Section 1: COMMUNITY DETAILS

NAME OF THE COMMUNITY: Limestone

STATE: Maine

POPULATION SIZE: 2084

PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60: 24%

NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT: Stacey Mahan Interim Town Manager

OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER: 93 Main Street, Limestone, ME 04750

Section 2: COMMUNITY CONTACT FOR THE AARP NETWORK OF AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES

The community contact is the local staff member or volunteer who is primarily responsible for carrying out the community-level work — it is not the responsible AARP staff member.

Dennis McCartney has been appointed by the Limestone Development Foundation to head the Age Friendly Community Committee and to take the lead in seeing that the program is rolled out in Limestone.
Section 3: COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES, ENGAGEMENTS and COLLABORATIONS

1) Please provide a brief summary of the community policies, programs and services that are targeted toward older people and how the community plans to become more age-friendly.

The Age Friendly Community Committee plans to:

- Open a Senior Center on the first floor of the Robert A. Frost Memorial Library
- There is a very active Rotary Club in town that sponsors events for the whole community. As an example it sponsors an annual Seniors Dinner and at Christmas time gives Baskets of Cheer to the Seniors in town.
- There are 2 Food Pantries in town serving those in need and Seniors
- The Committee plans to get the various community “Seniors” groups together for the purpose of “Cross Pollinating” the things and events these various groups do and using them as a starting point to develop more programs aimed at getting seniors out of their homes and involved in social activities first at the new Senior Center and then throughout the town.

2) How will the community engage and involve older people in the process of becoming a more age-friendly?

The Committee aims to do the following:

- Improve the communication to seniors about the programs available to them such as the Fort FairField Housing Auth Home Improvement program which is available to Limestone residents and other local (ACAP), state and federal (USDA/Rural Development) programs along with programs supported by volunteers. The Committee will use the local newspaper, the town website and Facebook page to get the word out. In addition the committee will meet with all of the local church organizations and where appropriate become an additional sponsor in the events organized by these groups. Goal is to get the townspeople, seniors in particular, involved in what is going on in town.
- We will engage seniors to help mentor young people by getting them acquainted with each other so Seniors can share their life experiences with young people.
- We will engage Seniors in the committee decision making.
- Start holding events that are aimed at a multi-generational cross section of the community that appeal also to Seniors.
- Create an Age Friendly Board of Directors to get town resident involved in the program and to help make the program sustainable.

3) Briefly describe the mechanisms the community has or is planning to put in place to facilitate collaborative planning and implementation between different agencies and departments.

The community of Limestone currently has walking trails, bike trails and a wildlife refuge. In the future it will work with the Town Fire and Police Departments in collective events that help to support those departments. It is also working with the town to see that appropriate sidewalks and cross walks are installed. The Committee will work with the town on such age friendly initiatives that arise that the town can help implement.
Section 4: NETWORK MEMBERSHIP

Your answers to the following questions will help us complete your membership in the global age-friendly network and better enable us to understand how to support the network.

4) How do you hope to contribute to the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities and the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Communities?

- The Committee will share its success stories in the press and with AARP
- By signing up for the program Limestone enables the AARP to “Put another Pin in the Map” of communities involved in program.
- The Committee by this application is telling the AARP that it is willing to discuss the Age Friendly Community program with other towns as needed to help AARP get more towns involved.
- Limestone would like to point out that it is a poor, economically challenged rural town in a thinly populated county and yet it saw fit to implement the Age Friendly Program.

5) What motivated your community to join the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities and the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Communities?

- The Town of Limestone saw in the Age Friendly Community Program a way to give the Town the much needed direction to make itself a better place to live.
- The Age Friendly Committee will use the program to consolidate the small separate groups into one cohesive group so that all get better support for their causes and events when possible.
- The Committee will be taking the wonderful things that these small groups are doing and share the “wealth” with the whole town for the betterment of all!

6) Please provide a digital (JPG, PNG or PDF) file or link of a logo or other image that represents your community.

The image resolution should be at least 72 dpi. As an example of an image, here's ours >