

Chigasaki Wave

Chigasaki Wave Club

茅ヶ崎 ^{ウエーブ} 波 倶楽部

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

A century-old inn Witness to the city's modern history (1)

Chigasaki-kan, one of only a few inns in the city, was established in 1899, when cottages started appearing in a fishing village on Sagami Bay. Chigasaki Station had started passenger services a year earlier, which substantially increased accessibility to the village, and paved the way for its development into another summer resort of the Shonan area. In the decades that followed, government officials, politicians, intellectuals and entertainment celebrities, who would create part of Chigasaki's culture, built their cottages in coastal regions, and the beach became a popular destination for swimmers.

The 117-year-old inn began its business to provide accommodation for people, including swimmers, summer visitors and those visiting patients admitted to the sanatorium, Nankoin. Its wooden buildings, furniture, furnishings and garden still retain the atmosphere of those days. In 2009, a building featuring a tiled bath room (the photo on the left) and three other buildings were designated as the nation's registered tangible cultural properties. A wooden surfboard standing at the entrance is said to be the oldest in Japan, which provides a basis for the argument that surfing appeared in Chigasaki earlier than any other place in Japan. Today, as well as swimmers, participants for surfing contests and other marine events, the hotel attracts film fans from home and abroad. Festive events, seminars, and ceremonies of tea, flower arrangement and other enthusiasms also take place here.



URL <http://www.chigasaki-kan.co.jp/>

Pop. 240,000

W

M

City's population 240,000 More women than men

A baby girl born in late July became Chigasaki's 240,000th citizen. It took about nine years for the population to increase by 10,000. It is estimated that the populations of Chigasaki and Fujisawa will reach their peaks in 2020, while Hiratsuka's started declining in 2010. As of September this year, the ratio of men to women in the city was 95:100, smaller than those of Fujisawa and Hiratsuka, at 98:100 and 101.6:100, respectively.

Southern Beach Visitors 148,000

Around 148,000 swimmers visited Southern Beach Chigasaki during the season this year, from July 2 to August 31. The figure in July alone was 25% up compared to the same month last year, due to the long spell of hot weather and an increase in the number of visitors coming through the Ken-O-Expressway. However, the approach of typhoons and no major music concerts made it hard to attract large number of swimmers in August, according to the city tourism association. Overall, this season ended with a 5.7% drop from last season.

(On a late September evening)



<http://chigasakiwave.sakura.ne.jp/>

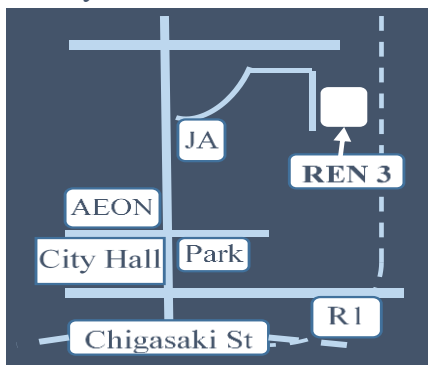
Chigasaki Renewable Energy Network, commonly known as REN, was set up in March 1999, aiming to make contributions to spreading solar power generation systems, which the government has considered to be one of the effective anti-global warming measures. The group hopes its activities will help realize a sustainable society by achieving the Kyoto Protocol.

Based on its motto, “to make good use of solar energy”, and “to generate electricity in Chigasaki and use it in Chigasaki”, REN has been educating people about solar energy by lecturing on its strong and weak points as well as how to save energy. In addition, it has constructed three solar power generation systems.

The group has so far set up two solar power systems on the roofs of two public facilities, and the third at ground level with donated funds. *Renko-Chan no.1* built in 2009 and *Renko-Chan no.2* in 2011 cost about six million yen (about 60,000 dollars) each. The third one is a new type called a solar sharing system, whereby panels are set up above farmland, so that the panels and crops share the sunlight (the photo below). The leader of REN, Hiromi Ueno, said the system is the only one in Kanagawa prefecture, and now they are monitoring what kinds of effect the panels may have on the crops.

In 2010, the group equipped all the fluorescent lights in the work room of the Support Center with canopy switches, so that users can turn on only the lights above them, and these switches made it possible to save a lot of electricity, almost equivalent to the amount that *Renko-Chan no.1* generates. Ms. Ueno’s vitality, perseverance and broad range of personal connections made the group to develop into an incorporated nonprofit organization, and achieve accreditation as a green energy generator so it is allowed to sell tradable green certificates. The URL <http://www.i-shimin.net/ren/> may provide you with more information.

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Interested in Japanese proverbs?

(1) 備えあれば患えなし

(SONAE AREBA UREE NASHI)

SONAE means preparedness, AREBA to maintain, UREE anxiety and NASHI to be free from.

If you are prepared for the unexpected, or if you do something as insurance against something unpleasant, you will never worry or panic. Stocks of food, toilet rolls, water, dry cells and other necessities, and preventive measures ranging from savings to various kinds of insurance to a flu shot will provide you with a good night’s sleep.

It is said this saying was found in the oldest history book in China, the Shujing, but it is not confined to the Orient. Organizations the world over have adopted similar sentences as their principle of behavior. The motto of both the Boy Scouts and the Girl Scouts, for example, is “Be Prepared.”

Its English equivalents are:

- Providing is preventing.
- Lay up for a rainy day.
- If you want peace, prepare for war.

(2) 旅は道連れ世は情け

(TABI WA MICHIZURE YO WA NASAKE)

TABI means travel, WA to be, MICHIZURE fellow travelers, YO society and NASAKE kindness. This saying is often used in a shorter form: TABI WA MICHIZURE.

Travelers used to have a feeling of unease, because they did not have much information on their routes or destinations. In addition, journeys were not always safe.

So they must have felt secure when they had fellow travelers. Likewise, earning livings, raising families and leading healthy lives present quite a challenge to most people. Kindness, support and other virtues offered by others greatly contribute to decreasing people’s anxiety. Mutual helpfulness plays an important role in people’s lives. This proverb was found on one of the traditional Japanese playing cards, or karuta, of the Edo Period.

Its English equivalents are:

- When shared, joy is doubled and sorrow halved.
- Friendships multiply joys, and divide griefs.
- An agreeable companion on the road is as good as a coach



Through Another's Eyes

“What’s this?” I asked as I was having lunch with some elementary school students the other day, pointing at a small rice dumpling in my soup. A few nervous glances and whispers later, “*tsukimi dango*” came the reply. It was August 15, the *Tsukimi* (moon-viewing) festival in Japan, a time to worship the moon god and give thanks for the harvest.

One of the nice things about living in Chigasaki City is that it does not feel like a city. It feels more like a fishing town with its age-old traditions and customs and an appreciation of nature that permeates people’s everyday lives. The most impressive of these for me has to be *Hamaori-sai*. One cannot help but be moved by the endurance of the *mikoshi* (portable shrine) bearers arriving at the beach after their long journeys still chanting passionately to the accompaniment of local *jinku* (folk songs).

However, it is the less obvious signs of this interrelationship with the natural world which touch me more: a bowl of *nanakusa-gayu* (seven-herb rice porridge) on January 7, to ward off evil spirits or just to give your stomach a rest after the excesses of the New Year; the *koinobori* carp streamers flying from households around May 5 to pray for sons (maybe daughters, too, these days) to be as strong and courageous as the spirited carp; and *wagashi* (traditional Japanese sweets), which represent the seasons and nature of Japan, such as *sakura* (cherry blossom) in spring, *tsutsuji* (rhododendrons) in summer, and *kuri* (chestnuts) in autumn (see also the delightful article on persimmons and red dragonflies below).

When I ask my junior high students what they like about Japan, the beautiful nature around them is always the most popular answer. In this digital world of online games and social media, it is reassuring to know that Japanese children still appreciate and value the real world around them, as should we all.

Adrian Wilson

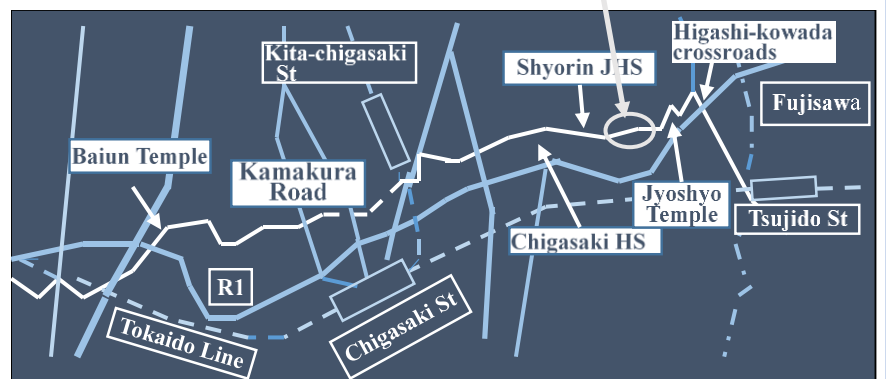
History of Chigasaki

Kamakura Highways (1)

The Kamakura Shogunate improved several major roads linking local areas and Kamakura, which were collectively called Kamakura Highways. The highways included Kyoto-Kamakura Highway, Kami-no-michi (Upper Route) from Shinano/Kozuke (the present-day Nagano/Gunma Prefectures) to Kamakura via Musashi-fuchu (Fuchu, Tokyo), and Shimo-no-michi (Lower Route) from Hitachi-no-Kuni/Boso (today’s Ibaraki/Chiba Prefectures) to Kamakura. Of these highways, Kyoto-Kamakura Highway, which ran through Chigasaki, was the most important.

The highway passed the city from east to west just north of Route one and ran parallel with it. The late Kinji Yamaguchi, a long-standing researcher of the local history, said that a lot of plate sign boards of the Kamakura Era (1185-1333), the Northern/Southern Dynasties Era (1336-1392) and the Muromachi Era (1392-1573) have been found along the road.

Starting at Gokurakuji-guchi of Kamakura, the highway passed through Katase and Tsujido, then curved north by the west side of today’s JR Tsujido Station to enter Chigasaki. The highway continued north along the border between Akamatsu-cho and Honjuku-cho, crossed Route one at the Higashi-kowada crossroads, then turned left, and went west behind Jyoshyo Temple. The temple, established in the Kamakura Era, owns a plate, on which is carved the year 1343.



You can trace part of the highway on the [Googlemap street view](#).

(Source: Chigasaki City Museum of Heritage Booklet 1)

Japanese Sweets in Autumn

Have you ever enjoyed traditional Japanese sweets? In a *wagashi* (Japanese style confections) shop, you will see several kinds of popular confections, including *manju* (small buns with bean-jam fillings), *senbei* (crackers), and *dorayaki* (bean-jam pancakes, Doraemon's favorite). Inside showcases, you may find colorful cute sweets motives of which are seasonal natural features, such as fruits, flowers and scenery. These objects also play the roles of season words in *haiku* (a Japanese short poem with 17 syllables). As you may know, Japanese people appreciate the changing seasons.

Persimmons and red dragonflies are autumn things. Red dragonflies remind most Japanese people of evening glows because there is a popular children's song which starts with 'Evening glows with red dragonflies....'. This song was composed by Kosaku Yamada, a famous composer, when he was living in Chigasaki. You probably know the melody as it comes every day at 17:00 (16:30 in winter) from horn loudspeakers in the city. Are you interested in this famous song? [Click here.](#)

Green tea or *matcha* (powdered tea) is a suitable accompaniment for Japanese sweets, but black tea is also a nice choice. Please have a relaxing teatime and touch a piece of Japanese autumn. 'Persimmon' and 'Evening Glow with Red Dragonfly' are handmade sweets and sold at まつみ (matsumi) alongside the Teppo-michi in Nango.



French Restaurant LE NICO à Ominami



French restaurant, LE NICO à Ominami, is located in a residential area of Yanagishima, west of the Hamamidaira housing complex. The white wooden building of a simple design placed in a spacious and peaceful housing complex, and the interior composed of white walls and black wooden fabrics make customers feel comfortable. There are about sixty seats altogether in the two rooms on the first floor, and ten in the private dining room upstairs.

We tried one of the four prix-fixe lunch menus, and found every dish was full of delicacies, which preserved their original tastes, and were beautifully arranged. Ample amounts of fresh vegetables served in dishes enchanted us. A staff member said these vegetables were organically grown by contracted local farmers.

It is closed on Mondays and Tuesdays. Lunch menus are from 2,800 yen, and they are served from 11:30 to 14:00 (Last Orders). Dinner menus are from 5,000 yen, and served from 18:00 to 20:30 (L.O.). You need to book at least two days in advance. Parking is available. ☎ 0467-88-0373 Location: [click here](#)

Address: 2-9-7 Yanagishima. URL: <http://le-nico-a-ominami.com/profile/index.html>

Events in October and early November

Chigasaki City Museum of Art ☎ 0467-88-1177,

URL: <http://www.chigasaki-museum.jp>

The Hokusai Manga exhibition from September 11 (Sun) to November 6 (Sun)
Admission fee (¥): Adult 700, University student 500, HS student or under free.

As we reported in the previous issue, a comfortable café, Le chemin, is open on the second floor. Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, sweets, handmade bread, and light meals are served. How about having a peaceful and relaxing time after enjoying works of art?

Hiking along the JR Sagami Line

The hiking event will take place on October 8 (Sat), promoted by Chigasaki and several other cities on the Sagami Line as well as Samukawa and Kanagawa



Prefecture. Participants can choose one of the two courses, 10.8 km or 7.5 km, both of which begin at JR Shyake Station and end at JR Ebina Station. Please sign in at the reception desk in front of JR Shyake Station between 09:30 and 10:30 before starting. It will be canceled in case of rain.

Application and inquiry: Urban Policy Section of City Hall on 0467-82-1111

First 800 applicants will be accepted. As of September 23, about 500 have applied. Enjoy walking through the autumnal colors of trees.

Civic Hall (☎ 0467-85-1123, URL: <http://www.chigasaki-arts.jp/>)

- Charity Concert commemorating the 70th anniversary of Sadayakko Kawakami's death, and the 130th anniversary of Kosaku Yamada's birth on October 1 (Sat) at 14:00 Admission fee (¥): Adult 2,500, Kids 1,000 Inquiry: Shonan Liebe Miwa on 090-5515-4448
- The 56th Chigasaki Citizen Cultural Festival (October and early November events)

Performances on stage (the Civic Hall)

Japanese Dance - Oct 2 (Sun) 10:30 ~ 17:00

Noh Chant Festival - Oct 2 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 16:00

Chanson & Canzone - Oct 15 (Sat) 13:00 ~ 16:00

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

Chorus Festival - Oct 30 (Sun) 12:15 ~ 19:00

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

Classical Concert - Oct 8 (Sat) 13:00 ~ 20:30

Classical Vocal Concert - Oct 10 (Mon, holiday) 16:00 ~ 18:00

Instrumental Trio Concert - Oct 23 (Sun) 11:30 ~ 16:00

Chigasaki Ohayashi Festival - Oct 23 (Sun) 10:30 ~ 15:30

Ginkenshibudo (Japanese dancing with a sword while reciting

Chinese poems) - Nov 3 (Thu, holiday) 09:40 ~ 16:00

Exhibitions (the Civic Hall except Chrysanthemums)

Photography - Oct 8 (Sat) & 9 (Sun) 09:00 ~ 17:00, Oct 10 (Mon, holiday) 09:00 ~ 16:00

Handicrafts - Oct 13 (Thu) 13:00 ~ 16:00, 14 (Fri) & 15 (Sat) 10:00 ~ 16:00, 16 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 15:30

Flower Arrangement - Oct 22 (Sat) 10:00 ~ 17:00, Oct 23 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 16:00

Art exhibition - Oct 27 (Thu) 13:00 ~ 17:00, 28 (Fri) & 29 (Sat) 10:00 ~ 17:00, 30 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 16:00

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

Literary art (the Civic Hall)

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

Haiku Festival - Oct 9 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 16:00

Lecture on Culture - Oct 23 (Sun) 14:00 ~ 16:00, the first 80 people to arrive

Tea Ceremony - Nov 3 (Thu, holiday) 10:00 ~ 15:00 (fee: 700 yen)

Chigasaki Velo Festival

The 5th Chigasaki Velo* Festival will take place on October 30 (Sun) from 09:00 to 16:30 at Chuo Koen, rain or shine. The festival was inaugurated in 2012, aiming to encourage more people to ride bicycles, and to enlighten people about safe riding. You can watch world-famous cyclists, including professional cyclist Fumi-yuki Beppu, who was born and raised in the city, circle a loop course around Chuo Koen. A kids bicycle race, and other events will also be held. Color-line drawings and portraits by children will be exhibited.



There will be stalls selling food, bicycle companies' booths and a safe riding promotion corner in a square of Chuo Koen.

*Velo means a bicycle in French. The picture is from the website below.

For more information, contact the Chigasaki Velo Festival Committee on 0467-95-3602

URL: <http://www.velo-festival.com>, Mail: office@velo-festival.com

A movie screening at Chigasaki-Kan

A noted movie entitled *Tokyo Story* will be put on the screen at Chigasaki-kan on November 3 (Thurs, and Culture Day) at 14:00. The movie was filmed by Yasujiro Ozu, who used to stay at this hotel while he was writing scenarios. After the screening, some memories of Ozu will be introduced, then a tour of the hotel will be offered.

Admission fee: 1,500 yen (with one drink), the seating capacity: 60 (Please refrain from bringing preschoolers.)

Application and inquiry: the group to foster love for the culture and scenery of Chigasaki, whose office is in Chigasaki-kan, Phone/fax: 0467-98-1630, email: info@chigasakikan.co.jp

As for Chigasaki-kan, see this issue's p1. About the relationships between Ozu and the hotel, the URL <http://www.chigasakikan.co.jp/> will provide you with some information in Japanese.

Thanks for reading our stories. See you soon!

