

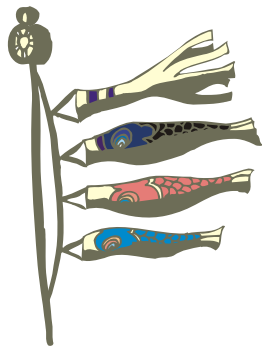
# Chigasaki Breeze

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

No.0022

## TANGO-NO-SEKKU Boy's Festival

### 端午の節句



May 5th is a National Holiday for Children's Day to celebrate children in general to grow up with a happy life and future, and it's called "Kodomo-no-Hi". Originally, however, the day was called *Tango-no-Sekku* or Boy's Festival and it was one of five names of Sekku, celebration days, including those for girls; *Jōmi-no-Sekku* in historical language. The five Sekku days consist of *Jinjitsu* (January 7th), *Jōmi* (March 3rd), *Tango* (May 5th), *Tanabata* (July 7th), and *Chōyō* (September 9).

Originally, boys were celebrated to grow up to be as strong as carp that swim up waterfalls, and families with boys set out dolls with warriors' armor and helmets, flying "Koi-Nobori" or Carp Streamers high up in the sky. There are not many of them these days but you will find them at some houses and that tells you they have boys. Families pray for their boys to grow like *Koi* (carp) and live their strong lives, and carp have long been taken as symbols of success in life.

The day also features from a long time ago the practice of taking a bath with sweet flag (iris), the so-called "Shōbu-Yu". Sweet flag is reputed to have medicinal effect, and its leaves are fragrant and are believed to get rid of evil. Also, it is essential to make an offering of the traditional Japanese confectionary of rice dumplings wrapped in bamboo shoot skins and rice cakes wrapped in oak leaves.

Golden week this year started on April 29th (Wed) and the holidays in May will be 3rd (Sun) Constitution Day, 4th (Mon) *Midori-no-Hi*, 5th (Tue) *Kodomo-no-Hi* and 6th (Wed) Substitute holiday.

Enjoy this holiday season with your children!

## SUPPLEMENTARY INCOME PAYMENTS AND EXTRA ALLOWANCE FOR CHILDCARE

## 定額給付金と 子育て応援特別手当

Based on the central government ordinance made recently, Chigasaki city issued a special publication last month notifying that an application form for receiving the Supplementary Income Payments and the Extra Allowance for Childrearing would be delivered to residents in mid-April.

The following is the city's notification on the procedure.

An application form was mailed to all the residents in April as written in the following items:

- (1) Chigasaki City dispatched the application form with a stamped addressed envelope enclosed on April 13, 2009.
- (2) The Application Form has to be mailed back by October 16, 2009.
- (3) Both the Supplementary Income Payments and the Extra Allowance for Childrearing will be transferred to the account of applicants/beneficiaries.

If you have any questions, please contact:

City Office counter on the 2nd floor 8:30 ~ 17:00

Koide Branch Office 9:00 ~ 17:00

Chigasaki Station-front City Residents' Center 9:00 ~ 17:00

Note: The Koide Branch Office and City Residents' Center will only accept inquiries until May 29 (Fri) though they are closed from 12:00 ~ 13:00.

### Outline of the Supplementary Income Payments:

Those eligible for the Supplementary Income Payments are the ones who have been registered either in the Basic Resident Ledger or foreigners who have completed alien registration as of February 1, 2009 (being called Base Day), and the amount to be paid follows:

**Remarks:** Foreigners who are staying in the city for a short period of time or those of illegal or undocumented people are excluded.

For those aged under 64 and over 19 (Born after February 3, 1944, or before February 1, 1990: **¥12,000 per head**)

For those aged over 65 (Born before February 2, 1944, or under 18 (Born after February 2, 1990: **¥20,000 per head**)

\* Those who apply for and receive the payments must be the head of a household as of February 1, 2009.

### Outline of the Extra Allowance for Childrearing:

The extra allowance for supporting childrearing will be given to children who were born during April 2, 2002 through April 1, 2005 and not the first-born child.

For applicable child/children, **¥36,000 per head** will be paid to the head of a household.

If there are any questions or inquiries, please contact the following call center:

The Chigasaki Supplementary Income Payments and Childrearing Extra Allowance Call Center at 0467-88-3300.



## MINI CONCERT ON May 22 AT THE CITY HALL LOBBY

The city office is holding a music concert at the lobby once in every three months, for the purpose of having citizens feel welcome at the city hall.

At lunch time, the city office hopes many people will enjoy listening to the ensemble of singers and classical musical instruments.

▽ When: May 22 (Fri) 12:20~12:50

▽ Where at: The City Hall Lobby

▽ Played by: SHONAN Liebe

Inquiries: Bunka Suishin-ka (Cultural Promotion Section) 82-1111