

## People In Town

### Shirley Bausas Yamauchi

*I was impressed by the bows and handshakes the Japanese people often do.....*



Shirley Bausas Yamauchi was born in Matabungkay, Lian City, Batangas in the Philippines twenty four years ago. She married a Japanese man in her country, and has a two year-old boy.

Her first visit to Japan was in August, 2007, then she went back to her country straight away, and returned to Chigasaki in October, 2007, to live in Hishinuma with her husband's parents. So, it's only been about three months that she's actually lived here. Her Japanese is not too good yet, she has almost no friends around, and she finds it a little bit sad that very few people in her neighborhood won't get in touch with her. So she is having a hard time communicating with people other than her husband's parents. With her husband, she speaks in English, Tagalog and some Japanese, while her two year-old boy is playing with Japanese children in Tagalog to her surprise.

Living in Chigasaki, she noticed the temperature was so much different from the weather in the Philippines as it's tropical there. She says she stays at home even if it isn't cold in June. In the meantime, she has found everything is kept so clean, and the politeness of Japanese people surprised her especially with bows and handshakes in their daily life.

She says she has to study hard to gain friends. So far she has visited Shinjuku, Shibuya, Enoshima beach, Satoyama and Yamashita koen (park) in Yokohama, but above all, Tokyo Disneyland was the most exciting place; one day wasn't enough to look around. Regardless, she felt she could relax living in Chigasaki as she feels peaceful wherever she goes.

She has found the Japanese the most disciplined people she ever met, and the way people handle the disposal of garbage surprised her. She believes that's why the surroundings are kept clean.

She says she is not a vegetable lover, but she started eating more vegetables in Japan, the same as her family. Her favorite is assorted tempura, but she doesn't care for raw foods. Also, the bicycles with children seats were something new, as they use tricycles and "jeepney" in the Philippines. Her hobby is reading books in English and Tagalog and she loves to watch SUMO wrestling on TV.

We seriously hope that she will be able to increase the number of friends she has regardless of the difference in nationality and can live a good life in Chigasaki as long as she can.

## GARBAGE DISPOSAL ISSUE

*Be careful when you dispose of garbage!*

Spray cans have to be emptied and punctured.



There were four cases of fires in garbage collection trucks in the five months from January through May this year. The cause of the fires was thoughtless deeds by those who didn't observe the rule of separating garbage correctly. There also were six cases of fires in the previous two years. The cause of the fires was because spray cans weren't emptied. If you dispose of spray cans without emptying them and as unburnable garbage, they can cause a fire in the compactor while the truck is running.

When you dispose of cassette cylinders such as of hair spray, insecticide, etc., please empty and puncture those cans or cylinders in an airy place after they are used, and put them out as recyclable garbage, put them in transparent plastic bags so one can see inside on the day for Bottles and Cans.

## YOUR VOICE PLEASE

We are looking forward to hearing from you as to how you fixed the articles and information in the Chigasaki Breeze. Please email us at: shimadayut@jcome.home.ne.jp.

## IAC ACTIVITY



## DONATION ASKED!

For a number of people who suffered from cyclone *Nargis* in Myanmar and the massive earthquake in Sechuan Province, the IAC is raising donations by its members preparing a donation box at each event or gathering throughout the year. The IAC will welcome donations by non-members as well!

## UNIVERSITY STUDENTS FROM FRANCE VISITING AGAIN!

From July 6 through August 3, there will be nine university students visiting Chigasaki for Japanese studies. They are going to do a home-stay separately in the city and are scheduled to visit various places including a junior high-school, a high-school, two colleges, and they will spend some time at a temple in Kamakura to try ZAZEN (zen meditation). Also, they are expected to experience wearing a *Kimono*, playing *IGO*, a tea ceremony, etc. The IAC will have their welcome party on July 12 (Saturday) from 19:00~21:00 (¥1,000 for adults and ¥500 for children) and the Sayonara party on August 2 from 14:00~16:00 when students will make a speech in Japanese to finalize their trip. Both parties will be held at the Labor Citizens' Hall on the Route 1, and are open to anybody.

If you see them walking or riding bicycles in town, say hello at any time.

This program started in 1999 and it's going to be the 10th visit this year, the students represent a few top class universities, and it's reportedly been well reputed among the students in France. For further information, call Noriko Fukumura at 85-1337 or Toshiko Ota at 83-0480

## HISTORY OF CHIGASAKI

### A historical walk; the origin of

### *Rachien-dori*

One of the unique names of the streets in Chigasaki is *Rachien-dori* which runs from north to south towards the Chigasaki beach. The name came from the name of a German businessman who loved living in Chigasaki and built a gorgeous villa in the latter part of the Taisho era (1912~1926).

*Rudolf Ruzten* was born in Hannover, Germany, and came to Japan in 1902 (Meiji 35) as a representative of a German trading house. Before long, he started an import business by himself, and began importing German made cars, cameras, etc. The business was successful and he became wealthy. He was living in Aoyama, Tokyo, at that time, but in 1932 (Showa 7) he bought a piece of land of about 15,000tsubo (49,500 square meters) in the present Asahigaoka area in Chigasaki. He married a Japanese lady and in 1937 (Showa 12) he built several villas on the land of about 2,000tsubo (6,600 square meters) where he spent his later life.

*Rudolf Ruzten* and his wife were considerate and they treated local people very well. He passed away in 1947 (Showa 22), and soon after, the street extending from Route 1 to Route 134 (Shonan Yuhodo) through Asahigaoka was named *Rachien-dori* street by people in the neighborhood. He was like a real Japanese, he loved Japanese food and clothes, and he planted cherry trees on both sides of the street which extended from near Wakamatsu-cho to Route 134. The street, therefore, was called *Sakura-michi* or Cherry-Tree street.

From the street close to the beach, people could see *Eboshi-iwa* (Rock), a symbol of Chigasaki right in front.

Apparently, *Rudolf Ruzten* wanted to have a line of cherry trees extending toward the sea, so we can imagine his sensitivity and his fine personality. The plantation of cherry-trees and the beautiful sea are a wonderful contrast, aren't they?

