

# Chigasaki Wave

Chigasaki Wave Club

茅ヶ崎 <sup>ウエーブ</sup> 波 倶楽部

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

## R&D-oriented Machining Company in Chigasaki (2)

The dot-com collapse pressed YUKI Precision to break away from the mass production of electric device parts. To make up for the serious drop in the demand for them, it aggressively took small lot orders for various items. It was not until 2006 that sales recovered to the 2001 level. During that period, however, the company became capable of responding to a wide variety of orders, which laid the foundations for the later YUKI Precision.

By the way, the company utilized the internet before the network system became popular. Since it set up its own website in 1995, the number of orders through the internet has gradually been increasing.

When Masato Otsubo joined his family business in 2006, he learned the machining company had had a high reputation for product quality as well as strict adherence to delivery deadlines. To make the most of these strong points he focused his attention on the aerospace and medical device industries around the world, because these sectors need various high-precision small parts, which were also expected to have high added value. At the same time, he established the R&D section to realize his strong desire to support customers from the design stage to production.

Today, nearly a decade later, YUKI Precision has more than 200 customers at home and abroad. Fine products manufactured at the compact, well-organized plant are installed on satellites and airplanes, and implanted into human bodies, contributing to space exploration, air traffic and medical technology. But Otsubo says he still has a long way to go to fulfil his wish to support people with manufacturing.

URL: <http://www.yukiseimitsu.co.jp/>



## Number of fires the second lowest, number of dispatched ambulances increased

The number of fires last year decreased to 35 from 51 from the year earlier. It was the first time in 57 years that the number was less than 40. Compared to the previous year, the numbers of building fires and vehicle fires decreased by three, and other fires, including trash fires, dropped by 10. The number of fires per 10,000 population last year, 1.5, was the second lowest after 1.1 in 1948.

The number of dispatched ambulances last year increased by 3.5% from the year earlier to 10,692, or 29 a day. About 42% of the dispatches were for the slightly injured.



## Final tax returns

Citizens can file their final tax return of 2016 income tax and special income tax for reconstruction documentation at the resident tax section on the 2nd floor of City Hall from 08:30 to 17:00 until February 15 (Wed), and from the next day (Thurs) to March 15 (Wed) at No. 2 and No. 3 conference rooms on its 4th floor from 09:00 to 16:30.

In addition, citizens can also file at public halls, Hamamina, Koide Community Center and Youth Center on a specific day between February 2 (Thurs) and 14 (Tue) from 09:30 to 15:00.

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

## Volunteer groups in and around the city

## Chigasaki O Gauge Railway Club (1)

Chigasaki O Gauge Railway\* Club was set up just in 2016, but leader Yasuyuki Yokoyama says he and his colleagues have continued their activities for about ten years. Hoping children become creative and find crafts are really fun, they hold workshops on woodwork for children and have the club's trains run in front of them. The club has joined festivals at Satoyama Park, where they help a group of children build O gauge model trains. Children put together the parts handmade by Yokoyama, and then they enjoy having the trains run on the jointed two double tracks.

The group is going to take part in an event at Chigasaki Youth Center on February 11 (Sat, National Foundation Day), in which they will have the trains children are now building run. (See the event article on page 6.) They are also planning to conduct an eco-craft workshop at City Hall during the Ooka Festival in April. They believe these craft workshops will surely attract children who are interested in creating thing.

Yokoyama has so far completed eleven O gauge charcoal-fired steam locomotives, originals of which include the one that first ran in Japan in 1872, between Shinbasi and Yokohama, as well as D51 and C58. It is amazing that he made everything necessary for building the trains: from the blueprint to wheels, body plates, and inner parts utilizing his skill at machine engineering.

The picture above is one of his handmade trains, a D51 steam locomotive. \*O gauge model trains are those which run on tracks that are 32mm apart.



1位 1115 輛

「D51 形貨物用蒸気機関車」。  
昭和 11 年に初の箱型動輪で誕生、  
次の C57、C58 とつづく SL 最盛期の先駆  
けとなった。デゴイチの愛称で親しまれた 1115 輛  
の日本最多機種で戦後の復興期 まで全国で広く活躍した。

## Konan Ekiden

The 79th Konan Ekiden, the prefecture's oldest Ekiden road relay, took place on January 9 (Mon, Coming-of-Age Day). About 100 teams, nearly 500 runners in all, participated in the relay. Runners ran around circular courses, whose starting and finishing lines and the relay changeover zone were located in front of the Comprehensive Gymnasium.

Prize winning teams of each category (in the order of the winner, the second and third places):

Men-1: Shyorin A, Umeda A, Nishihama A  
Men-2: Tsurumine HS A, Chigasaki City Hall A,  
Chigasaki City Hall B

Women-1: Shyorin A, Matsunami A, Nishihama A  
Women-2: Tsurumine A, Aletheia, Chigasaki City  
Hall A

E School: Shyorin A, Umeda A, Higashi-kaigan A



Start of Men-1 race

## Urban Design Symposium



A symposium on urban design was held at the Community Hall on the 6th floor of the City Hall annex on January 22 (Sun).

The symposium was hosted by the Urban Design Center Chigasaki (UDCC), the former Chigasaki Scenery Forum, in commemoration of its foundation. (See the volunteer group article in Chigasaki Wave No. 8.)

After two keynote lectures about urban development were delivered by two leaders of the Kashiwa-no-Ha Urban Design Center in Chiba, UDCC chairperson, Mayor Hattori and three other panelists discussed how to build a safe, healthy and walkable Chigasaki. It was suggested that walking, eating and talking were important activities for elderly people to lead healthy lives. And a listener said the city should take measures to protect pedestrians from bikes.

## Through Another's Eyes

Having lived most of my life in and around London, the busiest and most crowded city in the UK, the ideas of personal safety and security are deeply ingrained into my psyche. Of course, it's impossible to ensure one's own safety entirely, but with sufficient awareness and preparation one can significantly reduce the chances of becoming another hapless victim of opportunistic crime.

It was somewhat shocking then when I came to live in Chigasaki to notice how little people seemed concerned about the safety of their personal possessions: smartphones left openly displayed on restaurant tables while owners went to answer the call of nature; large wallets hanging invitingly halfway out of back pockets; cars left unattended with their engines idling while the driver popped into a convenience store.

Of course, you say, Japan is a safe country, Chigasaki is not London. And that's true, for the most part. I can't help but worry, though, when one of my students announces excitedly that they are going to visit London. On the one hand, I want to encourage the student to explore the capital and take every opportunity to experience British culture and engage in conversation with local people. On the other hand, I feel a duty to warn the student to be careful, not to take unnecessary risks with their possessions, and to be vigilant at all times. Where then to strike the balance between unwittingly scaring the student and forearming them to prevent some avoidable misfortune?



It is perhaps a sign of the times that one of my students recently came back from just such a trip to report that she and her university friends had travelled everywhere in the city by taxi! They had been told not to use public transport due to concerns about terrorist attacks. An over-reaction?

And that reminded me of one of my favourite sayings, from the film *Strictly Ballroom*, that *"a life lived in fear is a life half-lived"*. So, go, enjoy, just keep your eyes open!

Adrian Wilson

## History of Chigasaki

### Oedo-michi and Nakahara-michi (1)

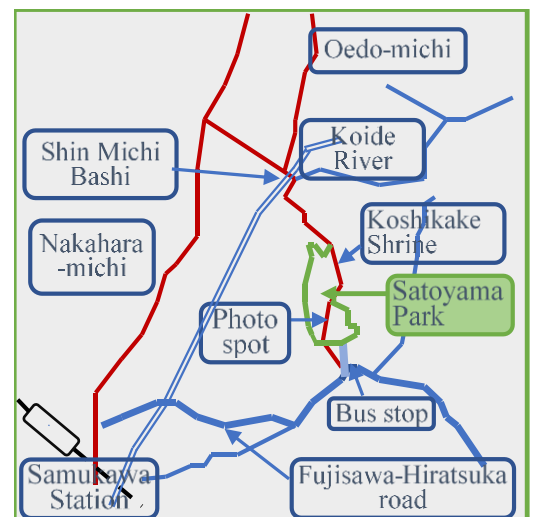
Prefectural Chigasaki Satoyama Park was partly opened in October of 2001. The park is located at the center of the Serizawa district, and is so popular that it is crowded especially at fine weekends. Its area reached its current 35.2 ha in fiscal 2014. Near the park, a bus stop, 'Serizawa Iriguchi, or Entrance to Serizawa', was set on Fujisawa-Hiratsuka prefectural road. Near the bus stop, a wide street goes to the park's main entrance. A paved path branches off from the street to go north through the park. It passes in front of Koshikake Shrine, and finally reaches Uchimodori of Fujisawa.

On a Serizawa village map probably drawn in the middle of the Edo Period, the path goes through a bridge over the Koide River after passing Koshikake Shrine. Near the bridge '御江戸 十二里 新道也' (48km to Edo, a new road) is written. The map also says the bridge is named Shin-Michi Bashi (New Road Bridge). The two explanations suggest Shin-Michi Bashi was the starting point of the road to Edo, Oedo-michi.

In the Edo Period, more people seemed to have gone to Edo by the Tokaido than by Oedo-michi. However, the

distance between the milestone in Motomachi, Chigasaki and Nihonbashi of Edo was 56km, while if they go along Oedo-michi, they only had to walk 48km.

Accordingly, it is assumed that residents in and around Serizawa more often than not chose Oedo-michi.



## Interested in Japanese proverbs?

(1) 火のない所に煙は立たぬ

(HI NO NAI TOKORONI KEMURI WA TATANU)

HI means fire, NO NAI there isn't, KEMURI smoke and TATANAI not to go up.

A Japanese dictionary suggests this proverb has its origin in the English proverb, 'There is no smoke without fire.' It figuratively means that if there is a rumor, there is some truth. Thus, items in gossip columns are not always fictions. Nevertheless, some VIPs still say there is no truth in the story.

But another proverb says a flower blooms even if it does not have a root. It figuratively means even a groundless thing can become a rumor. Which proverb would you prefer?

Its English equivalents:

- No smoke without fire.
- The flame is not far away from the smoke.
- Make no fire, raise no smoke.

(2) 人は見かけによらぬもの

(HITO WA MIKAKE NI YORANU MONO)

HITO means people, WA are, MIKAKE appearance, and YORANU MONO not to show their true character.

You should not judge people only by their appearances. They may have unexpected sides they would not show in public. But first impressions are lasting, and first impressions are mostly made through appearances.

It is not easy to judge people. At least we should try to do so without prejudice.

This sentence appeared in Kagamiyama-gonichino-iwafuji, a Kabuki story written by Mokuami Kawatake (1816-1893), who was a scenario writer of the Edo and Meiji Periods.

Its English equivalents are:

- All is not gold that glitters.
- Judge not a book by its color.
- Appearance often deceives.



## Exhibition of Chigasaki Citizen Art Circle

The 40th commemorative exhibition of the Chigasaki Citizen Art Circle was held at the exhibition room of the Civic Hall (1F) from January 12 (Thu) to 17 (Tue).

The circle was established in 1977, the oldest art circle in the city. Its twenty-nine members aged from 30 to 80 gather at Kowada Public Hall every 2nd and 4th Sunday.

They study Western painting, including oil painting, pastel drawing and watercolor painting, and improve their skills through friendly rivalry.



## Chigasaki Coffee Club

You will find a variety of franchise coffee houses, such as Starbucks, TULLY's, Doutor, etc., near Chigasaki station. And so, people can conveniently enjoy coffee and snacks daily. But you will rarely see owner-operated ones in the busy area. A traditional cafe, [Chigasaki Coffee Club](#), stands at a lively corner close to Ito Yokado. When sitting in the warm, cosy café, you may feel like being out of your ordinary life.



Customers, whether individually or in small groups, are reading, talking, or just quietly passing the time. Without artificial sounds, you will realize that moderate voices and laughter can comfort you. The person in the picture is one of the café's friendly staff, who are professional all-rounders, just like the café's owner. Amazingly, they also make delicious sweets on the menu by themselves, and in addition, they can accurately memorize multiple and complex orders by hearing them just once. Since 2008, from 09:00 to 21:00 every day, the café has been serving several popular brands of coffee as well as blended types, light meals, and sweets. Lunch special (one kind of light meal and dessert, salad, and, coffee or tea) is offered for 1080 yen from 11:00 to 15:00.



## Seasonal Seaweed – Eboshi Wakame

Wakame, an edible green seaweed, is sold throughout the year at the seafood corner of supermarkets. Raw wakame is brown, but it becomes green after being dipped in hot water. The green wakame you see in shops is usually salted after the hot water-treatment so that it has a long shelf life.



Did you know wakame is cultivated near Eboshi rock? It is harvested only between late January and March, and during this period the raw wakame, named Eboshi Wakame, is sold by fishing boat operators.

An annual raw wakame festival takes place in early February, on February 4 (Sat) this year. A pack of 800 grams is usually sold for 500 yen. (See the event article on page 6.) Eboshi Wakame, farmed near the surface layer of the calm and deep sea area north of the rock in bright sunshine, is soft and rich in flavor. It is really amazing to see that dark brown raw wakame turns fresh green in a blink of an eye after being soaked in boiling hot water. Wakame is also high in minerals. So why don't you try it? (The picture on the left was provided by Chigasaki City Tourism Association.) Inquiry: Chigasaki Fishery Cooperative on 0467-82-3025

## Events in February and early March

**Chigasaki City Museum of Art** (☎ 0467-88-1177, URL: <http://www.chigasaki-museum.jp>)

- **Exhibition of works by Eiji Mori and Kyoko Mori** entitled 'Kasuka na Hikari Samete Miru Yume' (a glimmer, and dreams you see after waking up): **to Feb 5 (Sun)**, Admission fee (¥): Adult 500, University student 300, High school student and younger free.
- **Art All Stars - Exhibition of paintings by HS Students in Chigasaki & Samukawa:** **Feb 12 (Sun) - 26 (Sun)**, Admission free
- **Spring Collected Works Exhibition:** **Feb 12 (Sun) – March 26 (Sun)**, Admission fee (¥): Adult 200, University Student 100, HS student or younger, and citizens aged 65 or older free.



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

- **Chigasaki Yose (traditional Japanese variety show):** Feb 4 (Sat) 14:00 open, 14:30 start, Admission fee (¥): Adult 3,000, University student 2,000, HS – ES student 1,000, Reserved seating, Ticket & inquiry: Civic Hall on 0467-85-1123, Ichiba Ryutei, Ichinosuke Shunputei and others
- **Let's sing children's songs by the Society of Shonan Nursery Song:** Feb 9 (Thu) from 14:00 to 16:00, Admission fee: 500 yen, General seating, Inquiry: the society on 090-8316-2648
- **The 34th regular meeting of the Chigasaki Good Movie Club 'Shiawase wo Tsukamu Uta', or a song which brings happiness:** from 10:30, 14:00 and 19:00, Admission fee (¥): Adult 1,300, 65 or older 1,000, HS and JHS student and disabled people 800, window tickets plus 200 yen, General seating, Inquiry: Kimura on 0467-83-7744, or (at night) Fukuda on 0467-86-8038
- **Dance 'KaYa', commemorating the 70th anniversary of the city's incorporation by Co Yamada and Orquesta Nudge! Nudge!:** Feb 26 (Sun) 14:30 open, 15:00 start, Admission fee (¥): Adult 3,500, University student 2,000, Three-year-old child to HS student 1,000, Reserved seating, Ticket & Inquiry: Civic Hall on 0467-85-1123

**Shonan Flower Exhibition** at Terrace Mall Shonan on Feb 17 (Fri) and 18 (Sat)

## What did Yasujiro Ozu think of Chigasaki?

At Chigasaki People's Museum on Feb 25 (Sat) from 13:30 to 15:15. The first 30 citizens will be accepted. Application: Culture & Lifelong Learning Section of City Hall on 0467-82-1111

## Setsubun Festival

Bean-throwing ceremony, part of Setsubun Festival, which celebrates the coming of spring, will take place on February 3 (Fri) at temples and shrines. For example, [Enzoji Temple](#) (around 11:00), [Dairokuten Shrine](#) (about 16:30), [Honson Hachioji Shrine](#) (about 15:00) and [Samukawa Shrine](#) (11:00 & 14:00).



Samukawa Shrine



From the city tourism assoc.

## Raw Wakame Festival

The annual Raw Wakame Festival will take place at [the fish handling area](#) of Chigasaki Fishing Port on Feb 4 (Sat) at 09:00. The festival is so popular that all wakame is usually sold out in 30 minutes. A pack of 800g wakame for 500 yen. (See page 5)



Jan 28 (Sat)

## Ume Festival at Shorai-an

The season of Ume blossoms has come. The 33rd annual Ume Festival will take place at [Shorai-an](#) on February 11 (Sat, National Foundation Day) from 10:00 to 14:30. Amazake, a low-alcohol hot sweet white drink, will be served to the first 2,000 visitors for free. Local children will play Japanese drums, and stalls will sell various food.

## Youth Center Festival

In the festival, model trains crafted by children under the guidance of Chigasaki O Gauge Club (See page 2) will be run at [Chigasaki Youth Center](#) on February 11 (Sat, National Foundation Day) from 10:00 to 15:00. This is one of the events held at the Youth Center Festival that day.



Workshop on Jan 28 (Sat)

## Koide River Cherry Festival

Around 70 Kawazu-cherry trees on [the west bank of the Koide River](#) start blooming in early February, more than one month earlier than the nation's major Someiyoshino variety. A local group will hold the 11th Koide River Cherry Festival from February 19 (Sun) to March 5 (Sun). On February 25 (Sat) the opening ceremony will be held. During the period, an enka and folk ballad concert, karaoke, the exhibition of kites, Bali Island dance and many other events will be held.



Jan 28 (Sat)

Thanks for reading our stories.  
Spring is just around the corner, but...

