

Chigasaki Breeze

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

No. 54

Official Visit of Honolulu Mayor to Chigasaki

ホノルル市長が市を公式訪問

As part of efforts to promote sister city affiliation with Honolulu, the Mayor of Honolulu, Kirk Caldwell, and his wife were invited to visit Chigasaki following Mayor Hattori's visit to Honolulu earlier. Their visit to Chigasaki on August 3 (Sun) and 4 (Mon) was one leg of a tour which took in Nagaoka near the northern Japan Sea coast and Hiroshima in western Japan. Arriving at Chigasaki Station at precisely 16:03, they were met at the entrance to City Hall by receiving lines of about a hundred people, many of them wearing aloha shirts, together with three 'smile girls', wearing smart white outfits, and several groups of children. At the welcoming ceremony, Mr. Caldwell received *leis* (garlands) of *orizuru* (*origami* cranes) made by children, and responded with an "Aloha" to express his feeling of delight.



The couple and their entourage, more than ten people, stayed overnight in a famous old inn and the next day they attended a luncheon party together with 70 delegates from major corporations and associations in Chigasaki.

Having already established sister city affiliation with many cities around the world, it appears that Honolulu can only affiliate with two more cities in Japan. The welcoming ceremony will have left Honolulu's Mayor in no doubt about the enthusiasm amongst Chigasaki's citizens to secure one of those last two affiliations.



Let's Join a Disaster Prevention Drill

避難訓練に参加しよう

Disaster Prevention Day falls on September 1 (Mon). The Great Kanto Earthquake occurred on this day nearly ninety years ago. The M7.9 quake hit Kanagawa, Tokyo and neighboring prefectures at lunchtime. Of nearly one hundred thousand victims, most of who were in Tokyo and Kanagawa, about 90% were killed by fires and the remaining 10% by collapsing buildings. After the Great East Japan Earthquake in 2011, earthquakes remind people of tsunami, but what is caused by quakes may not be limited to tsunami.

Various events will be held nationwide in September. In the City, earthquake drills will take place district by district between September and November. Each district's neighborhood association will host the drill, which is aimed at promoting residents' co-operation in rescue operations, and will notify residents of the details by circular notice in due course. Participants are supposed to hurry to one of the district's evacuation sites, mostly elementary or junior high schools, and join fire-fighting or other exercises there. The drill will also provide residents with an opportunity to become more familiar with their neighbors. As an old Japanese proverb says, neighbors are more helpful than relatives living far away in an emergency.

The first drill will be held in Nango on September 13 (Sat) and the last ones in Matsunami and Shorin on November 16 (Sun).

Rise in Public Facility Fees

公共施設使用料の引き上げ

With the increase in the consumption tax rate of 3% last April, fees for some public facilities will be raised on October 1, 2014, to properly reflect the increased tax rate. If you have already finished the formal application procedure to use a facility before that date, the fees effective at that time will apply.

Temporary Welfare Benefit and Special Benefit for Child-Rearing Households

臨時福祉給付金と子育て世帯臨時特例給付金

As a temporary measure, the City has started accepting applications for two types of extraordinary benefits aimed at offsetting the additional financial burden on those with low incomes and families raising children following the consumption tax rate rise in April, 2014. Application forms have already been sent to probable recipients. To register for these benefits, they should apply to the Health and Welfare Section by completing and returning the forms with all necessary documents* in the return envelope provided. Otherwise, they can submit applications in person at the counter provisionally set-up for these benefits (2F in the temporary hall). The closing date is January 15 (Thu), 2015. Benefits will be transferred to designated bank accounts after applications are granted. Recipients who do not have a bank account can receive their benefits in cash over the temporary counter.

(A) Temporary Welfare Benefit

[Eligibility]

Those who meet all the following conditions are eligible:

- registered as a resident as of January 1, 2014
- exempted from residence taxes in fiscal 2014
- not on welfare or dependent on taxpayers

[Amount of Benefit]

- 10,000 yen per eligible person
- an additional 5,000 yen will be paid to recipients of: basic old-age pension, basic disability pension, the basic pension for bereaved families, childcare allowance, special disability allowance, etc.

(B) Temporary Special Benefit for Child-Rearing Households

[Eligibility]

Those who meet all the following conditions are eligible:

- recipient of children's allowance (including special benefit) for January 2014
- 2013 annual income below the limit
- not a recipient of Temporary Welfare Benefit (see box A left)
- not on welfare

[Amount of Benefit]

- 10,000 yen per child of an eligible household

*proof of identity (a photocopy is acceptable) plus a photocopy of a bank account book or cash card which shows the name of the financial institution and the holder's account number and name. If recipients of Temporary Special Benefit for Child-Rearing Households designate the same bank accounts as for children's allowance, they do not need to include any documents. Please do not send original documents.

[Inquiries] Provisional Call Center for the temporary benefits on 0120-555-636 08:30-17:15 on weekdays

[Reference] <http://www.2kyufu.jp/foreign/english/seido/> on the website of the Health, Labour and Welfare Ministry

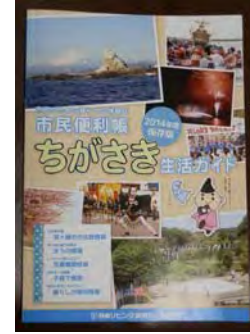
Citizen Guidebook for 2014 Issued

あたら し 市民便り ちょう ほんごう
新しい市民便利帳が発行されました

The latest edition of the convenient guidebook for Chigasaki citizens was issued this June and you can pick up a copy at municipal facilities, such as the City Office, City Branch offices, Public Halls (komin-kan), City Residents' center, etc.

The guidebook carries many kinds of information in its 138 pages concerning the activities of the Administration and the needs of citizens in their daily lives, although it's written in Japanese. For example, there are sections entitled: Town information, sub-titled "Rediscover the Charms of Chigasaki"; Medical Institutions; Child-Rearing – related to nursery schools and kindergartens; and Convenient Living – things that you should not be without in your daily life.

In addition, the City has published a guidebook for foreign residents in five foreign languages, namely English, Portuguese, Spanish, Chinese, and Korean, which is available from the lobby of Ikorra, the former Josei Center. The 31-page guidebook refers to basic Emergency and Administrative information and covers almost everything that foreign residents need to know. Just like the Japanese guidebook mentioned above, you will find it very convenient too, in enjoying your life in the City.



Chigasaki Jamboree at Satoyama Park

さとやまこうえん ちがさき
里山公園 茅ヶ崎ジャンボリー



On September 23 (Tue/National Holiday), from 10:00 to 17:00, a free outdoor concert called *Chigasaki Jamboree* will be held in Satoyama Park located in Namegaya. The main program features American country music and dance, played by several bands and dance troupes stationed in the Shonan region, but there will also be a number of stalls selling American food as well as Western and local products. Chigasaki City Tourism Association says Satoyama Park will become America for the day.

The park is on a hill in the midst of thick greenery, so why not come and get into an American mood, enjoying some good ol' American entertainment surrounded by nature!

Inquiry: Chigasaki City Tourism Association Tel: 0467-84-0377

Upcoming Events at the Civic Hall

し 市民ぶん かい かい かん もよお
市民文化会館での催し

Every year, from October to November, a wide range of cultural exhibitions and performances take place such as music concerts and displays of art, calligraphy, flower arrangements, chrysanthemums, photography, and bonsai. A concert will be held every weekend in October, while the displays of various works of art will remain open for two to four days, both in the Small Hall. These offer good opportunities to be exposed to Japanese culture, and you can enjoy listening to and watching citizen performances. Admission is free for all of these events.

Music Concerts and Sessions to be held in the Small Hall

- Classical Concert - October 11 (Sat) 13:00~19:30
- Classical Vocal Concert - October 13 (Mon/National Holiday) 14:30~16:00
- Chanson and Canzone - October 18 (Sat) 13:00~16:00

Displays of Various Arts in the Display Room (Small Hall)

- Flower arrangements - October 4 (Sat) 10:00~17:00, October 5 (Sun) 10:00~16:00
- Handicraft - October 10 (Fri) 13:00~16:00, October 11 (Sat) ~ 12 (Sun) 10:00~16:00, October 13 (Mon) 10:00~15:30
- Art - October 16 (Thu) 13:00~16:00, October 17 (Fri) ~ 18 (Sat) 10:00~17:00, October 19 (Sun) 10:00~16:00
- Calligraphy - October 24 (Fri) ~ 25 (Sat) 10:00~17:00, 26 (Sun) 10:00~16:00
- Photography - November 1 (Sat) ~ 2 (Sun) 09:00~17:00, November 3 (Mon/National Holiday) 09:00 ~ 16:00
- Bonsai - November 7 (Fri) 13:00~17:00, November 8 (Sat) 09:00~17:00, November 9 (Sun) 09:00~16:00

Exhibitions in the Comprehensive Gymnasium yard

- Chrysanthemums - November 1 (Sat) ~ 13 (Thu) 09:00 ~ 16:00 The gymnasium is located next to the Civic Hall on the west side.



Chigasaki Civic Hall

History of Chigasaki

"Ichiri-zuka" A Milestone of Chigasaki

ち が さ き い ち り つ か
茅ヶ崎の一里塚

On the south-east corner of the first crossroads east from the major intersection on Route 1 near City Hall, just five minutes from the north exit of Chigasaki Station, there is a mound on which you can see a stone statue surrounded by pine and hackberry trees as in the photo. It is an *ichiri-zuka* or milestone of Tōkaidō Highway or Route 1 which runs from Nihonbashi in Tokyo westward for about 500km.

In 1601 (Keichō 6), Ieyasu Tokugawa, the soon-to-be first shōgun of the Tokugawa Shōgunate (tenure 1603~1605) initiated a Shukueki-Tenma (or post-horse relay station) System on Tōkaidō, and in 1604 (Keichō 9), he upgraded the road and established a chain of relay stations to facilitate smoother transportation and delivery of public goods to their destinations. A total of 53 stages were located along the road, so it became known as *Tōkaidō Gojūsan-tsugi*.

Further, when the Edo Shogunate repaired five highways in 1604 (Keichō 9), milestones were set up every *ichiri* or about 4 km along both sides of the highway, and trees such as hackberry/nettle and pines were planted. It is said that the setting-up of milestones was completed along Tōkaidō in 1613 (Keichō 17) and milestones could be found at 119 places between Nihonbashi of Edo (Tokyo) and Sanjō-Ōhashi of Kyoto.

The milestone of Chigasaki is the fourteenth milestone starting from Nihonbashi of Edo (Tokyo), and the only one that still remains in the City. The number of milestones remaining along the full length of the road is small and is getting smaller. On August 15, 1961 (Showa 36), the Chigasaki milestone was designated and protected as a historic site of the City. In 2011 (Heisei 23), the City built a pocket park on the opposite side of Route 1 mirroring the milestone site, and set up the explanation board in front of the milestone, too.

When Chigasaki Station was opened in around 1898 (Meiji 31), the whole area around this milestone was swamp and pond, a waste land where plants such as reeds and pampas grass were growing luxuriantly with the occasional farmer's field dotted around the place. Nowadays, however, it is just part of urban Chigasaki, and no remnants of those olden days persist.



IAC ACTIVITY**Charity Concert** チャリティコンサート

The International Association of Chigasaki (IAC) will hold an annual charity concert on September 12 (Fri) from 16:30 at Chigasaki Civic Hall's Small Hall. The concert this year marks the 30th anniversary of the founding of the IAC. The concert will be performed by Takashi Kano, who is the lead vocalist of the cappella group, *Circus*, and *MARIERIKA*, a young sisters duo who play the piano (Erika) and viola (Marie).



Incidentally, Takashi Kano is also a member of the IAC and regularly supports our activities. His performances are always enjoyable.

The admission fee is 1,000 yen. Receipts from the sale of tickets will be allocated to helping children in Cambodia, Laos and Nepal. If you are interested in the concert, please call us on 090-1557-7789

Mini-Concert at Art Museumしりつびじゅつかん
市立美術館ミニコンサート

A mini-concert by fiddler Kana Ôtake and bassoonist Toshiaki Matsuzato will be performed in the entrance hall of the Art Museum on September 15 (Mon/National Holiday) from 14:00. The theme of the concert is "Celtic Tunes echoed in the Meiji Era" with sub-title "Scottish and Irish Melodies". Admission is free, and about 50 seats will be prepared for the audience. There is no need to submit an application.

Chigasaki Art Museum holds such concerts when they have a special exhibition of art in order to complement the theme of the exhibition. The exhibition this time is entitled "Walk around the Meiji Era – Shonan and Musashino", and will be open from September 15 (Mon) to October 21 (Tue).

Fureai Matsuri at Chuō Kōenちゅうおうこうえん
中央公園 しみん
"市民ふれあいまつり"

On November 3 (Mon), Culture Day, there is a festival called "Fureai Matsuri" (meaning to be friendly among citizens) at Chuō Kōen opposite City Hall. Tens of thousands of people visit the park every year to browse about 100 stalls selling a variety of food and snacks, clothes, earthenware, plants, etc., and stalls of local NPOs. On the stage set at the far end of the park, there will be a "Honolulu stage" in addition to the usual dancing and music performed by several groups of adults and children.

To participate in the event, please apply as an NPO between September 1 (Mon) and 5 (Fri), inclusive, at City Hall, where details of the procedure will be provided. If the number of applicants exceeds the capacity, participants will be selected by lottery.

Inquiries: Shimin Jichi Suishin-ka (Autonomy Promotion section) on 0467-82-8111

People in Town**Kyna McKeown from Japan**

Expressing your own opinion is an important part of being a global citizen.

Kyna McKeown was born and brought up in Suita, Osaka, but has Canadian nationality by descent. When her parents came to Japan for the first time, they found this country so attractive that they decided to move here.



Growing up in Japan and playing with local children, she naturally developed her Japanese language skills, but, although she understood spoken English okay, it wasn't until she was sent to Canada for 3 months before attending International School in Kobe that her English ability caught up. She was sent to Canada again to live and attend senior high school and university in Toronto, and then, awhile after returning to Japan, moved to Midorigahama, Chigasaki, because of the pleasant environment close to the sea.

She works at home as a freelance translator and in her spare time she enjoys SUP (stand up paddle) board riding and playing the ukulele, though she says she is still a novice, and is happy to have made new friends through these hobbies. Kyna is also interested in pursuing spiritual matters and perhaps doing some work in this area as well.

Kyna recognizes that Japanese don't usually express their opinions clearly, so conversations with them often lack depth, and often appear to have no opinions of their own, especially in group situations when they tend to go with the flow. Also, she says the Japanese in general are too trusting of their government and authorities, and often don't question things enough, which may give the impression outside of Japan that they can't think for themselves. On the other hand, because of this, Japanese people are easy to be with and come across as a tolerant and peaceful people.

Kyna's experience of growing up in Japan, but of sometimes being treated as an outsider due to her Canadian ancestry, gives her a unique perspective. She feels that the Japanese like to consider themselves as unique and focus too much on their differences with other nations. If they realised that we are all different and, at the same time, all the same, then they would understand better what it means to be a global people. In an increasingly technological world, though, young people appear to be basically the same everywhere, offering hope that this mentality is changing.

So many Countries, so many Customs!ところか
所変われば、 しな
品変わる**Halloween** ハロウィーン

Halloween these days means ghosts and witches, Jack-o'-Lanterns made from hollowed-out pumpkins, and children dressed in scary costumes going from house to house trick-or-treating. However, the origins of Halloween can be traced back to the ancient Celtic festival of *Samhain* (usually pronounced /'səʊ.wɪn/) held on the night of October 31 to mark the end of the summer growing season and the start of the cold dark winter.

On this night, Celts believed that the veil between the spirit world and the mortal world was at its thinnest allowing spirits to cross over more easily. Some were mischievous, but could be warded off by lighting large village bonfires, embers from which, if used to light hearth fires, would also protect individual homes. Praying around these bonfires was thought to bring comfort to the souls of dead ancestors who were still in purgatory. Souls already in heaven were believed to return home during *Samhain*, so candles were lit outside homes to guide them and refreshments left out to welcome them.



Evil spirits could also be repelled by candle-lit lanterns, made from hollowed-out turnips and carved with grotesque faces. At night, people wore costumes imitating these evil spirits to avoid being recognized by the real ones, and some went house to house reciting verses and demanding food in return for good fortune or threatening mischief if refused. This tradition of guising and pranks we know today as the Halloween custom of trick-or-treating.

Apples and nuts from the harvest were popular treats for these pranksters and were also used in divination rituals. If a girl could pare an apple so that the peel came off in one long strand, then the shape it landed in after being thrown over her left shoulder would reveal the initials of her future husband. Or, she could place one hazel nut for each of her suitors in front of the fire grate and chant: "If you love me, pop and fly; if you hate me, burn and die."

Another apple tradition, still popular today, is "bobbing for apples" where children try to pick apples out of a bowl of water using just their teeth. Maidens played this game during the Festival of Pomona, the Roman goddess of fruit trees, to divine who would marry next, but it became part of *Samhain* during the Roman occupation of Britain.

The traditions of *Samhain* live on as part of present-day Halloween even though the Celtic festival of the dead was officially replaced in 835AD by the Roman Catholic Church who renamed the day All Hallows' Eve (later Hallowe'en) for Christians to prepare for All Hallows' Day (or All Saints' Day, November 1), a day for remembering those who had died for their beliefs, and All Souls' Day (November 2), a day to pray for the souls of dead ancestors still in purgatory.



Note: This letter was written by Adrian Wilson, an English teacher from London, England, now living in Chigasaki.

Chigasaki and Samukawa Tweet about Each Other ちがさき さむかわ 茅ヶ崎と寒川がツイッターを共同利用

Chigasaki City and Samukawa town co-operate in various administrative activities, and have been collaborating on a new service using Twitter since July this year. The way it works is that whenever Chigasaki tweets about what's happening in the City, Samukawa retweets the same information, and vice versa. In this way, the two administrations hope that announcements about events and other useful information will spread quickly amongst followers in the two municipalities. You can receive these tweets by following the Twitter accounts, @Chigasaki_city and @samukawa_town, respectively. When you see an interesting tweet, why don't you retweet it to your followers, too, and spread the word?

International Understanding Lecture こくさいりかいこうざ 国際理解講座

On November 1 (Sat), from 13:00, the IAC's International Understanding Group will hold a lecture at Ikorua. Entitled "How far apart the neighboring country Russia is!", the lecture will explore the difficulty of Cyrillic, characteristics of ethnicity, the country's image through its domestic and foreign policies, and how Japan should relate to its neighbor. The lecturer is Professor Harumi Tokunaga, formerly of Jōchi University. Admission is free.

Creativity Wins in Egg Dropping Contest

お落としても卵が割れない?

In late June, for the second time, an egg dropping contest, involving nearly one hundred elementary, junior high and high school students, took place as part of the 24th Chigasaki Space Class at the Nagisa Gallery in Shiomidai.



The goal of the contest was to create a container which could keep a raw chicken egg intact when the container holding the egg was dropped from the second floor, about six meters high. Participants were given fifty minutes to make a container using only two pieces of A3 Kent paper, scissors, paste and adhesive tape. Originality and creativity counted for a lot and many of those who achieved the goal were elementary school kids. The egg dropping contest is well known in foreign countries. In Japan, a university professor first introduced this experiment to engineering students twenty-three years ago, and since then the contest has been gradually spreading among elementary, junior high and high schools as well as universities.

If this innovative contest takes place again next year, you will be able to find out through the City publication *Kōhō Chigasaki* or Chigasaki Breeze. In the meantime, you have plenty of time to work on your ideas.

Shonan Teien Festival

しょうなんていえんぶんかさい 湘南邸園文化祭

In the cities and towns stretching along Sagami Bay, known as the Shonan area, there are many impressive historic villas with spacious gardens, thought-provoking cultural assets, as well as scenic hiking trails and popular gourmet spots that local people are proud of. In the hope of conserving this cultural heritage and revitalizing the Shonan area, a number of NGOs in the area collaborated and initiated an event called Shonan Teien Festival, to make available cultural spaces for local residents and visitors to enjoy.

The 9th annual festival is scheduled from September 1 (Mon) to December 20 (Sat), and a Japanese-style Meiji-era hotel "Chigasaki-kan" rebuilt in 1915 (Taishō 4), having a nicely laid out garden with old pine trees and azaleas, and memorabilia of the world-famous film director Yasujiro Ozu, who worked out his scenarios there from fall to winter every year for a decade, has been selected as one of the representative spots for Chigasaki.

The cities and towns involved are Yokosuka, Hayama, Zushi, Kamakura, Fujisawa, Chigasaki, Hiratsuka, Ōiso, Ninomiya and Odawara.

“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 July 31, 2014. Anyone interested in these articles should contact the Consulting Services Section for Citizens, Consumer Life Center on 82-1111. They will then put you in touch with the people concerned directly.

Articles being offered ゆずります

▽Helmet for kids ▽School swimwear for girls ▽Sideboard ▽Cupboard ▽Folding mattress ▽TV rack ▽Wardrobe ▽Electric fan ▽Spotlight ▽Dish dryer ▽Bicycle ▽Testimonial・photo frame ▽Nursing-care diapers・Urine pads ▽Drug classification box ▽Silver car (wheelie walker for elderly people)

Articles wanted ゆずってください

▽Child's bicycle seat ▽Kid's bicycle ▽Feeding wear ▽Refrigerator ▽Electric bicycle ▽Bicycle

Useful Japanese Expressions やくたにほんご 役に立つ日本語

CHINAMINI ちなみに

During a conversation in English, the single expression "By the way" is very convenient for signaling that you want to digress from the main subject, refer to something said earlier, or even change the subject completely. In Japanese, however, these purposes are commonly served by two distinct expressions: TOKORODE, which is used to signal a change of subject; and CHINAMINI, used when you want to add or refer to something you said earlier in the conversation.

Although CHINAMINI may be less familiar to foreign learners of Japanese, it is equivalent to many common English expressions, such as "Incidentally", "For your information", "By comparison", "In this connection", "In fact", and so on. So, in a way, it is a simple yet versatile Japanese expression to remember.

CHINAMINI (For your reference), you will often hear TV commentators suddenly say "CHINAMINI" immediately after reporting something. This means that they want to add some further explanation or give an example to help listeners better understand their earlier comments.

Japanese Proverbs and their English Equivalents

にほんせいよう 日本と西洋のことわざ

●弘法筆を扱はず

KŌBŌ FUDE WO ERABAZU

(Kōbō-daishi Kūkai wouldn't need to choose his brush.)

A bad workman always blames his tools.

●立て板に水

TATEITA NI MIZU

(water running down an upright board)

to speak nineteen to the dozen

●馬耳東風

BAJI TŌFŪ

(praying in deaf ears)

to go in one ear and out the other

●風前の灯

FŪZEN NO TOMOSHIBI

(a candle flame before the wind)

to hang by a thread

●物は試し

MONO WA TAMESHI

(You'll never know unless you try.)

Nothing ventured, nothing gained.