

Chigasaki Wave



Chigasaki Wave Club

ウエーブ
茅ヶ崎 波 倶楽部

Sea breezes are like precious friends, easing your mind, and whispering encouragement to you.

Ham Kobo JIRO noted for handmade meat products

Ham Kobo Jiro, located in the fruit and vegetable market in Takada, produces handmade ham, sausage, corned beef and other meat products using traditional German techniques. The quality-oriented company with about 25 workers was established in 2003, but its origin dates back to just after World War I.

Hachiro Yajima, the father of the ham company's owner, founded a meat processing company in Yokohama in 1925. One of his customers was the sausage plant of German sausage craftsman Karl Büttinghaus. He was among the German soldiers captured at the Chinese port city of Qingdao and kept in Narashino Prison Camp during WWI. After the war, he remained in Japan and established his sausage company in Tokyo. Yajima learned how to produce ham and sausage directly from him. Hachiro's company came to Chigasaki during WWII. Later, his second son, Jiro Yajima, established his own company in Takada. Jiro's most basic policy is to persistently preserve the traditional methods that were handed down from the German craftsman to his father.

Most hams are made through the following process: pork is soaked in a salt solution consisting of water, salt, white sugar and sodium nitrate. Sometimes, the solution is also injected into the meat. The meat is rinsed and desalted, and then is hung in a smoker. Finally, the ham is packaged. Binding materials, such as phosphates, and starch are used in order to keep water in the ham. Furthermore, various ingredients are added for various reasons. Naturally, larger amounts of additives make the content of pork lower.



The company's characteristic processes are: only rock salt, light brown sugar (san-on-tou) and a color former are added, pork with a stone on it is soaked in the salt solution and the container is placed still for two weeks, and open fire, not only circulated smoke, is used during the smoking process. The products have a good taste without the smell of pork, and thus have acquired a lot of fans not only in the city, but in remote areas. People throng at the Jiro's shop at sales events in department stores and supermarkets across the nation such as Takashimaya, Tokyu, Hankyu and Ito-Yokado. The picture on the left was taken at Chigasaki's Ito-Yokado. Customers continuously stopped at the counter, and Mr. Ueda, with a white cap, looked busy.

Southern Beach had 168,000 visitors this summer, a 22% rise from last season



The number of visitors to Southern Beach in July and August increased by 22% from the same period last year to 168,000. Fine weather, campaigns for attracting visitors from Saitama and western Tokyo, and a live concert on the beach contributed to this increase, according to the city. Marking the 120th anniversary of Chigasaki bathing beach, rest houses held various events, too.

The number of sea bathers has been decreasing across the nation. For this reason, a substantial number of bathing beaches have disappeared. But this year's result suggests that positive attitudes bring good results. Every citizen hopes the 120-year-old cozy bathing beach continues to give visitors a pleasant and relaxed time for many more years to come.

The 1st Chigasaki Orange Day

The 1st Chigasaki Orange Day was held on the 5th and 6th floors of City Hall annex on September 2. Alzheimer's Disease International, the worldwide federation of Alzheimer associations, has designated September 21 as World Alzheimer's Day to increase people's awareness of the dementia.

On the day, various events, including a panel discussion, a lecture, Japanese drum and harmonica performances, a short play, physical exercises and much more were held. There was a booth to hold a consultation with doctors and to chat among patients' families. The exhibition of arts and crafts by people suffering from the disease attracted a lot of visitors. The city said over 400 people came to the site.



Volunteer groups in and around Chigasaki



The city office launched an ecomuseum project in 2006. The word ecomuseum, coined in France in 1971, is a combination of ecology and museum. Its concept is to consider the whole city a museum and to study, preserve, exhibit and utilize the city's urban resources such as nature, culture, custom, architecture and other things worth studying and preserving. Its aim is to develop and activate the city through the project, in which local residents as well as the city office are expected to play a vital role.

Two years after the project began, a volunteer group, *Chigasaki-Marugoto-Furusato-Hakken-Hakubutsukan-no-kai*, or simply *Maruhaku-no-kai*, was set up to support the project. Many of the founding members were the first graduates of the three-year Maruhaku guide training course held by the city. Since then group members have been studying culture, history, nature, humans and other urban resources in the city to convey their fascination to residents. The group hold study meetings every month in cooperation with another volunteer group, *Kyodo-kai* (see CW26), to enhance their performances.

According to the chairman of the group, Mikio Kato, the 30 members help the five action groups of the project: the management, guide, research, child-education and public relations groups.

They have so far taken short walking tours around seasonal sightseeing or historical spots, including Jokenji Temple, and old buildings along Oyama road. They have also supported municipal officials when local public centers hold exhibitions as they think these exhibitions are good opportunities for residents to note that valuable assets exist in their neighborhood.

The group took up a selection of over 452 places as the city's urban resources when they started the activity. Mr. Kato added the group would commemorate the 10th anniversary of its foundation this year and would hold a special lecture meeting in February next year. It would be interesting for new citizens to learn what urban resources there are in their city. He says to people, "Could you join us to enjoy studying urban assets? You are welcome."

Marugoto-Hakubutsukan-no-Kai



The 60th anniversary of Shichido Garan Temple Statue



Kikaseya Keitaro

A pleasant show took place on the 6th floor of Nespa Chigasaki on September 18. The show was held as part of the events Hasegawa Book Shop has conducted for more than 20 years to provide children with opportunities to become familiar with books.

Keitaro-san tours across the nation to read books to children and their mothers. He even toured in the US. On the day, about 20 couples of mothers and children came to enjoy his show: talks, dramatic reading, ukulele performances and singing. He introduced several picture books. When he was singing, many children (and mothers) also sang, beating time with their hands. Perhaps a lot of these experiences may lead them to the world of books.

Interested in Japanese Proverbs?

(1)手前味噌

(TEMAE MISO)

TEMAE means a thing made by oneself, and **MISO** soybean paste. The proverb literally means soybean paste made at home tastes good, and figuratively means one blows his own horn. In many cases, people use this proverb as an introduction before they start boasting about themselves, their family members and relatives, their companies and things related to them. As Japanese people are generally shy, it is hard for them to say straight that they are very proud of their son, daughter or spouse, like Western people do. They have to start with modesty, but what they really want to say is what follows.

Its English equivalents are:

- Every cook commends his own sauce.
- Nothing like leather.
- Every potter praises his own pot.

(2)前門の虎、後門の狼

(ZENMON NO TORA, KOMON NO OKAMI)

ZENMON means a front gate, **NO** at, **TORA** a tiger, **KOMON** a back gate, and **OKAMI** a wolf.

A tiger at the front gate and a wolf at the back gate, indicating one misfortune is followed by another. This saying was in a book written by the Chinese famous scholar Chosetukou in around 1300.

Today no matter how hopeless our situations are, they will not pose a threat to our lives at least. Nevertheless, pleasant and unpleasant things come by turns in our everyday lives. Fortunately, there are many books which would encourage us when we are in depths of grief.

The proverb's English equivalents are:

- A precipice in front, a wolf behind.
- Between the devil and the deep sea.
- Between the hammer and the anvil.

History of Chigasaki

Jokenji Temple

On the south side of Manpuke Temple in Hagisono is Jokenji Temple. The Nichiren Sect temple is said to have been constructed between 1319 and 1326. The title prefixed to the name of the Buddhist temple is Honryu-zan. Its main temple is Myohonji Temple in Kamakura. The seated statue of Saint Nichiren, carrying an inscription dating from the year 1527, in the main hall (see the photo below) was designated as one of the city's important cultural assets in November 1996.

In 1874, Hagisono School, which was at first called Shyokyo Gakushya, was established in the precincts of the temple, and it lasted until Dai Primary School was established three years later in Imajuku. The circumstances are inscribed on the stone slab located in the east of the front garden.



In the Gongen-do built to the left of the main hall, Neno-Gongen is enshrined*¹. Farmers in the neighborhood worshiped it as the deity of a bumper crop and silk farming. When the image is unveiled on a spring day in the years of the mouse*², the precincts are very crowded. Recently, it has come to be unveiled also in the years of the horse*².

In front of the Gongen-do, stands a stone plate having a haiku by Kuichi Iida*³. "Open the doors towards the sky full of cherry blossoms." The yew plum pine in the southeastern area of the precincts is said to be 400 years old. There are about ten small two-storied Buddhist towers at the back of the main hall. One of them has an inscription dating from the year 1452, and is among the prefecture's oldest towers having the inscription of the name of the era. The tower is considered one of the Middle Ages' valuable

remnants.

How to get there: Take a bus bound for Koyato at the north entrance of Chigasaki Station, get off at Banba and walk two minutes.

*1 Gongen and Nenogongen: Ancient people believed that Buddha sometimes disguised himself as a Shinto god and appeared in their neighborhood to save them from evil. They called such Buddha Gongen. Neno-Gongen was a god of an abundant crop, sericulture and fertility.

*2 The first year of the twelve-year circle. Twelve animals represent each year, starting with the mouse and ending with the boar. A mouse year is the one when a year in the Christian Era is divided by 12 and 4 remains. Next mouse year is 2020. The year of the horse is seventh year of the circle.

*3 Kuichi Iida: A Japanese artist, haikai poet and collector born in the northern part of Yokohama in 1892. He and three other citizens were bestowed the first Yokohama Cultural Award in 1952. He collected a lot of haikai materials that are kept in Kanagawa Prefectural Cultural Museum and Prefectural Library. He died in 1970.

Nature in Chigasaki

Marine regression in Glacial Age

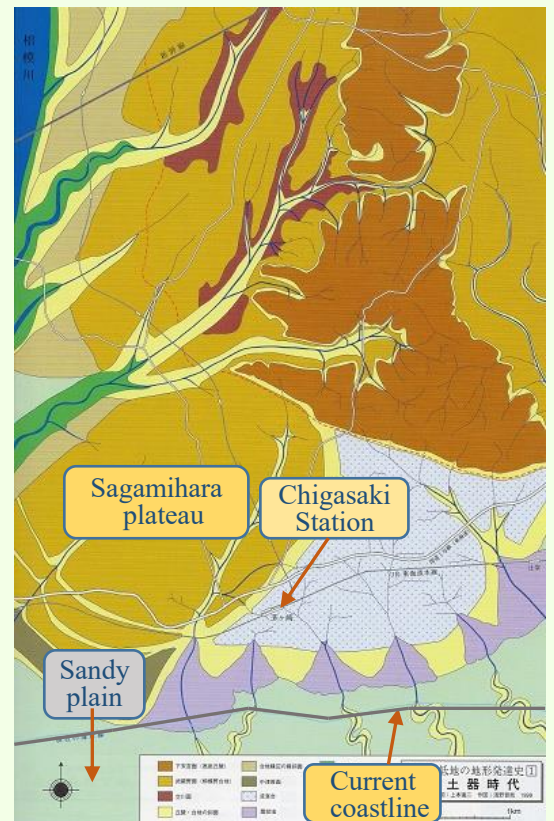
It is estimated that the sea level about 20,000 years ago was 101 to 111 meters lower than today, and due to the accompanying global coastal offlap, the coastline of Sagami Bay was 3 to 5 kilometers away from the present line. The picture on the right is the topographical map of Chigasaki in those days. Sandy plains spread to the south of today's coastline.

The Sagami River seemed to have run through almost the same areas as it does today, but the velocity of water was much higher as it flowed on a steep valley floor which was about one-kilometer wide. At the estuary, the water plunged about 90 meters into the sea below.

The Sagamihara plateau (the light brown area on the map) reached close to today's coastline. The plateau was covered by thickly piled tephra spewed from Mt. Fuji and other volcanos. The layer, formed about 80,000 to 60,000 years ago, is also called the red-soil layer or the loamy layer of the Kanto Plain.

Later, when the last glacial age ended, withered trees and leaves accumulated on the red-soil layer, and a new layer, rich with decomposed organic material, gradually turned into black soil. According to municipal cultural resources, at Shiinokizaka ruins in Shimoterao, the northern part of Chigasaki, stone artifacts and pebbles were excavated from the red-soil layer covered by the thick black soil. This indicates the remnants are about 18,000 years old, the oldest evidence of human habitation among 215 remains researchers have so far found in the city. The dwellers were thought to have roamed within a certain area in search of animals for food.

About 14,000 years ago, the global temperature rose, but 1,000 years later, it substantially dropped again, and the last glacial period started. Then, about 10,000 years ago, the temperature started going up, which caused a gradual rise in sea level and global coastal onlap simultaneously. In addition, grasses and plants started covering the land. (Source: Chigasaki City Museum of Heritage Report, No7, P1-14)



People in Chigasaki (6) Ryuan Toma

(A bimonthly serial)

This year marks the 150th anniversary of the Meiji Restoration, a seismic shift for the civilization in Japan. It was triggered by the arrival of the East India Squadron headed by Commodore Matthew Perry on the Sea of Uruga on November 24, 1852.

Three days after its arrival, Ryuan Toma a village headman, born in Yanagishima in Chigasaki, in 1801, dashed to Uruga with his friends and observed it from a hill with a telescope. He vividly described the squadron and citizens in Uruga in his book, *"The Record of Taihei Nenpyo"*, in which he chronologically compiled political, diplomatic and social events from 1853 to 1872.

"I witnessed the four ships like giant buildings with windows for gunfire and turbine wheels staying on the sea, and white fire towers soaring on the ships like castles covered by snow." Also he added "They frightened citizens in Uruga away from home. Some carried their belongings out of their houses, others shouldered them on the backs of horses to send to their relatives. Quite an upset for sure."

The house of the Toma was destroyed by the Great Kanto Earthquake in 1923, but it was rebuilt in 1932 and designated as a Tangible Cultural Property of Japan in 2015. Donated to Chigasaki in 2017, it has been open to the public as a Museum of History and Folklore since April, 2018. About the former residence of the Toma Family, see CW24 and 27.

By the way, no of photos or portraits of him have been found at all. Strangely enough, nobody knows his face in spite of his fame. The only information about his face is that he seemed to have a beard. He was probably a handsome-looking prompt dignified man.



Various events took place in September. Some represented passing summer and the other the coming of autumn. Unfortunately, some events were affected by typhoons and frequent rains.

Events in September

Chigasaki City Museum of Art (☎ 0467-88-1177, URL: <http://www.chigasaki-museum.jp>)

Koson Ohara's woodcuts will be exhibited until October 8 (Mon, National Sports Day), and from October 11 (Wed) to November 4 (Sun). Totally, 240 works will be displayed during the two periods. They were collected by Yasusaburo Hara, the former owner of Shoraiso in Takasuna Ryokuchi. Admission fee (yen): Adult 700, Univ. student 500, High school students and younger, and 65 and older citizens free.

SUP Japan Cup 2018

An international stand up paddle racing, the 4th Mynavi SUP Japan Cup Chigasaki 2018, was held from Sep 15 to 17 off the headland beach. Surfers participated in a survivor race, distance races (18, 6 and 3 km) held on the 15th and 16th. See pictures on the right. A relay race and 500m races for elementary and junior high students scheduled for the 17th, however, were canceled due to high waves caused by Typhoon 22 moving towards the Philippines. The scene in which surfers standing at full height on paddle boards move the surface of a rough sea reminded the writer of Ninja, who were supposed to have moved on the water.



Waiting the start of distance races



Finish point of distance races



Yabusame at Samukawa Shrine

The 800-year-old yabusame event was held on September 19 in the afternoon. The origin of the horseback archery dates back to the 6th century; the 29th Emperor Kinmei, who had grieved over riots, prayed for a bumper crop and peace and tranquility of society at Usa Shrine in Oita Kyushu, and had archers on horseback hit targets which were likened to evil.

Yabusame is a competitive sport as well as a ritual. On the September day, 11 archers contended their skill with each other. In the first stage, each archer tried twice and six archers who performed better than the rest went on to the second round to try two more times to decide who was the winner.

The 11th Koide River Higanbana Festival

The annual festival was held on September 22 at four places along the Koide River. The rain which had been falling since the previous day stopped in the afternoon. Flowers of Higanbana made two red carpets on the 3 km stretch of the banks between Ondashi and Daikoku Bridges. Just about a week ago, no flowers were seen. It was local peoples' skill to adjust flowering days to the festival. Many visitors with cameras strolled along the course in the early autumn sunlight. The flowers will keep blooming until early October, providing hikers with a good place for strolling.



Chigasaki Jamboree 2018

On September 23 (Sunday, Autumnal equinox day), the 9th Chigasaki Jamboree was held in the multi-purpose square of Satoyama Park. The weather was fine this year, so the audience enjoyed bluegrass music sitting on the carpet of green grass. About 20 country bands in and around the city participated. Many of the songs they sang were oldies such as "[Stand by Your Man](#)", and many of the audience were middle and senior men and women with beverages in their hands. A few groups danced to the music. Visitors did what they wanted to. The liberal and relaxed atmosphere probably attracts a lot of people every year.



Events in October and early November

Citizen Gallery (☎ 0467-87-8384) at the exhibition room on the 4th floor of Nespa Chigasaki
Admission free!

The 20th Sharaku Kowada Photo Exhibition by Sharaku Kowada:

Oct 2 (Tues) 13:00 ~ 17:00, 3 (Wed) to 6 (Sat) 10:00 ~ 17:00, 7 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 16:00

The 8th Fukakusa Pottery School Handicrafts exhibition by Fukakusa Pottery School:

Oct 12 (Fri) and 13 (Sat) 10:00 ~ 17:00, 14 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 16:00

Ritzu Yamashina's landscape paintings by Ritzu Yamashina:

Oct 17 (Wed) to 21 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 18:00

Exhibition of photos, woodcuts and cloisonné ware by Shonan Art

Oct 25 (Thurs) 12:00 ~ 17:00, 26 (Fri) and 27 (Sat) 10:00 ~ 17:00, 28 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 15:00

The 6th Shonan Wind painting exhibition by Sketch Club:

Oct 30 (Tue) 13:00 ~ 17:00, Oct 31 (Wed) to Nov 3 (Sat) 10:00 ~ 17:00, 4 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 17:00

Hiking along the Sagami Line

The annual hiking event will be held on October 13 (Sat). The course is about 6.6 km long, starting at Yokoyama Park in Sagami-hara, via Kamimizo JH School, finishing at JR Banda Station. Registration: At a tent in front of Green Pool in Yokoyama Park (ten minutes' walk from JR Kamimizo Station) from 9:30 to 10:30, first 800 people will be accepted. Application City Hall Urban Policy Section at 0467-82-1111, Fax 0467-57-8377.

Chigasaki Anti-disaster Festival 2018

Chigasaki fire-fighting and anti-disaster festival will be held at Chuo Koen, 1st floor of City Hall and in front of Comprehensive Gymnasium on October 21 (Sun) from 10:00 to 15:00. Participants will be able to learn about fire prevention, first aid and disaster prevention through practice.

Chigasaki Velo Festival

The 7th Chigasaki Velo Festival will take place at Chuo Koen on October 27 (Sat) from 9:00 to 16:00. The event aims to encourage people to ride bicycles safely and use them more often. Many games for both adults and children will be held. (Beppu in the right photo.)



Two more festivals

Fureai Festival at Chuo Park on Nov. 3 (Sat).

Rainbow Festival at Satoyama Park on Nov. 11 (Sun)

Citizen Cultural Festival

The 58th Citizen cultural festival will be held at Civic Hall and City Hall from October 8 (Mon, National Sports Day) to November 18 (Sun).

Performances on stage (Civic Hall)

Picture-story show "Toutoutarari" - Oct 8 (Mon) (1) 10:00 ~ 13:20, (2) 15:00 ~ 17:00

Japanese Dance - Oct 27 (Sat) 10:30 ~ 16:00

Chigasaki Ohayashi Festival - Oct 28 (Sun) 10:30 ~ 15:30

Ginkenshibudo (Japanese dancing with a sword while reciting Chinese poems) - Nov 3 (Sat) 09:40 ~ 16:00

Classical Concert - Nov 10 (Sat) 13:00 ~

Classical Vocal Concert - Nov 18 (Sun) 14:00 ~ 16:00

Noh Chant Festival - Oct 8 (Mon) 11:00 ~ 16:00

Autumn Concert - Oct 21 (Sun) 13:00 ~ 16:30

Chorus Festival - Oct 28 (Sun) 12:15 ~ 18:30

Instrumental Trio Concert - Nov 4 (Sun) 11:30 ~ 16:00

Biwa Concert - Nov 4 (Sun) 12:30 ~ 16:00

Chanson & Canzone - Nov 17 (Sat) 13:00 ~ 16:00

Western-style Dance - Nov 18 (Sun) 13:30 ~ 16:30

Exhibitions (Civic Hall)

Handicrafts - Oct 6 (Sat) to 8 (Mon) 10:00 ~ 17:00, 9 (Tues) 10:00 ~ 16:00

Flower Arrangement - Oct 20 (Sat) 10:00 ~ 17:00, 21 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 16:00

Art exhibition - Oct 25 (Thu) 13:00 ~ 17:00, 26 (Fri) & 27 (Sat) 10:00 ~ 17:00, 28 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 16:00

Photography - Nov 2 (Fri) & 3 (Sat) 09:00 ~ 17:00, 4 (Sun) 09:00 ~ 16:00

Chrysanthemums (in front of the Comprehensive Gym) - Nov 1 (Thurs) to 13 (Tue) 09:00 ~ 16:00

Bonsai - Nov 9 (Fri) 13:00 ~ 17:00, 10 (Sat) 9:00 ~ 17:00, 11 (Sun) 9:00 ~ 16:00

Calligraphy - Nov 16 (Fri) & 17 (Sat) 10:00 ~ 17:00, 18 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 16:00

Literary art (City Hall)

Photo exhibition - Oct 9 (Tues) 13:00 ~ 16:00, 10 (Wed) to 12 (Fri) 10:00 ~ 16:00, 13 (Sat) 10:00 ~ 12:00

Tanka Festival - Oct 8 (Mon) 13:00 ~ 16:30

Haiku Festival - Oct 14 (Sun) 9:00 ~ 17:00

Tea Ceremony - Nov 3 (Sat, holiday) 9:00 ~ 17:00 (fee: 350 yen)

Thanks for reading our stories. See you soon!