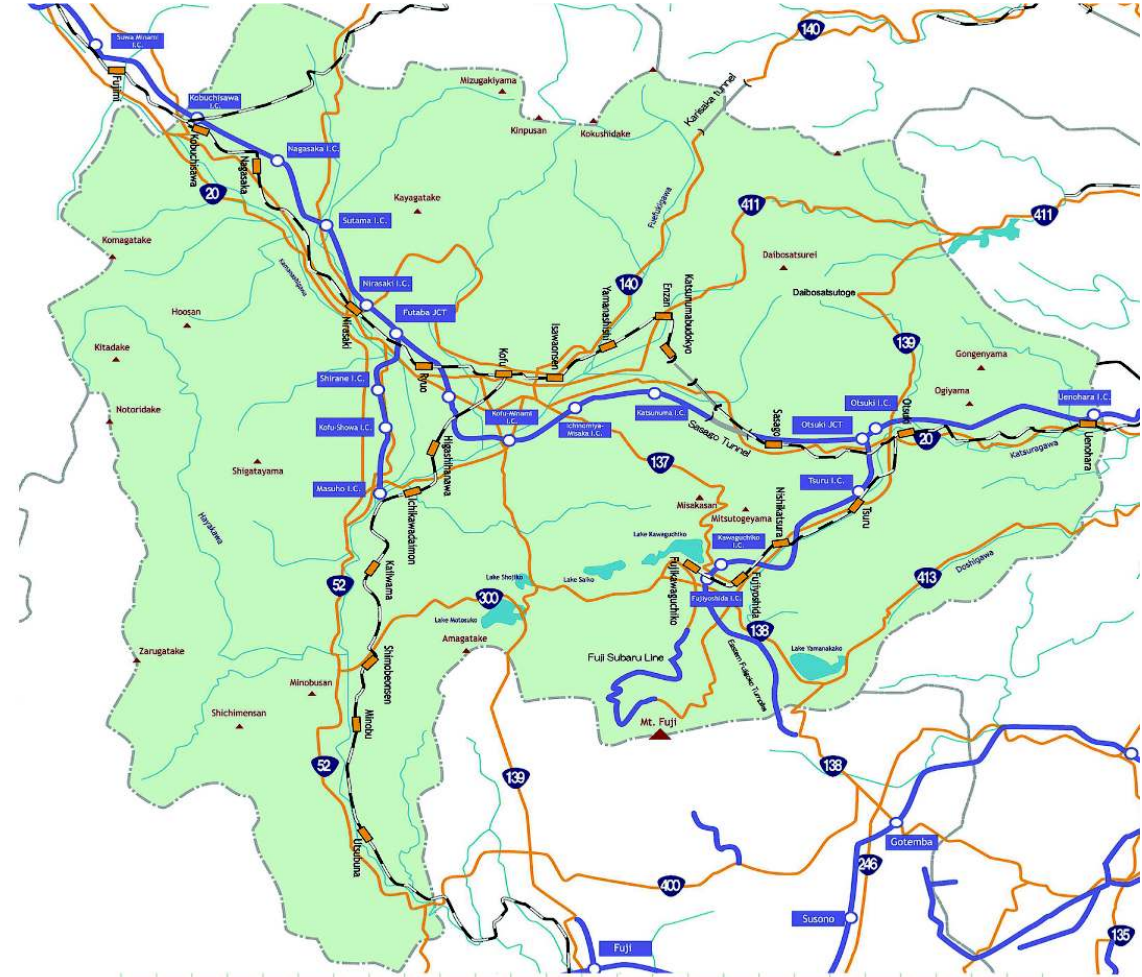


From the editor's notebook:

Many friends of mine who have visited Yamanashi complained to me about the inconvenience of the public transportation system here. Being in a landlocked prefecture, the railway infrastructure here is naturally less developed compared to the other regions of Japan. As a result, local people usually rely on private automobiles for daily life activities. It is therefore not hard to understand the frustration my friends felt when they travelled here without a car.

Living and working in Yamanashi, the GV staff believes in other ways to enjoy the beautiful prefecture without feeling restrained. In fact, there are lots of interesting spots hidden throughout the prefecture. Surprisingly enough, they are all easily accessible by train and are within walking distance from the stations. In this edition of the *Grapevine* magazine, we will take you with us on Part I of our railroad journeys from Uenohara Station to Kobuchisawa Station along the JR Chuo Line.

Mandy J.M. Lin



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paths and crossroads...

