

22 MOSAIC

Welcoming guests is a sacred art that opens a door to love

Whenever my husband and I used to visit his grandmother in her village in Zhejiang province, there was one thing we could always count on — an onslaught of hospitality.

It didn't matter that she was busy knitting a hat or scarf to earn some extra money. She would immediately pull out a stool for us, sometimes even trying to offer her own seat piled high with cushions.

Then came the cups filled with green tea leaves and hot water, a must for guests any-

where the village. And soon after she would disappear, usually to the kitchen where she would start soaking a batch of rice noodles to fry up in her wok, but sometimes to reach into one of her overflowing bags of seasonal fruit, choosing the freshest apples or pears just for us.

Even if we just happened to say hello at the door, she would never let us leave without taking something to eat. On one occasion, where we chatted with her on our way to hike up the mountains, she was so insistent we accept her mandarin oranges that she tried chasing after us.

She never did catch up, but her resolve reminded me that hospitality is a serious busi-



Jocelyn and her grandmother-in-law at home in Zhejiang province. PROVIDED TO CHINA DAILY

ness in culture. And it wasn't just her or my husband's close relatives in the village who would welcome us in this way.

A woman always invited us over for dinner whenever we hiked through the pine grove surrounding her home. While cruising down a hill

on our bicycles, a man standing outside his house holding a bowl of rice asked us to eat with him.

A farmer picking cherries in the fields suddenly pushed his basket of sweet red bounty in front of me, insisting I must take some home — and even forcing the cherries into my hands when I hadn't taken enough.

In every case, these people would offer us some of the most cordial smiles I've ever encountered.

Smiles that embodied the words, "Be our guest." As much as I've enjoyed hospitality in the United States, it doesn't come close to what I've experienced in my husband's hometown. In the suburbs of Cleveland,

Ohio, where I grew up, it was rare to visit relatives unannounced and enjoy such lavish attention, and rarer for people to invite passers-by into their homes. And even if they did, at most you could generally expect something to drink, maybe some cookies or snack foods, but never a home-cooked dinner.

The generosity of people in my husband's village — from relatives to strangers — has upended everything I thought I ever knew about hospitality.

It has introduced me to a world where doors are still left wide open with the hope that someone might wander in, and where it's never a trouble to stay a while, dine or even spend the night if needed.

A place where welcoming others into your life — even when it's not on your schedule — is one of the most sacred things a person can do.

It can magically transform even the most humble surroundings, such as grandma's two-room cottage, into a heavenly corner full of warmth and humanity.

After what I've been blessed to experience here in China, I only hope I can pass it on by opening my home to someone else with kindness.

Contact the writer at jocelyn@chinadaily.com.cn

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Candid camera: Making a splash

A child experiences the cooling delights of a swimming pool in Wuhan, Hubei province, on July 15. Water parks and swimming pools have witnessed an increasing number of visitors to escape the summer heat.

XINHUA



This Day, That Year



Editor's note: This year marks the 40th anniversary of China's reform and opening-up policy.

The photo from July 24, 1994, in China Daily showed the opening of the first McDonald's restaurant in Shanghai, the company's 22nd store in China.

About 2,500 more stores have been opened across the country.

Following McDonald's expansion, Western fast-food and restaurant chains have

been significantly increasing their presence in Chinese cities in the past few decades, on the back of the country's rapid development.

Kentucky Fried Chicken opened its first Chinese outlet in 1987 and Pizza Hut entered the market in the early 1990s.

Competition remains fierce in the industry, with more menus and novel dining

experiences being offered to attract customers.

McDonald's offerings in China include meals targeting local tastes. In 2015, the fast-food chain opened four "do-it-yourself" burger concept stores — where consumers will be able to choose from 24 ingredients to make their own burgers — in Shanghai and Guangzhou, capital of Guangdong province.

In August, McDonald's announced the completion of a strategic partnership with

CITIC Ltd, CITIC Capital Partners and The Carlyle Group. CITIC and CITIC Capital hold a majority stake in the new company.

The fast-food chain said local partners will help speed up growth through new restaurant openings, particularly in smaller cities that are expected to benefit from increased

Faces of Shanghai



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Children are happy about the opening of the first McDonald's restaurant in Shanghai. It is McDonald's 22nd store in China. Following years in Shenzhen, five in Beijing, four in Guangzhou and one each in Xian, Foshan, Tianjin, Singapore and Foshan.

urbanization and income growth.

The company expects to have nearly 4,500 stores operating in China by 2022.

The newspaper and beyond

On our Sina Weibo

Daughter knows her dad is a real hero

Gao Fan's daughter knows he is a hero. This transcends a daughter's love for a father. She actually saw her father risk his life to save others. Gao took his family to a stretch of the Yangtze River this month in Yichang, Hubei province. But then he saw a mother and a child in obvious distress in the water and he jumped in and pulled them to safety. Gao's daughter witnessed the rescue and presented her father with a certificate at a family event honoring his bravery. "Dad, you are my hero" it said.



Valuable tips to get your life better organized

We all get the feeling that sometimes our lives could be simpler as we seem to rush helter-skelter from here to there. Well, help may be at hand. According to TED, there are four key tips to better organize your life. Keep it simple: be more productive and avoid distractions; Create set routines to manage your time more effectively; Keep a current and detailed to-do list for daily tasks as well as longer-term projects; and finally, prioritize things and get them done quickly in terms of deadlines and goals.

Nanjing massacre survivor is a model of success

Zhao Zhenhua, 90, knows that life can be dangerous but also offers opportunities at unexpected moments. Zhao survived the Nanjing massacre in 1937. Her story was told in the movie *City of Life and Death*. She has always been determined to embrace life's opportunities and took to the catwalk several decades ago. She still models clothes and enjoys the lifestyle of a catwalk star. Her mantra for success: No moment in life should be wasted.



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Culture: Li Junyi reads for you on website

In the fifth episode of the short video series by the China Daily website, Li Junyi, who became a household name after appearing in the reality show *Idol Producer*, will read a poem by Charles Dickens, *These Things Shall Never Die*. Li said that it's hard to pursue a dream, but sometimes when we stick to it and get through it, we can see a different world. *Poetry Moment* is an original short video series broadcast every Thursday. Stay tuned.

Travel: China is leading Canada tourist source

China has become Canada's largest source of overseas tourists for the first time, according to Canada's minister of Small Business and Tourism. Canada's tourism sector had a record-breaking year last year, welcoming 21 million international visitors including 682,000 from China. The number of Chinese tourists to Canada reached 178,000 in the first four months this year, an increase of 23.9 percent over the same period last year. Data from the agency Immigration, Refugees and Citi-

zenship Canada also showed the approval rate for Chinese temporary resident visa applications is high, averaging 88.5 percent since 2015.



Fashion: Shoes that shine on a rainy day

You can either save for rainy days, or for a pair of rain shoes. With the constant showers, in North China recently, such shoes might turn heads as the wearer negotiates the damp streets and avoids the waiting puddles. Such footwear has become trendy. Visit our website to look at the stylish ones, which are nothing like those old-fashioned rubber boots that once seemed the only protection.

Forum: Job ad stirs a degree of debate

A local government recently apologized after a controversial

job posting on its website provoked an online debate about income-education mismatches. The ad, posted by Shenmu county government in Shaanxi province, wanted master's degree holders to fill a number of entry-level positions for social service work and drew a wave of criticism online. The seemingly disproportionate link between the advertised position and degree holders was criticized by many online, as prioritizing unemployed post-graduates.

Biz: BAIC eyes top 100 on Fortune 500 list

Vehicle manufacturer BAIC Group climbed 13 places to 124 in the latest Fortune Global 500 list released last week, with sales revenue of \$69.59 billion last year. Xu Heyi, chairman of BAIC Group, said the company is aiming for the top 100 in 2020. BAIC has been named on the list for six consecutive years.

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Bilingual: Misconceptions about jobs

关于职业的误解

中国日报双语新闻

不少人都经历过和不懂自己职业的人交流时的尴尬情景。近日，美国图标设计师Louie Mantia在社交网络上发布了一个有趣的帖子：人们对职业有哪些常见的误解？网友们七嘴八舌地展开了讨论。下面请跟随双语君一起来看看吧！



Nurse

Nurses are underpaid and often have to work long days and nights. Ironically, sick leave is something they may not be entitled to as they care for those who desperately need their expertise and attention.

护士的待遇不高，而且经常需要加班。但讽刺的是，他们常常因为照顾病人脱不开身，自己却不能休病假。

Programmer

Your computer program isn't functioning properly. Call a programmer. But then you find out that programmers don't even know why your printer isn't working.

解决电脑程序的问题，对于程序员来说易如反掌；但如要找出问题是打印机，大多程序员也许会一筹莫展。

Librarian

Librarians do, in fact, still exist. Libraries may be fast disappearing in the digital era, but some are still open and provide a service that is often underappreciated.

图书管理员这个职业确实还存在。数字时代的来临可能会加速图书馆的消失，但是现在还有一些实体图书馆，我们常常低估了它们提供的价值。

Animator

Producing animation costs a huge amount of money and takes a very long time. Worth remembering when you enjoy an animated film. 动画制作往往成本高、耗时长。当你观看动画电影时，请记住那些默默付出的幕后制作者。

Assistant

They may be somebody's designated assistant, normally their superior's, but when things go wrong, they are everybody's assistant. 一般而言，助理虽然只协助某个特定的人，比如主管，但当公司遇到问题时，他就变成了每个人的助理。

Lawyer

Lawyers usually specialize in a certain field of law. So that means they may not be able to adequately answer your questions about contracts, parking charges, property, your grandfather's illness, or a noisy neighbor. 律师通常只专注于某一法律领域。这就意味着他们可能没有办法回答你所

有的问题，比如合同、罚单、产权、你祖父的就医问题或者邻居过于吵闹。

Flight attendant

Flight attendants smile as they welcome you on board. Making sure passengers are looked after can be quite demanding. They deserve our gratitude. After all, they have been trained to save you and your loved ones in an emergency. They don't tell you to fasten your seat belts to annoy you, but for your safety.

登机时，空乘人员总是笑脸相迎，但照顾到每一位乘客并非易事。我们应为此心怀感激。毕竟，训练有素的他们能于危难之中拯救你和你所爱的人。提醒乘客系好安全带是为了安全考虑，并非有意打扰。

Editor

Editing is more about formulating arguments and story structure rather than fixing sentences. Often when someone says they are an editor, they get a response similar to, "That's so awesome! I love finding typos!"

编辑的工作主要是形成论点和调整行文结构，而不是改句子。可是当你告诉别人自己是编辑后，人们往往这么回应：“太棒了！我喜欢找错字！”

Artist

Artists require money and food to survive. They don't just live off the admiration of others. It may be a great picture but the artist only eats if you buy it.

艺术家的生活也需要靠金钱和面包维持，而不能仅凭赞美。一幅作品也许是一个伟大的创作，但是总得卖出去，艺术家才能吃上饭。

Teacher

Teaching is an incredibly hard skill to learn and requires way more training than nonteachers (even many college professors, alas) realize. 教学是一项很难掌握的技能，需要接受的培训比旁人（甚至许多大学教授）认为得要更多。

Novelist

Writing a novel is not remotely the same kind of writing as a high school paper, a press release or a grocery list. 写小说和写高中论文、新闻稿和购物单有天壤之别。



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