

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.

The great Kanto Earthquake and disaster prevention (3)

The Great Kanto Earthquake raised the ground near the estuary of the Sagami River. The Matsuo River, a tributary of the Sagami River, was dammed up and flooded the wide area of paddy fields and farms in Yanagishima. All the residents of the area dug a canal to drain the water, and the prefecture constructed a waterway later. These efforts stabilized the flow of the small river. In addition, the Koide River Improvement Work, started in 1957, constructed a long straight canal, which finally made the area flood-free, and turned the wet wasteland along the river into cropland. (Part of the Koide River was called the Matsuo River.)

The iron bridge over the Banyu (Sagami) River thrashed about when the quake caused the rise and cracks in the ground. Freight trains in Chigasaki Station were derailed and toppled. The railroad service returned to normal a year later, on August 15, 1924. When the reconstruction work was finished residents erected monuments in shrines and temples in token of their gratitude and mourning. Thirteen monuments remain in Chigasaki and six in Samukawa. Those monuments convey the devastating disaster and the summary of the reconstruction work.

Immediately after the Great East Japan Earthquake in March 2011, the city office hurriedly reviewed its disaster prevention manuals and found that 504 rules had to be revised. Based on the review, they decided to open evacuation centers at all primary and junior-high schools when an earthquake measuring over lower-5 on the Japanese seismic scale occurs, and stocked more emergency foods and materials at these schools. As for tsunami, officials used to think that tsunami would never come over Route 134 because no tsunami damage was recorded in the Great Kanto Earthquake. However, in preparing [the Tsunami hazard map](#), they adopted severer forecasts; the southern part of the city would be flooded with 1.2 to 2 meters of sea water, and thus secured a lot of high-rise condominiums as temporary evacuation places. Furthermore, the city expected tsunami to go up the Sagami River, and the Nakajima district to be partly inundated by 50 centimeters of sea water. They showed the areas vulnerable to fires on the hazard map, and encouraged residents to carry out fire drills to extinguish a fire at an early stage. And the city equipped a monitoring camera to observe the sea level. People are apt to forget the past disasters. As nearly a century has lapsed since the Great Kanto Earthquake occurred in 1923, the city has introduced disaster prevention programs to lessons at primary, junior-high and high schools.



The long straight canal

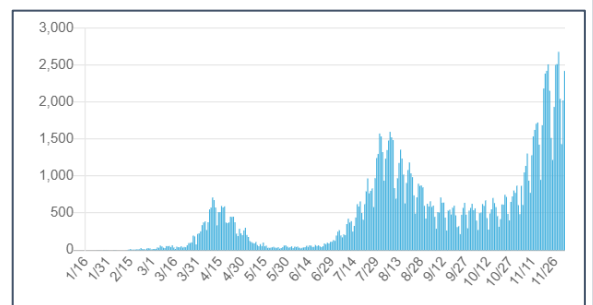


Collapsed torii in Samukawa Shrine

Amid the third wave of COVID-19

The number of new cases a day has been increasing across the nation. There is no sign of a decline in Tokyo and other major cities. New cases appear in Chigasaki almost every day, and every several days in Samukawa. Medical facilities across the nation are suffering from a serious shortage of clinical staff. Asahikawa in Hokkaido and Osaka asked Self Defense Forces to dispatch medical personnel. Avoid 3Cs, wear masks, wash hands and stay home.

(The number of the daily new cases in Japan, from Wikipedia)

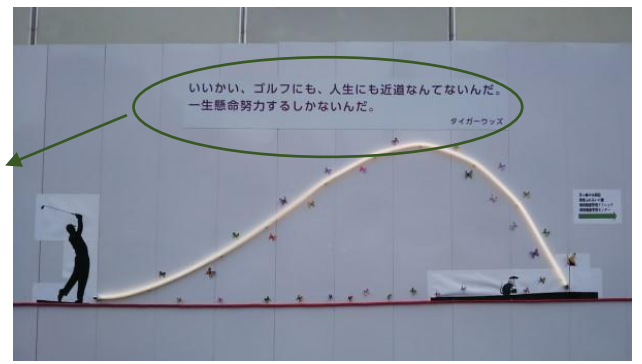


Encouraging words on a fence near Chuo Park

Some residents may know witty remarks on the fence surrounding the hospital construction site on the other side of the municipal office. Let's look at some.

Look, there are no shortcuts in golf, and there are no shortcuts in life. You have to work for it. Dream big and keep your dreams for yourself.

Tiger Woods



This saying is encouraging. Even Tiger Woods says he has to strive to achieve his targets. You can improve your golf by a lot of practice. Practice makes perfect!

You see, it is important to know yourself. Matsuko Deluxe

No one will dispute the old truth, Ms. Deluxe. Since the times of ancient Greece, "Know Thyself" has been a favorite motto of many people.

Life is doing a lot of meaningless things.

Tomozo, grandfather of chibi-Maruko

Not only Maruko, but every child wants to have such a tolerant grandfather.

The fence is lit up at night. When you pass by, read some. These words will make you feel relieved amid the coronavirus pandemic.



Shipment of Cyclamens has started

As the Christmas holidays and the New Year are drawing near, the shipment of Cyclamens has begun from the greenhouses of Negishi Farm by the Mekujiri River. The flowering plant is one of the most popular plants around this time of year. The color ranges from red and pink to purple to white, and mixtures of them. The farm grows about 40 varieties, including Plumage Cyclamen. The farm is now busy preparing for the distant-place delivery of potted flowers in cardboard boxes. The plants are also sold at the farm. For more about Negishi Farm, see CW19.



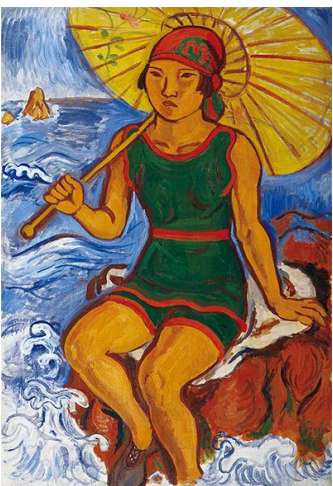
People in Chigasaki (19) Testugoro Yorozu

Testugoro Yorozu (1885-1927) is a western-style painter, who spent his later years in Chigasaki. He is a representative artist of Japan in the contemporary painting called 'Cubism'. He also depicted Japanese-style paintings in Chigasaki.

He was born in Hanamaki, Iwate Prefecture, on November 17, 1885. He learned Japanese painting at the age of 14, and also started to learn watercolor painting on his own when he was 16 years old. He moved to Tokyo in March, 1903, and became a member of the Hakuba-kai Oil Painting Laboratory in 1905. He went on to the Tokyo Art School in 1907 to pursue oil painting. He had a nervous breakdown due to overwork and a lack of sleep, and suffered from pulmonary tuberculosis in 1918. Next year, he moved to Chigasaki with his family for his treatment. He was loved by his neighbors, called 'O-ebesu sama', because he had a round face with his moustache.

He was intrigued by landscape in Shonan areas, where countryside, urban and traditional factors are merged. Especially, he felt poetic about the ocean view in Chigasaki in which some western-style houses and the Nanko-in Sanatorium, where he got medical treatment, once stood.

His masterpiece, 'Swimsuit' was highly appreciated as a painting fusing western and Japanese factors. The swimsuit the model wore was the most popular one for girls at that time. He bought it for the girl in the picture in Yokohama. At the top of the picture, Eboshi-iwa was depicted. Unfortunately, while the painting was displayed at the fifth Shunyo-kai exhibition in 1927, he passed away due to exacerbated pulmonary tuberculosis at his home at the age of 41.



Interested in Japanese proverbs?

1) 勝てば官軍負ければ賊軍

KATE BA KANGUN MAKERE BA ZOKUGUN

KATE BA means if they win, **KANGUN** the government army, **MAKERE BA** if they lose, and **ZOKUGUN** a rebel army.

It is said a civil war called Boshin War (1868-1869) gave birth to the proverb. The war was fought between the army of the just made Meiji government and that of the Tokugawa shogunate. At the beginning, the army of the Tokugawa was the regular army because the Emperor entrusted the ruling to the shogunate. However, after the government army defeated the Tokugawa's at the first battle, at Toba and Fushimi, the Emperor chose the government army to replace the Tokugawa army, and ordered the Meiji government to suppress the Tokugawa shogunate.

The saying figuratively means justice is always on the side of the winners, and the losers are always regarded as rebels. Its English equivalents are:

- Might is right.
- All is fair in love and war.
- Successful sin passes for virtue.

2) 棺を覆いて事定まる

KAN WO OOITE KOTO SADAMARU

KAN means a coffin, **WO OOITE** to cover, **KOTO** the person's reputation and **SADAMARU** to be settled.

The value of a person is not recognized while they are alive. Things people achieved are not correctly evaluated until after they are dead and buried.

If a political leader executes seemingly harsh policies, he or she will lose their reputation, even though they have the best interests of people at heart. But sometimes people learn the real value of the policies years later. Good medicine tastes bitter.

People who became famous after they died are: Edgar Allan Poe, Paul Gauguin, Gregor Mendel, Herman Melville, and many more. Some of the late Prime Ministers are also praised by what they did, for example, the privatization of the national railway. The saying is in the poem of one of the greatest Chinese poets Du Fu (712 - 770). Its English equivalents are:

- Praise no man till he is dead.
- Praise a fair day at night.
- The evening crowns the day.

History of Chigasaki

Hishinuma Village (2)

There was also Shichiri-tsugitateba at the rest spot. This was an office of the domain of Kii, today's Wakayama prefecture. Express messengers of the Kii Tokugawa Family rested there. (up to here in CW51)

The officials of the domain worked there, and their names are in the death register of the Jyoshoji Temple (see CW24) in Kowada-2-chome.

There are four gravestones in Chofukuji Temple (see CW42) in Shyorin-3-chome. Local people affectionately call them the graves of Shichiri-sama. These stones were originally placed near the office site, but were moved to this place when Route One was expanded in around



Four gravestones in Chofukuji Temple

poet, traveled Oyama Highway with ten fellows on April 10, 1952, and took lunch at the temple. The haiku he made at that time is carved on the monument with his characteristic style of handwriting.

踏みて来し雲雀が起臥の野芳し (While walking, we reached a field fragrant with the smell of flowers, and we see larks ascending and descending over the field.)

On its back, his companions' haiku are inscribed. The monument was unveiled on March 8, 1953. At the unveiling ceremony, the 18th head of Shigitatsuan, Houjyo Suzuki, was present. As she left her woven hat behind, the chief priest sent the hat back to her.

忘れ傘して梅の香が偲ばるる (When I remember having left my woven hat behind, I reminisce about the scent of ume blossoms all the time.)

The haiku above was on her thank-you letter. It is also inscribed on another monument in the precinct.



Chofukuji Temple

1935. "Secular name Syotaro three years old 1857" is inscribed on one of the stones. It was built by his parents who worked at the office far from their home province, wishing the comfort of their son in the other world.

There are many stone monuments in the precinct of

Chofukuji, a temple of the Shingon sect in Shorin. Going through its main gate, you will see a monument of "Traveling Oyama highway to write haiku" on your left. Kuichi Ida, a haiku



Kuichi's haiku

Invitation to Kamakura (20) Tsurugaoka Hachimangu Shrine – Hongu

The main shrine (Hongu) of Tsurugaoka Hachimangu Shrine, built by Yoritomo Minamoto in 1191, was engulfed by a fire in 1821. The Hongu we can see now is the one which was rebuilt by Ienari Tokugawa in 1828. (see the picture on the right)

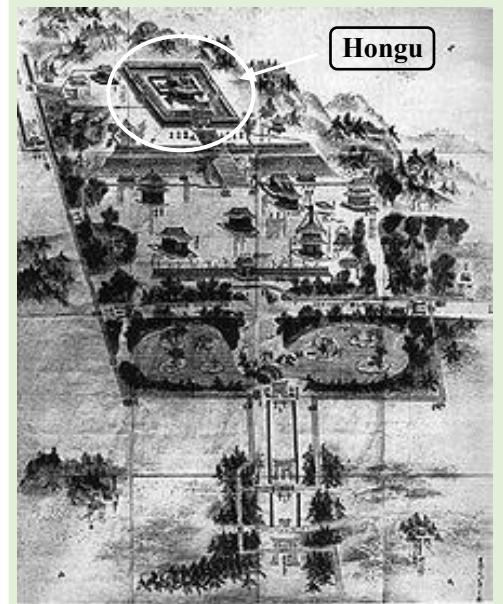
The Hongu consists of three halls: the Main Sanctuary, the Offering Chamber, and the Worship Hall. The architectural style of the whole building is called Nagare Gongen-zukuri.

Nagare Gongen-zukuri is one of the most typical architectural styles in the Edo era. In this style, Gongen-zukuri is used in a combination of a Nagare-zukuri building and other buildings. They are connected to each other by a stone passageway called Ishinoma as a whole building. The term Gongen implies Ieyasu Tokugawa as the greatest shogun in the Edo period, so this style is associated with the magnificence of his time. The Main Sanctuary is built in Nagare-zukuri, the roof of which is streamlined and projects outwards on one of the gabled sides, making up the eaves at its end. The building is connected with the Offering Chamber and the Worship Hall through a stone passageway, and as a whole, the Hongu looks so gorgeous.

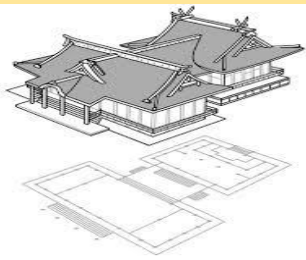
The Hongu features extensive lacquer work and ornate carvings. We can see a large number of the crests of the three comma-shaped figures in a circle on the ends of the rafters. The crest symbolizes

a protection against fire. Each wooden nosing at the end of a penetrating tie beam is carved with richly colored designs such as flowers, birds, or animals. It is interesting to note that the traditional Japanese architectural method doesn't use a single nail, screw or glue. Shrines and temples in Japan are built by just joining beams and posts directly with highly skilled carpentry.

(To take pictures of Hongu is prohibited.)



Tsurugaoka Hachimangu during the Edo period (from Wikipedia)



Gongen-zukuri



Nagare-zukuri

Creatures that herald the arrival of winter



Owls have come again. The nocturnal birds usually come at the end of October, and tell local people of the arrival of winter (the picture on the left).

Winter sunflowers have become one of the seasonal features of Samukawa. The tourist association lit up the sunflowers in the sports park.

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

Events in October and November

Exhibition of cloisonné ware, photos, woodcuts and mobile sculptures by Shonan Art: Oct. 29 (Thurs) to Nov. 1 (Sun)

Woodcuts, cloisonné ware, sketches, and mobiles were exhibited. Four groups, 50 members in total, are among citizen groups supported by the city's culture & lifelong learning section. Each group gathers once or twice a month for



practice. The joint exhibition has been taking place for several years. The work at the upper left, a cloisonné plate, was displayed at a prestigious exhibition in Ueno, Tokyo.

The 41st woodcut exhibition by woodcut group Ai: Nov. 5 (Thurs) to the 8th (Sun)

The forerunner of the group, Ai, was established in 1982 by the citizens who learned woodprint at the Tsurumine Community Center. They have held the exhibition twice a year at the city library since 1983. In the late 1980s they entered their works in various exhibitions and many of them were awarded. Since 1992 the group has held the exhibition at the Citizen gallery at this time every year. They have sent birthday cards to elderly citizens in 31 nursery homes for 35 years, entrusted by the local social welfare council. The photo on the right was awarded a prize at a prestigious exhibition.



The 6th photo exhibition by Photoshop study group: Nov. 11 (Wed) to the 16th (Mon)



Citizens who took photography classes sponsored by the municipal office formed the group in 2007. Since then, members have improved their photo processing technique themselves. About 70 photos were displayed. Some were created by combining several photos, some were simplified by removing unnecessary objects from them, and others were expanded, maintaining the clear images of the original pictures. The group has made the diaries of the city library for five years.



Picture exhibition by Ritsu Yamashina

The walls were covered by pictures which looked as if they were photos. Mr Yamashina is fascinated by spectacular colors nature shows momentarily. Many pictures were drawn on the beach (see photos at the lower left). The sea shows various scenery depend on the weather, the time, the season and many other conditions. He still goes abroad every year for beautiful scenery (see the photos below).

He had held solo exhibitions at the citizen gallery for years. However, this was the last one at the gallery.



Some of these exhibitions will be displayed online by the municipal hall.

Go to https://www.city.chigasaki.kanagawa.jp/bunka_shogai/gallery/1005639.html

Art works by junior high school students in Chigasaki and Samukawa

Various art works of the students of 16 junior high schools in Chigasaki and Samukawa were on display at the city museum from November 14 to December 6. This exhibition started about 40 years go, and has been held at the city museum since 2004. Discussing these works, art teachers think how much they have achieved in their common targets to stir students' inner world, and let them think about something through creation.

Visitors felt students' skill and enthusiasm, and were surprised at their precise sketches.



Events in December to February

The 60th citizen cultural festival online

Performances of nine groups will be posted on the internet by the end of this year.

(Tanka, Tea ceremony, Music concert, Instrumental trio concert, Public reading and Kamishibai, Artistic handicraft, Festival music and others.)

Go to https://www.city.chigasaki.kanagawa.jp/bunka_rekishi/1040726.html



Daruma market

The Daruma market will open on December 27 at around 3 pm at Dairokuten Shrine in Jittukenzaka on Route One. The Daruma (a red doll believed to draw good



fortune) sold in the shrine is called Soshu Daruma made by three long-established companies in Hiratsuka.

2021 Hakone Ekiden

The nation's most traditional and oldest ekiden race will be held on January 2 (Sat) and 3 (Sun). As usual, 21 teams in the Kanto area (20 university teams and one team consisting of selected runners from the other Kanto universities) are to take part in. Top runners will run through Hamamidaira-iriguchi at around 11:00 am on Jan. 2 and 10:10 am on Jan. 3.



The 15th Shonan International Marathon

The Shonan International Marathon will be held in February 28 (Sun) 2021. The runners will run on a 25km circular course, shorter than usual to keep runners away from the coronavirus infection. They are to start near Seisho-bypass Oiso Nishi (Osi west) Interchange, and then to run the circular course between Oiso Ko (Oiso fishing port) Interchange and Oiso Ninomiya Interchange 2 and a half times, and then go to the finish line near Oiso Nishi Interchange.



The 83rd Konan Ekiden

The second oldest ekiden in Kanagawa cancelled.

The 83rd Konan Ekiden



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

The 8th Shosaiten (picture exhibition) by Kawasaki Atelier: Dec. 9 (Wed) 13:00 ~17:00, the 10th (Thurs) to the 12th (Sat) 10:00 ~ 17:00, the 13th (Sun) 10:00 ~ 15:30

Thanks for reading our stories. See you soon!