

# 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.*

## Coronavirus infections and progress in vaccination

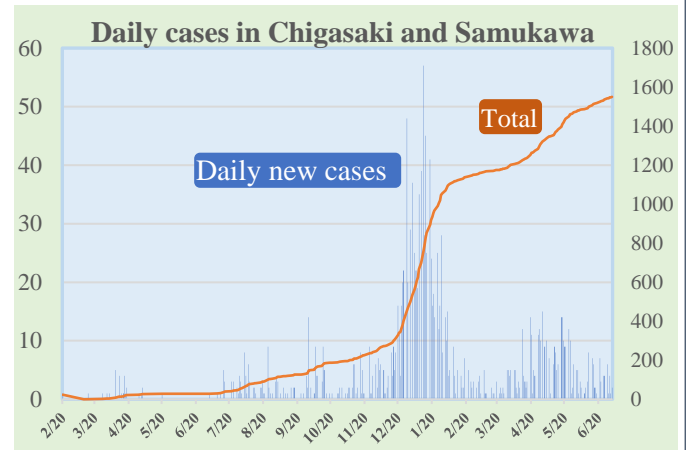
The number of daily new cases in Chigasaki showed a downtrend in June, but it does not mean the pandemic will subside anytime soon. People have learned that the peaks and troughs of infections come alternately. During the last few weeks, daily cases in Tokyo have been higher than those on the same day the week before. Medical specialists warned in early June that Tokyo would face a fifth wave soon. In addition, the Tokyo Olympics are opening in less than three weeks, and more people will be on the streets.

Chigasaki increased vaccination sites, and vaccination days at each site from June 14 (Mon), responding to Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga's comment that vaccination for people ages 65 and older would be finished by the end of July, and that the number of daily shots nationwide should reach one million.

In addition, vaccination was newly started at ULVAC, Inc., a Chigasaki-based vacuum equipment manufacturing company, on June 21 (Mon).



A new vaccination site, Community Hall



Data: City HP

In Kanagawa Prefecture as of July 3 (Sat), about 67% of elderly citizens received one shot, and 28% two shots. The city has not released the vaccination rates, but it is assumed that the rates in Chigasaki have reached similar percentages. (Fujisawa: one shot 54%, two shots 29%, Samukawa: one shot 59%, two shots 15%)

Quite recently, the government announced that the supply of the Pfizer vaccine would decrease from July through September. Municipalities complained they needed more information so that they would be able to reschedule the vaccination program for people ages 64 and younger. Suga's plan to finish vaccination for all the people in autumn will certainly be delayed.

## The city's population is still increasing

According to the 2020 census results released by the prefecture in June 2021, the city's population as of October 1, 2020 was 242,603, the largest ever. The number of men was 117,669, and that of women 124,934.

The table indicates the city's population has kept growing, which seems to be associated partly with many condominiums near the JR station. However, the growth rates are growing smaller and smaller, suggesting the figure is going to level off, and then start to descend at some future time. Among neighboring cities and towns, Fujisawa and Samukawa are still growing, but Hiratsuka and Kamakura look as if these cities have already past their peaks.



Census data

Year	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
Population	212,874	220,809	228,420	235,081	239,348	242,603
Plus in 5 years		7,935	7,611	6,661	4,267	3,255

## Flowers of the season

### Hydrangea

Japanese people have considered hydrangea to be a flower of a rainy season called 'Tsuyu' since ancient times, just like cherry blossoms herald the arrival of spring, and are used as a seasonal subject in poems, pictures and Japanese-style confectionaries.

Now, we see many kinds of bred varieties produced for ornamental uses in Japan, Europe and the United States. The shapes of these flowers are like spindles or temari balls, and their colors are white, pink, blue, red and purple. However, the foundation stock of the bred varieties produced in Japan is native *H. macrophylla*, commonly known as 'Gaku-ajisai', which blooms blue calyxes circling around about ten-centimeter-flat-inflorescence.

Hydrangea is also known as 'Seven changes in color', or 'Shichihenge' in Japanese, because some varieties containing anthocyanin change the colors of their blossoms: blue in acidic soil and red in alkaline soil. It is said aluminum makes the flowers blue, and aluminum ions in acidic soil are absorbed by the flowers but in alkaline soil, aluminum does not ionize. Meanwhile, regardless of the pH of the soil, hydrangea blossoms change their color: new flowers are faint yellow, and via white, gradually become each variety's original color. When it comes to the plant, there is an interesting story widely known in Japan.

As Japan was closed during the Edo era, a German doctor and natural historian, Siebold, who pretended to be a Dutchman because only Netherlanders were allowed to enter Dejima, in Nagasaki, took Japanese hydrangea to his homeland, bred a new variety there, and named it after his Japanese wife 'Otaki-san'.

Impressive views of hydrangea in Hasedera, Jyoujuuin and Meigentsuin in Kamakura are well known, but there are nice viewpoints in Chigasaki, too, along the Koide River and in Satoyama Park.



On the Koide riverbank

## Honeyland, a movie showing Macedonian reality

A movie entitled 'Honeyland' depicting the solitary life of a woman and her blind and sick mother living on bee-keeping in the stark wilderness of [North Macedonia](#) was screened on June 25 (Fri) twice, from 2 pm and 6 pm, at the small hall of the Civic Hall. It was hosted by the International Association of Chigasaki and its North Macedonia Exchange Group. Before the screening in the afternoon, the temporary acting ambassador of North Macedonia, Cristina Stoicevisca, extended her gratitude to the mayor and people in Chigasaki because the city would have welcomed Macedonian athletes to the Tokyo Olympics for pre-camps but it was cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic. She added that the movie is a documentary film portraying the lives of a female beekeeper and her mother living in an abandoned village. Filming of the movie lasted for three years. Honeyland was nominated for the Academy Awards.

In the movie, a middle-aged woman lives in a small rocky house without electricity or tap water, taking care of her mother who is confined to a small crude bed, and a dog and a cat. She walks to the edge of a cliff to collect honeycombs and walks for four hours to the capital city of Skopje to sell her honey which has a reputation for having good qualities at a market. Her living has been humble and peaceful. She often says, "Half for me, half for you," to share honey, a natural blessing, with bees.

One day a large family with a herd of cattle moves in her next door. The head of



Ms Stoicevisca (right) and the reporter

the strange family is so greedy for money in order to bring up seven children that he takes away all the honeycombs from the bee hives without leaving any for the bees. Thus, the bee populations become weak, and cannot produce a lot of honey. Furthermore, the family loses many cattle due to an epidemic disease, and leaves the land. She retrieves her quiet life but is at a loss because she has lost many necessities for living. Countless bees have vanished. The well has gone dry. And her sick mother has died. However, she resumes walking to the cliff edge to collect honeycombs.



Why don't you leave this place?



## Interested in Japanese proverbs?

1) 大事は小事より起こる

**DAIJI WA SHOJI YORI OKORU**

**DAIJI** means a great thing, **WA** to be, **SHOJI** a small thing, **YORI** from, and **OKORU** to occur

A great thing comes from a small thing. Lumps of snow falling from trees can trigger avalanches, and fires mostly occur from carelessness with burning things.

A 1657 conflagration, one of the three big fires in the Edo period, killed 107,000 people and burned down about 2,000 houses and temples. It started from a burning kimono; during a memorial service for a dead daughter, the parents burned her long-sleeved kimono. The wind blew the burning kimono to the main building of the temple, and it kindled the building.

The saying is in a Chinese book named Laozi. Its English equivalents are:

- A great fire comes from a little spark.
- A little neglect may breed great mischief.
- Great things have small beginnings.

2) 盗人の昼寝

**NUSUBITO NO HIRUNE**

**NUSUBITO** means a thief, **NO** of, and **HIRUNE** a nap

When a thief is taking a nap, he is not just sleeping. He rests his body for the work at night. Or in everything one does, there is an intention others cannot notice.

Middle-aged and elderly people will be familiar with such movies and TV drama in which a man who looks as useless as a lamp in broad daylight (*hiruandon* in Japanese) is a skilled night burglar, and he gives money he steals from rich people to those living in poverty. But this proverb does not refer to such kind-hearted burglars, but to wrongdoers.

The proverb is in *Keisei-omoi-masuya* of *Jyoruri* written by Kino Kaion. Its English equivalents are:

- Everyone is witty for his own purpose.
- He that wipes the child's nose, kisses the mother's cheek.
- Things are seldom what they seem.

### History of Chigasaki

### Heidayu Shinden (1)

There were twenty-three villages in the area of today's Chigasaki in the Edo period, but the villages that capped *Shinden* onto their names, numbered only one, *Heidayu-Shinden*. *Shinden* means land reclaimed for cultivation from wasteland or the basin of a large river. Warlords in the Age of Civil Wars developed farmland. And in the Edo period, the Tokugawa shogunate, feudal domains, villages as well as farmers and other villagers continued this development by permission of the shogunate. It is said the reclamation continued throughout the Edo period, and the area of cultivated land across the nation doubled.

*Heidayu-Shinden* was cultivated by Heidayu Matsushita. He died in 1621, and his grave is in the village, according to the topography of the Edo era, the new edition of Sagami province topography (province topography).

His memorial column, a gravestone with a hat, the height of which is about 1.5m from the top to the bottom of the pedestal, is still in the village shrine, [Hachiman Shrine](#). On its front, *odaimoku* (the Nichiren chant) and "Santeiin Hogenkoji Matsushita Heidayu", and on its side, 1705 乙酉九月朔日 (September 1, 1705), and thirteen names are carved. They belong to three families: Hirai, Hibi and Tomita, all of the three were thought to be early settlers. The province topography suggests that the memorial column was established 85 years after Heidayu died.

As no other information on Heidayu Matsushita has been found, it is unclear what sort of a man he was. The



Hachiman Shrine



Heidayu-Shinden



Heidayu's memorial column

folklore of the district says he was a vassal of the Toyotomi Family, which was defeated in the Summer Siege of Osaka in 1615. Residents of Heidayu Shinden hold a memorial service for him in front of the column on December 1.

## Invitation to Kamakura (23) Bushido

(A bimonthly serial)

The term, *bushido*, is sometimes used to represent the embodiment of our Japanese mindset. It originally signified the samurai warriors' moral codes concerning samurai attitudes, behavior and lifestyle, which sprang up from the harmony of Zen Buddhism and the samurai spirit in the Kamakura era (1183~1333).

In the Kamakura era, *bushido* was called 'Way of the Bow and the Horse', which stands for samurai moral values such as propriety, fidelity, austerity, valor and honor until death. After that, *bushido* was developed further and formally used as the term in law by the Tokugawa shogunate in the Edo era (1603~1867). *Bushido* underwent many changes by adopting two other religions, Shinto and Confucianism. Various Japanese clans interpreted it in their own way, and what they did have in common was that they thought by using the philosophy of bushido, warriors could become stronger technologically and spiritually. To ingrain bushido concepts in samurai warriors, many books were written about *bushido* through each writer's interpretation.

One of them was 'The Book of Five Rings' by Miyamoto Musashi (1584~1645). He was a swordsman, philosopher, strategist, writer and master-less samurai (*ronin*). He was also a sword saint of Japan, and the founder of the *Niten Ichiryu* style of swordsmanship, in which he used two swords at the same time, a *katana* and a *wakizashi*, creating an undefeated record in his 61 duels. He mercilessly trained himself throughout his life with martial arts and Buddhism. The Book of Five Rings is well known all over the world. You will learn what *bushido* is through the book.



## Events in June

### Chigasaki Wind Symphony Concert

A local orchestra called Chigasaki Wind Symphony held its regular concert at the large hall of the Civic Hall on July 6 (Sun), commemorating its 20th anniversary. In three parts, popular songs, and classical music, including symphonies, were performed: in Part I, Ceremonial March by Takamasa Sakai, "Do you hear the people sing?" and several other tunes from Les Misérables as well as two other pieces of music; in Part II, medleys of Demon Slayer (Kimetsu no Yaiba) hits, Southern All Stars songs, and Hibari Misora hits; and in Part III, Othello by Alfred Reed were performed. The audience was mostly comprised of regular customers. The hall was filled with a relaxed mood.



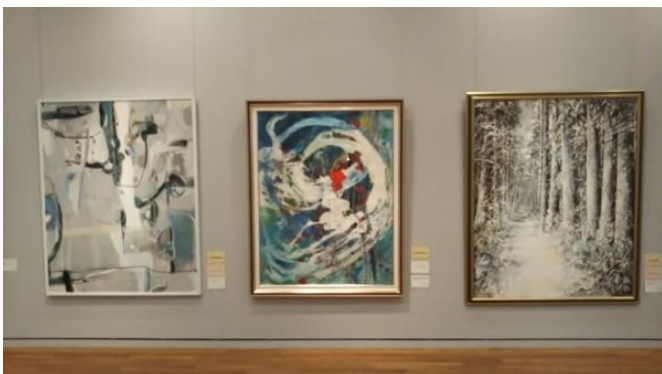
From CWS's HP

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

The 39th Exhibition of Chigasaki Artists Association has been open since June 15 (Tues) for the first time in two years.

On exhibition are forty works by the members of the association, and forty-three entries by citizens.

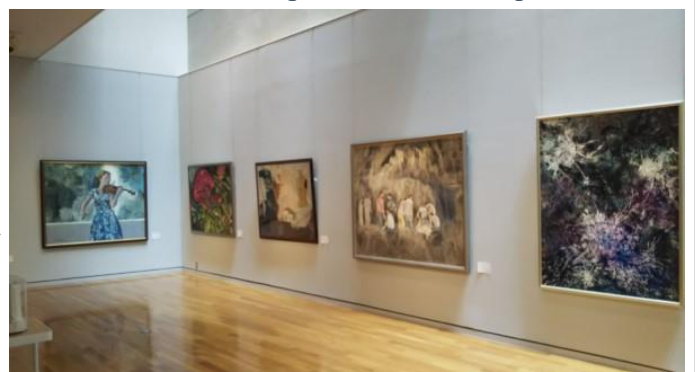
Three exhibition rooms were filled with a quiet, comfortable and artistic atmosphere which was quite different from



outside on the afternoon of a rainy day. Most of the pictures caught the eye of the visitor, and provided them with a pleasant time.

Three pictures above by citizens were awarded. The painters may qualify as new members of the association.

The exhibition will be held until July 11 (Sun). Admission free.



Works by members



## Torch kiss instead of the torch relay

As the coronavirus infections have not subsided, the torch relay was cancelled. A “torch kiss” was held, instead, at Tsujido Kandai Park in Fujisawa on June 28 (Mon) without spectators. Runners who were to have carried the torch from Hakone through Hiratsuka and Chigasaki to Fujisawa participated. They stepped onto the stage and received the flame from the previous participants. The torch relay in Tokyo and three neighboring prefectures were all canceled.

There has been no upsurge of public opinion yet, and citizens feel as if the Olympics will be held in a distant land.



Asahi Shimbun

## Chinowa Kuguri at Samukawa Shrine on June 30 (Wed)



A big wreath made of Chigaya, a variety of a rice plant, a few meters in diameter is called a Chinowa, a grass ring, and a ritual in which visitors walk through the Chinowa is called *Chinowa Kuguri*. In Samukawa Shrine, the Shinto ritual was carried out on June 30 (Wed). Before the ritual, visitors wiped their clothes with a paper cutout of a human figure to remove bad luck and worries accumulated in their bodies in the first half of this year.

By the way, do you know how to walk through the ring? See the photo below.

After you walk through the ring (1st), walk anti-clockwise and return to the original point (in front of the ring), and then walk through the ring again (2nd), and walk clockwise this time to the original point. Then go through the ring (3rd) toward the main hall.



God will help you lead a happy life in the second half of the year.

**2020**  
**The Cultural Festival in CHIGASAKI**  
**60th Anniversary**

オンライン  
**茅ヶ崎市民文化祭**

主催/茅ヶ崎市・茅ヶ崎市民文化団体協議会・後援/茅ヶ崎市教育委員会

※YouTubeで動画配信!

行事名	主催部会	参加団体
市民音楽祭	茅ヶ崎音楽部会	湘南レガリスエコー・松林まよがせパピエ・ミュージック松林・コー・ワーク・湘南吹奏楽部・茅ヶ崎吹奏楽部・茅ヶ崎吹奏楽部・茅ヶ崎吹奏楽部
三曲演奏会	茅ヶ崎音楽部会	湘南吹奏楽部・茅ヶ崎吹奏楽部・茅ヶ崎吹奏楽部・茅ヶ崎吹奏楽部
放送劇	茅ヶ崎市民文化団体協議会	茅ヶ崎市民文化団体協議会
紙芝居と鶴舞の会	茅ヶ崎市民文化団体協議会	茅ヶ崎市民文化団体協議会
茅ヶ崎お囃子まつり	茅ヶ崎市民文化団体協議会	茅ヶ崎市民文化団体協議会
菊花展	茅ヶ崎市民文化団体協議会	茅ヶ崎市民文化団体協議会
工芸造形展	茅ヶ崎市民文化団体協議会	茅ヶ崎市民文化団体協議会
短歌大会	茅ヶ崎市民文化団体協議会	茅ヶ崎市民文化団体協議会
茅ヶ崎市民文化団体協議会	茅ヶ崎市民文化団体協議会	茅ヶ崎市民文化団体協議会
伊藤の樹	茅ヶ崎市民文化団体協議会	茅ヶ崎市民文化団体協議会

こちらから文化祭のページにアクセスできます。▶

## Online 2020 Cultural Festival in Chigasaki (60th Anniversary)

You can watch plays, a picture-story show, bird watching and other cultural activities of citizen groups on YouTube.

<http://www.chigasaki-bdk.sakura.ne.jp/fes.html>

## Events in July

### Usual Summer will come back to Chigasaki Beach

Sunbathers can enjoy the Southern Beach for the first time in two years, from July 17 (Sat) through August 31 (Tue). As of July 6 (Tue) beach houses were under construction. The number of them looks smaller than usual.

Beaches in Chigasaki, Hiratsuka, Fujisawa and three beaches of Miura will be open, but those in Kamakura, Oiso, and Manazuru will not invite sea bathers for two years in a row.



About 1,820,000 people visited Chigasaki in 2020, a drop of 760,000 or 29.5% from the year earlier. This is ascribed to the cancellation of four major events, and the beach being closed due to the corona pandemic. As Tokyo and three neighboring prefectures still have substantial numbers of daily cases, visitors as many as in usual years will not be expected. But a placid Southern Beach will surely provide visitors with a quiet time.

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

Calligraphy Exhibition, Our calligraphy world by Chigasaki cultural group association calligraphy section:

July 22 (Thurs) 14:00 ~ 18:00, the 23rd (Fri) and 24th (Sat) 10:00 ~ 18:00, and the 25th (Sun) 10:00 ~ 17:00

Poster Exhibition by Juvenile Instructors Association: July 31 (Sat) and Aug 1 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 16:00

**The Tokyo Olympics are starting on July 23 (Fri).**

**Enjoy the games at home.**



Thanks for reading our stories. See you soon!