



April 2025

Dear Citizens of Limestone,

On behalf of the Limestone Chamber of Commerce and Limestone Development Foundation volunteer led Board of Directors, it is my pleasure to report on all the important work that has been accomplished in the past year. We had another full schedule of events sponsored and/or led by the Chamber of Commerce and often with the Limestone Development Foundation's involvement. We also collaborated with Limestone Rotary Club this year and appreciate their commitment to working together for the betterment of our community.

We know our work would not be possible without the many partners and volunteers who choose to stay anonymous and not be publicly thanked. Please know that we are grateful for your support.

Below we have included highlights of the past year as review:

Total Solar Eclipse – On April 8, 2024 Limestone welcomed more than 1,500 people as they attended the solar eclipse viewing event at the Arch Hangar on the former Loring Air Force Base. Totality was 2 minutes and 8 seconds and everyone at the Star Park was awed by the experience of being in the line of totality getting to experience total darkness.

Fourth of July Festivities – Last year our celebration started with the town-wide yard sale for Limestone and Caswell on June 21-23 and ended on July 4th after our parade beginning with a rolling car show. Every 04750 zip-code received a 4th of July Celebration schedule in the mail along with the Chamber insert game card. The schedule provided dates and time of events and their sponsors. A pool party, craft party, adult water aerobics, music at the gazebo, Patriotic Field Day, along with other organization sponsored events brought us to the July 3rd street dance. In addition to the warm weather, we had live music, a variety of vendors, bouncy houses and free photo booth. The scheduled fireworks at dusk over the pond had to be halted due to equipment failure. Our 4th of July parade theme was Land of the Free Because of the Brave and Grand Marshall Avis Cantafio lead the parade. A Co-Ed Community Softball League and annual Limestone Rotary Golf Tournament rounded off our festivities.

Octoberfest Featuring 2024 BloKart East Coast Championships – On October 12 we held a chili cook-off, BloKart rides, food vendors, pickleball and the USPS was on site with a cancellation stamp commemorating the event.

Albert Michaud Park Revitalization Project – The playground equipment installation was completed including this year's projects of lighting, a merry-go-round and a child's sand digger. The Limestone Development Foundation held an open house on October 28th to showcase the completion of projects and thank the many volunteers, clubs and organizations for their part in making the revitalization a reality.

Light Parade – On December 8th, we held our annual light parade with Santa & Mrs. Claus at Rotary Park, snacks and hot chocolate for the children and pictures with Santa.

Limestone Snow Hawks Club – The 2024 Maine Snowmobile Association (MSA) awarded the Limestone Snow Hawks Club of the year. Congratulations! The club continues with the Duck Race 500 Fundraiser after the parade each 4th of July.

Limestone Trail Hawks Club – The local club were recipients of a Yamaha Grant to purchase a flail mower to make mowing more efficient and less expensive for the club.

The Limestone Development Foundation and the Limestone Chamber of Commerce provide support to nonprofit community clubs to ensure the ability of these clubs to stay vibrant in our town, recognizing the value they bring to local businesses through increased tourism and recreation.

Chamber of Commerce Memberships– We are grateful for the small businesses that continue to grow in our town and their support through annual membership. We had a total of 65 members last year, and were able to provide our members with promotional opportunities and events that brought more foot traffic to our community and increased exposure to what their business has to offer, particularly through social media. We referred potential customers to our members, which adds credibility through validation of being an established, trustworthy business. Additionally, we provided information about Limestone and its businesses to five Maine Tourism kiosks throughout the state, included a new website www.ldfchamberlimestonemaine.org, with a business directory, new brochures and social media advertising featuring Limestone as a four-season tourism destination.

Fundraisers – We had three annual fundraisers including an advertisement calendar, strawberry shortcake festival and the sale of T-shirts that provide additional funding for the fourth of July week festivities and other community projects. We also sold solar glasses at the eclipse for a fundraiser and sold postcards with the BloKarts featured on the front during Octoberfest.

Beautification – Through a combined effort the following items were purchased for appearance of our downtown areas - flower pots on Main Street, Rotary Park plantings, plantings under the Town of Limestone signs, decorating for holidays at rotary park and the addition of new Christmas Decorative Lights from the Light Up Limestone fundraiser group. The Limestone Development Foundation is the Fiscal Sponsor for the Main Street Christmas Decorations Project, a fundraising project spearheaded by our community because of the considerable investment for any one organization. The organization continues to fundraise to purchase more lights on more poles going up Main Street.

Together, we continue to accomplish great things. On behalf of the Board of Directors, we thank our community for their contributions and look forward to another year of doing things together.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo-Ellen Kelley, Secretary
Limestone Development Foundation/Chamber of Commerce

"When you work together, there's a strength that no obstacle can match" ~Lao Tzu