

Chigasaki Breeze

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

No.43

Quieten Residential Areas by Reducing Household Noises

生活騒音を減らして静かな住宅街に

Squeaky floors, slamming doors, window rattles, footsteps and other sounds can disrupt our daily lives. We are very sensitive to those sounds from our neighbors, but sometimes forget that the noises we make may be equally irritating to them, too. Voices, laughter and the sounds of children playing add to the friendly atmosphere of a community, but these sounds turn into noises once they go above certain levels. The issue of household noises is really delicate because it depends on individual circumstances and sensitivities whether a sound is pleasant or an irritant. Regrettably, there seems to be no set way of solving these problems. However, we can alleviate most of these annoyances by behaving with common sense, prudence and tolerance.

Common household noises include:

- ❶ Squeaky doors, slamming doors, rattling windows
- ❷ Sounds of home appliances: vacuum cleaners, washing machines, air conditioner outdoor fan motors
- ❸ Sounds of musical instruments, TVs and radios
- ❹ Sounds of idling engines, horns, and slamming doors of vehicles
- ❺ Gatherings at home or in public places
- ❻ Upstairs footsteps, voices, and plumbing noises from neighbors especially in apartments or condominiums

A basic rule-of-thumb is to try to avoid making these sounds between late at night and early in the morning. We should also refrain, as much as possible, from using vehicles during this period of time. The noises made by slamming doors and window rattles can be reduced by maintenance. Footsteps can be made less intense by laying a rug or carpet on the floor. Experts say that establishing good relationships with your neighbors is an effective way of preventing noise concerns from developing into a more serious confrontation. Even acknowledging your neighbors with a simple 'Hello' when you see them helps to improve communication. They also say that if a sound keeps annoying you, you should discuss the problem directly with the noise maker and try to find a mutually acceptable solution.

Emergency Ambulances: Who are they for? How do you request one?

救急車: 誰のために、どのような方法で呼びますか?

The number of emergency calls for an ambulance has been on the rise. However, nearly half of all the sick and injured who are taken to hospital by ambulance do not require urgent medical attention. These calls delay the transportation of those whose condition is much more serious, according to a report by the Fire and Disaster Management Agency. Such non-urgent cases include mild fever, toothache, jammed fingers, and waking up with a crick in your neck. Some people also call an ambulance for wholly inappropriate reasons such as: using them as a taxi; to locate a hospital at night or on a holiday; or to get falsely prioritized as an emergency patient at hospital. The Chigasaki Fire Station received over 9,800 emergency calls last year, a considerable number for the six ambulances servicing the city. The fire department is asking citizens to refrain from calling ambulances for minor injuries or illnesses.

When a family member is suddenly taken ill or is injured and needs emergency care, do you know how to call for an ambulance? **The emergency telephone number (medical and fire) is 119 in Japan.**

Due to language barriers, it may be harder for foreigners to do so, but the fire station dispatcher who takes your call will ask you a few basic questions, as shown on the template request form on the right. Please tell the person the information calmly. It is highly recommended that you find Japanese-speaking neighbors who are willing to call on your behalf.

You can also fax a completed request form to the emergency number (119) which may be easier and less likely to be misunderstood. A fire station official will immediately send it back to you with a sign on it to let you know whether or not your request has been accepted.

Emergency Ambulance Request Form

(Complete the information below and fax this form to telephone number 119.)

- The place an ambulance should go:
- Your name:
- Your phone number:
- Who need the ambulance and what for:
- Write one out of the following:
 - a sudden illness
 - an injury
 - a traffic accident
 - a rescue
- Your birthday:
- Pre-existing chronic diseases:
- Family doctor:

The New Regional Medical System 新たな新しい地域医療体制

On October 1, Monday, Chigasaki Tokushukai Hospital became Chigasaki Tokushukai Clinic and Shonan Fujisawa Tokushukai Hospital started business near JR Tsujido Station. The Clinic will continue consultations for internal medicine, pediatrics, surgery and gynecology for outpatients, and around-the-clock emergency care until the year 2014 when a new Chigasaki Tokushukai Hospital will open at the present site in Chigasaki. The Chigasaki City Hospital is going to establish an ICU ward and strengthen the consultation system. The City Holiday Emergency Center is open at night-time on weekdays and Saturdays, as well as on Sundays and public holidays, and around the New Year.

Used Spray Cans and Gas Lighters Cause Garbage Truck Fires

スプレー缶とライターでゴミ収集車が火事

Used spray cans and disposable gas lighters incorrectly disposed of in unburnable waste sometimes cause garbage trucks to catch fire. There were twenty-one such incidents in the city from 2007 to 2011, three to five a year on average. Make sure that spray cans are put into recyclable waste and gas lighters go into burnable garbage. In addition, before you dispose of used spray cans, pierce them two or three times to remove any remaining gas.

Temporary Disruption to Public Services

市窓口業務の一部休止

●**Chigasaki Station-front City Residents' Center:** Some counter services will be unavailable on November 17 (Sat) while scheduled maintenance of City office electrical facilities takes place. Suspended services include receiving and issuing various applications and certificates, while other services including those related to tax will be carried out as usual. Inquiries: City Residents' Section in charge of Civil Registration on 0467-87-6666

●**Public libraries:** The Municipal Libraries at Higashikaigan-Kita and Kagawa Annex, a travelling library, and all other library rooms in the Chigasaki area will be closed from December 25 (Tue) to January 4 (Fri) for systems maintenance.

Library homepages on the internet will also be unavailable between December 24 (Mon) 17:00 and January 4 (Fri) 12:00.

Inquiries: Library on 0467-87-1001

Bonsai Exhibition at the Civic Hall

市民文化会館の盆栽展

You will be able to see beautiful Bonsai trees and pots in the 1st floor exhibition room of the Civic Hall for three days:
November 16 (Fri), 13:00~17:00;
November 17 (Sat), 09:00~17:00;
November 18 (Sun), 09:00~16:00.
Admission is free.



Chigasaki Rainbow Festival At Satoyama Park

里山公園 ちがさきレインボーフェスティバル

Chigasaki Rainbow Festival will take place on November 18 (Sun), from 10:00 to 15:00 at Chigasaki *Satoyama* Park located in Serizawa in the northern part of the City. The festival site is on a hill and includes an outdoor market selling locally-produced fresh fruit and vegetables; a flea market with daily necessities, sundries, handicrafts, etc.; and a kiosk corner for refreshments. There will also be live music playing in the meadow.

This year, the City is using this event to encourage the development of human resources. For example, children can enjoy doing handicrafts together with adults, and adults can see what kind of activities children are doing at schools. Several sections of the City office, namely sections of Childrearing, Lifelong Cultural Study, and the Social Education of Education Committee, are collaborating to focus on bringing up future generations and building stronger communities.

Satoyama used to mean a green hill and a village where local people would collect firewood and gather edible wild plants, but today the name sounds rather nostalgic and conjures up images of a place with an abundance of greenery. The City and the promoter invite you to visit the park and enjoy the nature of *Satoyama* with your family on this holiday under the bracing autumn skies.

A free bus service will run between the park and JR stations in Chigasaki and Kagawa. From Chigasaki, No.1 bus stop in front of Yokohama bank, five buses depart between 09:00 and 10:00, then one bus at 11:00, 12:00 and 13:00. From Kagawa, there is one bus at 09:00, two at 10:00, one at 11:00 and one at 14:00. For your return journey, please look at the *Satoyama* bus stop time table.

HISTORY OF CHIGASAKI

Historical Sites along Ohyama-Kaido

大山街道の史跡

Ohyama-kaido is a historical highway running through Chigasaki from Yotsuya in Fujisawa to the Afuri Jinja shrine, a popular place of pilgrimage, atop Mt. Ohyama in Isehara. Actually, there was more than one road named Ohyama-kaido, but this one was said to have been the busiest. Many people from the south-western part of Edo (present-day Tokyo) travelled this route to the shrine via Tokaido to offer prayers, returning via Kamakura, Enoshima and Kanazawa-hakkei, good spots for recreation. In this way, our Ohyama-kaido established its own *raison d'être*.

These days, Ohyama-kaido is an important 'living' road in Chigasaki, from which you can enjoy views of Mt. Fuji and Mt. Ohyama. There are still places along the road where traces of its past life persist, but these are becoming scarcer as time goes by. This is the first of three reports introducing the historical sites along Ohyama-kaido (their locations are shown by number on the map below).

- ① **Ichi-no-Torii or First Torii, Yotsuya:** Beyond Fudō-dō shrine, a stone-made torii or sacred gateway to a Shinto shrine features the forehead of a Japanese long-nosed goblin's mask. An inscription written in 1661 (Manji 4) says that it was presented by the mentor Kohchu.
- ② **Stone image of Jizō, guardian deity of children:** This statue stands near a fork in the road called Miginomichi-no-Ishijizō; the left fork leads to Ohyama, the right fork leads to a field.
- ③ **Hō-Junrei-Kuyo-Tō monument:** Originally a tower where memorial services were held for pilgrims - a song is inscribed on the guide post.
- ④ **Dōsojin wayside god, guardian of roads and travellers:** thought to be a copy of a statue from Nagano Prefecture, this is one of many stone carvings of strange-looking gods of the Dōsojin faith that was popular in Kanagawa Prefecture in the distant past.
- ⑤ **Shinyo-dō shrine:** The tutelary deity Gytō-Tennō - the protector of the land, villages and temples around Kami-Akabane - was enshrined here until around the beginning of the Meiji era.
- ⑥ **Motoko Murano's birthplace:** A female poet of the Edo era, selected as "one of the hundred poets of Kanagawa" in 1980 (Showa 55).
- ⑦ **Hōshakuji temple:** As this temple belongs to the Sōtōshu sect of Buddhism, it also has a *sango* or *mountain name*, which is Inarisan or Inari Mountain. In the vicinity, there is a monument to Motoko Murano and on the way to the temple there is a Koshintō (a five-storied Koshin tower which served as both signpost and traveller's guardian deity).
- ⑧ **Oshamoji-sama or esteemed rice paddle:** Said to be the god of colds, when you catch a cold, if you pray to the god and your prayers are answered, you should then offer a *shamoji* to the god.
- ⑨ **Hishinuma Hachiōji shrine:** Eight gods are enshrined here. In front of the shrine, there is "a stone to bring good fortune" and "the power stone of Hishinuma". On the west side, there is a Dōsojin carving inscribed with a rare form of characters.
- ⑩ **Chōfukuji temple:** Belonging to the Kōyasan Shingonshu Buddhist sect. On the south side, there are three sets of Edo-era Koshintō towers.

Inquiries: Chigasaki Tourism Association on 0467-84-0377 or at <http://www.chigasaki-kankou.org>



Ohyama-kaido



Ohyama Afuri-jinja

The IAC and its Forthcoming Events

IAC とその年内計画 ねんないけいかく

The International Association of Chigasaki (IAC) was founded as a non-governmental organization in 1984 to develop international exchange and understanding. During the last 30 years, membership has increased steadily, and the IAC presently has about 300 individual members and 12 corporate members including Chigasaki City Office. The IAC and its 17 special interest groups help with the following activities and events:

Activities: raising funds for foreign NGOs; organizing Japanese language classes for foreigners; hosting seminars on international topics; promoting international education in public schools; arranging home-stay accommodation for overseas exchange students, including French and Australian university students; cooking international recipes, etc.

Events: Speech Contest in Japanese for foreigners; Teaching Japanese Culture (tea ceremony, flower arrangement, kimono, etc.); Charity Concerts; Year-End Party, Flea Market, Kids Event, etc.

IAC annual membership fee is ¥3,000 for individuals and ¥1,000 for students and their families. However, anyone is welcome to join in their activities and intercultural events, those planned for the rest of the year are shown below:

- November 3 (Sat-holiday) from 10:00 to 15:00 at Chuo Kōen
Participation in Citizen's Festival "Fureai Matsuri"
- November 9 (Fri) from 13:45 to 16:00 at Labor Citizen Hall
Fiddle concert "Scottish music and dance"
- November 10 (Sat) from 13:30 to 16:00 at Josei Center
Lecture - The Education of International Understanding in the British Museum
- November 30 (Fri) ~ December 3 (Mon):
Eight Australian students to home stay
- December 16 (Sun) from 13:30 to 16:00 at the City Hall Annex 'Community Hall'
Year-end Party

More Information at: <http://www.7jp.com/iac> or Tel: 090-1557-7789

People in Town

Yuchih Sato (佐藤育芝) from Taiwan

Raising children in a foreign culture concerns me.

Yuchih Sato, who hails from Taiwan, came to Japan in 2007 after marrying a Japanese man who was working in her home city of Kaohsiung. They set up home in Fujisawa and had a second wedding ceremony so that her husband's relatives could celebrate their marriage as well. Later, her family moved to Murota, Chigasaki, so that they could have their own residence. Chigasaki is also more convenient for her husband who works for a company in Samukawa called TOK, specializing in applied science.



As she had majored in piano and vocal music (where singing provides the main focus of a piece of music) at Tainan University of Applied Sciences and Technology, she had initially joined a chorus group in Fujisawa, but was disappointed when her application to a Chigasaki group was turned down.

Yuchih has two children, a one-year-old boy and a three-year-old girl, and she is concerned about families raising children in a foreign culture, as she is. She is currently very involved in volunteer activities to support mothers from such families and has established a good relationship with the staff at her local Shorin-kominkan. So much so that, in May this year, she organized a gathering there where families could come and share their child-rearing experiences. Several Japanese mothers, who have foreign husbands, attended and Yuchih played the piano and sang songs to them as part of the activities.

Now, with the help and support of the Shorin-kominkan and its staff, she is planning another event entitled "International Exchange of Child-Rearing Families" to be held on November 21 (Wed), aimed at parents of foreign or mixed families living across Chigasaki who have concerns about or experience of Japanese school life and customs, and relationships with neighbors. She would also like to advertise the event in several foreign languages if she can find people to help.

She feels Japanese people are very kind and gentle, and she is very happy to see so many people supporting her efforts.

Information in Foreign Languages

外国人向け情報 がいこくじん けい じょうほう

If you go to the Josei Center, you can now find information, issued by the National and Kanagawa Prefectural Governments, in various foreign languages such as Portuguese, Chinese, Korean, Tagalog, Spanish, and English. The Center provides several conference rooms for citizens, some of which are used for the IAC-run free Japanese language course. There is also open space with tables and chairs which you can use freely.



So many Countries, so many Customs!

ところか 所 変われば、しな 品 変わる

Roasting chestnuts and playing conkers

In Japan and England alike, autumn means chestnuts! Japanese *kuri* (chestnuts) can be eaten simply boiled or cooked with rice and are a common ingredient in cakes and other sweet foods. Chestnut season in England conjures up memories of the smell of chestnuts roasting in crackling bonfires on Guy Fawkes' Night (November 5), and the sweet taste of chestnut stuffing with roast turkey on Christmas Day (December 25).

These days, to reduce air pollution, open fires are not allowed in most urban areas. Private garden bonfires have been replaced by big public firework displays; microwave ovens have succeeded open hearths. However, roasted chestnuts are still popular and you can buy them by the bag from city street vendors huddled around their hot glowing braziers.

To try roasting chestnuts yourself, first score each chestnut with a sharp knife – this allows steam to escape and prevents them from exploding! Place the chestnuts in a covered skillet and lay on the hot embers of the fire. Shake or turn over the chestnuts every few minutes until the shells start to open and you hear popping noises. Allow to cool, peel off the shell and eat. Simple and tasty! However, be careful! In England, there are two types of chestnut and they look quite similar, the edible *sweet chestnut* (prickly burr or seed container) and the poisonous *horse chestnut* (smooth burr).

Schoolchildren, though, love horse chestnuts! Why? In a word, *conkers*! Take a horse chestnut, drill a hole through the middle and thread it on a piece of string. Now, you are ready to play the game of *conkers*. Two players take turns striking each other's conker until one breaks. A new conker is called a "none-er" because it hasn't *conquered* any other conkers yet. If a "none-er" beats a "none-er", it becomes a "one-er"; but if it beats a "one-er", it becomes a "two-er". The hardest conker usually wins; some players harden their conkers unfairly, e.g. by baking them briefly or soaking them in vinegar.

Chestnuts have crept into our languages too. Many English people have *chestnut brown* hair which is reddish brown, while *kuri-iro* is a dark brown colour in Japanese. The English expression "*an old chestnut*" refers to an old joke that is well-known; whilst the Japanese have a saying "*Momo kuri san-nen, kaki hachi-nen*" (peaches and chestnuts take three years to mature, whilst persimmons take eight years) which expresses the shared belief that patience is a virtue.

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



Indian Music Concert at Art Museum

市立美術館でインドの音楽とダンス

On December 9 (Sun), a music concert entitled "Indian Music and Dance" will be held in the entrance hall of the Art Museum from 14:00. The performers are Gō Arai who plays the Indian sitâr and violin, Ayako Ikeda who plays percussion on the tabla (a pair of Indian hand drums similar to bongos), and a lady called YUKI who will perform the classical Kathak dance. Their performance is anticipated to last about an hour and a half. Admission to the concert is free.

At the Museum, such concerts are scheduled to coincide with exhibitions of special art. This time sees the opening of an exhibition of the art of Joh Murakoshi under the name "Design of Prayer - Renka-genso" meaning the fantasy of the tansy flower. The exhibition runs from December 9 to February 24, 2013.

Inquiries: Art Museum on 0467-88-1177 or

<http://www.chigasaki-arts.jp/museum/>

Saturday Music Salon at Hagisono

萩園の土曜ミュージック・サロン

Saturday Music Salon at Hagisono Iko-no-Sato will be held on November 17 (Sat), 13:45~14:45, featuring flute player Michikazu Sugita and pianist Kazuko Sugita. Their program of flute and piano duet follows the themes of love, dreams, sky, flowers and autumn.

“Disused Article Bank” 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 September 12, 2012. 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

▽Baby bed ▽baby carriage/buggy ▽child's metal baseball bat ▽drawer ▽bureau ▽table ▽bookshelf ▽single sofa ▽learning desk ▽paulownia-wood drainboard bed ▽lace curtain ▽air-conditioner filter ▽body surfing boards (adult and child) ▽baseball glove ▽folding bicycle ▽kitchen utensils ▽futon-drying holder ▽cushion ▽futon ▽bath auxiliary chair

Articles wanted ゆずってください

▽Word processor ▽desktop PC ▽24 inch bicycle ▽hibachi brazier ▽cloth, beads, towel ▽bed roll

Useful Japanese Expressions

役に立つ日本語

“ANNOJO” 案の定

If you've just come out of a cinema and your friend says to you: "ANNOJO, that film was so wonderful", this means that your friend was "expecting" the film to be wonderful. To put it simply, "ANNOJO" means "as expected", and, in one sense, is an expression of your strong opinion or impression about something, whether it be positive or negative. For example, when you hear that someone has lost their job because they were late to work for the umpteenth time, you might say "ANNOJO" to show that you feared this would happen.

However, you can also use "ANNOJO" to indicate that you are not surprised by a sequence of events, without expressing a strong feeling about it. For example, "The Olympics were held in London this year, ANNOJO it was difficult to find a cheap hotel."

Thus, "ANNOJO" can be translated as: as expected, as anticipated, as feared, or even right enough, sure enough, to no one's surprise, just as I thought, and so on. In English, the chosen phrase can usually be placed anywhere in a sentence, whereas in Japanese, "ANNOJO" always comes before the thing that was "expected".

So, as you can see, "ANNOJO" is a simple but very useful expression in everyday conversation.

International Festival in Fujisawa

ふじさわ国際交流フェスティバル

Fujisawa City will hold the 9th Fujisawa International Festival on November 11 (Sun) at Fujisawa station's *Sunpearl* Square (similar to Chigasaki station's pedestrian deck) near the north exit of the station building. There will be stalls offering cuisine and folk craft from around the world, including America, Canada, China, Korea, Nepal, and Sri Lanka.

On a stage located at the north end of the Square, international music and dance will also be performed, including jazz, folklore, hula and Bali dance.

This annual event is organized by the Fujisawa International Exchange Festival Executive Committee and sponsored by J.COM Shonan and Fujisawa FM Broadcasting. In addition, Fujisawa City and several local NPOs, including Rotary Clubs and Fujisawa Kokusai Koryu Shonan (Fujisawa International Exchange Shonan or IES), provide back up as joint patrons.

The festival opens at 11:00 and will close at 15:00, but will be cancelled if it rains hard.

International Exchange for Child-rearing Families

子育て仲間の国際交流

If you are worried about raising a child in a foreign culture or have advice to give to child-rearing families, a meeting about this will take place in Conference Room 2 of Shorin Kominkan in Murota on November 21 (Wed) from 10:00 to 11:30. A crèche is available for kids from 6 months to preschool (first five applicants). Inquiries: 0467-52-1314

Japanese Proverbs and their English Equivalents

日本と西洋のことわざ

●一石二鳥

ISSEKI NICHU

(One stone and two birds)

To kill two birds with one stone.

●恋は思案のほか

KOI WA SHIAN NO HOKA

(Love is in addition to thought.)

Love and reason do not always go hand-in-hand.

●無い袖は振れぬ

NAI SODE WA FURENU

(You can't shake sleeves you don't have.)

Nothing comes from nothing.

●独人自慢のほめてなし

HITORI JIMAN NO HOMETE NASHI

(No one will praise the person who is proud of themselves.)

Self-praise is no recommendation.

●寄らば大樹の陰

YORABA TAIJU NO KAGE

(If you take shade, do it under a large tree.)

Better a tail for the lions than the head of the foxes.

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.