

# CHINA CONNECTED

August 4, 2023

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

*Where little villages come together*

I want to thank each one of you who puts the time and effort into reading every China Connected. I appreciate hearing from residents like Alyssa B. who this week told me she reads every CC. It makes my heart happy! I truly hope the CC provides relevant information to the 04926 and 04358 postal codes. If you have a topic you'd like to see in the CC, please email me.

By Monday, the 2023 China Community Days will be a wrap. The fun-filled event would never happen without the great cast of volunteers who put this weekend on out of the kindness of their hearts and their love of the community! We always need more volunteers. You don't need to attend every meeting but just being available when something is needed is a huge help. Please consider stepping up and serving your community!

The Golden Agers group continues to grow in numbers. Looking out into the parking lot on Wednesdays certainly makes me smile. It's never too late to join the fun. The friends meet on Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. until noon. Games, snacks and camaraderie are always provided. Additionally, they have two upcoming trips – Cabbage Island and the Fryeburg Fair. If you are free on Wednesdays, please consider joining the fun.

Becky Hapgood  
Town Manager



## Changes regarding LD 290 Property Tax Stabilization for Seniors

Yes, LD 290 Property Tax Stabilization for Senior Citizens program, enacted just a year ago, has been repealed by the Maine Legislature on July 6, 2023. This program intended to freeze taxes of the applicant's primary residence at the previous year's level for qualifying senior citizens. For those who applied and were approved for the current year, this program remains in place for the current tax year only. This means that your tax amount on the 2023-2024 tax bill will be the same as last year's tax bill.

Going forward, the stabilization program has been **replaced** with an expanded Property Tax Fairness Credit (PTFC) and an expanded Property Tax Deferral program. It is the legislature's belief that many more taxpayers will now qualify for the expanded programs and get a greater benefit. More information can be found at [Maine.gov](http://Maine.gov). Please note that these changes are the result of laws created and enacted by legislature. While the Town of China administered the stabilization program, we had no part in its creation or repeal. Any questions or concerns should be directed to your legislative representative. China is represented by Senator Matthew G. Pouliot 441-9418 and Representative Katrina Smith 230-9583.

The two existing State programs benefiting low-income seniors that have been expanded are:

1. **The Property Tax Fairness Credit**, which currently allows eligible Mainers to take a \$1,500 credit, has increased to \$2,000; it also loosens limits on the program in a way that allows the benefits to remain constant for a Mainer whose spouse passes away. Note: This program is not administered by the Town of China. To claim the credit, you must file Form 1040ME and Schedule PTFC/STFC for the tax year during which the property tax or rent was paid. This program will be administered through the Income Tax Division. For assistance, call 207-624-9784 or visit Property Tax Fairness Credit Summary at [Maine.gov](http://Maine.gov).
2. **The State Property Tax Deferral Program** is a lifeline loan program that covers the annual property taxes of Maine seniors who are age 65 and older who cannot afford to pay them on their own. This program has been expanded doubling the income limit to \$80,000 and raises asset limits. Taxes covered by this program must be paid back when the subject property is sold or becomes part of an estate. This program is also not administered by the Town of China. For assistance, contact Maine Revenue Services, Property Tax Division at 207-624-5600 or [prop.tax@maine.gov](mailto:prop.tax@maine.gov). For more information visit State Property Tax Deferral Program at [Maine.gov](http://Maine.gov).

## Notice of Road Closing Causeway Road

Saturday, August 5, 2023 –  
3:00 p.m. until 9:30 p.m.

Sunday, August 6, 2023 –  
8:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.

from 36 Causeway Road  
easterly to the boat launch.

## DID YOU KNOW??

The China Transfer Station has a compost area!

The national average of all trash is 40% compostable, which is thrown into landfills. Average cost to the town is \$1.65 per 40lb bag of trash. This means on average, 16lbs per 40lb bag thrown into the hopper can be composted at our facility. This could save 66¢ per bag on disposal fees or \$990 per week!

### Examples of compostable items:

- \* Shredded paper
- \* Garden materials (green materials)
- \* Egg shells
- \* Left over spoiled food  
(can be cooked)
- \* Horse, cow, chicken, rabbit,  
goat manure or bedding
- \* Hay and shavings
- \* Lawn clippings
- \* Wood chips



Rule of Thumb - "If It Grows It Goes"

# China Community Days

August 4-5-6, 2023 Program of Events



All events (except for the fireworks) will be held rain or shine. Rain date for the fireworks is Sunday, August 6, 2023

## Friday, August 4, 2023

Free Barbecue Dinner and Community Social - Lawn Games - Movie Night Hosted by Central Church - activities at 627 Route 3 including dinner and a social gathering with lawn games and a movie. 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Cornhole under the lights - 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at China Ballfields between the Middle and Primary Schools, hosted by the Recreation Committee. Call the Town Office at 445-2014 extension 3 to reserve your spot or sign up at scoreholio! Ages 12 and up.

## Saturday, August 5, 2023

Community Organizations and Vendors - 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. - China Ballfields - 763 Lakeview Drive. Kids activities, bounce house, local organizations and vendors.

10:30 a.m. - Velocity Athletics

\*10:00 a.m. to noon - Party Palooga will be doing balloon twisting & glitter tattoos

\*noon to 2:00 p.m. - face painting

\*A list of participating organizations will be available on the Town of China's website and China Community Days Facebook page. To participate as a vendor please contact [chinacommunitydays@gmail.com](mailto:chinacommunitydays@gmail.com) or call the Town Office with questions - 445-2014-ext 3.

Old Town Hall Museum Open 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Hosted by the China Historical Society.

Tribute to Norman Dwelley - 1:00 p.m. - China Middle School (Gym parking lot entrance) A plaque is being placed to honor Norman Dwelley for his contributions as the Principal of the China Elementary School and involvement in the China Village Fire Department.

Cruise-In Car Show - 10:00-2:00 - China Primary School - 763 Lakeview Drive - No entry fee and free admission! Each car entered will receive 7 tickets for the prize drawings. Prizes drawn every hour.

## Saturday Evening

**\*\*The Causeway Road will be closed from 3:00 pm until after the fireworks.\*\***

Cardboard Boat Regatta - Hosted by the China Lake Association - Causeway Road beside the China Baptist Church Park. Registration begins at 3:00 p.m. and races begin at 4:00 p.m. Please see the Town of China website, [china.govoffice.com](http://china.govoffice.com), or the China Community Days Facebook page for registration forms and rules. For more information contact Elaine Philbrook at 968-1037 or Bill Powell at 441-3514.

Boat Parade - will be at the head of the lake at 5:00 p.m. Decorated boats should meet in front of the beach area of the China Lake Conference Center at 4:30 p.m. The parade will be led to the Causeway area for judging at 5:00 p.m. Prizes will be awarded. Register at [chinacommunitydays@gmail.com](mailto:chinacommunitydays@gmail.com).

Street Dance - 6:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. - featuring The Veggies! The Veggies will be joining us again for music and fun! - China Baptist Church parking lot. The China 4 Seasons Club will be selling glow items!

Family Carnival - Central Church will be providing free hot dogs and family friendly games and activities during the street dance. \*Thank you China Baptist Church for the use of your property!\*

Fireworks Display - Approximately 9:00 pm, Head of the lake on Causeway Road (Fireworks are shot from the vicinity of 1<sup>st</sup> Fire Road) \*Thank you to Judi Gilman for the use of your property for the fireworks display.

## Sunday, August 6, 2023

**\*\*The Causeway Road will be closed from the bridge to the Church parking lot from 8:30 until about 11:30 for the safety of the children fishing.\*\***

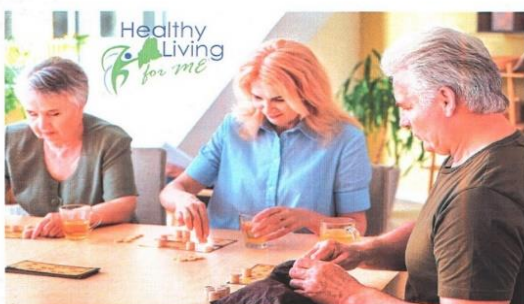
Youth Fishing Derby - 9 a.m.-11 a.m. Ages 15 and under. Fishing from the designated area along the Causeway. For more information contact Kelly Grotton at 445-2014 extension 6 or 462-0301.

Scavenger Hunt - 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. Teams must meet in the parking lot of the China Baptist Church ready to receive the list at 12:00 p.m. Each team will be provided a list of 100 items to gather. Return to the portable building at the Town Office by 2:00 p.m. For more information contact Kelly Grotton at 445-2014 extension 6 or 462-0301.

## All weekend

Yard Sale Trail - Follow the map to the local yard sales. (Will be posted on China Community Day's Facebook and the Town of China's website.) Anyone wanting your yard sale location to be included please contact the China Town Office with your location and times at 445-2014 extension 3 or [info@chinamaine.org](mailto:info@chinamaine.org).

No tobacco products, vaping, cannabis or alcohol please! Pets are not permitted at the school and ballfield properties.



**BINGOCIZE®**

Date: August 29, 2022 — November 2, 2023 (Start-End)

Time: 1:30 p.m. — 2:30 p.m. (Start-End)

Location: 571 Lakeview Drive So. China Town Office in-person) **Please contact Monica to register!**

Workshop contact: Monica Hawk  
mhawk@specturmgenerations.org, 207-620-1642

The Town of China is seeking applications from highly motivated individuals for a full-time shared position of Plow Truck Driver/Road Maintenance Worker and Transfer Station attendant. For a more detailed description visit [www.china.govoffice.com](http://www.china.govoffice.com).

All Municipal Services  
will be closed Monday,  
September 4<sup>th</sup>, in  
observance of Labor Day.