

## *Interviewing resident C*

*Q : What is a key to motivate you to move to Southern part of Ichihara?*

*A : We have lived here for 3 years. We started thinking of a move when I found the previous house so small after we married. We asked the real estate agency to find a large house even though it was old. They found this house for us and we liked it at one look, so we have decided to move here.*

*Q : How are you getting along with neighbors ?*

*A : When we started living here, we found a bond of community so strong. When we lived in the rental house in Tokyo, we did not know who our neighbors were and we have never seen any community notice. When we moved here, we learned that 'Kumi' or a group with 10 households. When we are in the same group, we attend some seasonal ceremonies even though we have a distance to them. That surprised us somehow. They have an idea that neighbors are all relatives here. They are very kind to us and we feel very secure to think that we have someone for us to rely on just in case.*

*Q : Do you have any problem living there ?*

*A : If I must say, at night I feel there are only a few street lights. When we lived in Tokyo before, it was still bright with many lights even after sunset and then we often went out. At first when we moved here, we were shocked with different culture since we found it too dark here. However, we sometimes find it a good point. We are a little concerned about which school our children are going to in this large area later.*

*Q : What aspect of the place attracted you to move here ?*

*A : We have several attractive aspects. One of them is that we can enjoy seasonal attractions. We admire cherry blossoms in Tsukizaki and Tsurumai Park in Spring,*



*fireflies in Summer, autumn leaves in Yoro Valley in Fall. Since beaches are so close to us and easy to visit in Chiba Prefecture, our family often goes to the beach at noon on holidays when my husband is off early in the summer. We enjoy 'beach combing' or looking for shells and walking along the beach. We pick up some 'sea glasses' of which corners are shaped by wave to be round. A deep coloured one is so rare that we bring it home.*

*We found a dilapidated garage when we came here. My husband remodeled it with his friends in our neighborhood. Now he uses it as a garage for his favorite car and motorcycle. (Photo) I myself have begun gardening in this large space that I had wanted to do since before. (Photo)*



*I believe that the best thing when we moved here is food. My grandmother enjoys house gardening in my yard and we can eat vegetables to be harvested in every season. For example, we eat a lot of grilled eggplants every day in summer, so we do not feel like shopping eggplants at the super market in winter. However, we would not buy radishes in summer here. We had no sense like that in Tokyo. For example, we feel that our bodies fit the rhythm of nature just like we eat some vegetables such as radishes warming your bodies in winter.*

*And what we harvest in the field is the safest. In Tokyo, we had no idea where vegetables were harvested. The more we tried to know the location, the more we were worried about the vegetables. Every vegetable we harvest here is very good since they are available at the best time of year. This is non-chemical organic food, so it is partly wormy.*

*However, it is the safest for children. Food might be the most attractive aspect in the countryside.*

