

# 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.*

## Chigasaki Surfing Stories (1)

Surfing has for many years been one of the popular marine sports of the Shonan coastline. A wooden surfboard placed at the entrance of the Japanese-style hotel, Chigasaki-Kan (See the photo on the right), which was brought to Japan from Hawaii in the 1930s by the then owner of the hotel, suggests Chigasaki is one of the places where surfing first appeared in Japan. In addition, the former chairman of the city surfing industrial union, Tadashi Suzuki, is thought to be the first person to make a surfboard in Japan, which was made of plywood. In the 1960s and 70s, songs by Yuzo Kayama, Kiyohiko Ozaki and other local musicians helped cultivate the image of *Surf City Chigasaki*. So, how is the surfing situation in the city today?

The Chigasaki branch of the Nippon Surfing Association has about 250 members, who prefer competitive surfing, and try to win contests. In addition, there are a great number of local surfers, who enjoy the sport as their favorite pastime. It's a common sight all year round to see surfers in wet suits riding along the cycling road with their surfboards. It is said Chigasaki has a long beach line, from Hamasuka to Yanagishima, and they can usually find their favorite waves somewhere along the line, which is an advantage of Chigasaki beach.

There are more than twenty surf shops near the beach. Now that the surfing business has reached maturity, these shops have been pressed to diversify their services. In addition, many surfers now shop at online stores rather than at actual stores. Among charged services, surfboard storage and surfboard rentals, for example, make it possible for visitors who come by train and bus to move with their hands empty. Many shops also hold surf schools.

Stand up paddling (SUP, see the photo far on the left) has recently become popular. International competitions



have been held near the headland since a few years ago. SUP can be enjoyed even on rivers and lakes, and it is not so affected by waves as surfing. The new sport may attract more visitors, but as skilled paddlers can even go to the vicinity of ocean farming areas through surfing zones, some rules to be followed by paddlers, surfers and fishermen may be necessary in the future.



## Artistic paintings instead of Graffiti

Large paintings have replaced graffiti on the walls of [the underpass](#) near the crossing below the Chigasaki Central IC. (See the picture on the right) Paintings will also be drawn on the walls nearby by the end of November.

## Newsletter *Chigasaki* (Let's go and discover nature)

The newsletter provides you with information on the greening of the city, natural environment and biodiversity conservation. The first edition was published on June 16 (Fri). The letter is on the city's website, and placed on the counters of Townscape and Green, Environmental Policy, and Parks & Green Spaces Sections in City Hall.

Or go to: <https://www.facebook.com/TownscapeAndGreenSection/>



## Beach cleanup

Citizens, city officials and officers of the Japan Coast Guard jointly carried out beach cleanup activities along the whole of Chigasaki's beach, from Hamasuka to Yanagishima, on the morning of June 3 (Sat) from 8:00 to 10:00. Around 1,300 people participated, and 2.4 tons of flammable waste and 0.9 tons of nonflammable materials were collected. On Southern Beach, for example, participants picked up scattered fine plastic fragments, plastic bags and scraps of plastic tapes as well as seaweed and pieces of wood. As is often said, every visitor should take care not to leave his or her waste behind.

Next cleaning up will be held on July 30 (Sun) from 8:00 to 9:30 am.



## Volunteer groups in and around Chigasaki

## Salon-dote (1)

Salon-dote has provided a place for mainly stay-at-home moms with a child and elderly people since 2012, utilizing a rented house near Chigasaki Station. The place named 'Saito-san-chi', or Mr. Saito's house in English, welcomes anyone who comes around. Of course, reservations are unnecessary. Every Wednesday the house is opened from 10:00 to 15:00, and group members cook curry and rice to serve visitors for lunch. The members always have lunch and chat with these people. The group leader, Hitomi Hayakawa, says all ingredients, including various vegetables and rice, are donated by a farmer and other volunteer groups, and these seasonal foodstuffs are delivered on Tuesdays. Most of the people are regular visitors, who are looking forward to chatting with their friends and having delicious curry. (A plate of curry and rice, salad, desert and a coffee for 300 yen.)

According to the data presented at their fifth general meeting, a total of 1,662 people, including 145 staff members and 114 volunteers, visited the house in fiscal 2016, which means about 35 people came to the house every Wednesday. And about 68% of them were elderly people and 7% were mothers and children. Some visitors are glad to help cook or get the room ready for lunch these days



Ms. Hayakawa says this kind of place is necessary to facilitate exchanges and cooperation between young mothers, many of whom don't know much about how to lull their babies, and aged people, who have wisdom accumulated through their experiences during past decades, as the number of nuclear families have rapidly been increasing. She also says she plans to train younger generations, hoping they will assume the activities.

URL: [www.sarondote.com](http://www.sarondote.com)

## How about doing volunteer work during summer holidays?

If you are thinking of working as a volunteer during your summer holidays, the **Youth Volunteer Chigasaki 2017** program may provide you with an opportunity to find what you want to do.

The promoting bodies, Chigasaki Support Center and the Social Welfare Council of Chigasaki, are now inviting applications from students, from junior high to university students. At the orientation scheduled for July 14 (Fri) and 15 (Sat), you will be able to get information on welfare volunteer groups, nursery schools and other organizations, and make an application. Students will be accepted on a first come first served basis.

- Time limit for application: July 12 (Wed)
- Orientation: July 14 (Fri) from 18:00 to 20:00 at Sagami JA Building  
July 15 (Sat) from 16:00 to 18:00 at the Support Center
- Working period: at least two days between July 21 (Fri) and Sept 15 (Fri)

For more information, including groups you can apply to, go to <http://sapocen.net/>

**ユースボランティア 茅ヶ崎 2017**

**オリエンテーション**  
7/14(金) 18:00~20:00  
7/15(土) 15:00~17:00

**カニ缶ボランティア**  
8/23(水) 16:00~18:00

**ボランティア活動体験期間**  
7/21(金)~9/15(金)

【申し込み受付期間】 6/1(木)~7/12(水)  
【対象】 中学・高校・専門学校・短大・大学生 (25歳以下) でボランティア活動に興味のある方  
【費用】 1,000円 (先着順) 【参加費】 無料 ※ただし、遠距離への交通費、移動代は各自負担  
【申し込み方法】 申込フォームから申し込みを希望するボランティア活動の希望内容、希望日時を記入  
▶氏名 ▶学年 ▶年齢 ▶本人の志願書 ▶参加費納付 (2名以上お申し込み) ▶申し込み受付期間 (申込受付終了後) ▶活動開始日 (活動開始前)

【申込・問合せ先】  
茅ヶ崎市民会館生涯学習センター2F 21号窓口  
TEL: 0467-85-9650 FAX: 0467-85-9651  
(受付時間: 8:30~17:15 土日祝日休み)  
E-mail: yob@chigakyo-chigasaki.or.jp  
URL: http://www.shakye-chigasaki.or.jp/

当会の連絡先  
TEL/FAX: 0467-88-7545  
(受付時間: 9:30~21:30 毎月第5日曜日休み)  
E-mail: s-center@palspa.palspa.jp  
URL: http://sapsocent.net/

【主催】 (認定NPO) サポート茅ヶ崎市民会館・茅ヶ崎市民会館協議会 【協賛】 茅ヶ崎市教育委員会・茅ヶ崎市教育委員会

## Interested in Japanese Proverbs?

(1) 一寸先は闇

ISSUN SAKI WA YAMI

ISSUN corresponds to about 1.2 inches. SAKI means ahead, WA 'is' and YAMI pitch-dark.

The proverb literally means an inch ahead is pitch-dark, suggesting no one can tell what will happen even in the quite near future.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe must have been unable to think his approval rate would go into a nosedive. What goes up must come down! No one can tell what the situation surrounding Tokyo Metropolitan Governor Yuriko Koike will be after the July 2 Tokyo Metropolitan Assembly election, either.

This proverb appeared in *Tokaido Meisho Ki* written by *Ryoui Asai*, a writer as well as a Buddhist priest of the Edo Period.

Its English equivalents are:

- Ⓞ The unexpected always happen.
- Ⓞ Nobody knows what tomorrow might bring.
- Ⓞ Let us eat and drink; for tomorrow we shall die.

(2) 嘘も方便

USO MO HOUBEN

USO means a lie, MO too, HOUBEN an expedient.

To tell a lie is not always wrong. In some circumstances people have to tell a lie in order to alleviate the atmosphere or to protect people from being hurt, like doctors facing seriously ill people.

This proverb is derived from an allegory. *An old man found his house was burning up in the fire, and his children were playing inside. Though he warned them to go out, they would not listen to anything he told them, and kept playing. Then he told them there were toys outside. This lie made children go out and saved them.*

The source of this proverb is *Dainichi kyo*, a sutra of esoteric Buddhism, and this proverb was used as a way to bring people to spiritual enlightenment.

Its English equivalents are:

- Ⓞ A necessary lie is harmless.
- Ⓞ The end justifies the means.
- Ⓞ He that cannot dissemble knows not how to live.

## History of Chigasaki Pathway to Koide (2)

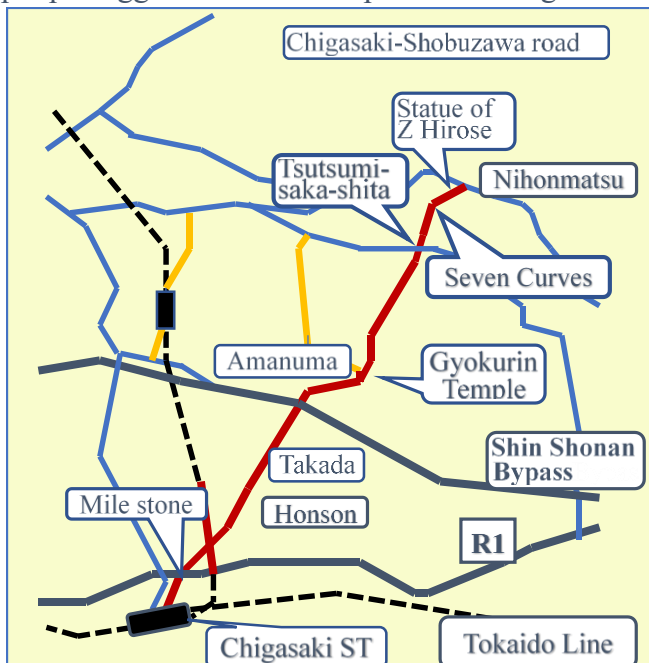
As it was quite inconvenient to ship agricultural produce, the improvement of roads became a major plea among village residents. (up to here in CW13)

The chronological record says there were no roads available for car travel, and people thought they should send their representative to the prefectural assembly in order to get out of the economically and culturally isolated situation as soon as possible.

So, they elected Tsutsumi resident Zenji Hirose (1880~1962), who used to be the leader of Koide village and a member of the village assembly, and left actions for road improvements to him. Thanks to Hirose's effort, the Chigasaki-Shobuzawa prefectural road was opened to traffic in May, 1927. The road started at Nihonmatsu, went down the Nanamagari-no-saka, or the seven-curve slope in English, and then crossed the intersection at Tsutsumi-saka-shita. It continued down the long slope near Gyokurin Temple, then passed through Amanuma, Takada and Honson districts to reach a milestone, or Ichirizuka in Japanese, on Route One. The old road still remains in places along the new one.

The construction of the Gyokurin Temple slope seemed to be quite a difficult task. A monument installed in 1921 says 風光る道への草の何かは嬉しく (Grass by the roadside in the sun somewhat makes us be pleased). The epitaph suggests that the completion was a great delight to residents and construction workers. The monument of

Zenji Hirose stands on the side of the prefectural road. (Source: Chigasaki City Museum of Heritage booklet 1)



The statue of Zenji Hirose

## Wagashi Craftsperson — Ginzo Matsue

A Japanese confectionery creator is respectfully called *wagashi shokunin* (craftsperson). Mr. Ginzo Matsue, a *wagashi* craftsman and the owner of Matsumi, starts working at 4:00 to avoid using additives. He begins with unbaked cakes, and after breakfast, makes *jo-namagashi* (special *unbaked wagashi*) commonly used for tea ceremonies, then bakes *dorayaki*, *manju* and so on. From 8:00, he makes sweets that last for a relatively long time, kneads sweet bean jam, and prepares for the next day.

Each season, Mr. Matsue designs new *jo-namagashi*, which are beautiful and delicate. He says *wagashi* attracts people with its seasonal image. This summer, he created some kinds of *jo-namagashi* including ‘*Hotaru-no-sato* (Village with fireflies)’ and ‘*Idobe* (Wellside)’. Both depict archetypal Japanese scenery in summer to remind people of comfortable cool breezes. Besides artistic appearance, he says, sweetness should be adjusted according to seasons by using different types of sugar. He said smiling that he feels happiest when meeting customers’ requests or receiving the word “delicious!”

Mr. Matsue, sincere and a man of principle, carries on the traditional *shokunin*’s spirit. He is modest enough to say his motto is learning through life though has received several prizes. He uses the internet to see youthful senses. He is internationalized and warm-hearted. His son stayed in the US twice to study at high school and university, and the Matsue family hosted two American exchange students. He let them experience making *namagashi*. Also, he was coaching a boys’ baseball team as a volunteer. Mild and friendly tastes of his sweets may reflect the creator’s personality.



## Nature in Chigasaki

### *Vitex rotundifolia*, or Hamagou in Japanese

*Vitex rotundifolia*, or *Hamagou* in Japanese, grows luxuriantly in sunny seaside sandy soil in East and Southeast Asia, Polynesia and Australia. The deciduous shrubby tree has bluish-purple colored cute flowers at the tips of branches in summer. The fructification covered with husks floats and is conveyed by ocean currents, which is why the tree is distributed throughout the coastal areas of the Western Pacific. The stem of the seaside plant grows training on the sand, and even if it is covered by the sand, the stem is able to grow through the sand. The plant used to be common on Chigasaki beach, but it has vanished and we never see it these days, which is attributable to, among other reasons, the shrinking of the beach caused by coastal erosion and the resultant seawall construction.

However, the descendants of a proprietor of fishing nets and boats near the beach have kept growing the plant in their garden because *Hamagou* as well as a brown seaweed called *Sargassum*, or *Hondawara* in Japanese, are indispensable for Chigasaki’s annual summer festival, *Hamaorisai*, which was designated as a prefectural cultural



asset in February 1977. On the morning of Marine Day, some forty mikoshi, or portable shrines, from shrines in Chigasaki and Samukawa come to Nishihama beach to be purified. The mikoshi of Samukawa Shrine is treated specially: it is placed on a sand mound covered with *Hamagou* and *Hondawara*.

This practice is derived from oral tradition: Samukawa Shrine’s *mikoshi* was fell into Sagami River as the shrine’s delegation was involved in trouble while passing the bridge over the river in 1838. Several days later, the proprietor noticed the *mikoshi* had been caught in his fishing net. He made a sand mound in his garden, covered it with *Hamagou* and *Hondawara*, and placed the *mikoshi* on it until the *mikoshi* was transported back to the shrine. He thought it would be terribly rude to place the *mikoshi* right on the ground.

## Breath-taking Scenic Pictures of Shinshu, today's Nagano Prefecture

Pictures of mountains in the Japan Alps, Matsumoto Castle and many more were exhibited on the 4th floor of Nespa Chigasaki from June 5 to 10. These pictures were taken by amateur photographer Setsuko Shimoida, who started photography under the tutelage of a professional photographer after retiring from the teaching profession ten years ago. Until then she had taught physics at an institute of technology in Fujisawa. Now she lives in Azumino, in the central part of Nagano Prefecture, from spring to autumn, and in Chigasaki in winter. Most of the pictures were taken in Nagano. This was her 4th solo exhibition.



## Morning Fish Market

The morning fish market took place at the shipping area of Chigasaki Fishing Port on June 20 (Tue) from 9:00 am. The market was held by the Chigasaki Fishery Cooperative, and fresh fish and shellfish caught in Sagami Bay and neighboring fishing areas were put on sale. Most species of the fish were sold out in fifteen minutes.

They included sardines and young sardines, horse mackerel, alfonsinos, bonitos, mackerel and grunts. Red and black sea breams and sillaginoids caught off Chigasaki were also on sale. Shellfish such as turbos, freshwater clams and hard clams, and squid attracted visitors. In front of turbos, 600 yen for one grasp of one hand, a long line was formed. Visitors also shopped for fresh vegetables at a farmers' market opened beside the shipping area.

The morning fish market will also be held in November.



## Events in July and early August

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

**The 35th Exhibition of Chigasaki Artist Association:** works of the association's members (74 paintings) and those invited from the public (65) will be exhibited until July 8 (Sat). **Admission free**



## The Opening Ceremony of Southern Beach Chigasaki

The opening ceremony will take place at Southern Beach on July 1 (Sat) from 10:00 am. After a Shinto ritual, opening events will be held on the stage. Last year a decorative paper ball, Kusudama in Japanese, opened before anybody pulled the rope! A tsunami evacuation drill, stage performances and treasure hunting are planned.

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

**Admission free**

- Nichiyokai Exhibition of Watercolor Paintings (Nichiyokai): June 27 (Tue) to July 2 (Sun)
- Takehisa Saito's Handicraft Works - Presents from a 100-year-old granddad: July 7 (Fri) to 9 (Sun)
- Group-to-enjoy-painting's Exhibition : July 11 (Tue) to 16 (Sun)
- Saibikai's Silver Star, Various Color Exhibition: July 18 (Tue) to 23 (Sun)
- Chigasaki Kakusaikai's 28th Chigasaki Kakusaikai Watercolor Exhibition: July 25 (Tue) to 30 (Sun)

**Hamaori Festival, one of the city's major events**



Photo : Keiichi Kojima

On July 17 (Mon, Marine Day) by 7:00 am, about 40 mikoshi from shrines in Chigasaki and Samukawa will arrive at Nishihama beach. Shinto rituals will take place from 7:00 to 8:00, and then they will leave for their shrines. Before or after the rituals, some mikoshi may go into the sea.

*Hamaori* means to purify with the spirit of sea water. Priests pray for peace, bumper harvests and good hauls. The festival is one of the prefecture's fifty greatest festivals. Traditionally, Samukawa shrine's mikoshi is placed on a mound covered with grass called *Vitex rotundifolia* and seaweed. See the article about the grass on page 4.

**The 6th Chigasaki Cinema Festival**

Films in the table below will be put on.

Title	Date, Time	Place
C-side town	July 1 (Sat) 14:00 ~	Chigasaki People's Museum
Ghost of the Sun & Koji Yamamoto's short films	July 2 (Sun) 19:00 ~	QUE
Young Leader in Hawaii	July 4 (Tue) 13:30 ~	AEON Cinema Chigasaki
A Picture Book for Adults	July 7 (Fri) 19:00 ~	Chigasaki Kan
Japan and Renewable Energy	July 8 (Sat) 14:00 ~ / 18:30 ~	City Community Hall
Three short films by Chie Hayakawa	July 9 (Sun) 17:30 ~	CAFE POE

**Honobono Beach Festival on July 30 (Sun) from 9:30 to 17:00 near the headland**

The festival aims to think about how to make Chigasaki's beach safe, and to get people interested in the environment and beach erosion, and beach clean-up activities.

**Honolulu Week from July 1 (Sat) to August 5 (Sat)**

During Honolulu Week, from July 1 (Sat), when Southern Beach opens, to August 5 (Sat), when the fireworks display takes place, 214 shops across the city will provide customers who wear aloha shirts with various services. Public halls will hold events connected to Hawaii. Canoe and stand-up paddle lessons will also be held.

**The 43rd Southern Beach Fireworks Display on August 5 (Sat) from 19:30 to 20:20 off Southern Beach Chigasaki**

About 3,000 fireworks ranging from Nos 4 to 7 in size, will be launched from near the tip of the eastern breakwater of Chigasaki Fishing Port. Spectators will be enchanted by rapid successive launching, called starmine launching, as well as underwater fireworks named *Underwater Peacock*, which spread like the wings of the bird above the sea, and many rocket fireworks. There will be no parking lots. Shuttle buses between Chigasaki Station South Entrance and the beach will operate. But anywhere along the beach you will have a good view.



Photo: Keiichi Kojima



**Nandemo-yoichi at Chuo Park on August 6 (Sun) from 16:00 to 20:00**

The 30th Nandemo-yoichi, one of the city's largest flea markets, will be held at Chuo Park on August 6 (Sun). In addition to food stalls, there will be corners for used clothes, sundries and handicrafts. From 17:50 to 19:50, a Bon Festival Dance to the sound of the Japanese drum will be performed. Around 18:45, three short films for children will be put on. On the stage, musical accompaniments will be performed. As usual, children can expect the free cricket present. (A numbered ticket will be provided at 16:00.) A special event for the 30th anniversary, a planetarium, is planned.

Thanks for reading our stories. See you soon!