

Chigasaki Wave



Chigasaki Wave Club

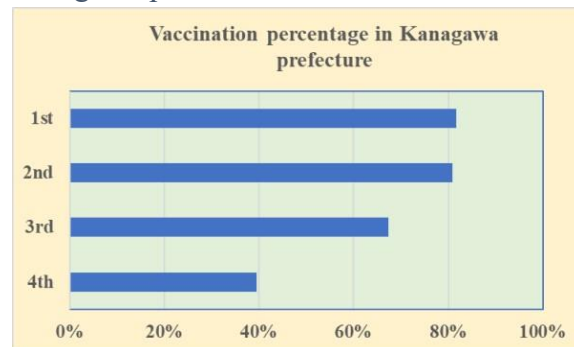
茅ヶ崎 ^{ウェーブ} 波 倶楽部

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

The eighth wave of COVID-19 is growing

The figure on the right shows daily coronavirus cases within the district of the Chigasaki health center. There is a growing tendency in infections in the last 20 days. The increasing trend in infection is more obvious in Kanagawa prefecture as a whole. The eighth wave is gaining momentum towards winter. Medical experts are concerned that hospitals may be deluged with flu patients and those infected with coronavirus. Thus, the government hopes that the new vaccines designed for Omicron BA.4/5 will be administered to as many people as possible within the year.

The figure below shows the percentages of residents of Kanagawa prefecture who had been vaccinated from one to

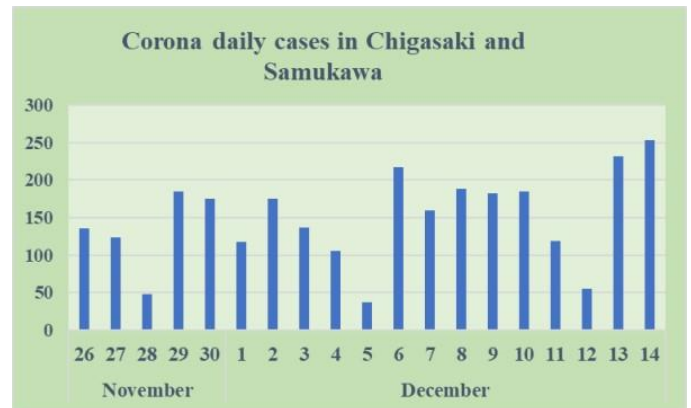


four times

until December 13 (Tue). Only 40% of people of the prefecture have received four shots. It is natural to think that the fifth shot was given to fewer people.

Doctors reiterate that vaccination is one of the most effective measures against the infection. Many people who are planning to return home at the end of the year seem to be getting vaccinated. Whatever the reason may be, to get vaccinated is a safe and reliable way to protect yourself and people around you.

(Source: website of the prefecture)



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The 50th Chigasaki Folk Entertainment Festival

The folk entertainment festival was held at the Civic Hall on the afternoon of November 27 (Sun). The event was carried out by the city's preservation association, and began with the playback of a video, and Mayor Hikaru Sato's greeting.

The residents of Yanagishima, Enzo, Serizawa, Akabane, and Nango danced to the rhythms of each area's traditional song. These songs are labor songs as well as folk songs. When farmers celebrated bumper crops, fishermen drew up their boats bearing big-catch flags on to the beach, and people celebrated festive occasions, they sang these songs together. Some of them are designated as the city's important cultural assets.

Enzo Matsuri Bayasi, or the festival music of Enzo, has its roots in banquets at Kageyoshi Oba's estate about 800 years ago. Kageyoshi was a lord of Futokorojima and a vassal of Yoritomo Minamoto.

High and junior high schoolers participated alongside middle-aged and elderly people. They should play a major role in preserving this local culture in the future.

Left photo: Mayor Sato,
Right photo: Yakigometuki-
uta by Serizawa women.



Flowers of the season Heavenly bamboo

Heavenly bamboos grow naturally in western and central Japan. Ibaraki Prefecture is the plant's northernmost habitat. At the new year, twigs of the plant are commonly arranged with other auspicious plants, and placed at the alcove of a traditional Japanese room. Its Japanese name Nanten (南天) has the same pronunciation as the word Nanten (難転), which means to change misfortune to good fortune so its small branches are used on celebratory occasions. The perennial bushy trees produce red berries in winter so that people believe the trees have power to dispel evil. Its leaves contain a minute amount of highly poisonous hydrogen cyanide, but because of a very small amount, the leaves are practically nontoxic, and they are used as an antiseptic material for New Year dishes, festive red rice and fish dishes.



Heavenly bamboo belongs to Berberidaceae. Leaves come out massively from the top of the trunk. The deep-green leaves are alternate, and pinnately branched. The trees bloom white blossoms with six petals on the tips of twigs in June and July. Birds are fond of the red berries. They convey the seeds to various areas so that the plants distribute widely. Thus, young heavenly bamboo trees sometimes appear in housing lots before residents find them. In the Edo era, various improved breeds were cultivated, and among them, a variety bearing white berries was bred.

Dried berries are used as medicine. Trunks are brown, and thick trunks, which are very rare, can be used as alcove posts. For example, the tea ceremony room in Kinkaku-ji Temple in Kyoto, and the saloon in Shibamata-taishakuten in Tokyo have such alcove posts. However, it takes decades for a trunk to grow thick enough to be used for a post because trunks separate into many thin ones near the root.

History of Chigasaki

Amanuma Village (1)



Hachiman Shrine

A picture drawn in the late Edo period (~1868) shows Hachiman Shrine located at the center of the picture, and a mountain forest spreads north from the shrine. There are dozens of trees assumed to be pine trees. The area is on the hillside, and includes part of today's Shonan Country and Three Hundred Golf Clubs. South of the village is mostly fields, and paths crisscross through them. Each path is dotted with houses with a thatched roof. A few paddy fields are only on the west of Hachiman Shrine. The picture shows that on the foot of a steep slope, there are settlements and fields. Villagers seemed to irrigate rice fields with water from a pond just below the shrine.

皇国地誌 (the topography by the Meiji government) says the pond (numa in Japanese) used to be a lake. Thus, the pond may have something to do with the name of the village. Most of the paddy fields were located on today's Matsukaze-dai area (a slightly elevated hill where winds blow through pine trees in English).

Looking at the city map, you will find Amanuma Village is located slightly north of the city center. The village spreads on a south-facing steep hill in the Koide district. Amanuma was bordered on the east and south by Akabane, on the west by Kagawa, and on the north by Tsutsumi and Shimoterao Villages. 新編相模風土記稿 (the new edition of Sagami province topography) describes: there were 29 houses; the Hori family was the lord; Magosaburo Kondo, a vassal of the Odawara Hojyo family, ruled Amanuma from the 1470s to the 1570s; the village shrine was Hachiman Shrine; and there were two temples, Kitsusho-zan Orinji Temple (the Soto Sect) and Amanumasan Jyoju-in Temple (the Shingon Sect).



Towards south from the park near Hachiman Shrine



Appreciation of Winter Sunflower

The winter sunflower field to the south of Samukawa Shrine was opened to the public from November 23 (Wed) to the 25th (Fri). As Samukawa Town Tourist Association grows sunflowers on private land, the area is usually closed. Just before the opening days, a Tokyo TV station came to take pictures. Residents and people from nearby cities were strolling along the paths, and took pictures. Despite it being during the week, adult couples, children and mothers, and young families were enjoying looking at the carpet of yellow flowers.

Interested in Japanese proverbs?

1) 鬼に金棒 (ONI NI KANABOU)

ONI means an ogre, NI with, and KANABOU a metal rod.

An ogre is strong by nature. If he gets a metal rod, he will become invincible. The saying figuratively means when outstanding people obtain something which adds value to them, they look particularly attractive and capable.

The saying is in 史記抄, or *shiki-shyo*, a record of lessons on ancient Chinese historical record. It was completed in 1477.

Its English equivalents are:

- Fortune is the rod of the weak, and the staff of the brave.
- Hercules with the distaff.
- Strength added to strength makes one invincible.

2) 釈迦に説法 (SHAKA NI SEPPO)

SHAKA means Buddha, NI to, and SEPPO to preach

The saying literally means teaching Buddhist doctrine to Buddha, or a layman gives lessons to an expert, and figuratively means making a useless effort. This saying is often used when we start speaking, for example, “I am sure you already know about this, but...”

The saying is in 国姓爺合戦, or *Kokusenya katsusen* a classical puppet play written by *Monzaemon Chikamatsu*, and premiered in Osaka in 1715. It was rewritten for a Kabuki play later.

Its English equivalents are:

- Teaching your grandmother to suck eggs.
- Don't teach fish to swim.
- Sending a sow to Minerva.

People in Chigasaki-32 Yoshi Yasumochi

(Bimonthly serial)

Yoshi Yasumochi (1885-1947) was born in Ehime Prefecture on August 20, 1885. She graduated from Imabari High School and went on to the Department of Japanese Literature at the Japan Women's University in Tokyo in 1904. Unfortunately, she had to leave the school because she suffered from tuberculosis, and was hospitalized in the 'Nanko-in', a tuberculosis sanatorium, in Chigasaki in 1906.

She contributed to medical studies and education in exchange for exemption from her medical expenses, while working as a clerk and a nurse at the sanatorium. Some hospitalized writers depicted her as a college student who was willing to let her body be used for developing all kinds of new therapies and drugs, and called her a 'guinea pig' in their novels.

When Doppo Kunikida, a famous Japanese writer (1871-1908) was hospitalized in 1908, he was a very selfish patient, but he followed only what Yoshi said. Yoshi also met a classmate who was a patient there, Taka Hiratsuka. She was an older sister of Raicho Hiratsuka. Yoshi came into close contact with Raicho, who often visited the sanatorium to see Taka.

In 1910, Yoshi recovered from the illness, left the sanatorium, and returned to the school. She lived at Raicho's house in Tokyo, and contributed to publishing 'the Seito', Japan's first women's literacy magazine produced by Raicho. Yoshi shuttled between Tokyo and Chigasaki for a while, but she retired from the Nanko-in to work at the Seito company as a clerk and married a patient at the sanatorium in 1913. She also posted her haiku poems depicting scenes of ocean views in Chigasaki to the magazine. She passed away on May 23, 1947.

Taiyo-no-sato (Sun Village), a nursing care home, founded in commemoration of the Nanko-in, opened to the public in 2016. The first ward of the defunct sanatorium was designated as a national tangible cultural property in 2018. At present, the Chigasaki People's Museum exhibits the lives of the Nanko-in staff and patients and people who contributed to the facility, including Yoshi and Raicho. The exhibition will be held until May 26.



The first ward of the Nanko-in

Shonan International Marathon 2022

The 17th Shonan International Marathon started at Oiso at 9:00 on December 5 (Sun). Of 17,000 participants, about 11,300 men and 1,800 women ran the full marathon course. Men's winning time was 2 hr. 21 min. 56 sec. and women's was 2 hr. 56 min. 59 sec. Runners ran along R-134 on the fine



Guest runners

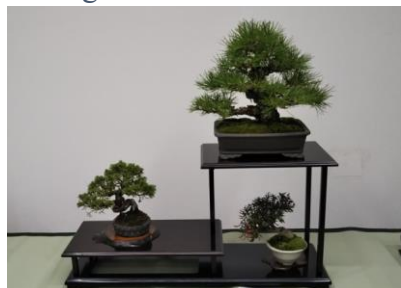
winter morning, gazing at the sea on their way to Enoshima, and Mt. Fuji and the mountains in Hakone on their way back to Oiso. No paper cups were placed on the water tables to make the race clean.

The race was the first one in three years.

Events in October and November

Bonsai Exhibition

The bonsai section of the city culture association held its exhibition at the Civic Hall from October 29 (Sat) to the 31st (Mon). About 65 trees were on display. Fifteen trees out of 65 were pine trees, and there were several fruit-bearing trees, including persimmons. Visitors could find all of the so-called five basic styles. They are: *chokkan* style (a trunk grows straight upward), *shakan* (a trunk slants to one side), *moyogi* (a trunk makes an S curve), *fukinagashi* (a trunk and branches bend and grow into one direction, namely to leeward), and *kengai* (a trunk grows downward like a tree on a cliff). Bonsai culture came from



China in the 14th century, and it became popular in the Edo period (1603 - 1867). Bonsai trees provide tranquility which continues as long as the trees are alive, and this may be a reason why raisers are enchanted.

Photo exhibition by Chigasaki Shayu-kai (Chigasaki Photo Friendship Club)

The 25th photo exhibition was held at Citizen Gallery on the fourth floor of N'EST-CE PAS Chigasaki from November 1 (Tue) to the 6th (Sun). This was the first exhibition in three years. Twelve members displayed more than 70 photos for both a common theme, "morning scenery" and a free theme. Many photos were



taken in and around Chigasaki, and some were from Nagano, Niigata and Yamanashi. Not a few photos caught beautiful scenes in which morning glow colored the sky and the sea red. These photos tell us how precious nature is. We cannot stop hoping that the sea, the sky, and mountains will be clean forever.



Chrysanthemum Exhibition

Chrysanthemum exhibition took place at the bicycle parking lot of the Civic Hall from November 1 (Tue) to the 13th (Sun). Flowers on display were various shapes of Chrysanthemum flowers, including *atsumono* (flowers with thick petals, 18 cm



or over in diameter, see the photo on the far left.), *kudamono* (flowers with left), *fukusuke* (40 cm tall or less, with one atsumono flower), and *daruma* (60 cm tall or less, with three atsumono flowers). In addition, a lot of *shitate* (three or five stalks from one root) were also exhibited. Even young women visited the lot, and spent time

looking at those flowers. Different from bonsai, chrysanthemum lovers have to plant cuttings every year. They say they have opportunities annually to improve their flowers by trial and error.

Handicraft Exhibition

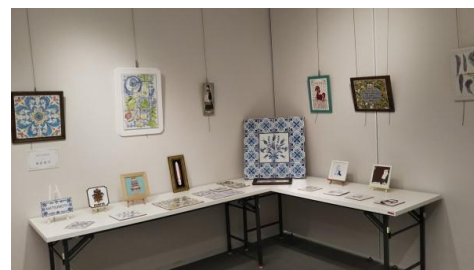
A handicraft exhibition was held at the exhibition room on the 1st floor of the Civic Hall from December 7 (Mon) to the 9th (Wed). Tile artworks, dimple artworks, wooden mosaic works, *temari* (balls of cotton wound



Temari and knitting

tightly around with threads of many colors), tie-dye clothes, knitting, and 3D artworks were on display. Visitors would have felt they came to a fairyland. They may have wanted to place some of the works in their rooms, or to wear tie-dyed shirts. Or they may have wanted to make some themselves?

Dimple art uses paints made from special films. They are usually taken out from windshields of damaged vehicles. Most of windshields are made of laminated glass. The art embodies the spirit of SDGs.



Tile artworks



Dimple artworks



Calligraphy Exhibition

The 54th calligraphy exhibition was held at the exhibition room of the Civic Hall from November 11 (Fri) to the 13th (Sun). Ninety-nine works on display were written by the association members, and citizens who had applied for the exhibition. There were many writing styles, including the printed style (楷書), the semi-cursive style (行書), and the Japanese cursive style (草書) of Chinese characters.

The writer feels a little tense whenever he enters exhibition rooms. But now he thinks he has found the reason. Every calligraphy exhibition, including this one, is a black-and-white world, which contrasts sharply with the multi-colored everyday world.

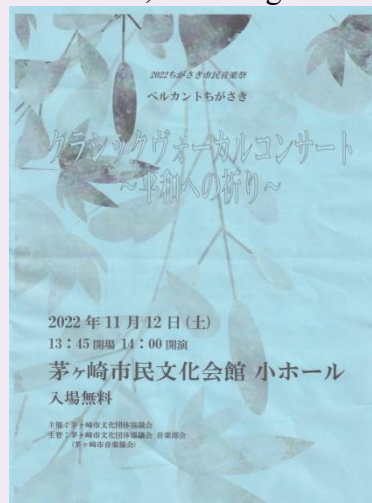
Classical Vocal Concert

Classical music group Belcanto Chigasaki hosted a classical vocal concert, "Prayer for peace", at the Civic Hall on November 12 (Sat). The group was established in 1982, and they have since sung tunes by musicians and poets who lived in Chigasaki: musicians such as Kosaku Yamada, Syukichi Mitsukuri, and Hachidai Nakamura as well as poets such as Jyukichi Yagi and Rokusuke Ei. Currently the group consists of ten singers. Many of them are Chigasaki citizens.

They sang twenty familiar classical tunes, including

Beautiful Dreamer (Stephen Foster), *Amazing Grace*, *Ave Maria* (Franz Schubert & Giulio Caccini), *Alleluia* (Wolfgang Mozart), *Love theme from Sunflower* (Henry Mancini), *Hana wa Saku*, or *Flowers will bloom* (Yoko Kanno).

The concert takes place every autumn as one of the events of the citizen cultural festival. As the city-based group, they provide citizens with a good opportunity to have contact with good tunes.



Chigasaki Rakuyu Kai Exhibition



More than 550 handicrafts were exhibited in Citizen Gallery on the fourth floor of N'EST-CE PAS Chigasaki. These works were made by 64 people of *Chigasaki Rakuyu Kai*, or Chigasaki Friendship Club of Senior People. The club, whose members are 60 and older, consists of 16 subgroups which pursue and enjoy different sports or hobbies. Their activities are, for example, pressed flowers, photography, water-color pictures, handicrafts, haiku, and sewing as well as walking, golfing, bowling, cycling, and karaoke. Club members number about 300, and they gather at the welfare center for senior citizens, community centers, Kinro Shimin Kaikan (Workers Hall), and so on.

Things on display were all made elaborately. Visitors, especially women, seemed to be interested in dry flowers, patchwork, and much more.

The exhibition was held on November 19 (Sat) and 20 (Sun).



Handicrafts



Haiku and flower arrangement

Picture exhibition entitled “The 10th Shosai-ten”

The tenth Shosai-ten was held at the Citizen Gallery from November 22 (Tue) to the 27th (Sun). Among forty-seven paintings on display, 26 were oils, 13 were watercolors, and 8 were acrylic paintings, respectively. All of them were painted by eight learners and the tutor at Kawasaki Atelier, and many of the works were landscapes. The lesson group was established a dozen years ago, and members practice together three times a month.

Looking at paintings of cities in Western and Southern Europe, Asia, and Canada, some visitors may have been lured to faraway places. Fortunately, overseas trips have been regaining their lost momentum.

Visitors may have imagined lives in old European cities, and a port town of Southern Italy. They may have remembered real canals and windmills, or trips to Asia with friends or family members.

Watercolor paintings depicting people, still lifes, and others were colorful and some of them were fantastic. No wonder all of

them had something different from profound oil paintings.

Paintings of Chigasaki and its neighboring areas showed visitors there are many points of interest and historic sites in the Shonan area.

The exhibition provided visitors with an introspective time for a little while.



Events in December and January

Citizen Gallery on the fourth floor of N'EST-CE PAS Chigasaki

The 4th exhibition of illustration, commercial design and metal art by Masakuni Fujikake, hosted by Bunkyo Uni. from December 19 (Mon) to the 21st (Wed) 11:00 ~ 18:00

Tansai (light coloring) Chigasaki sketch exhibition by a group called Tansai Chigasaki: Jan. 17 (Tue) 13:00 ~ 17:00, the 18th (Wed) to the 21st (Sat) 10:00 ~ 17:00, the 22nd (Sun) 10:00 ~ 16:00

Calligraphy exhibition by Gagetsu calligraphy association: Jan. 27th (Fri) 13:00 ~ 18:00, the 28th (Sat) 10:00 ~ 18:00, the 29th (Sun) 10:00 ~ 17:00

The 85th Konan Ekiden

The oldest ekiden in Kanagawa will be held at Yanagishima Sports Park and its neighboring area on Jan. 9 (Mon). One team consists of five runners, and each runner runs about one-fifth of the 16.45-km (men) or 14.05-km (women) circular course. There will be five categories: competitions between city districts for men and women, competitions between companies, schools, and unis. for men and women, and a competition between city districts for elementary schoolers. Men's races will start at 8:30, and women's and school children's at 9:45.

Daruma market at Dairokuten Shrine

The annual year-end event, Daruma market, will be held at Dairokuten Shrine on route one in Jukkenzaka on the evening of December 27 (Tue).

Dondoyaki at Satoyama koen

The park office is planning the event on Jan. 14 (Sat) at 13:00. Please check the park website when the day of the event has drawn near.



Thanks for reading our stories. See you soon!