory* and *niga-uri* (balsam pear) to grow outside the windows facing west to prevent sun shine slanting in. The REN's homepage is <http://www.i-shimin.net/ren/>

It appears that such public effort is not so large a project, but every little bit helps to protect the earth from environmental degradation.





JAPANESE RECIPES (2)

Braised Meat & Potatoes

This time, we are showing 'Braised meat and potatoes' which is the representative dish of home cooking. Many Japanese people describe this as their mother's recipe. Why don't you try it?

braised meat & potatoes

- Serves: 4
- Calories: 329 kcal
- Japanese: *Niku-jaga*

肉じゃが



ingredients:

- 200 g thinly sliced beef (veal)
- 2 big onions
- 600 g (4 big or 6 small) potatoes
- 3 tablespoons green peas
- 400 ml water
- 2 tablespoons salad oil
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 2 tablespoons sake
- 2 tablespoons sweet sake for seasoning (mirin)
- 4 1/2 tablespoons soy sauce

step 1: Slice the beef into thin slices. Cut the onions into 8 sections. Cut the potatoes into 6 to 8 pieces.

step 2: Heat salad oil, saute the beef until the color changes.

step 3: Add the onions and fry.

step 4: Add the potatoes and fry.

step 5: Add the water, sugar, sake, mirin, and 2 tablespoons of the soy sauce.

step 6: Cover and boil on high heat. After boiling, reduce the heat, skim off the surface scum.

step 7: Bring to boil again and cook until the broth is reduced to half. Add remaining soy sauce. Cover again and boil until broth is reduced to one - third. Add green peas and mix.

comment:

The taste seeps into the potatoes and beef well. The potatoes will melt in your mouth.

Homepage: www.j-simplerecipes.com

ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

EDUCATION SYSTEMS IN JAPAN 日本の教育制度

Compulsory education in Japan includes six years of elementary school and three years of junior high school. In addition, there are various subsequent academic courses, such as high school (three years) and college/university (four years). All schools begin the academic year in April and end in March of the following year.

Chigasaki municipal elementary schools have a school lunch program while junior high schools have a milk program (only milk is provided). Municipal elementary and junior high schools do not require entrance fee or tuition fee. Although textbooks are free, parents must bear the cost of expenses such as teaching materials other than textbooks, stationery to be used by the student, lunches, excursions and class trips.

Entering a Municipal Elementary and Junior High Schools.

Although foreign residents are not obliged to go to school, parents may enroll or transfer their children into a municipal elementary school or junior high school if they are of school age. Please consult the School Affairs Section (Gakumu-ka) if you would like to enroll your child in a municipal school.

School Expense Subsidy Program

Subsidies for families experiencing paying entrance fees for elementary and junior high school, are provided upon authorization (subject to an income assessment), to cover part of the cost of schools supplies, extracurricular activities (such as excursions), school trips, school lunches, school medical expenses and eyeglasses. Please complete an application form at the schools of attendance, attach the required certificates concerning income, and submit the documents to the school. For more information, please ask the School Affairs (Gakumu-ka) or the homeroom teacher of your elementary or junior high school.

From THE GUIDEBOOK FOR FOREIGN RESIDENTS

JAPANESE PROVERBS AND THE ENGLISH EQUIVALENTS

- 雨 降って 地 固まる
AME FUTTE JI KATAMARU
(Rain falls and ground hardens.)
After rain comes fair weather.
- 金 の 切れ目 が 縁 の 切れ目
KANE NO KIREME GA EN NO KIREME
(When money runs out, the relation ends.)
When poverty comes in at doors, love leaps out at windows.
- 兄弟 は 他人 の 始まり
KYODAI WA TANIN NO HAJIMARI
(Brothers are the start of unrelated persons.)
Though they are brothers, their pockets are not sisters.
- 早起き は 三文 の 得
HAYAOKI WA SANMON NO TOKU
(To get up early is worth a penny.)
The early bird catches the worm.
- 人 の ふり 見て 我が ふり 直せ
HITO NO FURI MITE WAGA FURI NAOSE
(See the appearance of others and improve your appearance.)
Learn wisdom by the follies of others.

WELCOME FUROSHIKI

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Homepage: <http://www.welcomefuroshiki.org>

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