

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.

Shonan Le Chocolat Bunzoo~ - Cake shop run by the inventor of creamy chocolate

On a mid-February afternoon, tables, chairs and potted plants on the wooden deck in front of a chocolate shop created a comfortable corner in the gentle sunlight of early spring. Various cakes, assortments of colorful chocolates and boxes of four types of creamy chocolates placed in and on the showcases in Bunzoo~ will draw visitors' eyes. The cozy shop on Teppo-michi in Naka-kaigan 4-chome has loyal customers in and around the city, and in distant



places.

Masakazu Kobayashi, chocolatier and shop owner, is noted as the inventor of creamy chocolate. He was born in Nagano

Prefecture. Before coming to Chigasaki, he

studied at a Tokyo confectionery school. While working at a patisserie near the south entrance of Chigasaki Station, he developed a creamy pie containing a lot of fresh cream. This success led him to develop a new type of chocolate years later. Continuing training for another seven years in Kobe and then in Chigasaki, he opened his own shop near the south entrance of Hiratsuka Station in 1982 at the age of 32.

In 1987 he succeeded in developing the soft chocolate after many failures. The concept of the new chocolate was: a sweet flavor first spreads in the mouth; then, the scent of milk pervades; and finally, a moderate bitter taste remains. Mr Kobayashi says the key is temperature control throughout the whole process: warming chocolate, adding milk into the melted chocolate, and cooling the mixture. The new chocolate became a great hit. This and other sweets progressed his business favorably, but years of hard work took its toll on his health. So, he sold his shop, and moved to the current place in 2009.

He looks quite healthy today. In addition to growing his business here, he has a dream to hold a pastry workshop for children to teach them many things. He also says as he was born and bred in the fruit-abundant city of Iiyama, he knows their original tastes well. When he chooses ingredients, he becomes cautious so that they do not ruin the tastes of fruits.

By the way, did you know why he named his shop Bunzoo~? It is because he was born on Nov. 3 (Culture Day, or Bunka-no-hi in Japanese). The municipal office was closed on that day, so he was called Bunzoo~ until his name was registered. <http://www.nama-choco.com/>



Pictures on the wall of a newly-opened path to the east entrance of the city hall

Citizens who walk through the city hall's east entrance may have noticed a large photo of the beach in the glass case on the wall. This and several other photos were taken by Mina Daimon, a local photographer. The black and white pictures had something to attract passers-by.

Short classical concert at the city hall

In the lunch break of Feb. 21 (Fri), vocalist Atsushi Takemura sang German and Italian classical songs to piano accompaniment by pianist Mika Suzuki. Songs composed by Mozart, Schubert, Beethoven and Kosaku Yamada together with the film music, *As Time Goes By*, and the Broadway musical song, *The Impossible Dream*, fascinated a capacity audience on the 1st floor of the city hall.

According to the vocalist, Italian noblemen would declare their love to the ladies they had in mind, from outside of the window, not only in the evening but also early in the morning. How diligent they were!



Lifelong Learning Classes at the city hall

Lectures on various subjects were conducted at the city hall from Feb. 1 (Sat) to the 8th (Sat). Three of them are summarized below.

Genetically Modified Organism – Kiyomi Omori of the Kanagawa Prefectural Institute of Public Health

Researcher Kiyomi Omori says she and her co-workers have inspected the safety of genetically modified organisms. Genetic engineering techniques have been used to provide crops with resistance to insects, diseases and herbicides; to increase their growing speed and yield; and to improve their quality. (photo on the right: tearless onions on the website of National Geographic)



Japan has never allowed the commercial cultivation of genetically modified crops (gm crops) except rose flowers, but has imported these crops from 24 countries, including the US, Brazil, Canada and China. Today, Japan allows 322 varieties of eight gm crops, including soybeans, corn, cotton seeds, potatoes and rapeseed on the market for producing cooking oils, soy sources, snacks and many other processed foods. They are obliged to display gm crops on their labels. But if foods do not contain the protein of gm crops, they can escape labeling requirements.

The total cultivation area of gm crops in the 24 countries has increased to 200 million ha from 33,000 ha over the last two decades. The quality of non-gm crops has been strictly controlled, but it is inevitable that a small percentage of gm crops gets mixed in non-gm ones, she said. The researchers have also kept checking on imported crops to confirm they do not contain illegal gm crops by using a real-time PCR (polymerase chain reaction) method.

Since last autumn, the government has allowed the distribution of genome-edited food, which is not obliged to adhere to labeling requirements because genome editing is artificial mutation, and such modification cannot be detected. Researchers are concerned about the risk of damaging useful genes in the crop-development process. If, for example, a pigment gene which warns of the creation of toxic materials by changing the crop's color, is cut off, the crop will not give color signals when it becomes toxic, and consumers will eat the toxic crop without being aware of this danger.

To save lives in heavy rain – Kenji Okada of the Yokohama Local Meteorological Office

Most natural disasters are triggered by rain, and recent torrential rain has often been caused by typhoons. However, if it were not for mountains, the strong and wet winds of typhoons would only blow over the ground and rain would not fall. This is why Hakone, in the mountains, has heavy rain even when Chigasaki has drizzle. Actually, Chigasaki had the lightest rain in the prefecture when typhoon No. 19 hit the Kanto area in October 2019. But if a cold air mass remains over a plain, warm and wet wind goes over the air mass to condense moisture into drops of water.

Under such atmospheric conditions, even the flat area can have heavy rain.

When flooding begins, people should evacuate immediately if they are in basements, underground shopping areas, underpasses and the other low places. In many cases, residents should evacuate vertically rather than horizontally. Going up to the second floor of their houses is a choice. During our flight, we should keep away from manholes, as manhole covers are easily moved away by the roiling water. Elderly people are lost after dropping into manholes every year. Landslides could occur in the city's northern area during and after a long spell of rain. In general, mud starts moving a few hours after the rain has stopped. The Websites of the

Meteorological Agency and the Yokohama Local Meteorological Office provide various information. It will be useful to browse these sites in your spare time.

Shonan Pomolon – Seiichi Kasaoka, a Bunkyo Univ Prof, and at Nozaki Farm

Shonan Pomolon is a new variety of tomato developed in 2013 by the prefectural agricultural technology center in Hiratsuka. The variety is a hybrid between an Italian tomato and a Japanese one. Its pulp is thick so that Pomolon can be eaten either raw or boiled. The tomato is cultivated by Nozaki Farm in Shimoterao, the only grower in Chigasaki. When we visited one of its greenhouses, its inside was warm and a little humid. Some Pomolons were green, some were yellow, and others were red. The tomato is put on sale at Waiwai market in Samukawa from May to July, and in Nozaki Farm shop in Shimoterao from December to May.



Seiichi Kasaoka, a Bunkyo University Professor, has been developing Japanese sweets which contain Pomolon. Pomolon jam, Pomolon yokan (sweet jellied bean paste), Pomolon dorayaki (two thin round cakes with a layer of sweet jam), Pomolon daifuku (soft round rice cake filled with sweet jam) and several other sweets have been put on sale at Misuzu, a Japanese confectionery shop. The grower and a researcher as well as City Hall hope Pomolon itself and Pomolon confectionery will grow to become one of the local specialties.



Interested in Japanese proverbs?

1) 馬鹿につける薬はない

(BAKA NI TSUKERU KUSURI WA NAI)

BAKA means a fool, **NI** to, **TSUKERU** to apply, **KUSURI** an ointment and **WA NAI** not to exist

The saying literally means there is no ointment to apply to a fool, or there is no medicine for curing a fool. We should refrain from saying this kind of offensive remark, to be sure, but we say this more often than we think. Because we cannot always have good relations with other people, and sometimes we need to refresh our mind by saying to ourselves this type of line. Everyone needs an outlet for their feelings.

The saying appeared in *Seirou Matsu no Uchi*, one of the booklets published in the mid-Edo period, which described the amusement of visitors and their comical behavior in red-light districts. Its English equivalents are:

- A fool will always be fool.
- Anes wood, never wise, ay the worse.
- Bray a fool in a mortar, you cannot make him leave his folly.

2) 不言実行

(FUGEN ZITTUKOU)

FUGEN means to say nothing, **ZITTUKOU** to practice

This saying means to do what you should do without saying one thing or another. This was an ideal attitude of Japanese men in prewar days, and quite a few elderly people still do not like loquacious men. But we live in the information age. Communication is far more important today than decades ago. Unless the leader of an organization shows his intention explicitly, no other members will be able to understand what he is thinking about. *Just do it* is not enough today.

A similar saying is in the *Analects of Confucius*, the collection of the teachings of Confucius, which was published by his disciples about 2500 years ago. That is, *a gentleman should be ashamed of himself for saying too many words, while not taking enough actions*. Its English equivalents are:

- Not words but deeds.
- Actions speak louder than words
- Doing is better than saying.

History of Chigasaki

Chigasaki Village (2) - around Honson

Chigasaki Village was bordered to the east by Kowada Village. The two villages were divided by the straight path starting at the bus stop on Route One, *Entrance to Shyorin Junior High School*, and extended to the beach. This path was once called the village borderline, and since German trader Rudolf Ratjen lived near the path in 1932, it has been called Ratjen Street. (up to here in CW45)

About 360 years ago (in 1663), Chigasaki and Kowada Villages were in dispute over the fishing ground border. The Tokugawa shogunate made a straight path extending to Eboshi rock off the coast the village border, as explained in Chigasaki Village (1) in CW45.

Ieyasu Tokugawa provided his vassals with villages in and around today's Chigasaki City. Chigasaki Village was first given to the Okitsu and Marumo families. Later, two new families, the Okabes and Babas, also became the rulers of the village, and the four families ruled the area until 1762. Then the village was transferred to the direct control of the shogunate until the end of the Edo period. The graves of the Marumo family are in Honson 5 chome and Jyoshoji Temple in Kowada.

The Tokugawa shogunate improved five major highways so that information from all over Japan would reach Edo more quickly. The shogunate measured the distance along the Tokaido, the most important road among the five, and built post stations at regular intervals. Tokaido ran through Chigasaki Village, and the 14th Ichiri zuka, a milestone, from the starting point at Nihonbashi, Edo, still stands in Honson.

The village shrine of Chigasaki was Hachioji Shrine in Honson. In the historical record which described villages of the late Edo period called "Shinpen Sagaminokuni fudo kikou", or The New Edition of Records of the Culture and Geography of Sagami Province, there is a description, saying Hachioji Shrine is the village shrine, and that the shrine is attached to the Enzoji Temple. In those days, Shintoism and Buddhism were not apparently distinguished. It was only in the Meiji era when Shinto deities and Buddhas started to be considered different.

About Ratjen Street, see CW1



Ichirizuka



Hachioji Shrine

Volunteer groups in and around Chigasaki The 8th Eco museum exhibition

Volunteer group Maruhaku-no-kai and City Hall jointly held the 8th Eco museum exhibition on the first floor of the municipal hall from Feb. 14 (Fri) to the 19th (Wed). Photos of old houses, temples, shrines, scenic spots and streets, tall trees and other things worth preserving were displayed throughout the period. Lectures on the culture, history and nature of Chigasaki had many listeners, and a piano recital by Tomomi Shimizu attracted a large audience. (About Maruhaku-no-kai, see CW29)

● In the Eco museum forum held on the dreary afternoon of the 16th (Sun), Kazuoki Ohara, a professor at Yokohama National Univ., introduced the definition of museums, part of which is “museums work in active partnership with and for diverse communities to collect, preserve, research, interpret, exhibit, and enhance understandings of the world.” He says networks of local groups play a vital role, and that the active participation of Maruhaku-no-kai is crucial for the development of the city’s eco museum project. Eco museum groups in Miura, Kaname of Hiratsuka and Chigasaki explained their activities.

*An ecomuseum is the collective activities of residents to preserve, interpret, and manage their city’s heritage.

● On the final day, Chigasaki-born pianist and composer Tomomi Shimizu played modern classical music related to Kosaku Yamada and Otojiro Kawakami. Some pieces were familiar to the audience, and others included a lot of strange rhythms and discords. Glancing at the faces of the audience, most of whom were middle-aged and elderly citizens, Ms Shimizu said, “Never try to understand modern music, just feel it.”



Invitation to Kamakura (16) Fudo Myo-o

(A bimonthly serial)

There are five classifications of Buddha statues: Nyorai, Bosatsu, Myo-o, Tenbu and those others which do not fall into those four groups. Fudo Myo-o is in the Myo-o grouping.

Dating back to about 500 AD, Vajrayana, which is known as Tantric Buddhism (Hindu-based Buddhism) or Esoteric Buddhism, developed out of Mahayana teachings in northwest India. From India, it spread to Tibet and China, and finally arrived in Japan in around the early 9th century, thanks to the efforts of Kobo Daishi Kukai, the founder of the Shingon sect of Esoteric Buddhism in Japan. Dainichi Nyorai is the supreme deity of Japan’s Esoteric Buddhism, and Fudo Myo-o is a personification of Dainichi Nyorai to send Dainichi’s messages to people.

Fudo Myo-o literally means an immovable, wise king, and has a furious, glaring face. He has a third eye in his forehead, two fangs with one pointing upward and the other pointing downward. His left eye is often closed and his teeth bite the upper lip. His aureole is typically the flames of fire, which consumes the evils and defilements of this world. He holds a sword in his right hand and coiled rope in his left hand. Using the sword and coiled rope, expressing a frightening face, he tries to guide those who are steeped in vice back to the right path with the teachings of Dainichi Nyorai.

In Japan, Fudo Myo-o is enshrined at Shingon Buddhism temples where monks perform the Fudo-ho or ritual service. The rite involves the use of a burning ceremony, a fire ritual or goma (護摩) for purification. In the mountains, lay persons or monks in yamabushi gear do rigorous training called Shugendo and pray to a small Fudo Myo-o statues they carry.

In Kamakura, you can see Fudo Myo-o at [Myo-o-in temple](#) and [Jyojyu-in temple](#). (Fudo Myo-o of Jyojyu-in Temple) →



Choice! Chigasaki campaign

The city is planning to open a michi-no-eki, a service area on an ordinary road, in Yanagishima in March 2022. Special products of Chigasaki will be displayed in the facility. Since the second half of last year, the city had promoted the “Choice! Chigasaki” campaign to select specialties, and called companies and volunteer groups to apply for the campaign. Then the city asked citizens to vote for their favorite one among 73 items applied. On Feb. 17 (Mon), twenty products to be displayed were introduced in the exhibition room of the Civic Hall. Of the 20, 13 items were foods, including a hamburger, sushi, bread and a young sardine rice cracker; and six were workshops and sport experiences such as surfing and strawberry picking. The exhibits will be reviewed every few years.

Events in February

Screening of *Swing Time* at the city library

The screening of US movie *Swing Time*, an excellent film of the 1930s, which is called the Era of Swing, was held at the city library on Feb. 2 (Sun) by volunteer group Cinematheque Chigasaki. This screening was the last time for Mr Deguchi to attend, who had commented on each film for the past four years. Perhaps, the entire audience was captivated by the excellent performances of Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers. Their dancing was beautiful and powerful, which must have made some of the audience realize that dance was similar to gymnastics. How much muscle training did they do to keep their agility? Mr Deguchi said it is impossible to make the same movie again, and thus, the movie is a mirror of the times. (Picture on the right; a member of the group gave Mr Deguchi a bouquet after the screening.)



Raw Wakame Sales

Raw wakame sales, one of the annual events of early spring, started at 9:00 on Feb. 8 (Sat) at the fish handling area of Chigasaki Fishing Port. As usual, long lines had been formed by 8:30 in front of the tables of wakame growers. The wakame was cultivated near Eboshi rock. As such fresh wakame is not a foodstuff we see at seafood shops in the city, some came from the north of the city. As usual, the longest line was formed by people who wanted to buy a shabu-shabu set of wakame and the fish caught off Chigasaki.



Plum Festival at Takasuna Greenery

Blessed with fine weather, Takasuna Greenery was crowded with people, most of whom were lured by the sound of Japanese drums and the scent of plum blossoms. Plum trees in neighboring Shorai-an were in full bloom. Local community provided visitors with amazake (white sweet low-alcohol hot drink) for free. Children's drum performances filled the greenery with festive mood. Spring is coming soon.

Flower Exhibition at Shonan Mall Fill

On February 14 and 15 (Sat and Sun), flowers raised in Fujisawa, Chigasaki and Samukawa were exhibited at the square on the 2nd floor of Shonan Mall Fill in Tsujido. Many shoppers dropped in at the corner to see spring flowers such as sweet peas, carnations and cymbidiums. On the first day, visitors voted for the flower which they thought most attractive. On the afternoon, visitors consulted growers about their problems of gardening. On the second day, a workshop for planting different flowers together in a pot was held.



Calligraphy exhibition at the Civic Hall

Kei-yu Calligraphic School held the exhibition from February 13 (Thurs) to 16 (Sun), celebrating the 30th anniversary of its foundation. Walls of the exhibition room of the Civic Hall were covered with about 180 works, whose sizes ranged from A4 to a hanging scroll to a folding screen, were drawn by Hatsukei Togami (photo on the left) and her students - elementary school children, junior high and high school students, adults and elderly people. Various word styles, including the square, (semi) cursive, scribes' and seal-engraving styles, impressed visitors by how deep the art of calligraphy is. She runs calligraphy classes at Kinro Shimin Kaikan and Youth Center.

Koide River Cherry Festival

Cancelled

The 14th Koide River Cherry Festival was to take place from Feb. 23 (Sun) to Mar. 8 (Sun). But this and most other public events were canceled or suspended because of the spread of a new type of pneumonia. On the 23rd, blessed with fine weather, visitors were strolling under full-blown Kawazu Cherry trees, which created the pink wall on the Koide River's right bank. The cherry-blossom season has come as usual, despite the confusion of the human world.

Several groups were enjoying lunch sitting on benches placed there by the local group, *The group of people who live with flowers*.



Happy Valentine's Day! Let's take photos with Eboshimaro.

On the 5th floor of Lusca, mother-child pairs formed a line to take pictures with Eboshimaro.



Events in March and early April

Most events were cancelled due to the spread of coronavirus.

Citizen Gallery (☎ 0467-87-8384) at the exhibition room on the 4th floor of N'EST-CE PAS Chigasaki
Admission free! **Cancelled**

The 13th exhibition of Sumie by the Koide Indian-ink drawing club:

Feb. 28th (Fri) 13:00 ~ 17:00, the 29th (Sat) to Mar. 2 (Mon) 10:00 ~ 17:00, the 3rd (Tues) 10:00 ~ 15:00

Eboshi photo exhibition by Photographer group Eboshi:

Mar. 4 (Wed) 13:00 ~ 17:00, the 5th (Thurs) to the 7th (Sat) 9:00 ~ 17:00, the 8th (Sun) 9:00 ~ 16:00

Saiyukai water color exhibition by Saiyukai:

Mar. 10 (Tues) 13:00 ~ 18:00, the 11th (Wed) to the 15th (Sun) 10:00 ~ 18:00

The 8th Kakushokai oil painting exhibition by Kakushokai:

Mar. 18 (Wed) to the 21st (Sat) 10:00 ~ 18:00, the 22nd (Sun) 10:00 ~ 16:00

The 26th portrait exhibition by the Chigasaki art society:

Mar. 24 (Tues) 14:00 ~ 18:00, the 25th (Wed) to the 28th (Sat) 10:00 ~ 18:00, the 29th (Sun) 10:00 ~ 17:00

Photo exhibition "Respective eyes 2020" by Kagawa photo club:

Mar. 31 (Tues) 13:00 ~ 17:00, Apr. 1 (Wed) to the 4th (Sat) 10:00 ~ 17:00, the 5 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 16:00

Events at Hagisono Care Center **Cancelled**

●Shamisen player Tatsushi Shinjoh will hold a free one-hour recital on Mar. 7 (Sat) at 13:45. Tokyo, Tanko, Hanagasa and other ondo (Japanese chorus songs often sung at bon-odori festivals) will be in the program.

●Munesuke Yamamoto's photos will be exhibited on Mar. 7 (Sat) and 8 (Sun) from 9:00 to 17:00 (to 16:00 on the 8th). The photojournalist has been taking pictures of the area devastated by the strong earthquake and following nuclear plant accidents.

Morning market in front of the Comprehensive Gymnasium and events in the city hall **Cancelled**

A mini-morning market will be held in front of the Comprehensive Gymnasium on Mar. 8 (Sun) from 10:00. Local farmers will provide fresh vegetables. The market is part of the Chigasaki Food Festa 2020. Many events related to food and health will be held on the 1st floor of the city hall.

Chigasaki City Museum of Art **Open as of Mar. 3**

●An exhibition of pictures in the collection entitled "View of daily life" is now underway. Looking at nearly 50 pictures of things and scenery the artists happened to see in their daily lives, visitors may have the sense of déjà vu. The exhibition will be held until April 12 (Sun). Admission fee (yen): adult 200, university student 100, high school student and younger, citizen aged 65 or over, and handicapped citizen and his or her care giver free.

●A picture exhibition "The artistic spirit" by high school students in the city will be held until Mar. 1 (Sun). Each picture showed its drawer's creativity and concentration and energy. The photo on the right is one of them.



The 5th Chigasaki Yose at Kinro Shimin Kaikan **Cancelled**

On March 14 (Sat) from 14:00 to around 17:00, Chigasaki Yose, or Chigasaki variety show, will take place for free at a training room on the 6th floor of Kinro Shimin Kaikan. Eight amateur comic storytellers will tell their favorite stories.

The 8th Yurui Chara Matsuri **Cancelled**

Yuruchara, or mascot characters, of several cities will gather together on the roof of Chigasaki Lusca on Mar. 28 and 29 (Fri and Sat) 10:00 to 16:00.

Unconfirmed



Softball games of Softball Japan Women's League 2020

At Chigasaki ballpark, softball games, Hitachi vs Shionogi on Mar. 28 (Sat), and Hitachi vs Toda Chuou on Mar. 29 (Sun) will take place from 13:00.

Thanks for reading our stories. See you soon!
Take care you don't get coronavirus.