

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.

A flower grower in Shimoterao – Kawashima Engei

When we visited one of the [grower's greenhouses](#) in the middle of January, colorful flowers of fringed pinks, pansies, violas, primroses, polyanthus primroses, primula malacoides and many other plants had come out. Green leaves of snapdragons and ranunculus, and potted seedlings of vegetables also made several lines on the tables. Pots of other vegetable seeds were placed on a 20-degree warming mat.

Flower grower Tadashi Kawashima has engaged in the horticultural business for 45 years, after working for a major seeding company and studying agriculture in university. First thing in the morning, he takes his flowers, seedlings and vegetables to the markets of the Japan Agriculture Cooperation (JA) in Ebina and Samukawa. After returning, he takes care of the flowers in his greenhouses. In the evening he goes to the JA markets again to bring back unsold flowers. The next morning, he takes flowers to the markets again. He also sells his flowers at Umibenno-Asaichi, or the Morning Market by the Sea, which takes place on the morning of every Saturday in front of the baseball park.

As there are year-round demands for some flowers, he cultivates such flowers throughout the year by adjusting seeding times and growing rates so that he can constantly ship fresh flowers. And some flowers are in high demand at seasonal formal occasions, including graduation and entrance ceremonies, and the visiting of graves on the Spring and Autumn Equinoxes. He starts raising those flowers up to half a year in advance. He also cultivates vegetables along with flowering plants. His primary concern is to supply safe and delicious crops. Thus, he limits the usage of agrochemicals to the minimum.

His greenhouses open at 10:00. Visitors can look around the flowers and buy them in the greenhouses. He cannot afford to squander his time throughout the year. In February, however, he can find a short time to work in his garden.



Traffic accidents in 2018 almost the same as the previous year

According to the Chigasaki police station, the number of traffic accidents last year was 548, almost the same as the previous year. Casualties numbered 644, 6.7% up from the year earlier. Of the 644, the slightly injured made up 96.3%. The statistics include a car accident at the Ichirizuka crossing on Route One (see the photo) in May caused by a 90-year-old woman. She drove into the zone, ignoring the red light. The accident left one woman dead and three others injured.



Traffic accidents involving elderly people, bicycles or motorbikes each accounted for over 30% of the total, level with 2017. Over 50 accidents occurred on national and prefectural roads such as Route One, Route 134 and Sagamihara-Chigasaki road, but more than half the number was on city streets.

As was the case in 2017, the three most common accidents were rear-end, head-on and right-turn collisions in this order. Honson (31)*, Nango (27), Enzo (25), Hagisono (24), Yanagishima (24), Imajuku (22) and Akabane (20) were accident black spots. As for timing, accidents peaked, as ever, during the morning and evening rush hours. As it is always said, "Let's leave in plenty of time."

* (n) is the number of accidents.

Forty-one fires occurred in the city in 2018, a 13% drop from 2017

According to the statistics by the Chigasaki fire station, fires last year numbered 41, 13% down from the previous year. Of the 41, 30 were building fires, and of those, 18 were small fires, but 7 buildings were burned down. Fire victims last year were 15, namely 3 people, all aged over 65, who died and 12 others who were injured. The figure 15 was 60% larger than that of the previous year.

Ambulances were dispatched 11,233 times last year, 30.8 times a day, and carried 10,590 people to hospital. The number of conveyed people increased by around 3% from the previous year. It took 29 min 48 sec on average for rescue squads to take the sick and wounded to hospital from the time they received emergency calls, nearly 10 min shorter than the national average in 2016, the latest data available. As about 4,800 in the 10,590 were the slightly injured, citizens have to bear in mind that they should use ambulances properly.



Let's learn about flotsam on Shonan Beach

The lecture with the above title was held at the Takasuna community center on January 26 (Sat). A near-capacity audience (over 80), from Chigasaki and neighboring cities and towns, were attracted to the photos and graphs as well as the explanations given by Hareyuki Yamaguchi, an honorary professor at the National Defense Academy. A growing amount of marine trash has been exerting harmful impacts on fish, turtles, whales, seabirds and other marine creatures, and finally on humans through food chains, said Mr Yamaguchi.

More than 70% of marine trash is plastics. Of that, more than 60% is throwaway plastics such as PET bottles. Once plastic trash goes into the sea, it drifts around the world on the ocean currents. Huge amounts of marine trash, for example, comes to the Japanese archipelago from China, Korea, Taiwan and other Asian nations. If marine trash is exposed to the sun, wind and waves while it is adrift, washed ashore or deposited on the seabed, it breaks into small pieces. Plastic particles less than 5mm long are called micro plastics (mps), which are considered to be particularly hazardous for marine life.

Mr Yamaguchi, who has been doing research on flotsam for over 20 years, emphasized it is critically important to retrieve waste plastics on the beach, or they break into mps, which are too small to capture. Thus, regular and frequent beach clean-up is the basic measure to protect the marine environment. He also said it takes 400 years for plastics to decompose completely in the nature, and mps on Shonan Beaches are mostly styrofoam.

The lecture was jointly planned by the "Citizen group to think of the future of Chigasaki based on data" and Takasuna community center.



Volunteer groups in and around Chigasaki

NPO Shonan-Style (2)

Incorporated NPO Shonan-Style produced rice porridge in 2009 as preserved food, which can be stockpiled to provide people in case of emergency. This is a fruit of their projects to activate agriculture in Chigasaki. They learned that the rice harvested in the city was ranked low, so it is not very competitive on the market. However, rice paddies play important roles in protecting the environment. Specifically, when there is a heavy downpour, which has occurred frequently over the last decade, rice fields work as temporary reservoirs and save the area from heavy damage due to inundation. The group members found a way to process the rice into porridge which can be preserved for three years from the date of packing. (See the picture from the HP.) Rice porridge is also best-suited for use as an emergency rations. Because of its fluidity, people, regardless of age, can take it, and after a disaster, they can rehydrate more easily as it is difficult to secure other sources of water. In addition, they can consume it directly from the package, without the need for dishes or spoons. This porridge has been distributed to the Great East Japan Earthquake sufferers staying in temporary houses in Rikuzen-Takada.

The project to support the disaster-stricken areas was started by the group leader, Takahisa Warashina. He accompanied the then mayor, the late Nobuaki Hattori, to the devastated regions in the wake of the strongest ever earthquake in 2011. The project is designed to donate part of the sales, that is, when you buy 40 packs for 10,000 yen, proceeds for five packs will go to people in the devastated area. They have proposed that the project can help companies fulfill corporate social responsibilities. The proposal has gradually been prevailing among companies, facilities for elderly people and the municipal office.

災害対策は万全ですか？

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なぜ災害対策に おかゆ が必要？

災害時に1番必要なものは水分です。災害時、できるだけ水分を節約したい状況になります。各被災地からの情報によると、おかゆは水分を補給できる食糧という点で大変役に立ちます。

加熱する必要がなく、新鮮な水やお湯がなくてもそのまま食べられる、とても優れた食品であるおかゆ。食器がなくても袋のままスプーンで食べたり、スプーンがなければ口をつけてそのまま食べることもできます。袋から出て食べやすいおかゆはお子様からお年寄りまで、美味しくいただくことができます。

私たにNPO法人湘南スタイルは、茅ヶ崎における災害備蓄食糧の充実を図るとともに、地域のお米を使って「災害備蓄食糧の必要性」をPRすることで、災害時対策の意識の向上につながると考えています。

Cultural assets in the city

A lecture titled “The four cultural assets tell about Chigasaki of the modern age” was held at the city library on January 26. The former residence of the Himuro family was designated as a cultural property by the nation in November last year, which made the number of national cultural properties in the city four. The three others are Chigasaki-kan (2009)*, the former residence of the Toma family (2015) and No.1 ward of Nanko-in (2018).

The lecturer, Kanto Gakuin University professor Yoshiko Mizunuma, explained each property’s style of architecture. Nanko-in, built in 1899, was a TB sanatorium. Chigasaki-kan, also built in 1899, has been a seaside-inn. The former Toma residence, built in 1932, was a residential building of a middle-income family in those days. The former Himuro residence was built as a summer house in 1935, and extended in 1960. These buildings are made of wood, and placed in spacious gardens. The atmosphere of Chigasaki in the first half of the 20th century, as a summer retreat and health resort, is well-reflected in these houses and gardens. These properties are also treasure for all citizens. *the year designated as a cultural asset. Photo: No1 ward of Nanko-in



History of Chigasaki

Jyoshinji Temple and Kanjuro Mitsuhashi

If you walk northward several minutes along the JR Sagami Line from Kagawa Station, turn left in front of the railroad crossing, and walk straight, you will reach [Jyoshinji Temple](#). The temple belongs to the Nichiren sect, and its honorific mountain prefix is Kumazawa-san. It is said the Kumazawa family of Kagawa Village founded the temple in 1595, and the first priest of the temple was Jyoshin-in Nishikyo. Between 1861 and 1863, Kyoryu-in Nishikyo reconstructed a heptagonal hall, Jyoshin-an. In 1948 the temple was named the current Jyoshinji Temple.

On the foot of the Ginkgo tree standing at the left side of the main gate, there is the monument of Kanjuro Mitsuhashi. There were no other materials related to him, thus no details about him have been known. According to the folklore of the district, the leader of Kagawa directed villagers to improve farmland, which had relied on rainfall, by constructing an irrigation channel to draw water from the neighboring Shimoterao, or he pleaded to the feudal lord for lowering taxes amid the long-lasting crop failure, and was executed for making a direct appeal.



How to get there: Get off the train at Kagawa Station on the JR Sagami Line and walk three minutes.

Interested in Japanese Proverbs?

(1) 虻蜂取らず

(ABU HACHI TORAZU)

ABU means a horsefly, **HACHI** a wasp and **TORAZU** to fail to catch.

As a spider found a horsefly caught in its web, it went to catch the prey, but on its way the spider found another prey, a wasp, in the web as well, so it changed direction toward the wasp. But as the first prey was about to fly away, it moved toward the horsefly again, then it noticed the second prey was to fly away, it changed again. While the spider was changing its direction again and again and again, the two prey flew away. The proverb teaches if you try to get many things at the same time, more often than not you will end up getting nothing. You should concentrate on one.

The proverb was in Hananoshimadai, one of the books depicting love stories of townsfolk by Shotei Kinsui in the late Edo Period.

Its English equivalents are:

- He that hunts two hares loses both.
- Between two stools the tail goes to ground.
- Lose not the substance for the shadow.

(2) 思い立ったが吉日

(OMOI TATTAGA KICHIJITSU)

OMOI TATTAGA means to resolve, and **KICHIJITSU** the day to do it.

Kichijitsu means a lucky day, often called Tai-an kichijitsu, which comes every fifth or sixth day. Young couples usually choose these days for their wedding. The kichijitsu in this proverb, however, means the day when people think of doing something. That is, they should regard such a day as a lucky day because they thought of a thing which is worth doing. Thus, they should start doing it on the day, and need not wait for the coming Tai-an kichijitsu. Many cities have the “Do-it-now” section. “Promptness” has been important since the olden days. The proverb was in Suou otoshi, a kyogen produced in the Edo Period. In the Meiji Era it was developed to a kabuki play. Suou was a traditional cloth of men several hundred years ago.

Its English equivalents are:

- There is no time like the present.
- Procrastination is the thief of time.
- Never put off till tomorrow what can be done today.

In the 8th century, the water level became lower, and sandy fields between sandhills gradually turned into dried arable land. The old Tokaido (the main route linking east and west along the Pacific coast) is assumed to have passed through farther to the north than current Route One. There were a lot of marshes in those days along the course the current Tokaido would pass through later, but the ancient Tokaido went through more drier areas, and if there had been bridges over the Mekujiri and Koide Rivers, travelers would have been able to walk along mostly dried out places.

As for bridges, several piles suddenly appeared above rice field in Shimomachiya when the Great Kanto Earthquake occurred in 1923. Later it was found that these piles were footings of the bridge, which was constructed over the Sagami River in 1198 by Inage Saburo Shigeyoshi, a subordinate warrior of Minamoto Yoritomo, the founder of the Kamakura Shogunate. The set of bridge footings, which are a little away from the current Sagami River, were designated as one of the nation's natural monuments in 2012, marking a liquefaction phenomenon accompanying the big earthquake.

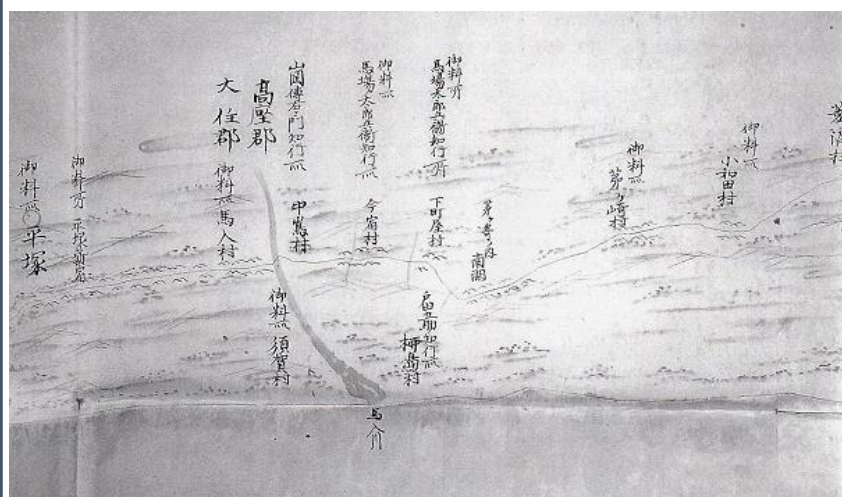
As the early modern age dawned, irrigation, flood prevention and road construction works started. These works changed the forms of natural levees and vast sandhills. By the way, the topographical maps we introduced up until the previous issue were created with the use of the achievements at the mini symposium entitled "The remains in lower zones in Shonan" in 1996.

The oldest series of observation maps of Japan is "Dainippon-enkai-jissokuzenzu", or the great Japan coastal area maps, made by Tadataka Inou, so it is dubbed "Inou-zu", or Inou's maps. He traveled across the nation ten times for topographic surveys, starting in 1800 from Hokkaido. The northernmost area separated by the Tsugaru

Strait was called "Ezochi" in the Edo Era.

He made the maps by measuring the distance with his steps, confirming longitude and latitude of each place. According to his survey diaries, he stayed at "Edoya" inn in Nango on April 22 in 1801 on his second trip, and he passed Chigasaki in 1803 and in 1805. A part of his elaborate maps secretly taken by Seybold to Europe made people there astonished, and it is conveyed that a British survey ship gave up measurements because of the existence of the extremely accurate maps.

(Picture: from the HP of Tadataka Ino memorial museum)



People in Chigasaki (8) Yasujiro Ozu

(A bimonthly serial)

Yasujiro Ozu was born at Fukagawa in Tokyo on December 12 in 1903, and lured by American movies to enter the film industry in his teens. In 1923, he started working as a filming assistant at the Shochiku Co., LMT., and moved to a movie director section the next year. Ozu also worked as a playwright with his pen name, "James Maki", named after Yukou Maki, who made a successful summit attempt on the Alps Eiger East Crest in 1921 and the peaks of the Canadian Rockies in Alberta in 1925, probably because Maki was a hero at that time who ventured to do what nobody in Japan had achieved and made a brilliant success of it.

Shochiku provides directors and playwrights with Japanese inns, as hubs of their activities. Ozu stayed at one of them, the Chigasaki-kan in Naka-kaigan in Chigasaki, for around 70 days a year from 1941 to 1955. He worked in room No.2, teaming up with other playwrights, actors, actresses, and staff members, while talking and eating with them. They were called Ozu-gumi (Ozu Team) and made the Chigasaki-kan famous nationwide.

He shot locations against the background of beautiful scenery in Chigasaki. In "Ban-shun (Late Spring)" performed by Sestuko Hara in 1941 and "So-shun (Early Spring)" by Ryo Ikebe in 1956, you can see the landscape of the Chigasaki beach and the Shonan Walkway at that time. He also wrote "Tokyo monogatari (Tokyo Story)" and shot it through a unique shooting technique called low position in 1953, which made him worldly famous. (See the photo. The standing rightmost man is Ozu, the standing lady is Setsuko Hara.)

He was fond of filming Chigasaki as a peaceful town in the countryside, because it was well-suited to depicting the ups and downs of ordinary citizen's lives. He released "Sanma no Aji (Taste of swordfish)" in 1962, and one year later, he passed away on the day of his 60th birthday. ✖I will tell you about Yukou Maki in "People in Chigasaki-9"



From Wikipedia

Hakone Ekiden Race

Tokai University in Hiratsuka, on the west of Chigasaki, won the Traditional Hakone Ekiden Race held on Jan. 2 and 3 for the first time. It was the third achievement by the universities located in Kanagawa Prefecture after Kanagawa University's two wins in 1997 and '98. From the cars running just after the runners, managers encouraged them desperately, which impressed fans along R134. The managers were quite different from their counterparts of other sporting associations, such as gymnastics, wrestling and football. These associations accused some coaches and leaders of power harassment. The writer realized the ekiden race is also a battle among managers.



Cycle race on Jan. 5 at Samukawa Chuo Koen



More than 80 riders participated in the bicycle motorcross (BMX) time race held at the newly built pump track in Samukawa chuo koen on Jan.5. The riders, who came from across the Kanto area and even from western Japan, pumped the pedals with their full strength. Prize winners finished the roughly 100m circuit course with a lot of ups and downs in ten and a few seconds.

Sae Hatakeyama, the most likely candidate for BMX of the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, demonstrated her technique. She was born and bred in Samukawa, and during the New Year holiday she stayed in her home town.



Firefighters' display

The firefighters' event was held at Chou Koen on the morning of Jan. 6. A lot of spectators watched regular and volunteer fire fighters' performances on a chilly, overcast day. Spectators were impressed by an old man-powered pump, as it was able to send water as long a distance as a state-of-the-art engine could.

Taro Kono, the Foreign Minister, said in his short speech that citizens have to have enough food, water and other necessities in order to survive the first three days, in case a great earthquake and other natural disasters occur. At least three days will be required to resume transportation systems, he said. Akio Toma, a member of the prefectural assembly, said we have to think natural disasters will surely come.

Dondo Yaki

On the last day of the three-day holidays from Jan. 12 to 14, a traditional new year event Dondo-Yaki was held in the city. The origin of the event is dated back to the Heian Period (794 to 1185). The picture was taken at Satoyama Park, on Jan. 14 (Mon) around 13:30. A park official said he felt the number of visitors was more than twice that of last year. They prepared 200 sets of twigs and dumplings, which sold out within the first 30 minutes. Around the big fire, a lot of children, their parents and grandparents gathered and enjoyed toasting dumplings in the fire.



Konan Ekiden

On the morning of Jan. 14 (Mon, Coming of Age Day), 99 teams participated in the 81st Konan Ekiden race held around Yanagishima Sports Park. Winning teams of each of five categories were: Shorin A for men's inter-regional, City Hall A for men's organization to organization, Shorin A for women's inter-regional, City Hall A for women's org. to org., and Nishihama A for mixed school children. From this time on, the ekiden race will be held along this course.

Flower Exhibition in Chigasaki

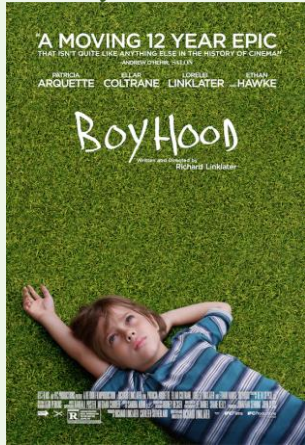
The 61st flower exhibition was held at the entrance hall of AEON Chigasaki Central Shop on Jan. 18 and 19. The city's flowering plant growers' association hosted the exhibition. The association also held the exhibition and sale of potted flowers in Nov last year. This time cut flowers were on display.



Events in February and early March

Raw Wakame Festival

A traditional fresh wakame market will be held at Chigasaki fishing port on Feb 2 (Sat) rain or shine. The sale starts at 9:00 am at the port's fish handling area. In early December, members of the city's fishing cooperative placed wakame seedlings around Eboshi rock and harvest it from the end of Jan to March. Eboshi wakame is so delicious that it is popular among those who know it and sells out by 9:30 every year. In case of stormy weather, it will be postponed until Feb. 9 (Sat).



A film screening by a volunteer group, Cinematech Chigasaki

The 47th Shonan film screening will take place, for free, at the city library on Feb. 3 (Sun). A movie entitled "Boyhood" will be shown at 12:30. The movie won several prizes at the 72nd Golden Globe Awards. Film critic Takehito Deguchi will comment on the movie after the screening. The first 50 or 60 people will be accepted.

Setsubun

On the afternoon or evening of Feb 3 (Sun), a bean-throwing ceremony will take place at [Enzōji](#), [Dairokuten](#) and [Hachioji Shrines](#) in Chigasaki, and [Samukawa Shrine](#) and [Samukawa Ichinomiya Hachiman Okami Shrine](#) in Samukawa.



Ume Festival

The traditional Ume festival will take place at Shorai-an on Feb 11 (Mon, National Foundation Day) at 10:00. The local community will set up tents for food and beverages. Children will perform *ohayashi* with Japanese drums and flutes. *Amasake*, a hot sweet white low alcohol drink, will be offered to visitors for free.



Shonan Flower Exhibition 2019

Flower growers in Chigasaki, Fujisawa and Samukawa will jointly hold a flower exhibition on the 1st floor of Terrace Mall Shonan, North atrium on Feb. 15 (Fri) from 10:00 to 21:00, and 16 (Sat) from 10:00 to 12:00. Farmers will hold gardening classes for visitors on the 15th: how to cultivate orchids (at 11:00) and vegetables (at 14:00).



The 13th Koide River Cherry Festival

The 13th Koide River Cherry Festival will start on Feb. 24 (Sun). A local group will perform *ohayashi* on the day. The opening ceremony will be held on Mar. 2 (Sat) with officials of city hall and Chigasaki tourism association as well as the Group to Live with Flowers. On the weekends in late February and early March, stalls will sell food, plants, vegetables, beverages and other goods. The photo on the right was taken on Jan. 27. These buds will open by late Feb.

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

Painting exhibition *Takasuna Sunny Bee Children's Joint Works* by Takasuna Sunny Bee Children's Art Class:
Feb. 15 (Fri) 13:00 ~ 18:00, 16 (Sat) 11:00 ~ 18:00, 17 (Sun) 11:00 ~ 17:00

Photo exhibition by the Chigasaki Silver Photo Club:

Feb. 21 (Thurs) 13:00 ~ 17:00, 22 (Fri) to 25 (Mon) 9:00 ~ 17:00, 26 (Tue) 9:00 ~ 13:00

Indian-ink drawing The 12th Koide Sumie Club Exhibition by the Koide Sumie Club:

Feb. 27 (Wed) 13:00 ~ 17:00, Feb. 28 to Mar. 2 (Sat): 10:00 ~ 17:00, 3 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 16:00

Thanks for reading our stories. See you soon!