

# Chigasaki Breeze

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

No.41

## Beware of Heatstroke

ねっちゅうしょう き  
熱中症に気をつけましょう

The season of heatstroke has come. The numbers of heatstroke victims reach their highest levels in July and August because the heat and humidity peaks during these two months. However, the illness can be avoided with sufficient care and attention.

**Symptoms** include muscle pain, headaches, unusual sweating, nausea, vomiting, convulsions, dizziness, faintness, and in severe cases, tiredness and loss of consciousness. These conditions are caused by dehydration, resulting in people's inability to control their body temperatures in response to temperature changes.

**Keys to avoiding heatstroke** are not to stay in hot places and to take in water diligently. It is said a combination of electric fans and air conditioners will increase the efficiency of cooling living spaces. Sunlight should be blocked out by using curtains or bamboo screens. When you go out, as well as making sure that you carry water with you (or can access water if necessary), you should wear loose-fitting clothes and take a hat, a parasol and/or cooled ice packs. If possible, avoid going out in the middle of the day.

**First aid to patients** includes: laying them down in a cool place; cooling their bodies, especially their necks and armpits, with a cold wet towel or ice packs; and giving them water and salt.

It is said that heatstroke sufferers start presenting when the maximum daily temperature reaches 30 degrees Celsius and the incidence of heatstroke increases noticeably when the temperature reaches 33 degrees. Even in the absence of extreme temperatures, many children left in cars fall victim to heatstroke every year. Temperatures inside cars parked in direct sunlight can reach 45 degrees Celsius. Even when the outside temperature is only around 20 degrees, children in cars are at risk of getting heatstroke.

As people will be asked to conserve power in the Kanto area again this year, it is anticipated more people may suffer from heatstroke; half will be elderly people aged 65 and older who are more vulnerable to heatstroke. Be careful not to put your health at risk by saving electricity excessively.

Experts say proper exercise, including walking and jogging, about half an hour a day, three or four days a week, is an effective way of warding off the illness.

## Support Activities for Foreign Residents by Kanagawa Prefecture

か ながわけん がいこくじんじゅうみん し えんかつどう  
神奈川県による外国人住民支援活動

**Kanagawa International Fan Club** - Kanagawa Prefecture (KP) has organized this club and started offering its members information on living and sightseeing in the prefecture. Foreigners interested in the prefecture, irrespective of whether they live in Japan or not, can join the club for nothing. Japanese residents who engage in activities to help foreigners are also allowed to become members. You can find out all about the club and how to apply for membership at <http://www.pref.kanagawa.jp/mlt/f417675/>.

**Medical support policies** - KP provides information on hospitals in which English is available. It is accessible through the prefecture's home page by following the instructions in the box below:

Go to <http://www.pref.kanagawa.jp/> and drill down as follows: click on Foreign Languages (second from bottom in left-hand column) → Living in Kanagawa → Living Information → 1. List of medical facilities for English speakers (on the menu for Public health and medical care).

KP has also organized a medical interpreter dispatch system whereby interpreters are sent to the 32 member hospitals at their request. The medical, hospital, dental and pharmaceutical prefectural associations have joined the system. Ten languages are available: Cambodian, Chinese, English, Korean, Lao, Portuguese, Spanish, Tagalog, Thai and Vietnamese. In the Shonan area, a few hospitals are taking part in the system. At some hospitals, patients may have to pay part of the cost of using the service; ¥3,000 for one consultation of up to 3 hours. To access the list, follow the instructions below:

Go to <http://www.pref.kanagawa.jp/mlt/f417316/> (International Division - 神奈川県ホームページ) and drill down as follows: click on Medical Interpreter Dispatch System (fifth title from the top) → List of cooperative medical institutions (in Japanese written in kanji and roman letters).

In addition to these activities, KP is conducting many more projects to support foreigners. You may come across other interesting and useful information by browsing KP's site.

## Caution about Hornets

すずめばちに<sup>ちゅうい</sup>注意!

Hornets become active in summer and autumn making nests. Hornets can sting multiple times and their stings, which contain highly toxic venom, can be life-threatening, especially for allergic victims. On average, 40 people die every year of anaphylactic shock after having been stung by the yellow-striped, 4cm-long, Japanese giant hornet (*Vespa mandarinia japonica*) or *oo-suzumebachi* (大雀蜂) making it the most lethal animal in Japan. When you find a hornets' nest, you can have it removed free of charge. You should not provoke the hornets; just call the City office. Telephone number: 82-1111 (Kankyo-hozenka)

Meanwhile, paper wasps have less toxic venom and are less aggressive than hornets although resemble them in shape and color. They are also a beneficial insect hunting worms and caterpillars on garden trees, so if the nest is not troubling you, you can let it be and it will disappear naturally. If you want to remove a paper wasps' nest, the best time is after sunset. Kill the wasps around the nest with over-the-counter pesticides, but don't forget to wear long-sleeves, long-pants, gloves and a hat.



Hornet nest



Paper wasp nest

## A Festival at Daybreak on Marine Day “Hamaori-sai”

はまおりさい  
浜降祭

On July 16 (Mon) at daybreak, the major Chigasaki festival of *Hamaori-sai* commences with a procession of *mikoshi* or portable shrines, each carried by a score of believers from the local shrines of Chigasaki and Samukawa. In each *mikoshi*, the ghost or spirit of a Shinto shrine deity is believed to ride.

This year, 38 *mikoshi* will gather at sunrise, from around 05:00, at Nishihama beach near Chigasaki fishing port. At around 07:00, once all the *mikoshi* have arrived, a purification ritual will be held on the beach, and then the *mikoshi* will depart one by one, the last leaving the beach by around 09:00.

The many carriers crowded together beneath the weighty *mikoshi* chant ‘*Dokkoi Dokkoi*’ in loud voices and appear to be dancing, which makes for a vivid and splendid spectacle.

The origin of *Hamaori-sai* is unclear, but one tale says that in 1838 (Tempo 9), the *mikoshi* of Samukawa Shrine fell in the Sagami-gawa river from a bridge near Samukawa Shrine because of a dispute with the parishioners of a neighboring village shrine. The object of worship within the *mikoshi* was carried away by the river and could not be retrieved.

Several days later, the object of worship was found in the sea by Magoshichi Suzuki, a Nango fisherman, and he returned it to Samukawa Shrine. To express their appreciation for the safe return of their deity, the parishioners of Samukawa shrine visited Nishihama beach to pray, so starting the *mikoshi* procession festival.

Another tale suggests that Tsurumine-Hachiman-sha Shrine had offered up *mikoshi* to the god of the sea at Nishihama beach in a purification ceremony, praying for the well-being, good health and safety of their families much earlier.

As *Samukawa Shrine* and *Tsurumine-Hachiman-sha* each had their own ritual on the same beach, they discussed the issue in the Meiji Era and agreed to hold a combined *Hamaori-sai* festival on July 15. This festival has been taking place annually since 1923 (Taisho 12).

The *Hamaori-sai* festival has been classified as an ‘intangible’ cultural asset, and was chosen as one of the top fifty festivals in Kanagawa Prefecture in 1982.



## Chigasaki Beach, a Refined Marine Resort – Sea Bathing, Surfing, Fishing...anything

ちがさきかいがん 茅ヶ崎海岸 – かいすいよく 海水浴、サーフィン、釣り、ほかにたくさんのお楽しみも



Chigasaki was originally a fishing and farming village. Net fishing on Chigasaki beach dates back to the Edo Period. Till the 1950s, between Yanagishima and Kowada, fishermen caught young sardines, horse mackerel, barracuda, mackerel, and Japanese butterfish with dragnets. The beach has also been a popular resort for sea bathing since the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century with many people building summer houses close to the sea.

However, it was not until Chigasaki beach was returned by the US Forces in 1959 that the city started growing into a popular spot for marine leisure activities. This restoration coincided with the dawn of a leisure boom, and sea bathers, mostly from Tokyo and Yokohama, thronged to the beach. The number of visitors reached one million in the late 1970s. The ‘70s was also when surfing became fashionable and the Shonan area, nicknamed Japan’s ‘West Coast’, became a mecca for the sport. It is believed that US soldiers stationed in Japan were the first to enjoy surfing. Chigasaki city has played a prominent role throughout the nation’s history of surfing; boasting the first surfboard manufacturing plant in Shonan; a wooden surfboard believed to be one of the oldest boards in Japan is kept in a Japanese-style hotel near the beach, Chigasaki Kan.

Japan’s post-war industrialization in the 1950s triggered the transition of dragnet fishing in Chigasaki from business fishing to that for leisure, as there were fewer people to haul nets. At around the same time, leisure fishing boats also started to appear. Good fishing grounds spread around Eboshi Iwa and off Shonan coast. Sillaginoids, croakers, black sea breams and sea bass could be caught from spring through autumn and black rockfish, scorpion fish, gobies and flounders in winter.

Musicians from the city, such as Yuzo Kayama and Keisuke Kuwata, have also contributed to the City’s fame by writing many popular songs about the sea.

These days, fewer people swim in the sea, but the beach continues to attract hundreds of thousands of visitors every July and August, enjoying a wide range of leisure activities such as swimming, surfing, fishing, jogging, walking, sun-bathing, and ball games. There are lots of things to do on the beach - a refined summer resort near metropolitan areas.

### HISTORY OF CHIGASAKI

#### Old Villa of Kobashi Family in Chigasaki

いまのこぼしべっそう  
今に残る小橋別荘

The coastal sandhill areas of Chigasaki on the south side of the Tokaido Line gradually developed from the middle of the Meiji era as the place for wealthy people to build their holiday villas, or second homes, for relaxation. One such villa, called *Koshō-an*, was built at the beginning of the Meiji era by the ninth Danjuro Ichikawa (a famous Kabuki actor who we introduced in Chigasaki Breeze issue No. 14). In those days, a number of villas were built by statesmen, bureaucrats, servicemen and men of culture. Most of these villas have disappeared, but the villa constructed by Kazuta Kobashi in 1924 (Taisho 13) still remains in its original form.

The Kobashi villa is located at Higashi-kaigan Minami and it is a two-storied Japanese-style house with much of its original construction of eighty-odd years ago still in place.

The design of its *chisen kaiyūshiki teien* (a circuit-style garden of pond and fountain, where a small artificial hill is created within the pond) is really special. Moreover, the trees and flowers have been chosen so that something is blossoming throughout the year. A number of big pine trees at the south side were probably planted originally as hedges to provide wind and sand breaks.

Mr. Kazuta Kobashi (1870~1939) came from the Shizoku (a family with samurai ancestors) in Kumamoto Prefecture and belonged to a political party called Seiyu-kai changing his status from a bureaucrat of the Home Ministry to a member of the House of Representatives. After that, he moved to another political party called Minsei-to and became the Minister of Education of Hamaguchi Cabinet in 1929 (Showa 4).

Mr. Kobashi was really earnest, and even though he had been provided with a first-class import car as an official car when he was the under secretary of domestic affairs, he told his family not to use this official car for private purposes. Even Mrs. Kobashi had to go out by taxi.

One Saturday evening, his eldest son, Kazuo, recalls arriving back at Chigasaki Station with his two younger brothers in the pouring rain. So, he called for his father’s car to take them home. On hearing about this, his father got terribly angry and said “Shame on you, come home by taxi at your personal expense when it rains”.

And in 1937 (Showa 12), Kazuo wrote a letter to his father using the company’s ruled paper. He remembers receiving a reply by post from his father saying “It is absurd to use the company’s property”.

Chigasaki has many hidden treasures from the past like the Kobashi villa. One day they will disappear for good, but we can keep their memory alive by talking about them to family and friends.



## IAC ACTIVITY

## University Students from France to stay

フランス<sup>だいがくせい</sup>大学生<sup>らいほう</sup>が来訪

From July 1 (Sun) through July 29 (Sun), a group of seven French university students is going to stay with volunteer host families in Chigasaki. The purpose of their visit is to brush up their Japanese, not only through host family interactions, but also through other activities such as meeting Japanese language class teachers, visiting a local junior high school, and experiencing various aspects of Japanese culture such as *kimono* dressing and tea ceremony. The IAC organizes this program annually and will hold a welcoming party on July 7 at 18:30 in the Labor Citizen Hall inviting both students and host families. The IAC hopes you'll be able to join the party.

This one-month stay by French students started in 1999 and their experience is reportedly well-reputed among French universities. If you happen to see them in town, feel free to say hello.

## People in Town

## Lee Utsumi from the State of South Carolina, U.S.

*I think Japanese need to relax and slow down more in their daily life.....*

It has been 18 years for Lee Utsumi living in Chigasaki, but actually she first came to Japan when she was eight years old to live in Hayama with her parents, staying



five years on that occasion. When she next returned to Japan, it was for six years to pursue university studies in Tokyo, so her stay in Japan totals 29 years. She met a Japanese artist in Tokyo and they moved to New York and got married. She returned to Japan and moved to Chigasaki because her husband's family relocated here from Tokyo.

Lee has many hobbies and particularly enjoys athletic activities including marathon running, triathlon, and swimming. Her circle of friends, mostly Japanese, revolves around these outdoor pursuits and she often goes back and forth between Chigasaki and Hiratsuka, Atsugi, Sagami and so on. She also enjoys working at the morning market held every third Sunday at Ōiso fishing port. On top of that, she is good at baking bread and her daily life is made busy supplying a few shops in town who sell her bread.

She feels Chigasaki has become too crowded, and she doesn't feel happy that there are no large parks for her to do exercise in, but she likes the City of Chigasaki because it's very close to the ocean, is very safe, has clean air and she loves the food.

Since she first came to Japan 29 years ago, so many things have changed but one concern she has is that the job situation is not secure for college graduates. In general, she finds that Japanese are honest, friendly, and have good manners.

“Disused Article Bank” 不用品<sup>ふようひん</sup>バンク

The following is a list of articles being offered/wanted free or at a reasonable cost by citizens as of June 5, 2012. 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

Bicycle for child, baby carriage, Yamayuri Dai-ichi Kindergarten uniform, small-sized chest of drawers, hamster-type toy, a set of carp streamers, dining table for children, baby clothes, baby chair, boy's school uniform, dresser, dining table and chair, bed, chair, a tool shed, massage chair, sofa, sofa bed, lace curtain, futon, doll for the Boy's Festival, rack, Japanese doll, component stereo, gas range, hot pot, air cleaner, electric fan, DVD player, cathode-ray tube TV and tuner, refrigerator, rice cooker, toaster, riding machine, electric organ, baseball bat, koto (Japanese zither), regulator, bicycle, golf club set, clothes' lining/interlining, electrical potential medical care equipment, shower chair, stand for drying futon, mowing blower, scalp cleaner, knitting wool, shell, copy paper

## Articles wanted ゆずってください

Block toy, Madoka Kindergarten girl's uniform, tricycle, Takasago Kindergarten uniform, Shonan Yamayuri Dai-ni Kindergarten girl's uniform, child safety sheet of bicycle, xylophone for kindergarten pupil, propane gas, word processor, saxophone and trumpet, climbing ice axe, tea things, cloth and beads, electronic piano, viola, sansen (traditional Japanese three-stringed instrument), kendo tools, Essential oil, hair clippers

So many Countries, so many Customs! ところ<sup>ところ</sup>変われば、品<sup>しな</sup>変わる

## Harvest Festivals, Lammas Bread and Corn Dollies

The fundamental importance of rice to Japanese culture is reflected by the facts that rice was once used as a currency, and that the Japanese word for cooked rice (*gohan*) also means “meal”. Each stage of the rice season is celebrated: farmers pray for an ample harvest during *koshogatsu* or “small New Year” around January 15 (the first full moon of the year); rice-planting (*taue*) festivals take place between April and June where, traditionally, kimono-clad girls, their sleeves tied back with red sashes, plant the rice in paddy fields to the accompaniment of drums, flutes, and bells; and long ago, a festival in honor of the rice spirit took place before any of the new autumn rice harvest could be eaten. Now that day is a national holiday held on November 23 (Labor Thanksgiving Day). Rural communities, especially, celebrate the rice harvest, often with processions of floats carrying symbolic gods through the streets. At the Imperial Palace, at midnight, the Emperor presents offerings of new grain and produce to the gods at a special altar.

In Britain, however, it is the wheat harvest that is celebrated. Christians decorate churches with baskets of fruit and food, and attend ceremonies to give thanks for the harvest. After the service, the food is given away to those most in need. Since the reign of Henry VIII in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century, the festival has coincided with the bright orange Harvest Moon that occurs closest to the autumn equinox (around September 23). A bountiful harvest meant that more stores of food could be squirreled away for consumption during the colder winter months.

However, in Anglo-Saxon times, the beginning of the harvest season was celebrated on August 1 and was called Lammas, meaning ‘Loaf Mass’. Farmers made loaves of bread from the new wheat crop which were then blessed, broken into four bits, and placed at the four corners of barns, to protect the garnered grain. The word harvest itself is derived from the Anglo-Saxon word *haverfest*, meaning *Autumn*, and consequently came to refer to the season for reaping and gathering grain, fruit and vegetables. One Lammas festival was revived in 2001 and takes place every year in Eastbourne.

Before Christianity, Britain had a pagan religion, believing in many different gods, similar to Japanese Shintoism. People believed that the corn goddess lived in the corn and would die when the corn was harvested, so they made corn dollies for her to live in over the winter. When the fields were sown again in spring, these corn dollies would be ploughed back into the fields, returning the corn spirit to the earth.

The end of the harvest was celebrated with a Harvest Supper on Michaelmas Day or Goose Day (Sep 29) when geese stuffed with apples and various harvest vegetables were eaten. Goose Fairs are still held in English towns at this time of year. People believed that if the breast bones of the goose were brown after roasting, winter should be mild, but if the bones were white or slightly blue, winter would be severe.

It is fair to say that our national agricultures are inextricably linked to our cultures, influencing not just our cuisines, but also our festivals, our languages and even the way in which we think about the weather.

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



Lammas loaf



Corn dollies

## Two Chigasaki Citizens in the Olympics

### ロンドンオリンピックに茅ヶ崎市民が<sup>ちがさきし</sup>出場<sup>しゅつじょう</sup>

An official announcement in early July is expected to confirm that two athletes living in the city will take part in the London Olympics, starting on July 27 (Fri):



**Fumiya Beppu** (29) from Akabane, will compete in men's bicycle racing: road race and individual road time trial. Beppu made his debut as a professional cyclist in 2005. He became the Asian champion in 2008 and raced in the Beijing Olympics. This will be his second Olympic Games.



**Kenji Takahashi** (29) from Yokohama, now living in Higashi-kaigan-minami, will take part in the 49er (4.9m) class sailing event, paired with Yukio Makino. He started sailing as a third-grade elementary student and joined the national team in 2005. He has paired with Makino since 2009. The pair represented Japan in the 2010, 2011, and 2012 IASF Sailing World Championships.

## Upcoming Events <sup>おも</sup> <sup>もよお</sup> 主な催し

- Opening ceremony of Chigasaki Beach (Umibiraki): 7/7 (Sat)  
 Festival of the Weaver (Tanabata-matsuri) at Hiratsuka: 7/6 (Fri)~7/8 (Sun)  
 Saturday Music Salon at Hagisono Ikoi-no-Sato: 7/7 (Sat) 13:45 ~ 14:45  
 Hamaori-sai at Chigasaki Nishihama Beach: 7/16 (Mon) 05:00 ~  
 Honobono-Beach Festival at Chigasaki Beach: 7/29 (Sun) 09:30 ~ 17:00  
 (Weather conditions permitting)  
 Flea Market (Nandemo Yoichi) at Chuo Park: 8/3 (Fri) 16:00 ~ 20:00  
 Fireworks display at Southern Beach: 8/4 (Sat) 19:30~20:20  
 Events at Samukawa Shrine:  
 -Kojiki mythologising & ancient Japanese court music\*: 8/14 (Tue) 18:00 ~  
 Chant of Record of Ancient Matter  
 -Noh play by jacklight (Takigi-noh)\*: 8/15 (Wed) 17:30~  
 Enjoy the subtle and profound atmosphere  
 \* To apply for a seat at the Shrine, please send a two-way postcard to Samukawa  
 Jinja for Kojiki and/or Takigi-noh, filling in your name, address, age, and phone  
 number. The address of Samukawa Shrine follows:  
 〒253-0195 3916, Miyayama Samukawa-cho, Koza-gun Tel: 0467-75-0004

## Useful Japanese Expression

### About Adding 'SAN' after Family Names

#### <sup>なまえ</sup> 名前につける 'さん' について

The use of honorifics when addressing another person is arguably more developed in Asian than in Western cultures. Japanese people usually add 'san' to someone's family name and seldom use their first name. Even junior high and high school classmates generally use each other's family names, though without appending 'san'. First names are, however, used for close school friends and for relatives, although when addressing the latter, it is still customary to add 'san'.

'San' is basically a term of respect, and it is used, not just when speaking to elders and betters, but also when addressing somebody of the same age or status, or even younger persons regardless of your relationship to them. Amongst siblings, seniors address juniors by their first name without 'san', but in most families younger children won't call their elder siblings by their first name; instead, they say 'onii-san' (elder brother) or 'oneh-san' (elder sister), and boys may even use the less polite terms 'aniki' for brother and 'aneki' for sister.

So, in community life, people are seldom called by their first name even if the relationship is close; in most situations the family name plus 'san' should be used.

In situations where 'san' is often not used, typically amongst school classmates and when senior guys in a company address junior staff (male and female), the honorific 'kun' is often substituted to avoid sounding disrespectful. Senior female executives, however, will usually address younger personnel using 'san'.

So, just as in other cultures, honorifics such as 'san' are used to express one's feelings of respect, though in Japanese culture, this custom is much less dependent upon the closeness of relationships. What is perhaps more peculiar to Japanese society is the rarity of using first names to address other people, so to be called by one's first name could inadvertently be a source of discomfort to a Japanese person.

## Fireworks Display at Southern Beach

### サザンビーチ花火大会<sup>はなびたいかい</sup>

A spectacular display of 3,000 fireworks will brighten the night sky on August 4 (Sat) at Southern Beach, Chigasaki from 19:30 to 20:20. The fireworks display did not take place last year because of the 3.11 earthquake, but about 80 thousand people are said to have attended the event the previous year, including not only local citizens but also people from neighboring cities. The visual splendor of the fireworks is matched only by the colourful *yukata*, a casual summer kimono, worn by many of the onlookers. Fireworks are a typical scene during summer and add a poetic charm to the season.

There will be 350 pipe chairs available for renting, at a cost of 2,000 yen each, though, of course, you can observe the display from elsewhere.

This event is organized by the Chigasaki Tourism Association, but you will see 'Fireworks' fund-raising boxes at the Tourist Information Center in the station lobby, and also in the lobbies of

City Hall, Chigasaki Chamber of Commerce and Industry, shops and other facilities who support this activity.

Money collected in these fund-raising boxes goes towards the operational costs of the fireworks display, and if you put a hundred yen or more in a box, you will be given a charming round fan.



## Japanese Proverbs and their English Equivalents

### <sup>にっぽん</sup> <sup>せいよう</sup> 日本と西洋のことわざ

- 過ちては 改むるに 憚ることなかれ  
 AYAMACHITE WA ARATAMURU NI HABAKARU  
 KOTO NAKARE  
 (Once you have made a mistake, don't hesitate to correct it.)  
 It is never too late to mend.
- 地獄の 沙汰も 金次第  
 JIGOKU NO SATA MO KANE SHIDAI  
 (Even the affairs of hell depend on money.)  
 Money makes the mare to go.
- 大は 小を 兼ねる  
 DAI WA SHO WO KANERU  
 (The large thing can serve for the small thing.)  
 The greater embraces the lesser.
- 同病 相 憐れむ  
 DÖBYO AI AWAREMU  
 (Fellow sufferers pity one another.)  
 Misery loves company
- 下手 の 長談義  
 HETA NO NAGADANGI  
 (The unskilled speak at length.)  
 Brevity is the soul of wit.

### 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.