

Chigasaki Wave



Chigasaki Wave Club

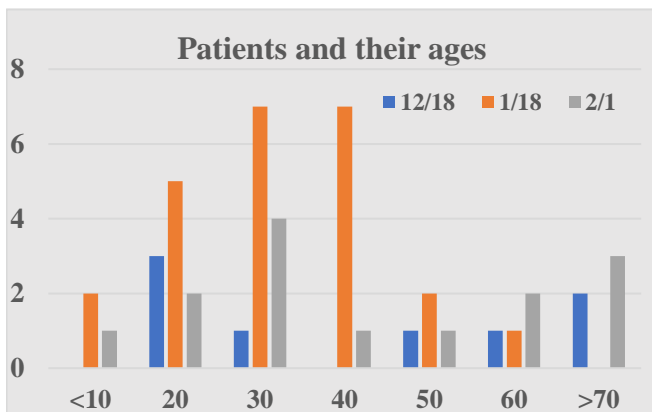
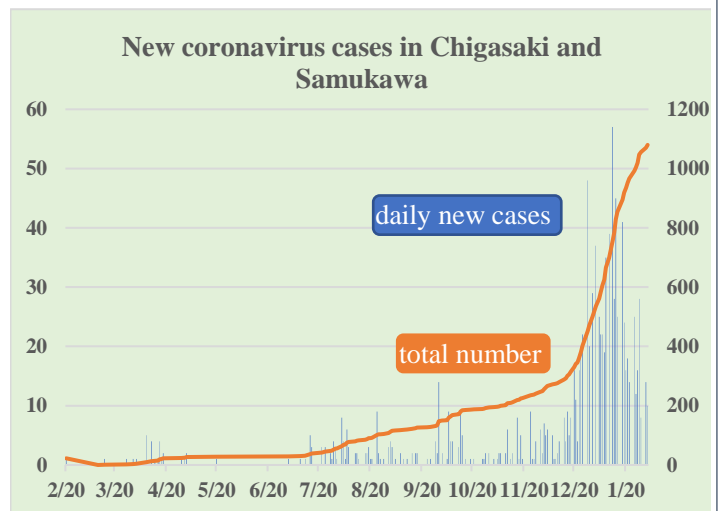
茅ヶ崎 ^{ウェーブ} 波 倶楽部

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

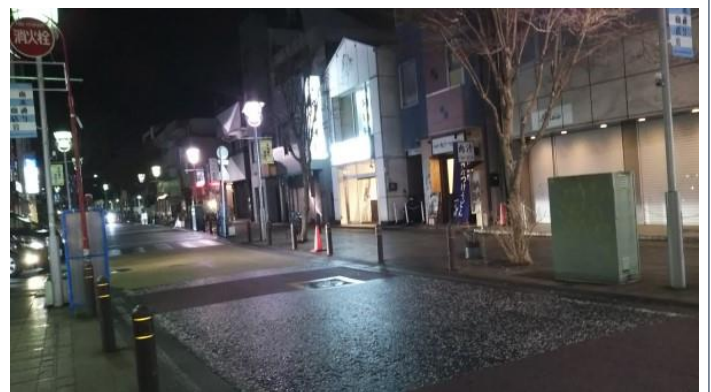
Coronavirus pandemic in Chigasaki

As with many cities in Kanagawa, the total number of corona cases has climbed steeply since the second half of December. However, the number of daily new cases began to decrease around January 20, 36 days after the *Go To Travel* campaign was suspended on December 14, and twelve days after the state of emergency was declared for the Tokyo Metropolitan area on January 7 (see the graph on the right). It indicates, as specialists said and against Prime Minister Suga's opinion, to decrease the flow of people and to stop group dining was effective. Fortunately, almost all patients in the city had mild symptoms.

The bar graph below indicates the age distribution of the patients found on three separate days. As reported in Tokyo, people up to 40 accounted for large percentages in Chigasaki. As they go various places, they are more likely to be infected with and to spread the disease. This also shows *Stay Home* is the best measure.



The photo on the right was taken near the southern entrance of Chigasaki Station around 20:30 in late January. Most of the restaurants on either side of the street were closed. (Data: City HP)



Ambulances were called 10,445 times in 2020, a 9.6% drop from the year earlier

Ambulances were mobilized 10,445 times last year, decreased by 1,098 from 2019, and rushed 9,809 people to hospitals. The annual figure corresponds to 870 times a month and 28.6 times a day.

Of the 9,809 people transported, 6,384 were elderly people (65 and older), and 4,125 were mild cases. If mild cases have to be taken to hospital, this necessarily delays the conveyance of serious cases. The fire station says it will keep asking citizens to use ambulances considerately.



There were 40 fires in 2020, the same number as in 2019. Buildings burned in 25 cases. Eleven people were injured, but no fatalities were reported. For a few cases, arson or tobacco is believed to be the cause of fire. (Source: City HP)

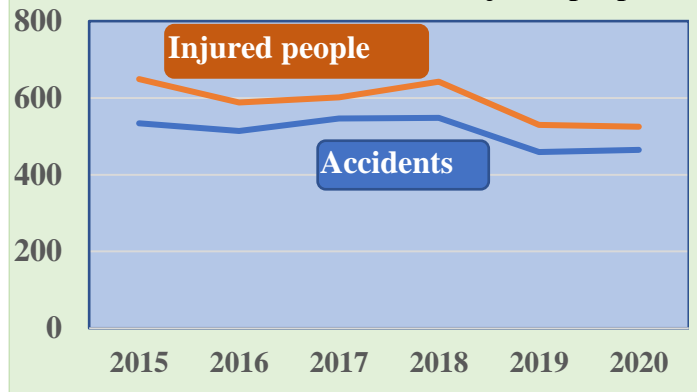
Traffic accidents in the city in 2020 increased by 1.3% from the previous year.

The number of traffic accidents causing injury last year was 465, up 1.3% from the previous year. There were no fatalities in 2020 compared to 5 in the previous year, and 97% of the 525 injured people received minor wounds, a similar percentage to the year earlier. These two figures have dropped since 2019. See the graph on the right.

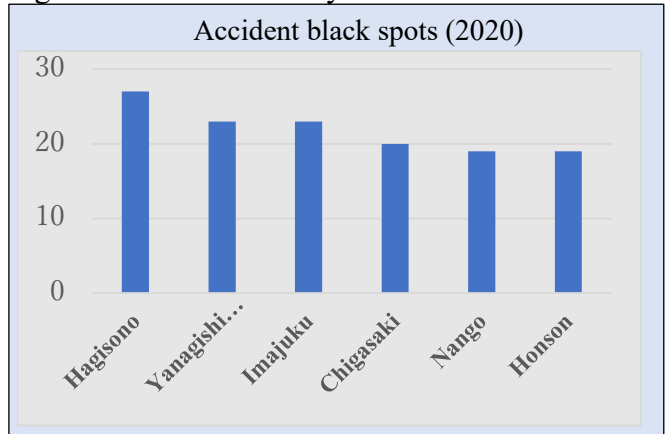
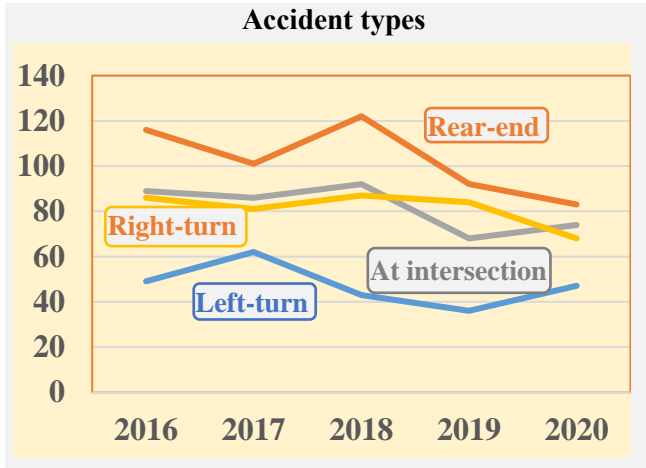
Among the four most common collisions: rear-end, right-turn and left-turn collisions as well as collisions at intersections, rear-end collisions have substantially decreased (the figure below), and this has contributed to the drop in the number of total accidents.

Area-wise, Hagisono, Yanagishima, Nango and Honson have been accident black spots for the past several years.

The numbers of accidents and injured people



The figure below shows last year's data.



Accidents do not always occur on busy streets. Most accidents, 61% last year, have recently occurred on city streets, and those on R1 (15%) and on R134 (9.9%) followed. Elderly people were involved in 171 accidents. The figure slightly dropped from the year earlier, but still accounted for 36.8% of all accidents last year.

Kanagawa Prefectural Police are encouraging motorcycle riders to ride more safely. A motorcycle policewoman lectures on safe riding on several-minute videos. Go to <https://bit.ly/2GPRinB>

(Source: Chigasaki Police Station)



Interested in Japanese proverbs?

1)明日ありと思う心の仇桜	2)過ぎたるはなお及ばざるがごとし
ASU ARITO OMOU KOKORO NO ADAZAKURA	SUGITARU WA NAWO OYOBAZARU GA GOTOSHI
ASU means tomorrow, ARITO there is, OMOU to think, KOKORO NO mind, and ADAZAKURA cherry blossoms which fall soon. The cherry blossoms, which are expected to be in full bloom tomorrow, may be scattered by the gale of the night. This is part of the <i>tanka</i> (31 syllables Japanese poem), composed by holy priest Shinran, when he visited Shoren-in Temple to enter the Buddhist priesthood at nine years old. High priest Jien of the temple told the young Shinran that let's put off the acceptance ceremony until the next day, as it was late. Opposing the proposal of Jien, Shinran responded with the above <i>tanka</i> , which is in Shinran shonin eden, Shinran's illustrated biographies. It was mostly published in the 1300s. A similar saying tells us when you have received a delicacy, you should eat it before the day is over, as the taste may turn stale during the night. Its English equivalents are: ●It is good to take the day before you. ●Let all live as they would die. ●Defer not until tomorrow if you can do it today.	SUGITARU means excessive, WA to be, NAWO still, OYOBAZARU not enough, GA to be, and GOTOSHI the same. There is a limit to everything. Too much is as bad as too little. Thus, it is best to observe moderations in all things. An old saying put it this way, "Virtue takes the middle course." Everyone dislikes excessive kindness. But excessive kindness is usually motivated by entirely good intentions. There once were obliging elderly people everywhere, and they regarded it their responsibility to take care of young neighbors. Such people were not always loved, but they played quite important roles in building a slightly restricting but warm society. This proverb is in the Analects of Confucius, the record of the dialogues between Confucius (BC 552~ BC 479) and his followers. Its English equivalents are: ●Too much of one thing is not good. ●More than enough is too much. ●Too much spoils, too little does not satisfy.

Chigasaki Haiku Federation

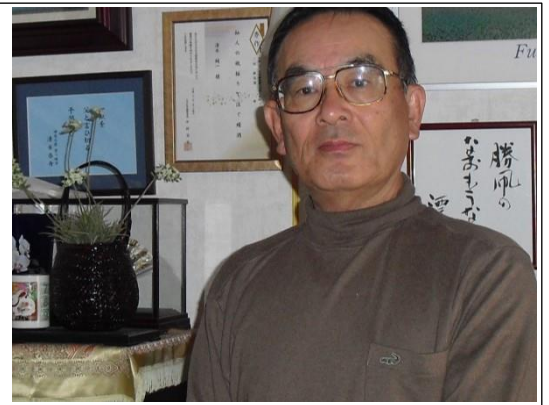
The Chigasaki *Haiku* Federation consists of eleven *haiku* groups. The smallest group has seven members, and the largest has 25. The federation is a subsection of an organization established by the city in 1960 to promote citizens' cultural and artistic activities. Of the eleven groups, four are hosted by Shimizu Donshu, who has been the chairman for eight years. The members of his groups have enjoyed working out Japanese seventeen-syllable (mainly 5-7-5) poems, which have been known these days as the shortest poem around the world.

Everyone can easily start composing the *haiku* because its sole restriction is that the Japanese poem has to have *kigo*, or a season word, for which an animal, plant, event or custom of the season is used. Today's style was developed in the Edo period (1600~1868) by Basho, Buson and Issa as well as by Shiki in the Meiji period (1868~1912). They said the *haiku* should be formulated with only essential words. They tried to spread *haiku* as vigorous popular culture so that it could match wits with the *waka* (5-7-5-7-7), which has been familiar among the aristocracy since the Heian period (794~1185).

A monthly *haiku* class proceeds as follows: members submit three *haikus* using assigned season words to a senior member in time for the coming class; Donshu prepares the list of these *haikus*; in the class, each member chooses ten favorite *haikus* from the list; a member on duty reads aloud selectors and *haikus* they selected; then Mr Shimizu and accomplished members comment on all the *haikus* on the list, and give each member advice; and lastly Mr Shimizu assigns three season words to members, and they compose three *haikus* using each season word for the class in the next month. The host stresses that haikus have to have easily understandable meanings and conjure up a clear image in one's mind, as well as being both inspiring and elegant. Good *haikus* have all these characteristics.

Shimizu Donshu considers the once-a-month meeting to be a favorite pastime of senior citizens so he is trying hard to keep holding the meeting even under the coronavirus pandemic by taking enough care of preventive measures. He started *haiku* after his retirement, and now he fulfills the tasks he assigned to himself; to go up for 31 newspapers and magazines every week, in addition to improving on about 100 *haikus* the members composed every month. He also says tips for gaining proficiency are reading more and composing more *haiku*.

Basho: 松尾芭蕉, Buson: 与謝蕪村, Issa: 小林一茶, Shiki: 正岡子規, Donshu: 清水吞舟



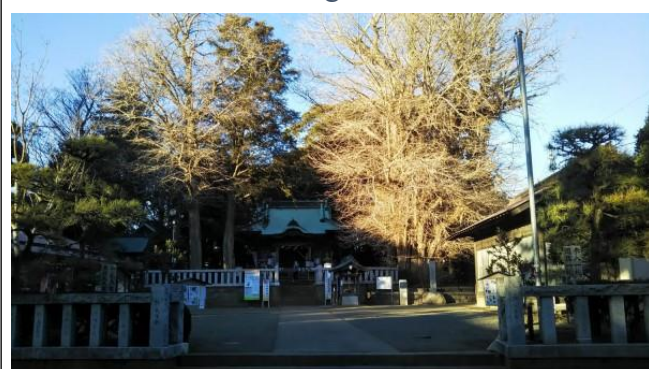
Shimizu Donshu

History of Chigasaki Mikoshi Michi (1)

About forty mikoshi, or portable shrines, of Shinto shrines in Chigasaki and Samukawa go to Nishihama Beach to perform their ablutions on Marine Day*. The ritual is called Hamaori Festival, one of Kanagawa Prefecture's intangible cultural assets (see the photo on the right).

*Marine Day: July 20 until 2002, and then the 3rd Monday of July

The folklore about the origin of the festival goes as follows. The mikoshi of Samukawa Shrine used to attend Konomachi Festival in Kaminoyama, Oiso, every year. One year, on its way back home, the mikoshi fell into the Sagami River. The shrine asked the villages by the sea to search for the missing mikoshi. A few days later, while Magoshichi Suzuki, a fishermen's boss in Nango, was engaging in net fishing, he happened to catch the mikoshi in the net. Magoshichi hurriedly informed the shrine that he had picked up the mikoshi from the bottom of the sea, and the mikoshi was returned to the shrine without any damage. Since then, Samukawa Shrine has purified its mikoshi on Nishihama Beach every year. It is also said that Tsurumine Shrine in Chigasaki did its ablution on June 29 earlier than Samukawa Shrine.



Tsurumine Shrine



Mikoshi used to go along the route called Mikoshi-michi, or the streets mikoshi go along, to the beach on Marine Day. Residents used to bear their mikoshi to and from the beach, but nowadays mikoshi leave their shrines before dawn, and are then conveyed by car to the shrines near the ritual site or the parking lots of Nishihama Beach because of traffic control and a shortage of bearers.

In those days, the mikoshi of Tsurumine and other nearby shrines gathered near the Toriido Bridge on route one, and waited for Samukawa shrine's mikoshi. Then these mikoshi stood in line with Tsurumine shrine's at the head, and the group went east along route one in convoy.

Seiichi Takahashi (1883-1968) served as the vice director of the ‘Nanko-in’ in Chigasaki for around 37 years. It was one of the best sanatoriums in Asia at that time. In addition to playing an important role in leading medical activities, he contributed to developing preschool education in Chigasaki.

He was born in Miyagi Prefecture in 1883. His father was an elementary school teacher. He learned at the medical department of Tohoku University. After graduation he started working at the Nanko-in in 1909, because he admired Koan Takata, the director of the Nanko-in, and wanted to learn medicine under the instruction of Koan. In 1914, he married Miyako Toki, who also worked there as a doctor. In 1921, when the Junsui-kan Silk Industry was constructed near the north exit of Chigasaki Station of today, he was commissioned as the mill’s doctor. His wife



the site of Junsui-kan Silk Industry

opened Seisen-do Hospital on her own in the same year. He helped her hospital while he was serving at the Nanko-in and the mill.

He underwent baptism in 1909, and started holding meetings at a Christian group, Keisen-kai, and Sunday schools at the Nanko-in. His activities led to the founding of Chigasaki Church* in 1928. He also strived to develop preschool education, and established Keisen Kindergarten, the first kindergarten in Chigasaki, in 1940. Furthermore, he served as the school doctor at Chigasaki Elementary School and contributed to improving school children’s health and welfare

for 40 years.

During WWII, the Imperial Japanese Navy thought the US would land on Japan, and stationed personnel in part of the Nanko-in, but occupied the whole of the sanatorium after Koan passed away in February 1945.

After WWII, the US army requisitioned the facility to use it as the US Garrison in 1946. The sanatorium was never reconstructed despite the effort of Koan’s sons and Takahashi. He had served as one of the Chigasaki City council members from 1947 to 1959, while serving as the school president and doctor of ‘Heiwa Gakuen’. He passed away in 1968, at the age of 85.



*Chigasaki Keisen Church of the United Church of Christ in Japan. See the photo above.

Setsubun, the day immediately before the beginning of spring

February 2 (Tues), instead of the 3rd, was Setsubun, the day before the first day of spring, for the first time in 124 years. Why Setsubun moves between Feb. 2 and the 4th is because the moon goes round the earth once in not just 365 days, but 365 days and 6 hours. The next Setsubun on Feb. 2 is in 2025.

By the way, to avoid the *Three Cs*, the bean scattering event was called off at many shrines. At Samukawa Shrine, men and women of ages at 24, 36, 48 and other multiples of 12 throw beans from the stand every year (the photo on the right).



But this year, three bags of beans were offered to every visitor (the photo on the left). As it



was warm and comfortable like a spring day, as many people as usual came to the shrine.

Did you eat a traditional food of Setsubun, Ehomaki (the photo on the right)? While eating, did you turn to south-southeast where this year’s god is?



Events at Civic Hall (☎ 0467-85-1123) Admission free!

Exhibition of tie-dyed works

Fukaishi tie-dyeing school held an exhibition of tie-dyed works at the Civic Hall from January 16 (Sat) to 19 (Tue). On display were about 100 works of art in total, ranging from tablecloths, furoshiki and tapestries to bags and umbrellas to kimono.

There was furisode, a ceremonial kimono for a young woman. A father made it for his daughter, and she wore it at her coming-of-age ceremony. The exhibition was held for the first time in three years due to COVID-19.



Art and craft exhibition by Sho-no-kai, a social welfare corporation

The 22nd exhibition was held from January 21 (Thurs) to the 27th (Wed). The theme of the exhibition was “The things I like”. The exhibition room on the 1st floor was filled with countless works.

There were pictures of friends, trains, insects, flowers and many more. Tapestries and *sudare* were on the walls.



Chigasaki City Museum of Art (☎ 0467-88-1177)

Works by Toru Kuwakubo were exhibited until February 7 (Sun). At the exhibition named “A Calendar for Painters without Time Sense. 12/12”, 12 paintings were displayed, and each of them was named as, for example, Pablo Picasso’s studio (January), Edvard Munch’s studio (February), and Johannes Vermeer’s studio (March). Vincent Willem van Gogh, Modigliani Amedeo, James Ensor, and Paul Cézanne were also among the 12 noted painters.

Visitors were deeply impressed by large works with bright colors and elaborate sketches. To protect themselves from coronavirus, visitors stood before each painting for shorter periods than usual, but they probably wanted to look at these works for longer in a relaxed mood to understand and feel them.

Events in January and early February



The 29th Family Duo Concert



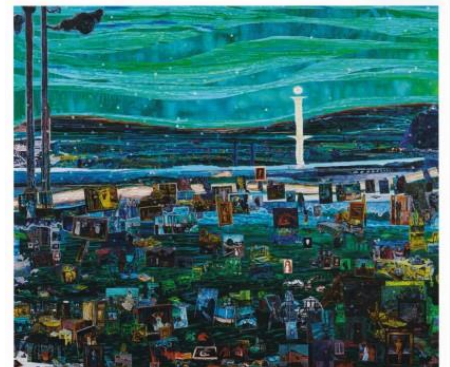
Participants after performances

A mini concert was held at the small hall of the Civic Hall on the afternoon of January 24 (Sun). Six amateur groups participated: four sang familiar songs in the chorus; a group of four psalter players performed Edelweiss and three other familiar songs in concert; and a duo played handbells. The concert with a long history has been held at this time every year, and usually more than 100 people (performers and audiences) gather from various areas of Kanagawa Prefecture. As the government announced a state of emergency on January 7, only about forty people gathered this year.

Three-dimensional works were also displayed. There were mobiles, topographical maps, and crafts with cardboard.

Reflecting the lasting coronavirus pandemic, a great number of originally designed masks were displayed.

Many of these works indicate artists’ enthusiasm and concentration. Some had beautiful colors, and others had good sketches. Visitors seemed to have pleasant time.



桑久保徹

2020.12.12 sat - 2021.2.7 sun 茅ヶ崎市美術館

Events in February

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

The Wind of Shonan (picture exhibition) by Sketch-no-kai: Feb. 9 (Tues) 13:00 ~ 17:00, the 10th (Wed) to the 14th (Sun) 10:00 ~ 17:00

Picture exhibition by New Wave: Feb. 16 (Tues) 12:00 ~ 21:00, the 17th (Wed) to the 20th (Sat) 9:00 ~ 21:00, the 21st (Sun) 9:00 ~ 17:00

Civic Hall (☎ 0467-85-1123) **Admission free!**

Photo exhibition entitled "Ten years of Fukushima" at the exhibition room on 1F by Peace Café Chigasaki: Feb. 26 (Fri) 11:00 ~ 20:00, the 27th (Sat) 9:30 ~ 16:00

The traditional Ume Matsuri, or Plum Festival, at Shorai-an was cancelled.

Thanks for reading our stories. See you soon!