

## GET A TASTE OF NORTH CHIGASAKI!

Chigasaki is best known as a surfing town and for its beach on the southern side of the city. With Honolulu as its sister city, it is also a center for Japanese Hawaiian culture. However, Chigasaki is much more than just a seaside resort town.

Having been inhabited since prehistoric times, the area was mostly pastures and farmland. This is hard to see from its southern side, but the city's northern side is much more rural, and Satoyama Park is the center of that rural landscape. Featuring a variety of terrain – from gardens to wetlands to forests to grasslands – Satoyama Park is the perfect place to explore Chigasaki's rural side. The park focuses on environmental education and is the perfect place to learn about nature. Underneath beautiful autumn foliage you can hunt for over 24 different kinds of creatures, including birds, snakes, frogs, insects and of course gorgeous flowers too. You can also take a ride on the 70 meter "Wind Slide" and enjoy events in its halls and squares.

Farms like Suzuki-en also frequent the northern side, where you can pick fruit like *nashi* (pears) and *kuri* (chestnuts), symbols of autumn in Japan. *Kuri* are rarely sold roasted like in other countries, but used in many seasonal dishes and Japanese sweets. Unlike western pears, *nashi* are not "pear-shaped" but are larger and more rounded like apples. They're typically enjoyed peeled and have a crispy and light taste compared to western pears. At Suzuki-en, *kuri* picking starts in mid-August and lasts until early September. *Nashi* come into season a little later and are able to be picked from early September to early October.

Get a real taste for the historical side of Chigasaki and take a visit to the parks and farms on the city's northern side this autumn.



## HAWAIIAN QUILT EXHIBITION -ACROSS THE OCEAN-

Here come vintage Hawaiian Quilts!

To celebrate the 70th anniversary of the establishment of the City of Chigasaki and the 3rd anniversary of establishment of Sister City relationship between Chigasaki and Honolulu, 20 quilt works will be displayed at the Chigasaki City Museum of Art in cooperation with the Honolulu Museum of Art in Hawaii.

It is said that the wives of missionaries brought them to Hawaii in the 1820's. Over time, Hawaiian plants were added to the motif. The traditional quilts feature symmetrical designs with two different colored cloths and ripples around the motif. They were made in the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century, including some crucially important crafts. It is the chance of a lifetime to see these important, historic pieces created with Hawaiian "Aloha Spirit". Why don't you come and enjoy the charming quilts with your friends and family members. Don't miss it.



Na Kalaunu me na Kāhili  
(Crowns and Kāhili)  
Unidentified Maker  
Island of Kaua'i, 1886  
Photo: Shuzo Uemoto

**Hawaiian Quilt Exhibition -Across The Ocean-**: Sept. 10–Nov. 5, 2017

**Place:** Chigasaki City Museum of Art

1-4-45 Higashi-Kaigan Kita Chigasaki-City

**Admission Fee:**

Adults 700yen(600yen), College Students 500yen(400yen)

High School Students and children under 18, 65 and over, and disabled

Chigasaki residents & their helpers are free of charge

(discounted admission for groups of 20 or larger)

**More information:** Chigasaki City Museum of Art

Tel. 0467-88-1177 [ <http://www.chigasaki-museum.jp/> ]

\*Organized in collaboration with the Honolulu Museum of Art.

## FUREAI FESTIVAL

The 34th Fureai Festival will be held in Chuo Park on November 3 (Fri), Culture day. This festival aims to encourage people to interact with each other and to contribute to the development of local welfare and civic organizations. Every year, tens of thousands of people visit the park.

Last year, 86 stalls sold various foods and drinks, handmade goods, convenient goods, clothes, and more. Moreover, 21 groups performed on the stage including a Hula dance show, Kids dance shows and a mascot show. It is a great chance to meet people and to get to know what kinds of local activities are taking place in the community. For further information, please contact to Fureai Festival Executive Committee of Citizen Autonomy Promotion Sect.

## RAINBOW FESTIVAL

The 21st Chigasaki Rainbow Festival will take place on November 12 (SUN) from 10:00 to 15:00 at Satoyama Park. The festival may be canceled in the event of severe weather.

At the multipurpose space, there will be a flea market, and the local performing arts and brass bands will perform on the stage. At the entrance, there will be a garden market and there will be a stage where dancing will be performed. Come and enjoy food, music, and the beautiful autumn colors in the park.

Parking spaces are limited around the park so, instead of coming to the festival by car, why not use the free bus service? Free bus service operates from Chigasaki Station North entrance and Kagawa Station.

## EVENTS & ACTIVITIES IN TOWN

### SEPTEMBER

3 SAT 7am-

#### CHIGASAKI MAYOR'S CUP AMATEUR SURFING CONTEST

The Contest will be held at Chigasaki Headland Beach.

10 SUN 10am-6pm (Last admission: 5:30pm)

#### HAWAIIAN QUILT EXHIBITION "ACROSS THE OCEAN"

20 Hawaiian Quilts from the Honolulu Museum of Art will be exhibited at Chigasaki City Museum of Art until Nov. 5, 2017.

23 SAT 10am-5pm

#### CHIGASAKI JAMBOREE 2017

Country and bluegrass music concerts at Chigasaki Satoyama Prefectural Park

### OCTOBER

17 TUE 9am

#### MORNING FISH MARKET "Sakana no Ichi"

The market will be held at Chigasaki Fishing Port

### NOVEMBER

3 FRI (Holiday: Culture Day) 10am-3pm

#### FUREAI FESTIVAL

A lot of stalls will be set up along by volunteer groups including the IAC. On the stage, music and dancing will be performed at Chigasaki Chuo Park

3 FRI to 5 SUN

#### 3th CHIGASAKI MAKANA HULA FESTIVAL

Hula competition, workshops and performances will be held at Chigasaki Gymnasium. [<http://www.world.hawaiianculture.org/>]

12 SUN 10 am-3 pm

#### 21th RAINBOW FESTIVAL

Many events, such as a flea market, will be held at Chigasaki Satoyama Prefectural Park. On the stage, music and dancing will be performed.

26 SUN 3 pm

#### CHORAL CONCERT OF DIAKU

The concert will be held at Community Hall of Chigasaki City Hall Annex 6 FL  
Free of Charge



## Professional Advice -LAWYER-

### Question:

I am being asked to accept an increase in rent from the owner of the apartment I live in. There is a provision in the lease contract to increase the rent every two years. In this case, do I have to accept the increased rent?

Also, before I answer the owner's request, the toilet broke. Can I ask the owner to repair it?

### Answer:

Whether or not the rent is increased depends on whether or not the current rent has become unreasonable due to raised prices in comparison to the rent of neighboring apartments. Even if there is a provision in the lease contract that says the rent will be automatically increased, it will be judged in this way. Therefore, you should ask the owner for the reason of the rent increase. If in doubt, consult a lawyer.

Even while discussing the rent increase, the owner will be obliged to repair the building facilities. However, if there is a provision about facility repairs in the lease contract, that has priority.

## THE BEGINNING OF CHIGASAKI

Chigasaki is a fairly young city, especially compared to the millennia of Japanese history. This year marks Chigasaki's 70th year as a full-fledged city, and in honor of this, Chigasaki Breeze will be running a short series of articles on the history of the land that is now Chigasaki. To start, we will take a look way back to the days before Chigasaki City, before the Samurai, to the very beginning of people living and working in the Chigasaki area. Special thanks to the Chigasaki Cultural Museum for their help in writing this article.

People have lived on the land now known as Chigasaki for a very long time. The first artifacts related to human activity in Chigasaki date back to about 17,000 years ago or more, and the first settlements that are known to archeologists today date from about 3,500 B.C.E. in the late Jomon Era. The Tsutsumi Kaizuka, or shell mound, was designated as a city cultural site in 1992 and the artifacts there give a good look at life in the area in the years B.C.E. First of note, is that the well preserved settlement was large for villages at the time. Agriculture was of course important, but excavations also found a large number of sea shells and fish bones, hence why it is referred to as a shell mound. The residents of Chigasaki have a rich love affair with the beach and the sea, and in the archeology we can see that deep relationship with the ocean goes back thousands of years.

Throughout the Jomon and Kofun periods, most of Japan was covered in small independent chiefdoms and villages. It wasn't until the rise of the Imperial family that these villages began to be connected together, starting in ancient Yamato Province, in modern day Nara. Recently, the earliest connections between Chigasaki and a centralized Japanese government were found under Chigasaki Hokuryo High School. The remains of an early regional temple, which the Nara government used as local government centers was found beneath the schoolyard. This means that this area was a thriving town and government center in the 7th and 8th Century C.E.

Chigasaki may have reached city status only 70 years ago, but people have been living, working, and thriving in the area for a very long time.



## MEET CHIGASAKI BREEZE HERO CHARLES DEBOSE

Charles, who wanted to live in another country, applied for the Japan Exchange and Teaching program in 1997. Since he arrived at Kamakura, he has always loved the Shonan area. CB asked him, a teacher at junior high and high schools in Samukawa, to share his experience on how to adjust to Japan.

### Could you tell us a little about your hometown and your childhood memories?

I grew up in Berkley California, a place famous for its University and hippy culture, so I grew up meeting many wild and interesting people, free-thinking people. I also went to some peaceful protests as a kid with my parents in 70's and 80's. I've spent most of my childhood in the bay area Northern California, and a lot of time with family, friends, and neighborhoods. I feel similarly here in Chigasaki; people are really relaxed and natural, and it feels very comfortable for me. I feel very lucky to be in Chigasaki. I can easily go to the ocean and just relax anytime.

### What did you find the hardest when you first came to Japan?

The hardest thing, of course, was language. When I first came to Japan, I couldn't speak any Japanese and I couldn't read any Hiragana. I had no Japanese language experience so that was the hardest thing. Shopping for food without reading Japanese was also difficult because there were many things that I just couldn't understand what I was looking at. It's hard to know what you are buying. Maybe I bought horse meat in the beginning because I couldn't read 馬肉(horse meat) and 牛肉(beef) and 豚肉(pork) so I just looked and thought "Oh, this red meat. I guess this is beef." But then one time I went to a grocery store with my friend and he told me that it wasn't beef, it was horse meat! So, when I first came here, I ate hokahoka-bento a lot, because I could look at the picture and know what's inside.

### Any advice for newcomers in Chigasaki?

My no.1 advice I always give to people who just moved into Japan is to try to learn Japanese language as soon as possible. Make the best of your time and study Japanese. When I first came to Japan, one of my Japanese colleagues said, "The more you can read, the easier your life would be". She was right, learning Japanese made my life not only a lot easier but also very enjoyable. Before coming to Japan, I've got an advice from my father, he told me to make friends with people who can't speak English no matter what country you go to, then you will be forced to learn their native language. I think learning local language is important, and it is a good thing.

Another bit of advice is "Go to the beach as much as you can." I love the beach, I think that the atmosphere is great, and I really like the cycling road. When I first moved to Chigasaki in 2001, I lived in Saiwaicho, so every day I used to jog to the beach and jogged along the cycling road. I could feel really relaxed and made some friends with total strangers. I would see some of the same people every day walking and jogging, and they would always say hello to me. I think if you move into Japan for the first time you might feel a little frustration, so of course if you are in Chigasaki you have a good place to go to feel relaxed or let your stress out, just go to the beach.

### What needs to be done to make Chigasaki better place?

Personally, I wish there were more outdoor places to play. It would be nice to have places like nice outdoor basketball courts where people can go to play and meet new friends. And that's my only small request for Chigasaki, because I think Chigasaki is really nice place and I don't really see any room for improvement.

Thanks for precious advice! Mayor, we only need more basketball courts!

## AMATEUR SURFING CONTEST

Date/Time: Sept.3 (Sun) 7am-

Place: Near the Board-Walk at Chigasaki Headland Beach  
\*In case of bad weather, it will be postponed until the 10th Sept.

\*The opening ceremony will be held regardless of wave condition.

The Chigasaki Mayor's Cup will be held on the Chigasaki coast where the mecca of surfing is. It is a local-focused continuous surfing contest and it will be sponsored by the local surf-shops and volunteers. It will be judged according to world class criteria. This contest has also been the gateway for many kid surfers who have gone on to become pros. Please come and see the excitement of the young surfers.

### Competition rules:

The amateur surfing contest is set up as a tournament. Points are awarded for difficulty and perfect technique. The points are awarded based on the total of the two best runs in the allotted surfing time.

### Contact:

(Executive Committee of the Shonan-sai Festival at the Chigasaki Chamber of Commerce and Industry): 0467-58-1111



## INTERNATIONAL MARRIAGE & CHILD-RAISING CIRCLE

The IAC have established an international marriage & child-raising circle. Everyone can share information and talk about the worries of daily life and being child-raising mamas. (of course papas, too!) Come and join us!!

Date/Time: From October, on the third Wednesday of each month, 10:00-12:00 (you can come and go freely.)

Place: Chigasaki Gender Equality Promotion Center "IKORIA"  
Chigasaki Trust Building 4F, 12-12 Shineicho, Chigasaki

Target persons: Everyone welcome!

Contact: (IAC) 090-1557-7789  
info@chigasaki-iac.org



## Tsunami Disaster Preparation

We cannot forget the many lives that were lost in the Great East Japan Earthquake. November 5th is "Tsunami Protection Day" designated by the United Nations to raise the awareness of tsunami disaster prevention.

Chigasaki city has been making the efforts to let the residents know how to evacuate from flood-prone areas to the temporary evacuation sites in the case that a big earthquake occurs and a tsunami warning is issued. In town, there are 172 designated temporary shelters including 32 schools and private apartment buildings, which you can check on Chigasaki's website and on the city's official tsunami hazard Map. There are signs posted at the entrance of each designated shelter. Please check the nearest evacuation site to your place. Let's make November 5th a day to think about unpredictable disasters, and think about what you can do to protect yourself and your community.

## APRIL, 2018 PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION ANNOUNCEMENT

Enrollment for Nursery schools and kindergartens in Chigasaki next year will begin this autumn. Be sure to apply early so you don't miss the deadline for each school.

### [Nursery school]

**Application distribution:** Sept. 11 ~ at the Day Care Department of the municipal office and branch offices

**Application dates:** Oct. 11 ~ Nov. 10 at the Day Care Department of the municipal office

### [Kindergarten: Private only]

**Application distribution:**

Oct. 15 ~ at each kindergarten

**Application dates:** Nov. 1 ~ at each kindergarten

*\*Ask each kindergarten school about their deadline.*

For more information, access Chigasaki city website [<http://www.city.chigasaki.kanagawa.jp.e.ox.hp.transer.com/lifeevent/1001974.html>] or Tel: (0467)82-1111

## CHIGASAKI CITIZENS' TOUR TO HONOLULU

This year's "Chigasaki Citizens'

Tour to Honolulu" will be held from

Thursday, December 14th to Tuesday, December 19th.

You can enjoy the Christmas season in Honolulu in this tour.

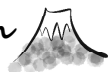
The cost for the trip is 128,000 yen and is open to anyone who lives, works, or goes to school in Chigasaki. The application period will run from Monday September 4th to Friday, October 13th, or until the maximum number of travelers, 40, is reached. The tour will be operated by JTB Corporate

Sales Inc. (Tel:0463-23-9051)

[<http://www.city.chigasaki.kanagawa.jp/profile/1012577/1013763/1013742.html>]



## Ask Fuji-san



Dear Fuji-san,

*I have been staying in Chigasaki for 3 weeks as a homestay student from France.*

*Where is the trash can? Where can I throw out garbage?*

*There are many trash cans in France, but in Chigasaki I can't find garbage cans even if I want to throw trash away.*

*Why?*

N.K. (France)

Dear N

According to the city recycling resource center, people are supposed to take garbage home in Chigasaki. There used to be a lot of trash cans here and there, but 20 years ago the city removed the trash cans from places, like the park.

There are now only seven garbage cans for tourists on the coastal cycling road. Why were they removed?

Simply put, there are no people to manage all of the trash cans.

Also, the landscape got worse because the crows eat the trash and make a mess. Sometimes, dangerous goods were placed in them as well.

From Fuji



## The Summer Beach Houses

Have you ever wondered what happened to all the wooden shack like structures built on the beaches during the summer or even wondered why they would build and tear them down in such a short timeframe? The Summer Beach Houses, "Umi no ie", are an old unique cultural tradition in Japan. The building of the shacks symbolizes the start of summer and the disassemblment represents the end of summer. The dates for operating the beach houses are different and rules are set by each city. And not every city has the same dates but here in Chigasaki the dates this year were from July 1st to August 31st.

The season started with extremely hot weather every day, and only few rainy days in July. All the beach house operators were hoping for a great season this year but they knew that, from years of experience, it all depends on the weather. Weather plays a major factor in bringing the flow of people to the beach. Nobody wants to spend a day on the beach and in the sand on a rainy day. Reading the weather news and checking the weekly forecast everyday was an absolute requirement. It could be raining in the morning but sunshine in the afternoon and at times you just have to trust your instincts. But there's a jinx that, if there's no raining season in June, there's a lot of storms and typhoons in August. Sure enough that is exactly what happened.

Here in Chigasaki eight beach houses were built on the sands of Southern Beach, operated by different owners. Majority of the beach house owners have been in operation for many years. Hanaiso Beach House is known to have been operating for about 100 years, passed down within the family for decades. In the olden days, beach houses were commonly used for taking short breaks for a small fee. It was a napping place to stay out of the sun during the hottest time of the day. This tradition does still exist but it has changed over the years. These days, people come in cars loaded with tents, chairs and coolers, so the beach houses compete less with each other and more with the beach customers. So, each beach house has its own unique theme. There was an Okinawan style food beach house, a stylish bar with exotic drinks and music for the younger generations, a BBQ house, Hawaiian style food and cocktails and also a traditional rest house style, and much more. There was definitely a very wide variety of beach houses to select from. It seemed like a lot of effort was put into the facilities to maintain the old traditions and the same time offer a gathering place for modern beach lovers. We certainly hope this unique cultural tradition will be found again next year and every year at our Southern Beach Chigasaki.

*ike 'oe a 'e makahiki (see you next year)*

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Back issues are available on the IAC website or the Chigasaki City website.

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