

Chigasaki Breeze

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

No.36

Foreign residents will be subject to the revised Basic Resident Registration Law

がいこくじんじゅうみん かた どうろくせいど おお かわります
外国人住民の方の登録制度が大きく変わります

Foreigners living in Japan should note that a revision to the Basic Resident Registration Law, coming into force in July 2012, will affect them directly.

Main changes:

- Foreign residents will be listed on the Basic Resident Register, the same register that lists Japanese residents.
- In place of a certificate of alien registration, a residence card ("zairyu card") or a special permanent resident certificate will be issued.
- When a foreign resident moves to another municipality, he/she must register at the new municipality's offices by completing a "move-in-notice", just as Japanese citizens do now.
- Filing of the acquisition of/changes to one's residence status and changes to passports will be handled by the Ministry of Justice Immigration Bureau.

Eligible persons for whom a residence card will be issued:

Following foreign nationals who legally stay more than three months and have an address:

- Medium to long term residents
- Special permanent residents
- Persons granted landing permission for temporary refuge or persons granted permission for provisional stay
- Persons who are to stay in Japan through birth or who have renounced Japanese nationality

Attention

A residence record ("juminhyo") will not be issued to those who are not in the categories of eligible persons' listed above or to those who have no residence status as of the revised law enforcement day (including those who have not reported to a municipality changes in the items recorded on the residence renewal permission and on the residence status change permission by the Immigration Bureau).

For more details, please refer to the following websites:

Immigration Bureau of Japan: http://www.immi-moj.go.jp/newimmiact_1/en/index.html

Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications: http://www.soumu.go.jp/main_sosiki/jichi_gyousei/c-gyousei/zairyu_english.html

Inquiry: Citizens' Section of City Hall in charge of family registers

Autumn, the Season of Fringed Pinks あき 秋、なでしこの季節です

The season blessed with abundant harvests and crisp weather is about to begin. Grasses in summer will be replaced with autumn flowers. An ancient poet (Yamanoue no Okura) selected seven autumnal flowers that best represent the season: hagi (Japanese clover), susuki (a eulalia), kuzu (a vine of the pea family), ominaeshi (a patrinia), fujibakama (a thoroughwort), kikyuu (a Chinese bellflower) and nadeshiko (a fringed pink). The last one has been adopted as the nickname of the Japanese women's national football team, Nadeshiko Japan, the winner of the FIFA Women's World Cup 2011. Nadeshiko is a perennial plant, growing wild in Japan and blooming from July to October. The pretty little pink flowers, 4 to 5cm in diameter, are said to personify the gracefulness of traditional Japanese women. The name was derived from the impression of the flower; it calms our soul and makes us feel like touching it gently as if patting a child.

After the exhausting summer, autumn helps us regain stability. It is also the best season for reading, sports, outings and artistic activities. Sports meets, cultural and arts festivals, and flower exhibitions are held at many places. As usual, the cluster-amaryllis festival will be held in Serizawa. Let's enjoy the most comfortable season in Japan.



The flower of nadeshiko

Radiation dosage levels in Chigasaki return to normal

しな い ほうしゃせんりょう へいじょうち
市内の放射線量はほぼ平常値

The atmospheric radiation levels in the city have returned to those before the March nuclear plant accident. The monitoring post at the prefectural facility in Shimomachiya has detected daily averages of around 0.05 microsieverts (μ Sv) since the end of June, compared with 0.182 μ Sv four days after the accident, and 0.034 to 0.087 μ Sv throughout last year.

Authorities say that recent dosage levels do not necessitate the need for special measures in our everyday lives.

Chigasaki wins at 2011 All-Japan Unicycle Competition

ちがさき ぜんにっぽんいちりんしゃきょうぎ ちゅうがくせいぶもん ゆうしょう
茅ヶ崎のチームが さわやか全日本一輪車競技中学生部門で優勝

"Ocean Blue", a unicycle team from Chigasaki, has won the junior high school group performance section of the 2011 Sawayaka All-Japan Unicycle Competition which took place in Tokyo in July. The club team consists of eleven girl riders who are sixth-year elementary and junior high school students living in Chigasaki and Samukawa. The team was sixth last year. For your reference, "Sawayaka" (さわやか) means fresh.



Stay on the Alert for Earthquakes, Typhoons and Fires

地震、台風、火事に気をつけましょう

Nearly six months having passed since the Great East Japan Earthquake hit northeastern Japan, people may have relaxed their vigilance against earthquakes. However, as a Japanese saying goes, disasters occur when we least expect them. Here are some tips that you can follow on a daily basis.

- Carpenter's tools such as a saw, a nail puller and a hammer as well as a car jack may be useful when you have to get out of a collapsed house or help others in a similar situation. It is advisable to keep these tools in an easy-to-get-to place.
- Spare dry cells for portable radios, gas cookers, flash lights and other appliances should be on hand. Dry cells disappeared from shops in the aftermath of the March quake and it took a long time before the supply returned to normal.
- Shoes with thick soles are essential if you have to walk across broken glass.
- A portable gas stove is convenient in the case of a power failure.
- Don't drain the bathtub immediately after taking a bath. Bathtub water can be used for washing, flushing toilets, extinguishing fires, and so on.
- Discuss from time to time each family member's role, evacuation sites and how to contact each other or next of kin.
- Last but not least, keep exit routes clear so that you can get out of your house promptly. Three Ss (Seiri, Seiton and Seisou in Japanese, or to get rid of useless things, rearrange remaining necessities properly, and clean workshops frequently), a basic philosophy for raising productivity at manufacturing plants could also help us make our homes safer and ready for emergencies.

It is preparedness that counts in chaotic situations, or as the English say: an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

Free Space Is Available for Your Meeting

“Support Center for Citizens' Activities”

自由に利用できるスペースがあります “市民活動サポートセンター”

The Support Center is a local facility where citizens can freely use its space either as a group or as individuals for non-profit-oriented activities. The Center is equipped with not only tables and chairs but also a copier and printers that you can use at a reasonable cost, plus five personal computers you can use right there or borrow (provided that you sign for them at the counter). Some office equipment is available too.

There are 283 NPO groups registered as sub-members of this center, and you can find out about their activities by looking at the many fliers and posters on the walls and notice boards. You can also find various official City documents here including records of municipal activities, parliamentary news, basic law, history, and so forth, which will give you a good idea about almost everything that local people and the municipality are doing.

This facility is located on Chuo-dori, on the other side from AEON supermarket, and next to and to north of ENEOS gas station. It is open from 09:30 to 21:30 every day and closed only on the third Wednesday of each month. Within the City boundaries, this is the only space having equipment as mentioned above which citizens can use freely and for as long as they need, though occasionally there are some special events such as lectures, addresses, and festivities arranged by the Center which use a major part of its available space.

Several staff at the counter will help explain how to use their space, machines and office equipment, and will welcome your visit. When you have your next get-together planned, why don't you use this Center?!



Quiz

Correct answers: Q1 2 Q2 3 Q3 1 Q4 1

HISTORY OF CHIGASAKI

The Row-House Gate of the Mizukoshi Family Residence

水越家の長屋門



On the south side of the old Ohyama highway running parallel to the Shonan by-pass near Takata, there is a unique construction, a *nagaya-mon* or row-house gate. This *nagaya-mon* is the gate of the Mizukoshi family residence and Mizukoshi was a *nanushi* or chief of Takata-mura village in the Edo Period. Opposite this gate, on the north side of the highway, used to stand the Akabane Shinmei Shrine.

The old Ohyama highway runs across a sandhill, and a vast green field called Takata plowland used to stretch from the highway south to where the Municipal hospital is presently located. It's almost impossible to imagine how it looked at that time, but records say people could look down across a picturesque view of lotus flowers blooming in spring; a vast expanse of fresh, green, rice paddy fields shimmering in the summer heat; and golden ears of rice swaying in the autumn breeze.

Incidentally, this *nagaya-mon* was built by a carpenter called Gorozaemon who also built the Mitsuhashi family residence (which later became a Folk Museum, as reported in the previous issue of CB).

The Mizukoshi residence was repaired and rebuilt once, in the Meiji and the Showa Periods, respectively, and in the Meiji Period it was also expanded to the east and west. When the Great Kanto Earthquake occurred, the residence didn't fall down but was reportedly left leaning considerably.

In 1955 (Showa 30), the thatched roof of the residence was replaced with tin. The reason was that a thatched roof has to be changed every few years, so maintenance is very difficult and costly.

In the Taisho Period, the Mizukoshi family was one of the biggest landowners in this area and one of its members, Ryosuke Mizukoshi, became the third mayor of Chigasaki town in 1920 (Taisho 9). Ryosuke Mizukoshi was a graduate of Koyo-juku or Koyo private school (opened by Toyo Ogasawara and located at Hatori in Fujisawa), and, before taking up the post of mayor, he served as a teacher of an elementary school, a chief of Shohrin-mura village, a member of the Kohza-gun county assembly, and a member of the Kanagawa prefecture assembly.

When he became mayor, the town assembly was arguing over a school reconstruction project, but he worked very hard and managed to resolve their disagreements. Soon afterwards, when he could see that things were improving, he stepped down as mayor and elected Nobu Nitta (who he had previously appointed to be his deputy) as his replacement.

This area, encompassing the Shinmei Shrine and the Ohyama highway, retains no trace of its old scenery anymore due to the construction of the new Shonan by-pass and its side roads, but there used to be vast rice fields extending as far as the eye could see.

Please keep in mind, however, that the Mizukoshi residence is not open to the public.

Source: Historical Property of Chigasaki edited by Chigasaki City Editing Committee

IAC ACTIVITY



Charity Concert At Civic Hall On September 9 (Fri)

“Travel Europe with Kyoko Sugai’s Classical Music”

しみんぶんかかいかん
市民文化会館 チャリティコンサート 9/9

「菅井京子と共に名曲で巡るヨーロッパの国々」

The violinist Kyoko Sugai has been invited to perform at an IAC-hosted charity concert in the small hall of Civic Hall on September 9 (Fri). This event is sponsored by the City and Soroptimist International, Chigasaki. Doors open at 18:00 and the performance starts at 18:30. The admission fee is ¥1,000.

The theme of the concert is “Traveling around Europe with Famous Pieces of Music”, and Kyoko Sugai co-stars with pianist Hiroshi Nagao to play classical music of Elgar, Kreisler, Wieniawski, Massenet, Chausson, Paganini, Dvorak, Bruch, Debussy, and Sarasate.

The purpose of this charity concert is to raise funds to help children’s education in such countries as Laos, Cambodia, and Peru.

A’LOHAS FESTA CHIGASAKI 2011

ちがさき
アロハスフェスタ茅ヶ崎2011

“Why don’t we live slowly in Chigasaki?” is the message from this city and the theme of this event, scheduled for September 17 (Sat) ~ 19 (Mon) from 10:00 to 21:00 at Civic Hall.

‘ALOHAS’ is a coined term derived from the Hawaiian words Aloha and LOHAS, the former meaning human love and appreciation, the latter standing for Life of Health and Sustainability, and the City wishes to encourage such a lifestyle.

At the hall, hula dancing and a concert will be performed, while in the parking lot, there will be a big market selling outlet surfing goods and food. Please come and join in!

Inquiry: Secretariat of ALOHAS Festa
Chigasaki Executive Committee
Tel: 0467-84-0377



People in Town

WELEGE JAGATH PUSHPAKUMARA from the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

Japanese seem to work too much and don’t have enough fun...

Born in Tangalle, an important fishing port and tourist destination on the southern coast of Sri Lanka, Welege Jagath Pushpakumara (nickname Jaga), is one of very few Sri Lankan people living in Chigasaki. He had visited Japan as a tourist about eight years ago, but returned some four years later to marry a Japanese lady he had met on a bus in the city of Candy. She was touring Sri Lanka at the time and the only vacant seat was next to her. That was the start of their relationship.



In Japan, Jaga initially worked for a Japanese company in Ayase, but lost his job just over a year ago when the company was restructured. That was when he decided to open a restaurant. In Tangalle, Jaga owned and operated three *maguro* fishing boats and enjoyed cooking too. His restaurant, located on Teppo-dori, very close to the crossing with Yuzo-dori, is also called Tangalle and serves traditional Sri Lankan and Indian cuisine.

When he was young, he watched the popular Japanese TV drama “Oshin” all the time. He played volleyball for twenty five years and also enjoyed social dancing. He used to go to a dance studio in Nakakaigan, but had to quit because running the restaurant by himself took up all his time.

Because of his background, he likes raw fish, and, being Buddhist, he eats chicken and mutton, but doesn’t eat pork or beef. Most Sri Lankans are Buddhist and parents start teaching their children the basics of Buddhism from the age of three or so. Jaga feels that, in this respect, the system of Buddhism in Sri Lanka is very different from that of Japanese Buddhism.

To him, Japanese seem to work too much and don’t have enough fun; they should relax more, even if he himself has been Japanized to some extent! Although he has been granted permanent residence, he misses the way of life in Sri Lankan and so is not sure how long he will stay in Japan.

With respect to the 3.11 Great East Japan Earthquake, he was very much impressed by the beautiful reactions of the victims to the donations of food, clothes, and other things, that he saw on TV. Jaga thinks Japanese generally are gentle or *yasashii*, and he is interested in learning more about Japanese culture. In fact, he liked Kyoto very much and hopes Japanese will preserve those traditions forever.

Jaga likes living in Chigasaki because of the open beach which reminds him of the beach of Tangalle. Lastly, he said he would like to teach Sri Lankan people how to dispose of garbage in an environmentally friendly way.

So Many Countries, So Many Customs

ところか しな か
“所変われば 品変わる”

The hectic Obon Season in Korea

おおいそが かんこく ほん
大忙しの韓国のお盆

In Korea, people observe the Buddhist custom of Obon (Ullambana in Sanskrit) on the 15th day of the eighth month of the old lunar calendar (which falls on September 12 this year) during the harvest festival of Chuseok. In Japan, although some communities in some parts of Kanto, Chugoku, Shikoku and the southwestern islands also hold Kyu Bon (Old Bon) at this time, elsewhere, Obon is most commonly celebrated in August (according to the solar calendar).

For Obon in Korea, city workers go back to their ancestral hometowns or their parents’ homes to spend time together and it’s no exaggeration to say that there are no exceptions. In a culture that shuns vacations, Korean workers cannot avoid taking several days’ holiday in a row at this time. This results in a unique phenomenon, the so-called ‘great racial migration’. The mass exodus from the cities is incredible; train tickets are sold out more than a month beforehand and the streams of cars leaving the cities seem endless.

And, as soon as they arrive at their parents’ home, housewives become busy with the preparations for Obon. On the day of Obon itself, there is a special ceremony called *Charye*: all family members and relatives get together, set a table with offerings such as newly harvested rice and fresh fruits, and bow respectfully to show their appreciation for their ancestors (as shown in the photos). Then they eat various traditional foods including Songpyeon, crescent-shaped rice cakes, steamed upon pine needles, containing different kinds of sweet or semi-sweet fillings, such as sesame seeds and honey, sweet red bean paste, and chestnut paste. This is not so different from Japan where each household places offerings (albeit fewer) on the family Buddhist altar and prays for the peaceful rest of their ancestors’ souls.

Nearly all shops in the cities are closed during this Obon season, and the custom is for people not to go out, but rather spend time at home chatting with each other. After a long absence, this is an important time for families.

Such profound respect for ancestors and strong unity within families seems connected to the strong sense of national unity felt by Korean people, and this might be the basis of a supportive Korean society.



Offerings to ancestors.



Bow to express appreciation to ancestors.

Notes: This letter is from Ai Ohkubo living in Korea. She used to teach Japanese in the IAC’s language classes.

Photos sourced from www.konest.com.

Upcoming Events

もよお 催しもの

| Date & Time | Event | Place | Details |
|---------------------------|---|--|--|
| 9/19 (Mon) 14:00~ | <i>Yabusame</i> (流鏝馬) | Samukawa Shrine* | Archers shoot arrows at targets while galloping on horseback. |
| 9/23 (Fri) 10:00~17:00 | Chigasaki Jamboree | Satoyama Park | Country & Bluegrass Music Festival |
| 9/24 (Sat) 10:00~15:00 | <i>Higanbana</i> (彼岸花) Festival | Koide-river banks Daikoku~Ondashi Bridge ** | Enjoy carpets of cluster amaryllis along the riverbanks. |
| 10/22 (Sat) 09:00~ | Harvest Festival | Hagisono | See newly harvested vegetables and flowers. |
| 11/3 (Thu) 10:00~15:00 | Citizen's <i>Fureai</i> (ふれあい) Matsuri | Chuo Park | Enjoy visiting dozens of stalls at this important community event. |



Chigasaki Jamboree



Cluster amaryllis along Koide-river banks

Inquiry: Chigasaki Sightseeing Association ☎ 0467-84-0377 *Samukawa Shrine ☎ 0467-75-0004

** Koidegawa Higanbana Party Council ☎ 0467-48-5352

By Item Garbage Disposal Guide (Update)

品目別ごみの出し方 (追加)

Do you know how to dispose of the following items of trash? These items are made from two or more materials and were not included in the first version of the guide provided in CB No.34 (URL: <http://www.7jp.com/iac/cb/34may2011.pdf>).

| Item | Type | The way of disposal and points to be marked |
|--|---------------|---|
| Ballpoint pen, Fountain pen | Unburnable | |
| Electronic calculator, Electronic dictionary, Digital camera | Unburnable | |
| Plastic toy with metal parts | Unburnable | |
| Lid of a food can | Can | |
| Lumber with metal fittings | Burnable | Under 50cm long and 10cm diameter |
| | Unburnable | Under 50cm long and 10 to 20cm in diameter |
| | Large-sized | Between 50cm and 200cm long, and under 20cm in diameter |
| | Uncollectable | Over 200cm long, or over 20cm in diameter |
| Metal cap of a glass bottle | Unburnable | |

Quiz Let's learn more about Chigasaki!

茅ヶ崎をもっと知ろう

Q1 Is Chigasaki officially considered to lie along the right bank of the Sagami River or the left bank?

- 1) the right bank, 2) the left bank

Q2 Which is unlikely to be the origin of the name of Chigasaki?

- 1) A place inside the sandbar formed at the estuary,
2) There were a lot of plants used for thatching,
3) There lived a lot of plovers.

Q3 Ratjen Street was named after Rudolf Ratjen. Who was he?

- 1) a German trader, 2) a Norwegian architect, 3) a Swedish photographer

Q4 How many typhoons annually hit the Shonan area on average?

- 1) 3, 2) 5, 3) 7

Note: Correct answers are on page 2.

Saturday Music Salon at Hagisono

"Sukh's White Horse" by "Shonan Yamaneko"

萩園の土曜ミュージック・サロン

劇団 湘南山猫 「スーホの白い馬」

At Saturday Music Salon's bi-monthly performance, being held in the lobby of Hagisono Ikoi-no-sato (Relaxation room), a local drama group "Shonan Yamaneko" will play a Mongolian folktale "Sukh's White Horse" on September 3 (Sat) from 13:45~14:30.

The group of four women will perform songs and recitation with a traditional Mongolian musical instrument, *matouqin*. Admission is free, so why not bring a friend?



Japanese Proverbs and their English Equivalents

日本と西洋のことわざ

- 痘痕 も 笑窪
ABATA MO EKUBO
(In the eyes of a lover, even pockmarks look like dimples.)
Love sees no faults.
- 薬 より 養生
KUSURI YORI YOUJOU
(Taking care of yourself is better than taking medicine.)
Prevention is better than cure.
- 急いては 事を し損じる
SEITE WA KOTO WO SHISONJIRU
(To do things hastily may cause us to make mistakes.)
Haste makes waste.
- 恥 を 知らねば 恥 がかず
HAJI WO SHIRANEBA HAJI KAKAZU
(If you know no shame, you cannot be put to shame.)
Past shame past amendment.
- ひもじい時 に まずい物 なし
HIMOJII TOKI NI MAZUI MONO NASHI
(When you feel hungry, nothing tastes bad.)
Hunger is the best sauce.

Chigasaki Breeze has been issued jointly by the International Association of Chigasaki (IAC) and Chigasaki City since October 1, 2005. If you wish to subscribe, please send ¥480 in stamps for 6 issues to the International Association of Chigasaki c/o Danjo Kyodo Sankaku-ka, Chigasaki City Hall, 1-1-1 Chigasaki, Chigasaki City 253-0041. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to email us at: shimadayut@jcom.home.ne.jp
Chief editor: Yutaka Shimada. Editing staff: Akira Akagawa, Yoshiyasu Itoh, Yukiko Wada, Adrian Wilson and Hideo Yuge.

Printed by Taisei Kikaku K.K.