

Chigasaki Breeze

Truly great friends are hard to find, difficult to leave, and impossible to forget.

No. 62

New Year Message from Mayor Hattori

はっとりしちょう おんどうあいさつ
服部市長の年頭挨拶

Happy New Year! I hope the New Year finds you in good health and spirits, and I would like to express my sincere appreciation for your understanding and cooperation in our day-to-day municipal activities.

Approximately 1,500 foreign residents are living in Chigasaki at present. To keep them well-informed and help them live comfortable lives, we continue to enable the sharing of important information in multiple languages, through such initiatives as this bimonthly English newspaper, the automatic translation system on our homepage, and the "Guidebook for Foreign Residents", which is available in five different languages.

More than a year has passed since the Sister-City relationship with the City and County of Honolulu was established on October 24, 2014. During the year, there was an exchange of letters between elementary school children in Chigasaki and in Honolulu, an economic interchange between the respective Chambers of Commerce and Industry, and surfing contests hosted by the Surfing Associations of both cities. In addition, we held "Honolulu Week" last spring and last autumn with the cooperation of city retailers. We intend to build on this foundation and strengthen the relationship further, looking forward to both deepening and broadening the mutually beneficial interchange between our two cities.

The "Ordinance regarding Acknowledgement of Local Communities" will be put into effect next April, leading to the creation of councils for local people in each area, through which communities will have a much greater say in town planning decisions. We will promote the creation of special anti-disaster resistance areas as part of a more general environment wherein elderly people and a new generation with young children, including foreign residents, can live secure lives.

Our services at the new City Hall building will start on January 4 (Mon). In the lobby of the main entrance, there is a "Citizen Fureai (Contact) Plaza", which has a large-sized monitor, where events and exhibitions will take place. We will provide citizens with more detailed services by utilizing the Plaza as a focal point for the dissemination and gathering of information, the interchange of people, and the securing of people's lives in times of disaster.

Lastly, I sincerely hope you all have a wonderful 2016 with good health and much happiness.



New City Hall Opens 新庁舎オープン

The newly completed City office building will start administrative work on January 4 (Mon). Public service sections are on the 1st and 2nd floors, as shown in the table below.

R	Equipment for Disaster Prevention & the Use of Natural Energy
7F	Office Building Services
6F	Municipal Assembly
5F	Management of Public Administration
4F	Disaster Prevention & Promotion, Fire Department
3F	Urban Development
2F	Counters for Daily Living Activities
1F	Environmental Policy, Culture & Lifelong Learning, Resident Tax, Citizen Counseling, Tax Collection, Accounting, Property Tax
	Citizens, Elderly Welfare & Care, Parenting Support, Insurance & Pension, Child Development Consultation, Municipal Information Corner, Citizen Fureai Plaza

Schoolyards and Gymnasiums Open Saturday Mornings

どよう ごぜん こうてい たいいくかん かいほう
土曜の午前は校庭と体育館を開放

The grounds of all the nineteen municipal primary schools in Chigasaki and gymnasiums of thirteen* are open free to the public from 09:00 to 12:00 on Saturdays, unless the Saturday falls on a national holiday or within a long school holiday.

The City intends for these facilities to provide children with more spaces to play vigorously and opportunities for local people, including hard workers, elderly people and young mothers, to communicate with each other.

If you are exhausted from busy weekdays or tired of staying at home, why not take a walk to a nearby elementary school?

* Please note that the gymnasiums of Kowada, Muroda, Yanagishima, Hamanogo, Midorigahama and Shiomidai are not available.



Shogi Kite of Chigasaki

ちがさき しょうぎだこ
茅ヶ崎の将棋風

You may have seen big kites in the sky on fine, windy, winter days. Kites originated in Greece and China during the 4th century BC. They arrived in Japan by way of China in the mid-7th century, and the nobility of those days enjoyed making and flying their own kites.



Over time, kite-flying gradually spread among common children. Big kites, however, only became popular during the Edo Period (1603 ~ 1867), so much so that many *samurai* residences in Edo (today's Tokyo) had to spend a lot of money repairing their damaged roofs every year. In central Kanagawa, villagers along the Sagami River flew big 3 m sq kites on May 5th to celebrate newborn babies. The Meiji Period (1868 ~ 1912) saw kites becoming even bigger (10 to 16 m sq).

Shogi- (or Japanese chess-) shaped pentagonal kites were invented by a Chigasaki citizen, Hattori Sadaemon, in the early Meiji Period. They had a small hummer on top which made the sound "ビーン", or "*biiin*". One such shogi kite is displayed at the entrance of Civic Hall (see photo).

My Number System マイナンバー制度

The *My Number System* has been put into effect. The City has already sent each citizen a notification card with their own unique twelve-digit number printed on it. If you have not received yours yet, you should contact the Chigasaki City My Number Call Center on 0570-01-0178, or the multilingual information office, which can receive inquiries in English, Chinese, Korean, Spanish and Portuguese, on 0570-064-738.

You can also apply for a card bearing your personal number by filling in the application form, which is part of the notification card, sticking your photograph on it, and then putting the card in the return envelope and posting it. Alternatively, you can apply by smart phone or personal computer. For more information, go to www.kojinbango-card.go.jp, which provides explanations in English, Chinese, Korean, Spanish and Portuguese.

The *My Number Card* can be used whenever you need to verify your identity or provide your personal number. For example, it can be used when requesting a resident record, a seal registration certificate and other official certificates at a convenience store. Once you receive the notification of issue, come to the counter on the fifth floor of the City Hall annex with the necessary documents to receive the card.



Specialties of Chigasaki

High quality Sake from Chigasaki

よ さけ ち が さ き
 良い酒が茅ヶ崎から

Kumazawa brewing company started producing *sake* in 1872, using rice harvested nearby and an abundant supply of local groundwater. With the advancement of urbanization, *sake* brewery after *sake* brewery in the city had to change its business. However, surrounded by a relatively unchanging natural environment, this has not been necessary for the brewery in Kagawa, a blessing which has allowed Kumazawa to stay true to its original business vision for over 140 years.

To modernize production methods and to satisfy the tastes of Shonan area customers, the company restructured. Out went the traditional brewers from the Tohoku area, and in came young university graduates who specialized in zymurgy (and so had an up-to-date understanding of fermentation). Also, to find an optimal product line suiting a local brewery, low-priced products were discontinued and the number of brands was reduced to four, each having several grades, including *jyunmai-dai-ginjyo* (純米大吟醸), a top-quality sake brewed from rice grains milled to 35% of their weight. Three of the brands are sold only in the Shonan area, and the other is sold at about sixty shops across the nation as well as being exported to the US and Singapore.

It takes at least a year and a half from purchasing rice to selling *sake*. In this simple and stable industry, the company has found a niche through a combination of luck and wisdom.



The 78th Kōnan Ekiden Road Relay Jan 11

だい かいこうなん いっしゅうえきでん
 第78回高南一周駅伝

The 78th Kōnan Ekiden Road Relay, sponsored by Chigasaki City, Chigasaki City Board of Education, and the Association of Chigasaki-shi Physical Education, will be held on January 11 (Mon). This annual event has the longest history of any road relay in Kanagawa, and has become accepted as one of the City's traditional events on Coming-of-Age Day.

The starting and finishing lines as well as the relay changeover zone are located in front of Comprehensive Gymnasium (next to Civic Hall). There will be five races in total: a men's race and a women's race between regional teams; a men's race and a women's race between company teams, senior high school teams, university student teams and technical college student teams; and an elementary school children's race between regional teams. Men's teams cover a total distance of 28.6 km and women's teams and elementary school children's teams cover 13.6 km. Please come and watch, and cheer them all!

The Third Shonan Chigasaki Ramen Festival

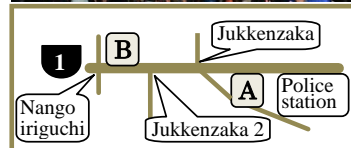
だい かいしょうなん ち が さ き さい
 第3回湘南茅ヶ崎ラーメン祭

The third Shonan Chigasaki Ramen Festival will take place at Chuo Park from January 8 (Fri) to 11 (Mon, Coming-of-Age Day), from 11:00 to 19:00 (to 18:00 on Jan 11). Ten nationally famous ramen shops and two excellent local shops will have stalls. You can taste each ramen for 800 yen. Contact number: Chigasaki City Tourism Association on 0467-84-0377.

Setsubun Festival 節分祭

Setsubun Festival will take place on February 3 (Wed). After the solemn purification rituals, priests and parishioners will scatter roasted soybeans over onlookers to drive away evil spirits and invite in good fortune for the year to come. Here are three sites which will hold the festival (location, bean-scattering times):

- Enzoji Temple: (A, 11:30)
- Dairokuten Shrine: (B, 16:00)
- Samukawa Shrine: (11:00 & 14:00)



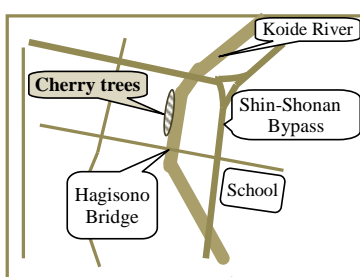
Cherry Festival on Koide River

こ いでがわさくら
 小出川桜まつり

Around seventy *Kawazu*-cherry trees along the west bank of the Koide River bloom from late February to mid-March, about one month earlier than the *Someiyoshino* variety. A local cherry blossom lovers association is planning on holding the annual *Koide River Cherry Festival* from February 28 (Sun) to March 13 (Sun).

On the Saturdays and Sundays during the festival, from 10:00 to 14:00, ballads, *enka* songs and festival music will be performed. Stalls will sell stir-fried noodles, broiled squid, and other delicious foods.

Nearly 30,000 people visit the riverbank during the flowering season.



Ume Festival at Shorai-an 松籟庵の梅まつり

Several communities of the Kaigan district will jointly hold the annual Ume Festival in the garden of the Shorai-an tea house on February 11 (Thu, National Foundation Day) from 10:00 to 14:30. *Amazake* (or sweet sake) will be offered to about 2,000 visitors for free. Stalls will sell various foods such as stir-fried noodles (焼きそば, *yakisoba*), grilled chicken on skewers (焼き鳥, *yakitori*), candyfloss (綿菓子/綿飴, *watagashi/wataame*), popcorn, and roasted sweet potatoes (焼き芋, *yakiimo*) as well as pottery, glassware and flowers.

Visitors can attend a tea ceremony in the tea rooms for around 300 yen. A local Japanese-drum club is scheduled to perform at 11:00, 12:00 and 13:00.

Come and enjoy dozens of *ume* trees in full bloom at Shorai-an, just five minutes' walk from Chigasaki Station south exit.



History of Chigasaki

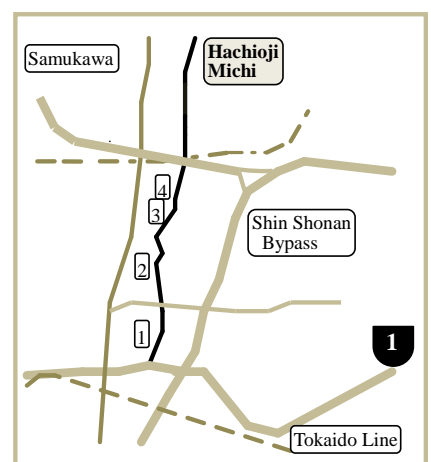
Hachiojimichi Hachioji Road 八王子道

The road heading northward from the Imajuku traffic signal on Route One was once called *Hachiojimichi*. Traveling the first 1.7-kilometer stretch, said to have been 3.6 meters wide (similar to the standard expressway lane-width of today), took one past Matsuo Shrine (dedicated to Imajuku's deity) and Mishima Shrine (which enshrines Hagisono's deity) as well as Joken Temple and Manpuku Temple as far as Tabata in Samukawa. From there, the forty-kilometer road continued north through Ebina, Zama and Sagami-hara before reaching Hachioji.

In the Edo Period (1603 ~ 1867), Hachioji was a prosperous post town on the *Koshu Kaido*, one of the so-called Five Routes linking Edo (today's Tokyo) with the outer provinces, now known as Route 20. Many shops and wholesale stores stood side by side, creating a major distribution hub for the region's products.

In Chigasaki, the road was also called *Sakanamichi*, or Fish Road. Many fish peddlers, called *botefuri*, lived in Nango from 1870 to 1920. They purchased fresh fish at the beach each evening, and then left home before daybreak, carrying the fish on poles, to sell them in the central and northern parts of the prefecture. Walking *Sakanamichi* in the darkness, through the paddy fields, they would have reached Taima by dawn, and Hashimoto by the time the sun was shining brightly.

Around the same time, the road was also called *Teiso-no-Michi*, or Post Road. Hagisono's historical records tell of a remarkably punctual postman of the Arima office in what is today Ebina who visited the Chayamachi post office at exactly the same time every day, carrying a letter bag on a pole. The fact that *Hachiojimichi* has been known by more than one name, such as *Sakanamichi* and *Teiso-no-Michi*, throughout its history is a testament to its enduring importance. (Source: Chigasaki City Museum of Heritage Booklet 1)



1 Matsuo Shrine, 2 Mishima Shrine
 3 Joken Temple, 4 Manpuku Temple

IAC ACTIVITY

Disaster Prevention④ Contacting your Family

ぼうさいじょうほう 家族の安否を確認する方法
防災情報④

This fourth issue on disaster prevention focuses on the public messaging services that are available to help us get in contact with family members following a serious seismic event. There are two ways to inform your family of your situation or find out if your family is safe:

● The “Disaster Emergency Message Dial” service

Record your message via home telephone, mobile phone or public phone.

- ✧ Posting a recorded message, for example, that you are safe: Dial 171 +Dial 1 +Dial your home phone number (start from the area code), and then record your message.
- ✧ Playing a recorded message to check if your family is safe: Dial 171 +Dial 2 +Dial your home phone number (start from the area code), and then play any messages.

● The “Disaster Message Board Service”

Guidance messages will appear on the home page of each mobile phone company’s website at the time of a disaster.

- ✧ Posting your message: Select “Register” on the screen for “Disaster Message Board Service” +Enter your message, and then select “Register”.
- ✧ Checking for messages: Select “Confirm” on the screen for “Disaster Message Board Service” +Enter your family member’s mobile phone number, and then select “Access”.

Japanese Speech Contest for Foreigners

がいこくじん にほんご たいかい
外国人による日本語スピーチ大会

The annual Japanese speech contest for foreigners will be jointly hosted by the International Association of Chigasaki (IAC) and the City office on March 6 (Sun) from 13:30 at Youth Center 2F in Jukkenzaka. The event is open to any foreigners living in this area. It is supposed to be a good opportunity for speakers to develop vocabulary which they may not normally use in daily conversation.

A number of prizes will be awarded at the event, including the Mayor’s, IAC’s chairperson’s, and SOROPTIMIST’s, as well as a popular prize based on the audience’s vote. If you are interested in taking part, please contact the IAC at: www.7jp.com/iac or the City office at IKORIA (Tel: 0467-57-1414).

Japanese High School English Speech Contest

こうこうせい えいご
高校生による英語スピーチ・コンテスト

The 2nd English Speech Contest for Japanese senior high school students was held on November 15 (Sun) from 13:30 to 17:00 at Youth Center, 3-5-37, Jukkenzaka. The contest was jointly sponsored by Chigasaki City, the Town of Samukawa, Samukawa International Exchange Association (SIEA) and the IAC. The contest, which is open to high school students studying or living in Chigasaki or Samukawa, provides contestants with a chance to express their own views in English.

Fourteen students from seven different schools took part, and made their speeches about “My Future Dream”, “Story of English and I”, “Friendship” and so forth. The Best Speaker Award was given to Ms. Anna Yoshitake of Aletheia Shonan Senior High School (SHS), who talked about “Different Studying Styles”. Second prize was awarded to Ms. Eriko Hirasawa (“The Magic That Makes People Happy”), also from Aletheia Shonan SHS.

After the speeches, there was a social gathering for all attendees.

People in Town

Guendoline Fujino from the Philippines

Japanese people are kind, but take life too seriously.

Guendoline Fujino has lived in Samukawa for fourteen months. Before coming to Japan, she taught English to Japanese people through Skype, and that was how she met her future husband. At home, they talk in English more than in Japanese. Now she is working as an assistant language teacher (ALT) at a high school in Ofuna.



One of her hobbies is dancing, and she sometimes dances to jazz in a studio near her house. Another of her hobbies is shopping, at LUSCA! In addition, she likes to cook both Filipino and Japanese cuisine, such as fried chicken and ginger-fried pork.

She has been learning Japanese at the IAC’s Sunday class regularly for some time, but for five months, she also attended Japanese classes at the YMCA in Atsugi.

At home, she watches TV to help her become more fluent in Japanese, which is one of her objectives. She especially enjoys watching Sanma-san’s variety shows. The actor Jun Matsumoto is another of her favorites.

She feels Japanese cities are clean, tidy and safe, but not so kind to foreigners as instructions in English (or other languages) are often insufficient. She feels Japanese people are very kind and hospitable, but many people work too hard and are too serious.

She has a dream of establishing a day care center by herself to take care of children and teach them English in the future. We hope her dream comes true.



So many Countries, so many Customs!

ところ か しな か
所変われば、品変わる

Apple Tree Wassailing リンゴの木に乾杯

Everyone is familiar, no doubt, with the festive custom of carol singing; troupes of hardy carolers, wrapped up in mufflers and mittens going door-to-door wishing each and every one a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, singing seasonal songs, and (traditionally) hoping for nothing more than a mince pie and a cup of mulled wine to stave off the winter chills. Back in the Early Middle Ages, however, this custom was called *wassailing*. At the start of each year, villagers would gather to exchange New Year greetings with their Saxon lord. The shout of “*waes hael*” (meaning “be well”) would be returned with a resounding “*drinc hael*” (meaning “drink and be well”) and all would share a *wassail* bowl of hot, spiced ale.

The New Year is also a time for preparing for the start of the growing season, and these days, all over the cider-producing regions of England, such as Devon and Somerset, the ancient pagan custom of *apple tree wassailing*, to pray for a bumper apple crop, is undergoing a revival. Farmers and village folk visit local orchards and hold a ceremony which involves drinking to the health of the apple trees.



The trees are sprinkled with apple cider *wassail* and a tremendous racket is made with shotguns or pots and pan to wake up the sleeping tree spirits and scare off any demons. Cider is then poured over the roots of the oldest apple tree (to give it a taste of last year’s harvest) and pieces of toast soaked in cider are hung from the branches to attract robins (who symbolize the good spirits that will bring fertility to the orchard). Finally, everybody sings rousing apple wassailing carols to bless the trees and encourage them to provide a bountiful harvest before enjoying a feast.

Apple tree wassailing takes place on Twelfth Night (January 5), which marks the end of the ancient winter festival season as well as Christmastide. For country folk, it’s also an opportunity for one last blast before they have to start the hard work of ploughing the fields and sowing the seed. *Wassail!*

Old Apple tree, old apple tree;
We’ve come to wassail thee;
To bear and to bow apples enow;
Hats full, caps full, three bushel bags full;
Barn floors full and a little heap under the stairs.
(The last verse of an Apple Tree Wassail)

Note: this letter was written by Adrian Wilson, an English teacher from London, England, now living in Chigasaki.

Surfboard Stories of Chigasaki (2) Letters from Mr. Hagar

ちがさき ものがたり てがみ 茅ヶ崎サーフボード物語 (2) Hagar さんからの手紙

A wonderful email was received from California. The sender, Mr. Wayne Hagar, a keen surfer, lived in Hawaii for over thirty years and still volunteers for Pua Ka 'Ilima 'O Kawaihae Cultural Surfpark on the Big Island (Hawaii). Two articles in the 57th issue of Chigasaki Breeze, 'Chigasaki Surfboard Stories' and 'Nurture Friendship for Future Coexistence', attracted his attention because he had spent a lot of time with Ernie Tanaka at his surfboard shop in California. Wayne had also visited E. T. Surfboards Japan in Chigasaki whilst on shore leave in 1969. There he met Mitsuo Nishino (see bottom left photo), the then owner, and Jun Usami (standing 2nd from the left in the top right photo, next to Hagar-san, in the middle), a representative of the Chigasaki Surfing Association and a famous shaper, both of whom had learned board-shaping from Ernie Tanaka.



Wayne contacted the chief editor just after finding these articles on the internet. In his second letter, he recounts his memories: "I got off in Chigasaki and tracked down the Ernie Tanaka shop. They didn't know me, but helped me get a hotel room by the sea. --- I had a great time with those guys and they were so kind to let me borrow a board." He continues, "When you are going through life, you don't realize you are at the beginning of something. I have been fortunate that surfing has led to adventures and friendships around the world for me, --- I still hope to return and again surf Chigasaki and meet anyone that is still around." Mr. Usami saw the photos saying, "Good days", and Mr. Nishino, "Hope to see him again", full of deep emotion.

"Mahalo", Wayne, for sharing with us these fond memories.



Final tax returns

かくていしんこく 確定申告

Citizens can file their **final tax return of 2015 income tax and special income tax for reconstruction** documentation at Fujisawa Tax Office or Chigasaki City Hall (4F) from February 16 (Tue) through March 15 (Tue).

Citizens whose public pension income was four million yen or less do not have to file a tax return, provided that their total income from all other sources did not exceed 200,000 yen. However, if you wish to make a claim for a refund of taxes already paid, submission is necessary. Assistance in completing your final tax return is available as follows:

- Jan 27 (Wed)–29 (Fri), 09:30–15:30, City Hall (4F): pensioners and salaried workers;
- Feb 1 (Mon)–5 (Fri), 09:30–15:30, Chigasaki Chamber of Commerce: small amount tax payers as well as pensioners and salaried workers;
- Feb 19 (Fri), 10:00–15:00, Chigasaki Chamber of Commerce: salaried workers about refunds of medical reductions; and pensioners about refunds of income tax.

Tax return forms can be downloaded from the National Tax Agency's home page (www.nta.go.jp/) or can be obtained from Fujisawa Tax Office, the tax section of City Hall, or any City branch office, such as Citizen's Gallery.

Municipal and prefectural tax returns will also be accepted at City Hall (2F or 4F) until March 15 (Tue).

Parking lot fees

ちゅうしゃじょう りょうきん 駐車場の料金

Visitors to City Hall, Community Hall, Comprehensive Gymnasium or Civic Hall can use any one of the four parking lots shown below for free for the first hour. All parking lots are open 24/7, but during the nighttime period (not shown), the parking fees are different and some parking lots do not allow you to remove your car until the daytime period starts.

Visitors on official business or with qualifying medical exemptions may park for free no matter how long their business takes - please ask an official for details.

Parking Lot	Size and Type	Yen / 30 min.	Daytime Hours
Chigasaki City Parking Lot	Car large	510	06:00~24:00
	medium	300	
	standard	100	08:00~22:00
	Motorbike large	200 (no time limit)	06:00~24:00
	standard		
City Hall, Civic Hall Comprehensive Gym	Car: standard size	100	08:00~22:00

Useful Japanese Expressions 役に立つ日本語

きあ あ KI GA AU (AWANAI) 気が合う (合わない)

When we say "KI GA AU (AWANAI)" in Japanese, it means "having good (bad) chemistry". "KI" itself can be translated as "chi", "energy", "mind", "conscience" and so on, and "AU (合う)" itself means "blending in" or "matching up". When you have a friend with whom you hit it off well, you can call this situation "KI GA AU".

Conversely, if two people cannot understand each other despite plenty of conversation, you can call this "KI GA AWANAI". Although "chemistry" and "chi" differ a lot in their original meanings, "having good chemistry" seems to be the perfect translation for "KI GA AU". When the "chi"s of two individuals blend together, it causes a chemical reaction!

Try remarking "KI GA AU NE!" when you have good chemistry with someone, but if that's not the case, you don't have to mention it.

National Holidays in 2016

ねんこくみん しゅくじつ 2016年国民の祝日

January 1 (Fri)	New Year's Day
January 11 (Mon)	Coming-of-Age Day
February 11 (Thu)	National Foundation Day
March 20 (Sun)	Vernal Equinox Day
March 21 (Mon)	Substitute holiday
April 29 (Fri)	Showa Day
May 3 (Tue)	Constitution Memorial Day
May 4 (Wed)	Greenery Day
May 5 (Thu)	Children's Day
July 18 (Mon)	Marine Day
August 11 (Thu)	Mountain Day (New)
September 19 (Mon)	Respect-for-the-Aged Day
September 22 (Thu)	Autumnal Equinox Day
October 10 (Mon)	Health and Sports Day
November 3 (Thu)	Culture Day
November 23 (Wed)	Labor Thanksgiving Day
December 23 (Fri)	Emperor's Birthday

Japanese Proverbs and their English Equivalents

にほん せいよう 日本と西洋のことわざ

●河童の川流れ

KAPPA NO KAWA-NAGARE

(The water imp "Kappa" will sometimes be carried away by the current of the river.)

Even the best horse stumbles sometimes.

●枯れ木も山の賑わい

KAREKI MO YAMA NO NIGIWAI

(Even the withered trees add to the interest of the mountain.)

A bad bush is better than the open field.

●高見の見物

TAKAMI NO KENBUTSU

(To remain a mere spectator)

To look on with folded arms

●猫に鯉節

NEKO NI KATSUOBUSHI

(Giving dried bonito to a cat)

Setting a wolf to mind the sheep

●物は言いよう

MONO WA IYŌ

(It's not what you say, but how you say it.)

A good tale ill told is marred in the telling.