

Chigasaki Breeze

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

No.46

Warning System for PM2.5

PM2.5情報にご注意を

Kanagawa Prefecture is going to issue PM2.5 warnings when the concentration of fine particles, which fall into the category of PM2.5, exceeds 85 micrograms per cubic meter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, or $0.001\text{mg}/\text{m}^3$). The term, PM2.5, means airborne *Particulate Matter*, the diameter of which is 2.5 micrometers (0.0025mm) and smaller. These particles are less than one tenth the size of cedar pollen so they can reach deep regions of the lungs, and may cause respiratory and circulatory diseases, even lung cancer. The fine particles are mainly found in emissions from industrial plants and vehicle exhaust. The prefecture has been monitoring PM2.5 levels for the last two years. Hourly average concentrations are collected early in the morning from sensors throughout the prefecture. If the median of these values exceeds $85\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, the entire prefecture will receive a warning at 08:00.

The City office will immediately notify residents of the warning on the City's web site, through an emergency email service and public speakers. When a warning is issued, you should stay indoors as much as possible. Recorded concentrations at each location can be found at: <http://www.pref.kanagawa.jp/cnt/f7009/p616117.html>. For example, PM2.5 levels at the crossroads of Route One and the road from Chigasaki Station are usually $25\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ or lower, but in March several cities in Kyushu reported an unusually high value of $100\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ partly due to yellow dust from the Asian continent.

Note: The median value is the middle one in a set of data arranged in order of concentration: if the hourly average concentrations at each of five locations during the same period of time were 10, 12, 15, 17 and $21\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, the median value is $15\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.

Sagami Expressway extended to Samukawa

さがみ縦貫道 寒川まで開通

Part of a new expressway connecting Chigasaki and Sagami-hara has been opened to traffic. The expressway, *Sagami Jūkan Road*, which runs from north to south in the prefecture, has been under construction for years. The Chigasaki-Samukawa section was officially opened on April 14 (Sun) at 15:00, and the Samukawa-Ebina section is scheduled to be completed by March 2015, leading to the opening of the entire stretch. As the Sagami-hara-Takaozan section of *Ken-O-Do*, to which the road connects at Sagami-hara, is scheduled to be completed by March next year, you will be able to access the *Tōmei*, *Chuo* and *Kan-Etsu Expressways* from the city without using local roads in the near future. This will make it easier to drive not only to Kansai, but Hokuriku and Jō-Etsu areas as well.



Customs in Early Summer

初夏の習慣と行事

Warm and frost-free weather, longer daylight hours and the seasonal rainfall in early summer create good conditions for agriculture. Rice farming is started in earnest around *Hachiju-Hachiya* (May 2 this year), the eighty-eighth day from the beginning of spring, and is a turning point of seasons according to the calendar. This day is also considered the best time for picking the first tea of the season. Tea leaves are rich in healthy ingredients, including catechins, polyphenols, vitamin C, minerals, amino acids and polysaccharides. Legend has it that people live longer by drinking green tea made from tea leaves picked on *Hachiju-Hachiya*.

You can watch *Koinobori*, or carp streamers, from the middle of April to May 5, Children's Day or *Tango-no-Sekku*. Families with little boys celebrate, hoping their sons will grow up in good health. This day is the equivalent of *Momo-no-Sekku* for girls on March 3. In May 1907, an American woman, Anna Marie Jarvis, held a memorial for her mother and distributed white carnations, which is said to be the origin of Mother's Day. In Japan, Mother's Day is celebrated on the second Sunday of May. Another American woman, Sonora Smart Dodd, hosted a gathering on June 19, 1910 to honor her father who was a single parent and raised his six children. Father's Day is the third Sunday of June in Japan. These three days provide people with good opportunities to strengthen family bonds, the importance of which has become even more appreciated since the March 11 disaster. Golden Week (April 29 to May 6 this year) is another time for family reunions as more and more young people live apart from their parents, and many of them go back to their home towns during the holiday. Are you in regular contact with your parents?

Students and workers change into summer uniforms on the first day of June. This simultaneous change of clothing, peculiar to Japan, was established in the Heian Period about 1200 years ago. A spell of wet weather starts in the middle of June and makes people uncomfortable, but it yields a substantial amount of fresh water which supports plants, creatures and even industries on the archipelago. Blue, violet and pink blossoms of hydrangeas make people feel refreshed.

Did you know that acidic soil grows blue blossoms, and aluminum ions have much to do with it?



Library Services start at Citizens' Gallery

図書館窓口が市民ギャラリーにも

Citizens' Gallery has introduced a lending service for City library materials such as books, CDs and DVDs, which users can reserve on the internet, and collect from and/or return to the Gallery. It also accepts user registrations. Furthermore, the OPAC (Online Public Access Catalog) terminal makes it possible for users to find materials they are interested in, and request them. These library services are available at the *Manabino Madoguchi* corner (the corner to promote Citizens' lifelong learning) throughout the year from 08:30 to 19:30 except New Year's holiday. Citizens' Gallery is on the 3rd floor of Nespa Chigasaki on the northwest of the Chigasaki Station building.

Lifelong Learning Corner Set Up in Citizens' Gallery

生涯学習支援コーナーが市民ギャラリーにオープン

A corner called *Manabino Madoguchi* has been established to promote citizens' lifelong learning in the Citizens' Gallery on the 3rd floor of Nespa Chigasaki, a building on the northwest of Chigasaki station. Officials at the corner offer many kinds of information about lifelong learning: circles, public lectures and also lecturers in various fields. They are recruiting people who are willing to demonstrate their expertise to citizens. And, to support those who have registered as lecturers, but are wondering how to make the most of their specialties, a seminar entitled 'Yumeno Tanemaki Gakkō Chigasaki Bunkō' is held once a month at the Citizens' Gallery. If you have an idea, how about visiting the corner? The seminar may help you find what you want to do and develop it. *Yumeno Tanemaki Gakkō Chigasaki Bunkō* literally means the Chigasaki branch school to plant the seeds of your dreams.

Chigasaki "Aloha" Market 茅ヶ崎アロハ・マーケット

On May 11 (Sat), from 09:00~17:00, and May 12 (Sun), from 09:00~16:00, Chigasaki Park in Nakakaigan near the beach and the baseball park will become a large scale amusement center with about 60 stalls selling Hawaiian food, fabric, jewelry, ukuleles, etc. and a stage area where several top hula and Tahitian dance groups will perform. In addition, some workshops and other attractions will be organized in the adjoining Chigasaki Beach Youth Hall building.

The "2013 Chigasaki Aloha Market" is sponsored not only by the Chamber of Commerce & Industry and the Tourism Association of Chigasaki but also by the Hawaii Tourism Association, so you can imagine how large the event will be. This year is the 10th Aloha Market and, as usual, tens of thousands people are expected to visit.

In the past, the market was held at the Shonan Panasonic Resort parking lot close to Southern Beach, but, from now on, because that site is being redeveloped, the venue has changed. Although there is no car parking available at the new site, walking from Chigasaki Station takes about 15 minutes or a taxi will cost you minimum fare.

There is no entrance fee, so why not come and enjoy the feeling of Hawaii for two days.

For further details, please visit: <http://www.chigasaki-cci.or.jp/aloha/> or call Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Chigasaki Tel: 0467-58-1111



HISTORY OF CHIGASAKI

Historical Sites of Northern Chigasaki

ほくぶちがさきしせき 北部茅ヶ崎の史跡

The northern part of Chigasaki is green, hilly, and has a lot of beautiful scenery. Such areas used to be called *satoyama* a long time ago, places where people used to collect firewood, edible plants, etc. living in harmony with nature. Surrounded by such hills and fields lies Jōkenji temple, the final resting place of the Ohoka family. A rare o-hatsuki ginkgo tree and the grove of the temple are natural monuments of Kanagawa Prefecture. This is just one example of the many temples, shrines, relics and folklore museums which add to the natural charm of this area.

- A. **Shichidō-garan remains:** The monument to this "shichidō-garan" (literally, a seven hall Buddhist temple) in Shimoterao was unveiled on December 15, 1957 (Showa 32). This followed an excavation of the site which found remains of an ancient temple. A stone used for the seat of the monument is believed to be one of the temple's foundation stones.
- B. **Jōshinji temple:** The *sangō* or *mountain name* of Jōshinji temple is Kumasawa-san and is said to be the temple of the Nichiren-shū sect of Buddhism. The temple was rebuilt in 1595 (Bunroku 4) and all that exists of its previous history is a memorial service monument.
- C. **Kagawa Suwa-jinja shrine:** Separated from Suwa-jinja shrine in Shinshu during the Taisho era (1573~1591), the two shrines of Kamisuwa-jinja and Shimosuwa-jinja were combined in 1875 (Meiji 8) and called Shimosuwa-jinja, which now stands in Kagawa.
- D. **Gensanji temple:** The *sangō* of Gensanji temple of the Sōdōshū sect of Buddhism is Kōsen-san. Constructed in 1581 (Tensho 9) by Reishitsu Chōgon, and protected by the chief, Honma Suenao, the temple was built for saying mass for the ancestor, Heibei Suetada.
- E. **Kanjūrō-hori-ato:** A pair of statues inscribed with the year 1786 (Tenmei 6) which serve as both Dōsojin and Kōshintō. The ditch of Kanjurō was an irrigation channel sending water to Kagawa diverted from the Komayose-gawa river.
- F. **Folklore Museum – Mitsuhashi Family:** Completed in 1828 (Bunsei 11), this farmhouse, typical of the late Edo era, was the Mitsuhashi family residence in Kagawa for six generations until around 1971 (Showa 46) when it was donated to the City and designated an important cultural asset.
- G. **Jōkenji temple:** Constructed by Tadamasu, the second head of the Ohoka family, in the original territory of Tsutsumi village, in memory of his father, Tadakatsu. The Ohoka family's graveyard within the temple has been designated a historic place by the City.
- H. **Folklore Museum - Wada Family:** Completed in 1855 (Ansei 2) and mainly built and restored using zelkova wood, this residence of five generations of the Wada family still closely resembles a large Edo-era private house. As the construction progress was clear from its records, the building was ideally suited to becoming an important cultural asset when it was donated to the City in 1982 (Showa 57).
- I. **Shiinokizaka relics:** Situated at the boundary between Shimoterao and Tsutsumi, these relics are from the Paleolithic age.
- J. **Takehiko-jinja shrine:** Originally the Suwa-jinja shrine, a Kōshintō of *nien* or two monkeys inscribed with the year 1659 (Manji 2) stands at the southeast of the, apparently rebuilt, bell tower. From the look of the old pine trees there, the shrine was probably established about 400 years ago, though the exact year is unknown.
- K. **Shogakuin:** Here stands an earthquake disaster monument with "Ah September 1st" carved on it and Hoteishin, one of the Koide Shichifukujin or Seven Gods of Good Luck, deified within.
- L. **Batō Kannon:** The statue of the horse-headed (Batō) goddess of mercy (Kannon) is actually a signpost, with "the road to "Ichinomiya" carved on the right side and "the road to Fujisawa" on the left side. It is said to have been moved from its original position.



O-hatsuki Ginkgo tree of Jōkenji temple



Monument: "Ah September 1st" of Shogakuin temple



IAC ACTIVITY

IAC General Meeting IACの総会

The Annual General Meeting of the IAC is to be held on May 25 (Sat) from 13:30 at City Hall Annex 6F. They have various activity groups aimed at supporting, fostering mutual understanding and exchanging with foreign people, such as Japanese language classes, home stays and so on. For example, at this year's Ohka Echizen-sai festival, the IAC helped 13 foreigners don gorgeous Edo-period costumes and participate in the big parade around Chigasaki station. And, this fiscal year, in particular, they have planned special events leading up to a memorial ceremony in 2014 to celebrate their thirtieth anniversary as an NGO.

The IAC say that their doors are always open, for everyone.

French University Students フランス大学生が来茅

An IAC group which organizes home stays will again welcome a group of six French university students to Chigasaki, an arrangement which has existed since 1999. They will stay from June 30 (Sun) through July 28 (Sun), during which time they will join IAC-run Japanese language classes to brush up on their Japanese, and experience Japanese culture. They will also visit a junior high school to help encourage mutual understanding.

Japanese Speech Contest for Foreigners

外国人による日本語スピーチコンテスト

As introduced in the previous issue, the Speech Contest for Foreigners was held at Chigasaki Labor Citizen Hall on March 24 (Sat). Thirteen students from six Japanese language classes spoke in fluent Japanese not only of their experiences in Japan but also their hobbies, their views on Japanese culture, their purpose of being in Japan, and so forth. This year's participants originated from Vietnam, China, Indonesia, Thailand, India, Sweden, and Peru, and all live in the Shonan area.

The speaker who won the IAC prize was *Harutai Kashiwabara* of Thailand who talked about 'Japanese toilets' though she also mentioned she likes Japanese cuisine and comedy. She expressed her appreciation to her Japanese teachers whose help made it possible for her to speak Japanese. She also received the Popular prize based on the audience vote while the Mayor's prize went to *Lageshe Rabindon* of India who spoke of his failure to make 'Coffee' in Japan because of his inability to read Japanese. His speech made the audience laugh a lot.

The International Soroptimist prize went to *Le Thi Le*, a lady from Vietnam. She spoke about the difficult theme of 'Begging' suggesting that giving money to beggars won't help them in any way.

Also, a speech by *Nguen Thi Mai* of Vietnam about 'My Mother' was very impressive though the purpose of her visit to Japan was to study Japanese culture, technology, and Japanese language, she said.

All of the speeches impressed the audience with their accuracy and amusing topics. After the contest, a reception party was held and everybody enjoyed talking with each other.



People in Town

Rajeesh Ravindra from India

Japan is "a home away from home" as friends always make some plan and invite me.

Rajeesh Ravindra came to Japan about a year ago from Kozhikode of the Kerala State in southern India to work for a company in Fujisawa as a mechanical engineer.



He is living in his company's dormitory in Akashi-cho, Hiratsuka, but he visits Chigasaki every Sunday to attend the IAC's Japanese Language Class, so he knows Chigasaki well and enjoys participating in IAC activities. He says Chigasaki is a nice place to live, blessed with beautiful scenery you can enjoy from the beach, and, if possible, he'd like to take up surfing.

So far, he has visited Kamakura and Enoshima for sightseeing, and has made a one-day business trip to Himeji, Hyogo. He has also climbed up Mt. Fuji, five months after his arrival in Japan.

Rajeesh works in a research lab and occasionally has some difficulties, but his colleagues always kindly help him, and he appreciates that very much. He is proud of working in the company as he says they are first class in many ways.

How does he find Japan? Well, on the upside, he says that life is comfortable, safe, and every day he is learning new things from his company and people he meets, which he believes will help develop his career, while on the downside, he says kanji characters are very difficult. When he first came to Japan, he felt it to be a wonderful place, very clean and beautiful. And he thought all Japanese are younger than him and look cute. He is also impressed that Japanese people, in general, behave very formally, even when they are angry.

What amuses him is that many Japanese think that India is a very hot country, has only three seasons - "hot, hotter and hottest", and Indians eat *naan* bread and curry rice every day. In fact, his mother has never seen *naan* in her life, and he himself only saw this type of *naan* for the first time in Japan!

Concerning Japan's younger generation, he feels that they should make a big effort to improve themselves and endeavour to support the growth of Japan, whose present status is due to the hard work of older generations.

Rajeesh actually went back to Kozhikode at the end of April for 3 weeks as he has to make preparations for his forthcoming marriage early next year. It's an arranged marriage and he will have to attend four wedding ceremonies in his hometown.

Finally, he'd like everyone to know that the movie "Slumdog Millionaire" is not representative of India, and he hopes Japanese won't judge India based on that movie.

So many Countries, so many Customs!

ところか 所変われば、しな 品変わる

Serbian Cuisine セルビアの料理

Serbia is a landlocked mountainous country in southeastern Europe bordered by many countries, including Hungary to the north, Bulgaria to the east, Macedonia to the south, and Bosnia and Herzegovina to the west. Its history is as fascinating as it is tumultuous, and its capital, Belgrade, is amongst Europe's oldest cities. Not surprisingly, therefore, Serbian food is a mix of various cuisines from the former Yugoslavia, Greece, Turkey, Austria and Hungary. It encompasses a rich variety of meat and fish dishes (roasted, baked or grilled beef, pork, lamb and goat), vegetable dishes (baked cabbage rolls, beans, stews, stuffed peppers and zucchini, salads and relishes), dairy products made from sheep's, goat's and cow's milk and a plethora of pastries such as bread and pies, called "pita" in Serbian and Greek. Serbs also have an enormous sweet tooth and enjoy making and eating tarts, jams, jellies, crêpes, sweet rice puddings and cakes rich in nuts, eggs and butter filled with custard, chocolate or fruit.

Famous alcoholic beverages are RAKIJA (pronounced ra kee ya) and red and white wines. Rakija is an integral part of Serbian culture and features in many important occasions such as baptisms, marriages and funerals. It is made from almost any kind of fermented fruit, plum being the most common one, and has a high alcohol content (between 40% and 65%). Though most alcoholic beverages are bought in shops, many people produce their own or know someone who does.

To find out more about Serbian cuisine, why not take a look at this promotional video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wIwNwZwNXuA>

This cuisine report was provided by Vesna Pavlovic who came to Chigasaki in 2002 after living in Tokyo for six years.



Bread, various meats, cheese, red pepper relish (ajvar), etc.



Plum Rakija

JCI invites you to Communication Party!

こうりゅうかい せいねんかいぎしょ まね
交流会へ青年会議所からのお招き

Junior Chamber International (JCI) Japan is seeking an opportunity for their members to meet and talk with foreign residents of the City, and is holding a party at Labor Citizen Hall on May 25 (Sat), from 15:00~17:00. Admission is free and all foreigners are welcome regardless of sex, age, and Japanese-speaking ability.

This program is an initiative of JCI's Mutual Understanding Establishment Commission which was set up in response to the many frictions that exist between countries due to differences in historical perspective and culture. They hope that through building friendly relationships between countries they may one day help to achieve a permanent world peace.

If interested, please apply by May 17 (Fri) by visiting the following URL:
<http://www.jaycee.or.jp/2013/mutual/>

Volunteer Activity in Cambodia

カンボジアでのボランティア活動

A report on volunteer activities by Mr. and Mrs. Urushibara supporting Cambodian children will be presented on May 18 (Sat) from 13:00 at the Labor Citizen Hall 3F. Ryuichi Urushibara and his wife have been supporting deprived children in a village in the northern part of Cambodia since he retired as head teacher of the Yokohama-Futaba girls' junior and senior high school and moved to Siem Reap, near the Angkor Temples, in December 2005.

The average annual income nationally is just \$2,000, there are hardly any educational facilities, and the few teachers that there are have limited teaching ability. People are eager to study Japanese because that enhances their chances of getting a job. The couple said they felt their activities to be worthwhile in that teaching Japanese can lead to vocational training. Now they are helping 65 children financially to finish school, making use of donations from the IAC.

K.P.G. Supports You to Find Rental Housing

かながわけん ちんたいしえんじぎょう あんない
神奈川県あんしん賃貸支援事業のご案内

This program offers information on privately-rented housing available to foreign households. You can also obtain information on organizations that offer counseling services for finding housing, making contracts, and life after moving in. Leaflets on these matters are available in several languages (Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, Spanish and Portuguese) through links on the following website:
<http://www.pref.kanagawa.jp/cnt/f6637/#anshin>

You can also find privately-rented housing and cooperative real estate agencies through the following Kanagawa Private and Public Rental Housing Search System website (in Japanese only): <http://machikyo.or.jp/kyojyushien/bukken/index.html>

Inquiries in Japanese: Housing Planning Div., K.P.G. Tel: 045-210-6557

(From HELLO KANAGAWA)

Saturday Music Salon at Hagisono

はぎその どよう
萩園の土曜ミュージックサロン

On May 18 (Sat), from 13:45 to 14:45, an American country music group called J-Product Band will be playing popular Country Music and Bluegrass songs at Hagisono-ikoi-no-sato. Admission is free.

“Disused Article Bank”

ふようひん
不用品バンク

The following is a list of articles being offered/wanted free or at a reasonable cost by citizens as of March 26, 2013. Anyone interested in these articles should contact the section in charge of this at the City Office. They will then put you in touch with the people concerned directly.

[Consulting Services for Citizens' Section, Consumer Life Center on 82-1111]

Articles being offered ゆずります

▽Child seat ▽baby car ▽baby-holding belt ▽pregnant woman's small articles ▽maternity clothes ▽garment case ▽dining table ▽nursing-care bed ▽steel rack ▽closet chest of drawers ▽garment hanger ▽wooden loft bed ▽bedside table ▽wardrobe ▽electric kettle ▽toaster ▽steam humidifier ▽fan ▽digital blood pressure gauge ▽haiku picture book ▽Taishō koto ▽bicycle ▽tape & text of English/Chinese course ▽piano music score ▽dog cage ▽Nanbu iron kettle ▽dog hair clippers ▽wheelchair ▽walking stick ▽bathroom chair ▽table-top range

Articles wanted ゆずってください

▽Boy's bicycle ▽woman's skis ▽table & chair ▽bunk bed ▽study desk ▽dining table ▽electric shredder ▽adult's tricycle ▽chisel ▽train & car toys ▽acoustic guitar ▽suitcase ▽storeroom ▽swim school-designed bag

Japanese Proverbs and their English Equivalents

にっぽん せいよう
日本と西洋のことわざ

●命長ければ恥多し

INOCHI NAGAKEREBHA HAJI ŌSHI

(Long life has a lot of shame.)

Long life has long misery.

●鬼の目にも涙

ONI NO ME NIMO NAMIDA

(Tears even in a demon's eyes.)

Even the hardest of hearts can be moved to tears.

●策士策に溺れる

SAKUSHI SAKU NI OBORERU

(The crafty schemer drowns in his own scheme.)

Craft, counting all things, brings nothing home.

●古傷は痛みやすい

FURUKIZU WA ITAMI YASUI

(Old sores feel pain easily.)

Old sins cast long shadows.

●用心に怪我なし

YŌJIN NI KEGANASHI

(No injury comes from being cautious.)

More haste, less speed.

The IAC URL: <http://www.7jp.com/iac>

The Chigasaki Breeze is a bimonthly publication and back issues can be seen either by using this URL or on the Chigasaki City website.

Useful Japanese Expressions

やく た に ほんご
役に立つ日本語

IWAKAN いわかん 違和感

When people say IWAKAN GA ARIMASU (違和感があります), it means they have an uncomfortable or disagreeable feeling about something, or feel that something is a bit strange or out of place. The first “I” (違) of IWAKAN basically means difference, “WA” (和) means harmony, and “KAN” (感) means feeling.

For example, your boss says it's okay to use their given name; your girlfriend wants your help choosing new earrings; or you see a modern building in an old part of town. Maybe you can't quite put your finger on why it doesn't feel right, or maybe you just want to avoid expressing your feelings too directly. Either way, this expression can convey that sense of discomfort.

IWAKAN is also used when you feel some physical malaise, say in your stomach or chest. You don't know the reason for it, but wonder that it might be serious. Then, you can say IWAKAN GA ARIMASU to your doctor. Of course, if something is painful, then you should say ITAMIMASU.

IWAKAN wasn't heard so much in the past, but these days even TV commentators find it useful on occasion. At any rate, when you hear this expression, it may be better to check what someone really wanted to say. Do you remember the last time you felt “IWAKAN”?

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