



April 2024

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 last 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 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 a highlight in reflection and for your review:

Fourth of July Festivities – Last year our celebration started with the town-wide yard sale for Limestone and Caswell on June 23-25 and ended on July 4<sup>th</sup> after the parade. Every 04750 zip-code received a 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration schedule in the mail along with the Chamber Scavenger Scramble game card. The schedule provided dates and time of events and their sponsors. The pet show, craft party, music at the gazebo, Patriotic Field Day, along with other organization sponsored events brought us to the July 3<sup>rd</sup> street dance. In addition to the great weather, we had live music, a variety of vendors, bouncy houses and at dusk the fireworks were set off downtown over the pond. Our 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade theme was American Heart and we had judges for categories and awarded cash prizes.

Albert Michaud Park Revitalization Project – The playground equipment continued to be installed, as well as a new Albert Michaud Park sign, pavers recognizing the initial donors and an ADA picnic table. Lighting and a merry-go-round have been purchased and will be installed in the spring. The Limestone Development Foundation is the Fiscal Sponsor for this project. This has been entirely funded by grants, individual and group donors, and donations from civic organizations.

Age Friendly Limestone –Age Friendly volunteers provided hot cocoa on Main Street during the annual Light Parade. Santa was at Rotary Park before the parade to meet children and the Chamber handed out treat bags to the children.

Limestone Snow Hawks Club – A 50/50 Skidoo Pass grant was written and awarded to the Snow Hawks Snowmobile Club for trail repair.

*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 businesses that continue to grow in our town and their support through annual membership. We had a total of 58 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. To help increase business, we released a newsletter, featuring upcoming events and how to use these to attract more customers. Additionally, we provided information about Limestone and its businesses to five Maine Tourism kiosks throughout the state.

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.

Beautification – Through a combined effort the following items were purchased for appearance of our downtown areas - flower pots on Main Street, Rotary Park plantings, new US Flags and new pole purchases for Main Street, plantings under the Town of Limestone signs, upgraded lights on the downtown telephone poles to highlight the banners. 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.

Together, we continue to accomplish great things, including a move from the town office to a space in the prior police department. Our address and phone number have remained the same. On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you for all your contributions.

Respectfully submitted,

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

*"People working together in a strong community with a shared goal and a common purpose can make the impossible possible" ~Tom Vilsack*