

# Chigasaki Breeze

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

No.45

## ShakeOut and Tsunami Evacuation Drills on March 10

### シェイクアウトと津波避難訓練 3月10日

A large-scale ShakeOut earthquake drill and tsunami evacuation drill will take place on March 10 (Sun), rain or shine. The earthquake drill applies to everyone in the city at the time, but the tsunami evacuation drill applies only to people south of the JR Tokaido Line. These disaster drills are carried out assuming an earthquake measuring 8.3 on the Richter scale (6-plus on the Japanese scale) followed by a first tsunami of 4m, 10 minutes after the earthquake and a second 8m wave, 13 minutes after the first wave. These activities are to remind us of the unprecedented disaster which occurred exactly two years ago, improve preparedness for and practice how to be safe during earthquakes and tsunamis.

**Chigasaki ShakeOut earthquake drill:** The drill starts at 09:30 with a message from public speakers lasting 1 minute. As soon as you hear the announcement, if you are inside a building, you should take three simple actions: **'Drop, Cover and Hold On'**, i.e. **drop down onto your hands and knees; take cover (e.g. under a sturdy table or desk, or near an inside corner of the room or big pillar) and protect your head and neck; and hold on there until the shaking stops.** If outdoors, after dropping down and protecting your head, you should move to a clear area away from hazards as soon as you can. These actions are said to be quite effective to protect yourself during earthquakes. The ShakeOut earthquake drill has grown to be the world's largest drill since it was first conducted in the United States in 2008. Several videos are on YouTube – search for 'Drop Cover Hold On'.

**Tsunami evacuation drill:** This drill starts at 09:30 with an announcement. People south of the JR Tokaido Line should make their way immediately to evacuation buildings or schools on foot (not by bicycle or car). You should have already chosen your evacuation place and how to get there beforehand consulting the Tsunami Hazard Map and the Tsunami Handbook provided by the City. The drill will remind you how long it takes to get there. The drill will finish at 10:30. Please help the City by filling in a questionnaire City officials give you at evacuation places.

Other recommended safety actions during earthquakes (following "Drop, Cover and Hold On" actions, if appropriate) are:

- ① At home, hurry to a bathroom and leave the door open.
- ② If taking a bath, stay in the bathtub and protect yourself with a cover or a plastic bowl.
- ③ At night, cover your entire body with a futon.
- ④ In a supermarket, cover your head with a basket or a bag.
- ⑤ On a moving train or bus, hold on to a strap or a handrail.
- ⑥ In a shopping or office district, leave from the building when it is safe to do so, but beware of falling objects and glass on the ground.
- ⑦ When driving, hold on to the steering wheel, switch on hazard lights and pull over on the left side of the road.



## Doll's Festival for Healthy Girls 雛まつり—少女の健やかな成長を祈って

Held on March 3, families with young girls celebrate the Doll's Festival by displaying dolls, called *Hina Ningyo*, which are believed to remove evil spirits and bad luck from girls. The photo from the Naka-Kaigan Culture Museum shows dolls of the Emperor and Empress, three court ladies, and five court musicians, on a red-carpeted tiered stand with diamond-shaped red, green and white rice cakes containing, respectively, gardenia, mugwort and water chestnut. Gardenia works as an antidote; mugwort is thought to ward off misfortune; and water chestnut brings down high blood pressure. *Peach sake* and *sweet white sake* are also on the stand; together they form the auspicious color combination, white and red, whilst *peach sake* containing peach petals is said to protect girls from all kinds of diseases. All the symbolic decorations, in fact, are supposed to bring good health to girls as they grow up.



An ancient Chinese custom of purification in a river in March, a Japanese custom of removing evil spirits and misfortune in girls by stroking their bodies with paper-made human figures in the Heian Period, and a play with dolls by young girls of Heian noble families combined to become the early beginnings of the Doll's Festival. The human figures to which evil spirits were believed to transfer from the girls were discarded in a river. People in some areas, including Tottori, still preserve this custom called *Nagashi bina*. In the Edo Period the festival became popular and the present-day style was established. With the advancement of handicrafts, luxurious dolls came to be produced and they were re-used every year instead of being thrown away. In any period, parents deeply love their children, but ancient people must have prayed for their kids' health much more seriously than people of today because the infant mortality rate in the Edo Period was as high as about 50%.

There is another custom for the day; some people go on a picnic to nearby mountains or beaches and enjoy large and special meals. The activity aims to entertain the god of agriculture and bring him into their souls before farm work starts. Peaches and camellias bloom this time of year. Rape blossoms and dandelion flowers also make yellow patterns in green fields. Can you imagine what scenery ancient people enjoyed?

## City Office to Open Partially at Weekends 週末に市役所の幾つかの課の窓口は開いています

To deal with the high volume of transfer notifications (job transfers, school enrollments, etc.) expected around the fiscal year end, some sections of the City office, such as the Citizens' section, will open on the following days: March 30 (Sat) & 31 (Sun), and April 6 (Sat) & 7 (Sun).

## Bank Transfer Notification System to Change 「口座振込通知書」の変更

The current system, whereby a Notification of Bank Transfer is issued when the City office makes a payment by bank transfer, will be discontinued from April, 2013. To confirm receipt of monies sent, please update your bankbook to show recent transactions; a reference to "○ ○-ka of Chigasaki-shi" will indicate which City section transferred money to you (and who to contact if you have any queries). **Inquiries:** Accounting Section of City office

## Guidance on Residential District Notification for Foreign Residents

### がいこくじんじゅうみん きゃくさま じゅうきょち とどけ で あんない 外国人住民のお客様へ住居地届出のご案内

All residents, foreign or Japanese, are required to notify City Hall of their change of address when either moving out of Chigasaki, moving in from outside the City, or moving to a different address within the City. A "Notification of Residential District" should be applied for within 14 days of moving into a new address within the City, but, if moving out of the City, within 14 days either side of the scheduled date of moving out.

When applying for the "Notification of Residential District", you will need to bring some additional documents with you to the service counter (if they apply to you or a member of your household). These documents are listed by circled number at the bottom.

**[Moving Out]** Please note that moving out of the City also includes moving to different country and leaving the country for more than a year for business trips and vacations. When you submit a notification of moving out, a "Certificate of Moving Out" will be issued to you. (The certificate will NOT be issued if you are moving out of the country.) Documents required: ①+②+③+⑤

**[Moving In]** If you are moving into the City from another city in Japan, you should submit your "Certificate of Moving Out" from that city with your notification of moving in. Documents required: ①+②+④+⑤

**[Moving Within]** If you are moving to another residence within Chigasaki City, you should bring the following documents: ①+②+③+⑤

**List of documents** which may be required: ① Personal identification (residence card, special permanent resident certificate, passport, driver's license etc.) ② Seal ③ National Health Insurance Card and/or Care Insurance Certificate and/or Medical Insurance Certificate for People Aged 75 and older ④ National Pension Handbook ⑤ A Letter of Proxy (if the notifier is a delegated representative outside of the same family.)

[Inquiries] City Citizens' Section on 0467-82-1111

## Information about National Health Insurance

### こくみんけんこうほけん 国民健康保険についてのお知らせ

National health insurance (NHI) is administered through a public medical insurance system for self-employed persons, part-time workers, etc. who cannot enroll in a health insurance plan at their workplaces. Foreign residents are also required to be members of the NHI system. Applications to join the scheme and other related procedures are handled by your local municipal/ward office. Please note that the coverage of this system was expanded as of July 9, 2012. **Foreign nationals subject to the system:** Foreign people registered as residents (who have stayed in Japan for over three months, in principle). Even if the permitted period of stay is three months or less in the first instance, you are required to enlist in the NHI system if the length of stay is likely to exceed three months. **Insurance premiums:** If you enroll in the scheme, you are required to pay the premiums. As for the amount and the methods of payment, please ask your local municipal/ward office. Please note that even if your application is delayed, you need to pay the premiums for the entire period of your eligibility. **Insurance benefit:** When you consult a doctor for a disease or injury, 70 to 90% of the expenses for treatment and medication will be covered by this insurance. [Inquiries in Japanese] Section responsible for the national health insurance of your municipality/ward Medical Insurance Division. K.P.G. Tel: 045-210-4881 (From HELLO KANAGAWA)

## HISTORY OF CHIGASAKI

### Historical Sites along Ohyama-Kaido (3)

### おおやまかいどう しせき 大山街道の史跡その3

This is the third in a series of reports introducing the historical sites along Ohyama-kaido (their locations are shown by number on the map below).

- 24 **Honzaiji temple:** Originally located at Karasawa, Fujisawa, the temple was relocated here during the Kanbun era by the wife of the chief of Takada village, Tadaaki Ohōka, for her husband's thirteen year memorial service, for which a pagoda was built. The famous samurai, Ohōka Tadasuke (Echizen-no-kami), always rested here when visiting a grave in Jōkenji temple in Tsutsumi. An Ohyama lantern hangs to the left of the temple gate.
- 25 **Kumano-jinja Shrine (Takada):** The Chief of Takada village, Tadaaki Ohōka, deified the God of Kishu Kumano in Manji Gan'nen (1658). A rock basin for the ritual cleansing of hands, called chyōzu-ishi (手水石) related to the Ohōka family lies in front of the shrine.
- 26 **Original site of Yakushidō:** The Yakushidō (a temple to the Yakushi Buddha of healing and medicine, Bhaisajyaguru) has long since disappeared, and in its place stands a Dōsojin, the roadside god that protects travelers and village people, and a monument.
- 27 **Gyokurinji Temple:** Originally built in Genna Gan'nen (1615).
- 28 **Hachiman-jinja Shrine (Amanuma):** Also called Hachiman Ohkami and thought to have been built in 1656 (Meireki 2), it was designated a prefectural tangible folk cultural property in 2006 (Heisei 18). On the right side of the approach to the shrine stands a Koshintō (a five-storied Koshin tower) in which a *Shihi-shōmen-kongōzō* statue is deified.
- 29 **Amanuma Suidōyama burial mounds:** Halfway up the southern slope of the hill on the west side of the stone steps lies a system of catacombs similar to the burial mounds typical of the late Kofun Period found in the Kanto region.
- 30 **Johjuin Statue:** This Yakushi Buddha statue of the Shingon-shu Buddhism sect, thought to have been built in the Jōō era (1652~1655), was badly damaged by fire when the main temple building burnt down in 1955 (Showa 30).
- 31 **Neighborhood of Sagi-chaya or Heron's tea room:** Travellers en route to Ohyama often visited this tea room famed for its *mugi-tororo* or grated yam and *dojo-jiru* or loach soup. In summertime, the Jizō-sama of Rinko-ji temple is said to have gone on public view or *Dekaicho* (出開帳) nearby.
- 32 **Rinko-ji Temple:** Within the temple stands a monument to Kappa-Dokkuri, the mischievous water imp of a two-hundred year-old folk tale of Chigasaki. A Koshintō on the left side of the temple gate, designated an important cultural asset by the City, bears an inscription from 1640 (Kan'ei 17), the oldest in the city, namely *San'en-keishiki* (三猿形式) or the form of three monkeys.
- 33 **Hie-jinja Shrine (Nishikubo):** Here stands the only guidepost in the city that mentions Ohyama-kaido, alongside a Dōso-jin and a Kōshintō.
- 34 **The Footbridge of Gorōbei:** Writings and illustrations on this footbridge tell the story of Gorōbei and "Kappa-Dokkuri".
- 35 **Hokkai-Jakunen-chū Jizō:** Built by a *Kōchū* (講中, mutual financial association or fraternity) in 1793 (Kansei 5), people on the way to Ohyama probably did pray, putting their hands together in front of this Jizo, as they passed by.
- 36 **The cradle of Kappa-Dokkuri:** Formerly called Makadobashi bridge, Ohmagari-bashi bridge is said to be the place where Kappa bit into the hips of Gorōbei's horse while he was washing it in the river.





## IAC ACTIVITY

## Japanese Speech Contest for Foreigners

## 外国人による日本語スピーチ・コンテスト

The 16th Japanese Speech Contest for non-native speakers is scheduled for March 24 (Sun) from 13:30 to 16:00 at the Labor Citizen Hall 6F. The IAC hosts the annual event backed by the City to encourage foreigners who are studying in Japanese language classes and arranges for them to attend the contest. This event is also supported by Soroptimist International of Chigasaki. There are prizes and a non-native guest speaker is invited from Tokai University.

After the speech contest, there will be a social gathering for all attendees.

## Ohoka Echizen-sai Festival 大岡越前祭

This festival, named after the famous Edo-period magistrate Ohoka Echizen, is scheduled for April 20 (Sat) and 21 (Sun). One of the features of this annual festival is 'the Echizen big parade' in which the IAC participate by sending Japanese Language Class students every year as shown in the picture. They will be dressed in gorgeous Edo-period costumes in a procession accompanied by school bands, baton twirlers and some other groups.

The parade starts at 1pm from Chigasaki Elementary School ground, passes by both the south and north sides of the station, continues through the street between Ito-Yokado and Yamada Denki and the Emeroad street, and ends at the road behind the Chigasaki Chamber of Commerce and Industry building. It's so popular in this area and you will see some hundreds of thousands of people watching the parade on both sides of the streets as it goes by.

Ohoka Echizen was renowned for his fair judgement in court and was popularly known as 'Ohoka Sabaki'. He passed away in 1751 at the age of 75 and his grave is maintained in Jokenji temple in the northern part of the City.

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the festival, so it should be an especially enjoyable event. If you'd like to participate and try wearing kimono, please contact the IAC on 090-1557-7789.



## SOROPTIMIST Charity Concert

## ソロプチミスト チャリティコンサート

Soroptimist International of Chigasaki will hold a chanson concert on April 12 (Fri), from 18:30, at Chigasaki Civic Hall's small hall, inviting vocalist Yuki Takeshita. This world-famous nonprofit and charitable foundation is an international volunteer organization working to improve the lives of women and girls throughout the world. The Chigasaki Club started their activities seven years after Soroptimist International Japan's establishment in 1979. Through their sponsorship, they have supported local citizens in many community activities, such as preserving and enhancing riverbank vegetation and helping disabled artists to promote their handicrafts. They have also cooperated with IAC activities, such as the Japanese Speech Contest where they give an award for the best female speaker. Soroptimist Chigasaki is recruiting members right now.

The hall will open at 18:00, and admission is 4,000 yen.

## Josei Center to be Renamed

## 女性センター名称変更

Effective April 1, 2013, the Josei Center's new name will be the Gender Equality Participation Promotion Center. The new nickname for the center, based on suggestions collected via the City's homepage and a questionnaire, and announced in the media on February 15, is IKORIA (いこりあ).

## Islamic Republic of Afghanistan at Bunkyo University

## 文教大でアフガニスタンの催し

Students studying International Communications at Bunkyo University held an event on February 23 (Sat) to introduce the daily lives and culture of people living in the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. The Secretary of the Embassy of Afghanistan in Tokyo came to the Shonan Campus and spoke about their culture of peace, happiness, and friendship.

Inquiries: 03-5574-7611, [pratt@afghanembassyjp.org](mailto:pratt@afghanembassyjp.org)

## So many Countries, so many Customs!

## 所変われば、品変わる

## Easter and Eggs

The Christian faith is based on the belief in the actual resurrection of Jesus Christ two days after his death by crucifixion, a sure sign, apparently, of God's plan for mankind's salvation and eternal life. Not surprisingly, therefore, Easter Sunday, the celebration of this event, is the holiest day of the Christian calendar.

Ask a child about Easter, however, and you would be forgiven for thinking that Easter is all about chocolate eggs and the Easter bunny! Rather, these modern day traditions are connected with pagan rituals to worship the spring-goddess, Eostra, which used eggs and the hare as symbols of continuing life and fertility. The word Easter actually comes from the Anglo-Saxon word for April, "Eosturmonath". Eggs, though, especially when dyed red, have become symbolic of Christ's death on the cross and the promise of re-birth.

Nowadays, the Easter eggs given to children are made of chocolate and covered in brightly-coloured foil paper. Some are the size of ostrich eggs, hollow, with bags of smaller eggs or chocolates inside. Others are duck egg-sized with creamy fillings, or bird egg-sized and solid chocolate. The first eggs given at Easter, though, were real bird eggs, painted in bright spring colours. Painting and decorating eggs is still very popular around Easter time, especially in primary schools. You can use hard-boiled eggs, but if you want your painted eggs to last longer, you'll need to *blow* them! *Blowing eggs* involves making a hole at each end of the raw egg with a darning needle, breaking up the egg inside, and then blowing through the hole on top to empty the contents. After rinsing with cold water and drying in the oven, the eggshell is ready to be painted.

Eggs also feature in Easter games: children love Easter egg hunts, searching for (and eating) small chocolate eggs hidden around the garden or house. In some big public egg hunts, brightly-coloured plastic eggs containing chocolates are just scattered around a park, easy to find for very young children. And, on Easter Monday, you may see people taking part in egg-rolling competitions. Painted hard-boiled eggs are rolled down steep hills. The winner's egg may be the one that rolls the farthest, survives the most rolls, or is rolled between two pegs.

This year, Easter Day falls on March 31. Soft-boiled eggs and soldiers for breakfast, anyone?



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



## April Fools' Day エイプリルフールの日

In the UK, as in many other countries, the first day of April is a day to be especially wary of your family and friends, when the innocent and gullible are preyed upon by jokers and tricksters, and when even the most serious of people may get caught up in childish tomfoolery.

On April Fools' Day, people play practical jokes on each other. These can be harmless pranks, like putting salt in the sugar bowl, turning everything upside down in someone's bedroom, or sending someone on a so-called *fool's errand*, for example to buy some striped paint. When the victim falls for the joke, then the trickster can say "April Fool!". At school, you may see an unfortunate child walking around with a sign saying "KICK ME" stuck on their back, wondering why everyone is kicking them! This is probably derived from the French and Italian traditions to tack paper fishes on each other's back as a trick and shout "April fish!" in their local languages (*poisson d'avril!* and *pesce d'aprile!*, respectively).

In the age of the computer, some common office pranks may be less well-received though, if your keyboard has been changed to a different language, your internet browser is upside down, or you believe your computer has suffered a major crash because some geek installed a Blue Screen of Death screensaver on your PC while you were getting a coffee!

And don't believe everything you see in the media, either! On April 1st, 1957, the BBC's highly-respected Panorama current affairs programme broadcast a 3-minute hoax report about the annual spaghetti harvest in Switzerland. Video footage showed Swiss farmers carefully plucking strands of spaghetti from a tree and laying them in the sun to dry. Hundreds of viewers called the BBC eager to find out how they could grow their own spaghetti tree, which as you may already know is to "place a sprig of spaghetti in a tin of tomato sauce and hope for the best"!

The origin of April Fooling is thought to have followed the introduction of the Gregorian calendar by Pope Gregory XIII in 1582, the first day of which is January 1st. Under the previous Julian calendar, the New Year was on April 1st. It may be that tricks were played on those people who still celebrated the New Year on April 1st, either because they had forgotten about or refused to accept the change of calendar. Britain didn't accept the new calendar until 1752, but April fooling had already become popular earlier that century. For example, April 1, 1698, saw the first of an often-repeated prank inviting people to a non-existent "washing the lions" event at the Tower of London (a later 1856 version of this fake admission ticket, shown right, even directs visitors to a non-existent White Gate).

However, if you are tempted to play an April Fool on someone this year, be sure to do it before midday, else you may hear these words: "April Fools' Day is past and gone, You're the fool and I am none."



## “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 January 11, 2013. 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

▽Hagisono Junior High School girl's uniform ▽Metal bat for boys' baseball ▽Woollen gloves ▽Oil heater ▽Air purifier ▽Laptop Computer ▽Word Processor ▽Koto or zither-like Japanese musical instrument ▽Kendo uniform ▽Printer ink

### Articles wanted ゆずってください

▽Madoka Kindergarten girl's uniform ▽Babywear ▽Suitcase

## “HELLO KANAGAWA” “こんにちは かながわ 神奈川”

Kanagawa Prefectural Government (K.P.G.) issues a bilingual publication called HELLO KANAGAWA three times a year (in March, July and November) providing useful information for foreign residents. Each issue is written in both Japanese and one of five different foreign languages: English, Portuguese, Chinese, Korean, or Spanish. For example, the 2012 Winter issue included articles on High School Entrance procedures, Driver Licensing, and the National Health Insurance system, whilst the 2012 Summer/Autumn issue described how to access K.P.G.'s Counseling Services for Foreign Residents (with interpreters available for some foreign languages).

If you would like to read HELLO KANAGAWA, you can pick up the latest issue from racks at the City Hall information counter or in the Josei Center lobby, or download it at: <http://www.pref.kanagawa.jp/mlt/f4010/p11907.html>

## Useful Japanese Expressions

### HAYAGATEN 早合点

Sometimes, when we don't hear a friend's story clearly, or only half understand what a commentator is saying on TV, we make up our own mind about what was said. In some cases, our understanding may be completely wrong and get us into trouble unexpectedly. In Japanese, such a thing is expressed as "HAYAGATEN wo suru" or "do HAYAGATEN". In English, you can say "jumping to a hasty conclusion" or "getting hold of the wrong end of the stick". Actually, if you never hear this word spoken to you, that'll be a good thing!

### やくたにほんご 役に立つ日本語

## Japanese Proverbs and their English Equivalents

### にっぽん せいよう 日本と西洋のことわざ

●衣食足りて 礼節を知る  
ISHOKU TARITE REISETSU WO SHIRU  
(With enough food and clothing, one will come to know good manners.)  
Well-fed, well-bred.

●玉石混淆  
GYOKUSEKI KONKOU  
(Good and bad things jumbled together.)  
It is at courts as it is in ponds; some fish, some frogs.

●高きに登るには 卑きよりす  
TAKAKI NI NOBORU NIWA HIKUKI YORI SU  
(He who would climb to a high place must start from a low place.)  
A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.

●人は陰が大事  
HITO WA KAGE GA DAIJI  
(The shade is important to all people.)  
Do on the hill as you would do in the hall.

●武士に二言なし  
BUSHI NI NIGON NASHI  
(A samurai's word is as good as a bond.)  
An honest man is only as good as his word.



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.

Chigasaki Breeze has been issued jointly by the International Association of Chigasaki (IAC) and Chigasaki City since October 1, 2005. If you wish to subscribe, please send ¥480 in stamps for 6 issues to the International Association of Chigasaki c/o Hisho-Kouhou-ka, Chigasaki City Hall, 1-1-1 Chigasaki, Chigasaki City 253-0041. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to email us at: [shimadayut@jcom.home.ne.jp](mailto:shimadayut@jcom.home.ne.jp)  
Chief editor: Yutaka Shimada. Editing staff: Akira Akagawa, Yoshiyasu Itoh, Yukiko Wada, Adrian Wilson and Hideo Yuge.