

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.

Suzuki Farm – a fruit grower, and sixth businessperson in Serizawa

Fruit farms spread on gentle rolling hills to the east of Chigasaki Satoyama Park. In the middle of October, a lot of yellow- or orange-colored persimmons were on the trees. Go along the descending road heading northward from the traffic signal on the east of Koide ES, you will see Suzuki Farm on your left.

In the fruit farm with 9,400 square meters, plums, blueberries, grapes, pears, chestnuts, persimmons and kiwi fruits are cultivated. These fruits become ripe one after another in this order, and the harvest period of each one ranges from a half to one month. Consequently, harvest seasons continue from May to November. During each season visitors are able to pick or gather fruits, and/or buy them at the shop in front of the farm.



Takekatsu Suzuki, the current owner, worked for a major service company until he reached retirement age. His father had cultivated tobacco plants before he passed away in the first summer after Mr. Suzuki started working. The bereaved family continued farming. He helped them on weekends and holidays. While working for the firm, he took the first step toward today's farming business around 40 years ago, with plum, persimmon and chestnut trees he had planted 14 years earlier. Later he added trees of the other fruits. Today, about 75% of sales comes from the fruits sold at his farm and delivered, and those sold wholesale to JA Sagami's shops earn the remaining 25%.

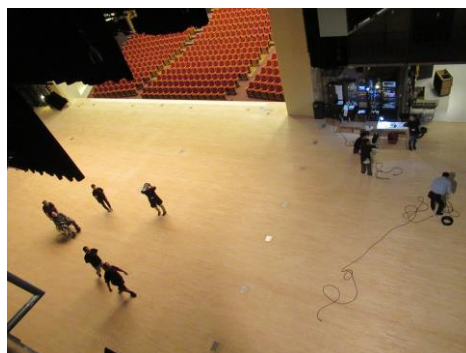
Mr Suzuki says his orchard business is well suited to farming in the suburbs of big cities, that is, small-lot production of wider ranging products in agriculture. He also says his farming business style is classified into the so-called sixth sector industry, as he does everything from farming (primary industry;1) to processing (secondary industry;2) to selling and/or distributing (tertiary industry;3). The style is promoted by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry.

He has gained a vegetable sommelier license and that for a dietary education sommelier, both of which are certified by nationwide private organizations. Licensees are expected to act as a bridge between farmers and consumers by providing consumers with knowledge of fruits and vegetables, and informing farmers what consumers need. The harvest season of persimmons will arrive soon. URL <https://www.suzukien.com/>



Backstage tour of the Civic Hall

The Civic Hall tour was conducted on October 2. Its renovation work took a year and a half and finished two days earlier. Three groups of twenty citizens looked around facilities and a large and a small hall, dressing rooms, the cellar (a space beneath the orchestra pit), and a spiral staircase built on the left stage. The tour took a little over one hour, and visited so many places that most of the participants seemed to feel as if they had wandered into a maze of concrete rooms and corridors. It was a good opportunity for them to see places they would otherwise have little chance to go. The stage was wider and more complicated with chains and curtains than they imagined. Facing the seats, some would have felt that they had become artists.



History of Chigasaki

Kotohira Shrine in Nango

A Nango resident, Touzaemon, operated a prosperous shipping agency around the end of the 17th century. One night his ship was sailing off Izu Peninsular, but was wrecked by a violent storm. While he and his crew members were drifting, praying to ㊦Kotohira-Daigongen, they found a Kotohira barrel floating in the water. They clung to the barrel, and fortunately reached the Izu coast. They warmed their bodies with the sake they found in the barrel, and finally returned to their village.

Folklore says Touzaemon, the boatman and all the other crew members appreciated that this was due solely to the virtue of Kotohira-Daigongen, so he built the shrine. Fishermen and boatmen devoutly believed in the god enshrined there.

There stands a black war memorial stone plate on the right of the shrine building. A woman who was taking her dog for a walk said the spirit of one of her relatives, together with other people's, was enshrined. On the other side, stands a stele dedicated to the victims of the Great Kanto Earthquake.

At an annual festival on April 10, ㊦Kotohira-barrel-nagashi takes place. The shrine has two mikoshi, and one of the two was made by a famous craftsman, 89th Myou-ouTaro Tenaka.

㊦ Kotohira-Daigongen: another name of Kotohira Shrine in Kotohira, Kagawa. The shrine is also called Konpira of Sanuki. It enshrines the god of the sea, and the god of water. Visitors pray to the gods for a safe voyage. The shrine is so famous that there is a song named *Konpira Fune Fune*.

㊦ Kotohira-barrel-nagashi: Someone who wanted to visit Kotohira Shrine, but could not, used to float a barrel containing food, money or other things offered to the gods with a flag saying "Dedicated to Kotohira-Daigongen" on the sea.



Volunteer groups in and around Chigasaki

Shonan-Neko-33 (mimi)

A recent report says the number of cat people has exceeded that of dog people in Japan. Despite an increasing number of cat lovers, however, there are still many stray cats on the streets. A group to protect stray cats, Shonan-Neko-33 (mimi), keeps kittens for a while until someone who is willing to take care of them appears. Sometimes, the group, registered with Chigasaki City, takes in cats from the prefectural animal center.

They **trap** and **neuter** mature cats and **return** them to the place where the cats were taken (TNR). The leader, Michiko Fujiwara, said they have so far taken care of over 500 homeless cats following the TNR approach since the group was established in 2015. The ear of the TNR cat has a v-shaped cut to indicate it has been neutered in order not to undergo the operation again. As the ear resembles the shape of a cherry blossom's petal it is called a cherry blossom cat, or sakura-neko. They manage these activities with membership fees, donations from supporters and free neutering tickets from a public interest incorporated foundation called Animal Fund.

There were about 20 cats in her house in the middle of last month, many of which were one- or two-month-old kittens waiting in cages for potential caretakers to appear. About 20 group members help her to look after the cats at her house. She sometimes opens her house for people who want to have a pet cat, so that they can find their



favorite one. While we visited her house last month, people who wanted to have a cat came one after another and decided which kitten to take. To each of the would-be guardians Ms Fujiwara explained how to tame these cats so that they and their cats both become happy. To neuter and not to let them go out freely are basic preconditions to giving away cats, she says.

She emphasized that if people irresponsibly feed stray cats, their actions will have a tragic consequence. As cats are prolific and give birth to litters two to three times a year, their number increases in geometric progression. These groups and personal activists have contributed to Kanagawa Prefecture's announcement that they do not need to dispose of any pet animals at the present moment.

URL <http://ameblo.jp/shonanneko33/>

Interested in Japanese Proverbs?

(1) 目は心の鏡

(ME WA KOKORO NO KAGAMI)

ME means eyes, **WA** to be, **KOKORO** mind, **NO** of and **KAGAMI** a mirror.

The eyes reflect one's mind, so if you look someone in the eye you may learn what they are thinking. It is said a person who has clear eyes also has a clear mind. In the movies, young men and women often say, "Look me in the eye." and you should look people in the eye when you talk to them.

There are people with charming eyes or cold eyes, and gentle eyes or piercing eyes. The eyes attract people, but they shun people, too. So, be careful! The eyes can say as much as the mouth.

This saying was in an ancient Chinese book, Mencius (the fourth century BC).

Its English equivalents are:

- The eye is the window of the heart.
- The heart's letter is read in the eyes.
- A rolling eye, a roving heart.

(2) 安物買いの銭失い

(YASUMONO GAI NO ZENI USHINAI)

YASUMONO a cheap article, **GAI** to buy and **NO ZENI USHINAI** to waste money.

The proverb says less expensive things do not work long, so you have to buy them again. You may get a big loss by small saving. In general, clothes, furniture and other articles worth having are expensive. There are some people who pay more when they buy even household goods. But there are as many who enjoy shopping at dollar shops. These people should know the proverb as a matter of course. Once in a while they may make a lucky find. Anyway, so many men, so many minds. The proverb was found in *Saikaku Okimiyage* (1693), a popular novel of the Edo Period.

Its English equivalents are:

- Light cheap lither yield.
- On a good bargain think twice.
- You get what you pay for.

Nature in Chigasaki



The coastline in the early Jomon Era

About 14,000 years ago, the global temperature rose, but 1,000 years later, it dropped substantially again, and the last glacial period started. Then, about 10,000 years ago, the temperature started going up, which caused a gradual rise in the sea level and global coastal onlap simultaneously. In addition, grasses and plants started covering the land. (up to here in the previous issue)

The sea level started rising again 10,000 years ago, and reached its highest level in the early Jomon era (7,000 to 5,500 years ago). It is confirmed by diatom analysis that Namegaya, which is 17.5 to 20 meters above sea level today, was under the surface of the sea because of the transgression.

Along the Sagami River, marine strata have been found to eleven kilometers upstream from the present estuary. This indicates the strand line lay around the middle point between Tozawa Bridge and Tomei Express highway. However, it is assumed that sand and gravel conveyed by the Sagami River rapidly filled in the sea to create a delta. Then, the earth and sand were redeposited by the coastal current, streaming from west to east near the shore, and started forming a vast sandbank, which stretched from Chigasaki to Fujisawa.

At the mouths of the Koide and Mekujiri Rivers, and Shinmei-Dani (a drowned valley), sand conveyed by the rivers accumulated. The strand line lay from north to south near Kagawa Station, and sand was also piled up along the line. After the coastal offlap started, the sediment grew into a sandbar, then to a sand hill called Shinoyama Sandhill. Later, three other sand reefs appeared. They

had grown into Kagawa, Amanuma and Akabane Sandhills by the late Jomon era (4,500 to 3,300 years ago).

Nishikata shell mounds in Shimoterao, found in pit dwellings, are remains of 6,000 years ago, the oldest kitchen midden in Chigasaki. It contained shells and univalve shells, fish bones of red sea bream, bonito and yellow tail, and bones of deer and whales. In addition, Jomon pottery with rope patterns, stone axes, stone arrowheads and so on were also excavated. Researchers said spiny bottomed earthenware had some connection with Izu region, where similarly shaped pottery was excavated. These remnants indicate that the coastline had moved to the south of Shimoterao, northwest of Kagawa Station, by the middle Jomon era (5,500 to 4,500 years ago).

(Source: Chigasaki City Museum of Heritage Report, No7, P1-14)

Invitation to Kamakura (8)—Amida Nyorai

(A bimonthly serial)

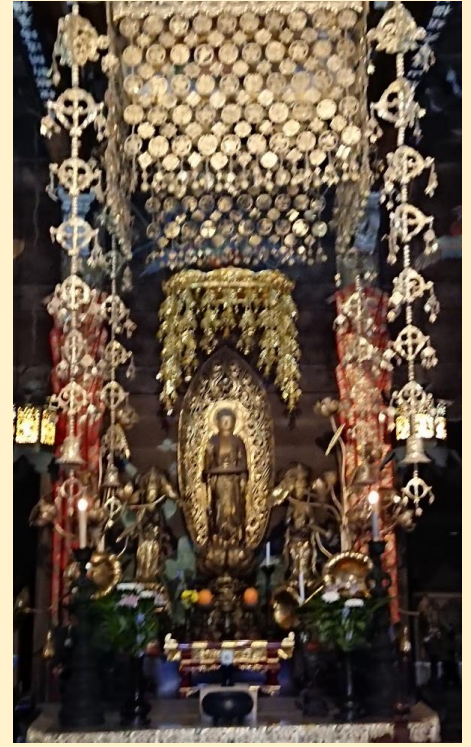
When you visit temples, you see an icon enshrined as the main object of worship. But do you notice the icon is usually different at each temple? Let's try to look at one of icons, Amida Nyorai, this time.

The Buddha, or Shakyamuni Buddha, is the founder of Buddhism. He was born around 563BC in northern India.

He was a prince and had everything it is possible to have in life. However, he renounced his regal life at 29 and started the life of a wandering monk. During the pursuit of his spiritual quest, he learned deep meditation. He lived the most austere life, but even at the point of near death, he could not achieve spiritual enlightenment. He gave up his extremes and began to take a moderate course. He sat under a Bodhi tree and determined not to move until he found the answers he sought. On the night of the full moon, complete enlightenment came to him. At this moment, he became the Buddha.

After the Buddha died at 80, it was believed that there are many incarnations of the Buddha in the universe. One of them is Amida Nyorai, the ruler of the Western Paradise of Ultimate Bliss. Amida Nyorai became the central deity of Japan's popular Pure Land sect. If we chant "Nami Ami Dabutsu", it says we can go to the Pure Land in the afterlife.

Temples which enshrine Amida Nyorai: Kamamura Daibutsu, Kousokuji, Kyoonji, Kuhonji, Hasedera, [Eishoji](#) (a picture on the right)



The unusually hot summer has gone, and the season of cultural events has come. There were so many events in the city that it was impossible to cover all of them. Here are events in the citizen cultural festival and some others.

Events in October

Chigasaki Livestock Festival

The Chigasaki Livestock Association held the 63rd Chigasaki Livestock Festival at Chigasaki Satoyama Park on October 13. The livestock judging contest attracted a lot of children and their parents. Seventeen milk cows raised by dairy farmers in the city took part in the contest. These cows were classified into five categories according to months of age as well as delivered cows or heifers. They were judged based on the shape and the size of their bodies, breast size and other physical characteristics.

At a nearby corner, visitors were allowed to touch calves and sheep, and listen to the beating of their hearts. Food stalls sold miso soup with pork and vegetables harvested in the city, waffles and beverages. Milk packs were provided for free.

Nine days later, on the 22nd, at the prefectural livestock judging contest, a cow among the 17 won the championship in the delivered cow category.



Shonan Film Festival



On Oct. 21, the 46th Shonan Film Festival was held at the city library by a volunteer group called Cinematheque Chigasaki. More than 60 seats were filled with mostly middle and older cinema fans. Two films produced by female film directors in the mid-1960s were screened. They were the standard bearers of the New Wave and are still respected today by younger directors, critics and fans.

●Le Bonheur by Agnès Varda, which won the Jury's Special Award at the 1965 Berlin International Film Festival. ●Daisies by a Czechoslovakian Věra Chytilová in 1966. A film critic, Takehito Deguchi, explained what the two directors tried to represent was sarcasm towards men.

Construction Industry Festival

Commemorating its 20th anniversary, the Chigasaki and Samukawa branch of the construction industry's labor union hold *Doken Matsuri* at Chuo Koen on Oct 14. Young people performed energetic dancing on the stage, a flea market and stalls sold various goods and foods. What we cannot see at other events was a high lift work vehicle. Applicants enjoyed views from 12m above the ground.





Chigasaki Velo Festival

The 7th Chigasaki bicycle festival was held at Chuo Koen on Oct. 27 from 9:00. The rain that had lasted since the night before stopped around 9:00, and the sky gradually turned from gray to blue. In the crisp autumnal weather, many bicycle fans, from children to the middle-aged and older gathered, enjoying a time trial race and other events. As the northern area of the park has been closed because of the construction of a new park office building, the number of stalls and visitors looked slightly smaller than last year. Fumiyuki Beppu did not attend the festival as he was on his way home from the US.

Chigasaki Southern Artistic Fireworks Display 2018

Commemorating the 40th anniversary of the Southern All Stars, a fireworks display was held off Southern Beach on Oct. 27 from around 18:25. Over 33,000 tickets were immediately sold out, according to a member of the executive committee. Spectators filled in and around pay areas, and gathered along R134. To the Southern's songs multiple fireworks were simultaneously set off. It was really wonderful.



Citizen Cultural Festival

Most events took place at the renovated Civic Hall and some at City Hall.

Exhibition of artistic handicraft and three-dimensional works

From Oct. 6 to 9, the exhibition room on the 1st floor was filled with various pieces of artistic handiwork such as hand-knitted clothes, ceramic works, tie-dyed clothes, paper crafts, leather goods, and on, folding screens with paintings, tanka, India-ink drawings and kites. The room looked like the sitting room of an ancient noblewoman. The visitors stopped and looked at exhibits they were interested in and listened to the explanations from artists.

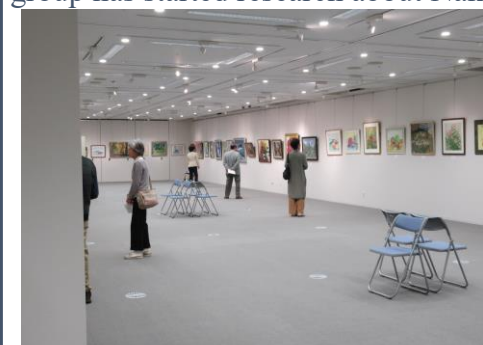


Public reading and Kamishibai (picture-card show)

On Oct. 8 public readings and Kamishibai took place at a practice room on the 1st floor. More than 100 seats were all occupied mostly by adults. Seven groups read aloud stories for children and played Kamishibai also for children. Some of the stories were written by themselves. Narrators' soft voices made the audience of middle-aged and older people feel relaxed. The writer felt that they told us how to speak - calmly, clearly and not too quickly - plays an important role in giving people good impressions.

Photo exhibition by Chigasaki Kyodo-kai

Photos taken at five historic tours by a volunteer group, Chigasaki Kyodo-kai, were exhibited on the 1st floor of City Hall from Oct. 9 to 13. They have been to Kamakura, Odawara and Hakone this year. A résumé of their studies about two Hojo families they handed over describes the history of the Hojo families in Kamakura and in Odawara. After Yoritomo Minamoto died, struggles for power started in Kamakura, and the Hojo family gradually seized power. About the Odawara Hojo family, five generations and major incidents were described. With Maruhaku-no-kai (see CW29), the volunteer group has started research about Nakajima and other villages of the Edo Period.



Painting exhibition

From Oct. 25 to 28 a painting exhibition was held at the exhibition room on the 1st floor. Western, Japanese-style and Indian-ink paintings, 78 altogether, drawn by the members of nine art groups in the city were on display. Some were colorful, and some were plain. Some reminded visitors of their distant past. Visitors would have found some paintings they liked. It was pleasant to spend a while in the new comfortable room looking at works to which painters devoted their time and energy. The good thing about art exhibitions is that they give us time to feel tranquility.

Events in November and early December

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

Painting exhibition *The 6th Shonan wind* by Sketch Club:

Oct 30 (Tues) 13:00 ~17:00, 31 (Wed) ~Nov 4 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 17:00

Wood carving exhibition *The 48th Wood carving exhibition* by Ai:

Nov 8 (Thurs) 13:00 ~ 17:00, 9 (Fri) and 10 (Sat) 10:00 ~ 17:00, 11 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 16:00

Handicrafts exhibition *Seven needles patchwork quilt exhibition* by Seven needles:

Nov 13 (Tues) 13:00 ~ 17:00, 14 (Wed) to 17 (Sat) 10:00 ~ 17:00, 18 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 16:00

Painting exhibition *The sketch exhibition* by Miyoshi kai Chigasaki:

Nov 19 (Mon) 13:00 ~ 17:00, 20 (Tues) to 22 (Thurs) 10:00 ~ 17:00, 23 (Fri) 10:00 ~ 16:00

Photo exhibition *Four seasons in Shynshu* by Setsuko Shimoida:

Nov 24 (Sat) 14:00 ~ 17:00, 25 (Sun) to 27 (Tues) 9:00 ~ 17:00

Photo exhibition *Photoshop picture show* by Group studying how to read music:

Nov 28 (Wed) 13:00 ~ 16:30, 29 (Thurs) to Dec 2 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 16:30, 3 (Mon) 10:00 ~ 15:00

Citizen Cultural Festival

The 58th Citizen cultural festival will be held at Civic Hall and City Hall until November 18 (Sun).

Performances on stage (Civic Hall)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Exhibitions (Civic Hall)

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)

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

Diabetes preventive measures

An event concerning how to prevent diabetes will take place on the 1st floor of City Hall on Nov. 3 (Sat & holiday) from 10:00 ~ 15:00. Lectures by a doctor and dentist as well as measurements of the blood-sugar level and vascular age, and exercise are planned. Various posters about health and diabetes prevention will be displayed.

H30 Chigasaki Maruhaku exhibition

The 7th Chigasaki Maruhaku Museum exhibition will take place at Nango public hall from Nov. 10 (Sat) to 16 (Fri) 9:30 ~ 17:00. The hall will be closed on the 12th (Mon). The exhibition is to provide visitors with opportunities to study about urban resources around Nango public hall and its vicinity.

Former Mayor Nobuaki Hattori passed away on October 4

The former mayor, Nobuaki Hattori, died of cerebral hemorrhage on the morning of October 4 at the age of 57. On the previous evening he was in Chigasaki Rotary Club's meeting, and suddenly squatted down around 7:30 pm while he was answering the questions. He was rushed to the city hospital, but brainstem hemorrhage prevented surgical treatment. He had taken medicines to lower blood pressure. At the funeral ceremony on the 12th about 750 dignitaries in and around the city attended.

The Civic Hall reopened on October 1, Hattori delivered a congratulatory address. Those who had attended the ceremony felt his death was very sudden. He was in his 4th term, and his tenure was until April next year. The mayoral election is to be held on November 18 (Sun).



Thanks for reading our stories. See you soon!