China Connected

June 7, 2024

China Village · Branch Mills Village · China Village · Weeks Mills Village · South China Village

Where little villages come together

As I write this piece for the China Connected, it is Wednesday (Yes, the office is closed but I still work on Wednesdays) and today for a change (Ok, really, I never do this) I took a small table and a chair and sat outside the back door of the town office while I ate lunch. Most of the time, I either skip lunch or eat at my desk and plug away at the stack of projects that I am working on. However, today I needed to change a thought to change my day. Just taking 10 minutes away from my four walls helped to clear my mind. The birds were singing. The sun was shining. The sky was a vivid blue with some fluffy, white, cotton candy clouds. I will not do this every day, but today provided a great reset.

This job, like most jobs, comes with a great deal of stress. Every day, I witness our town employees striving to do what is best for the China taxpayers. Some days we are greeted with kindness. Other days we are verbally attacked for enforcing the rules and regulations of the town and state. My goal each day is to change a thought and change a mindset of everyone I encounter. Whether it be with simple kindness, a quick conversation, a hug or a smile, I look to improve the day of everyone I meet. That's just who I am, what I do, and I need to embrace that more. Today's improvement just happened to be my own. Stop by and say hi. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Now it's challenge time. For China Community Days, there will be an opportunity to race me through an obstacle course. There is a catch. You must wear an inflatable costume. Who's in? Sign up by calling the town office or email chinacommunitydays@gmail.com. I'm a competitor so bring it!

Becky Hapgood
becky@chinamaine.org

Check out the new Town of China website!

chinamaine.org

All Municipal Services will be closed Wednesday, June 19th in honor of Juneteenth.

NOTICE

The Town Office will be closed:

***Tuesday June 11, 2024** for the election.

***Friday, June 28, 2024 closing at noon** for fiscal year end.

***Saturday, June 29, 2024** for fiscal year end.

June 11, 2024 Election

Voting will be held in the portable building at the Town Office complex.

Polls are open 7am-8pm

The Lakeview Drive entrance will be closed during the election. Please use the Alder Park Road entrance.

Contestants needed for China Community Days!

1.) Participants will race Town Manager Becky through an obstacle course on Saturday, August 3rd at 1:00 p.m. Must have an inflatable costume.

2.) Chefs with a grill will compete in a BBQ competition. Food will be provided and judged by local China celebrities.

PRIZES GIVEN!!

To sign up, please call the town office at 207-445-2014 X3 or email chinacommunitydays@gmail.com.

General Public – Feedback Survey

Please fill out this brief survey so we can gain feedback on how we can help improve the **Town of China**! Just scan the QR code on your photos app or go to https://forms.gle/FvuGiCNnudJnqfVf8

Congratulations to Kelly Grotton for 28 years and counting with the Town of China! Your fellow staff are very thankful for you!

Silas and Shiloh Parlin cleaning up the Seco Sewall cemetery in China. Thank you for volunteering your time without being asked to!

Code Guy Corner

You've got the camp you've always dreamt of. Now what? Everyone likes to make a space their own, putting their own little spin on things. That's fantastic! Most are aware that when you're adding/removing structures to and from your property, it's good practice to check with the local Code Officer first. We can be a handy resource (if I do say so myself!). Ok, so you've checked with the Town, you've gotten your permit, now you just need to find someone to either do the job for (or with) you. Well, I just want to let you know that not all contractors are equal when it comes to work adjacent to wetlands and lakes. It is required to have one person on site during all phases of soil disturbance be certified through the Maine DEP for Erosion Control Practices within the Shoreland Zone (the area within 250' horizontal distance of a great pond and certain identified wetlands). With all that being said, and the crazy winter we just had, here's to a wonderful summer for all!

For those that are looking to become certified, here is a helpful link to get you started. https://www.maine.gov/dep/land/training/ecp-certification.html

Nick French
ceo@chinamaine.org

China Primary School

It's time to enroll your student for the 2024-2025 school year!

If you have a child who will be 4 by October 15, 2024, your child is eligible for PreKindergarten! For more information, please reach out to the front office at (207) 445-1550.

Kindergarten registration is open and accepting new students! Students are currently being placed in classrooms so submit your enrollment applications now!

Hi! I am Gracie Stagnito. I am an Economics student at the University of Georgia. This summer I am the Economic and Community Development Intern for the Town of China. I plan to work with local businesses to enhance the economic growth of the town and assist at China Community Days! I have spent every summer in Oakland for 20 years, so Maine has a very special place in my heart! I cannot wait to learn more about the town of China and meet all its wonderful residents and business owners. I am excited to see what the municipal government has to offer!

HAVE YOU PURCHASED YOUR NEW TRANSFER STATION ACCESS PERMIT??

EACH VEHICLE ENTERING THE TRANSFER STATION IS REQUIRED TO HAVE AN ACCESS PERMIT. PERMITS ARE $2.00 EACH. PLEASE RETURN YOUR PLACARD(S) TO THE TOWN OFFICE WHEN OBTAINING THE NEW PERMIT. TO VIEW THE TS ACCESS PERMIT POLICY PLEASE VISIT CHINAMAINE.ORG UNDER ORDINANCES, POLICIES & ORDERS.

Have you ordered your E911 sign yet??

The Town of China is offering an E911 sign displaying your house number. Please contact the town office at 207-445-2014 X3 or info@chinamaine.org to order.

Albert Church Brown Memorial Library Events:

Artist Reception with Carmela Thompson
Saturday, June 8th at 2:00 p.m.

Annual Meeting with Entertainment by Uke 'n Be Happy
Thursday, June 20th 5:30 p.m.

Author Event: Gerry Boyle
Sunday, June 23rd at 1:00 p.m.

CHINA COMMUNITY DAYS
Yard Sale Trail

Anyone wanting your yard sale location to be included on August 2nd, 3rd or 4th please contact the China Town Office with your location and times at 445-2014 extension 3 or info@chinamaine.org.