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Making the Difference

INTOUCH NEWS

October 2026

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midmainechamber.com

Gary P. Poulin, chair of the board
Kimberly N. Lindlof, president & CEO

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Message from the President
- MMCC Meeting Calendar
- New Members
- People News
- Member News
- Super Raffle
- Events Calendar
- Business After Hours
- Ribbon Cuttings
- Leadership Luncheon
- Community Engagement
- Business Breakfast
- Member Spotlight: Michael Rodrigue Financial Services

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

LET'S GET BACK TO HAVING SOME FUN!

Life feels pretty heavy sometimes. Between rising costs, political tension, busy schedules, appointments, errands, work, and family responsibilities, there always seems to be something demanding our attention.

When our Events Committee started planning these two events, our goal was simple: bring our community together and give people a chance to forget about all of that for a few hours and just have fun.

We're kicking things off with Rocktoberfest on Friday, October 2, from 8–11 p.m. Grab your friends, your spouse, your date - or come on your own - and enjoy a night of music, dancing, drinks, and good company with DJ Eric Lunt of Big Entertainment LIVE!

Then, on Friday, November 6, from 7–10 p.m., it's time for Ladies Night Out! This one is just for the ladies. Leave the responsibilities and to-do lists behind, grab your girlfriends, visit some fun vendors, and hit the dance floor with DJ Holly Parker!

For a few hours, forget everything else.

No pressure. No agenda. Just great music, dancing, laughter, and a chance to come together and have some FUN.

We hope you'll join us!

Kimberly N. Lindlof
MMCC President & CEO

MMCC MTG CALENDAR

Oct. 2	Public Policy	8:00-9:30 AM
Oct. 2	KV Connect Steering	8:00-9:00 AM
Oct. 9	Marketing & Membership	8:00-9:00 AM
Oct. 16	Festival of Trees Committee	9:00-10:00 AM
Oct. 20	Board Retreat	8:30 AM-12:30 PM

Did you know...

Central Maine Customs creates a wide array of customized metal works, including custom-fabricated truck racks?

The Robin's Nest is now offering social media services?

Aubuchon Hardware in Waterville has pellet stoves and wood stoves for purchase in their KMD store?

Waterville's first Foreign Trade Zone participant, Flemish Master Weavers, makes rugs in Maine and sold locally at Hamelin's Furniture?

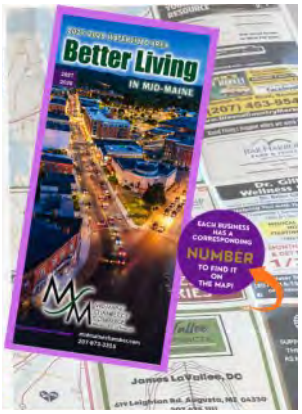
Main Street Provisions hosts weekly wine tasting experiences every Thursday evening?

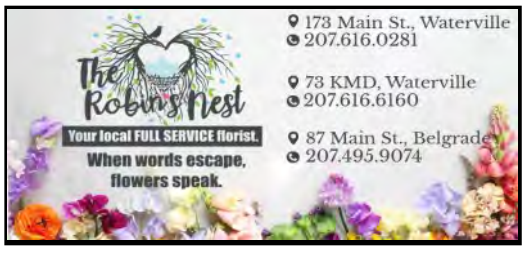
Aroma Joe's delivers over 100 teacher kits each year to local schools, which include drink vouchers and classroom supplies?

Limited spaces are available if you want your business featured in our 2027-2028 Waterville Area Maps.

These maps get distributed throughout the state and are stocked at local businesses in central Maine.

Call today to snag your spot!





NEW MEMBERS

ConvenientMD
40 Waterville Commons Dr., Waterville, ME 04901
207.352.2025 | Alison Connelly
W: www.convenientmd.com

Edward Jones—Ryan Bean
22 Common St., Waterville, ME 04901
207.250.0527 | Ryan Bean
W: www.edwardjones.com

Kennebec Valley Chordsmen
Winslow Rd., Albion, ME 04910
207.992.7611 | Juan Lavalle-Rivera
Find us on Facebook!

Middle Road General Store
3535 Middle Rd., Sidney, ME 04330
207.547.3757 | Tiffany Bryan
Find us on Facebook!

Squashhouse Media
Taylor Ave., Waterville, ME
310.779.1887 | Jeff Hoffman
W: www.squashhouse.net

We Rock the Spectrum Central Maine
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207.716.8970 | Jenny & Masi Ngidi-Brown
W: www.werockthespectrumcentralme.com

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PEOPLE NEWS

Congratulations to the following **KV FCU** employees on their anniversaries: Amy S. - Sr. MSR, 26 yrs; Sara F. - AVP/Business Dev. Mgr, 2 yrs; and Sean T., MSR, 1 yr.

Welcome to **KVCAP's** new employees: Theresa Berry, Teacher III; Ronald Buffa and Christopher Dietrich, Driver; Susan Cerini, Director of Advancement; Ashley Grierson, Eligibility Specialist; Amanda Twitchell, Teacher II; and Jason Stevens, Youth Specialist, South End Teen Center.

Kennebec Behavioral Health is proud to announce 2 new additions to its Senior Leadership Team! Robert Zavaleta, MHA, CISSP, joins as Chief Technology Officer, and Vaunalee Pion, MBA, joins as Chief Administrative Officer. Welcome!

GrowSmart Maine welcomes Leigh Hallett as its new CEO.

Skowhegan Savings Bank welcomes Elsa McGary as the new vice president of treasury management.

Martha Johnston, director of education for the **Finance Authority of Maine (FAME)** was presented the Candace Johnson Vinette Award by the Maine Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators. This award is presented to someone that has contributed spirit, dedication, and energy toward increasing higher education access for Mainers.

Central Maine Growth Council welcomes Amanda Wrigley as its new innovation and development specialist.

ConvenientMD has hired Dr. Nora Glasspool for its soon-to-open Primary Care location on Waterville Commons Drive in Waterville. Welcome, Dr. Glasspool.

The **Alfond Youth and Community Center (AYCC)** is proud to announce the promotions of Patrick Guerette to chief of development and strategic partnerships, Kate Roy to executive director of YMCA programs, DJ Adams to executive director of Boys & Girls Club programs, Abbie Vidas to executive director of camp and hospitality services and Corenna Howard, the center's CFO, will expand her responsibilities to include oversight of the organization's IT and facilities departments.

Healthy Communities of the Capitol Area hired Isabelle Newman as a program associate nutrition educator with Nourish ME.

First Park KRDA welcomed Kelly Normandin as its new executive assistant and wished Cynthia Cloutier a fantastic retirement after 9 wonderful years with the organization.

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MEMBER NEWS

Atwood Primary School in **Oakland** was one of four recipients to receive a Dollar General Literacy Foundation youth literacy grant.

United Way of Kennebec Valley (UWKV) recently launched its 2026 annual campaign to raise $2.026M to strengthen the health, education, and financial security of people throughout Kennebec County. In 2025, it raised a record-breaking $2,004,138 -only the second time in the organization's history that it surpassed $2M. Campaign co-chairs are Katie and Chris Doherty.

The **Alfond Youth and Community Center** opened an event space at Camp Tracy in Oakland named the Golden Pond Pavillion and Jolovitz Theater.

Healthy Communities of the Capital Area is rolling out its Bumper Crop Employee Partnership Program which allows Maine workplaces to promote healthy food, support local economies, and show appreciation for their employees. Interested businesses can contact Sarah Young at s.young@hccame.org.

The Avangrid Foundation, the philanthropic arm of leading energy company Avangrid Inc., has awarded a $10,000 grant to **Kennebec Valley Community College (KVCC)** to support the Avangrid Foundation/**Central Maine Power** Scholarship Fund.

Cunningham Security Systems, a Falmouth-based provider of security, fire alarm, camera, and home or business monitoring systems, is expanding its Massachusetts presence by acquiring S.W. Alarms in Pembroke and signaling that more deals may be on the horizon.

Summit Utilities, parent company to **Summit Natural Gas of Maine**, earned the 2026 Southern Gas Association's Safety & Health Award for its Safety-First Mentorship Program.

Dirigo Labs, the innovation and entrepreneurship arm of the **Central Maine Growth Council,** announced the 15 founders selected for its 2026 Dirigo Launch Incubator. Following record local and statewide application interest and one of the most competitive applicant pools in program history, Dirigo Labs has expanded this yr's cohort to accommodate more founders than originally planned, reflecting both the growing demand for entrepreneurial support and the strength of innovation emerging across ME.

SUPER RAFFLE

This year's Super Raffle came with a few new twists! Live and silent auctions joined the fun, giving guests even more chances to bid, win, and take home something special.

The room was filled with cowboys and cowgirls as we celebrated 250 Years of Country in true western style, complete with patriotic flair, great prizes, and plenty of Chamber spirit.

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Leadership Luncheon
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Leadership Luncheon welcomes Shannon Haines, President & CEO Waterville Creates

WATERVILLE CREATES

WATERVILLE OPERA HOUSE | MAINE FILM CENTER | TICONIC GALLERY + STUDIOS

Wednesday, October 7 | 11:30 AM - 1 PM

Amici's Cucina, 137 Main St., Waterville

Register TODAY | www.midmainechamber.com

Cost per person: $35 members; $40 at the door and non-members. Lunch included.

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NEWS CENTER MAINE

Bowman CONSTRUCTORS

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Business Breakfast

An Event Series of MMCC

Nicole McSweeney

Chief Marketing & Communications Officer, MaineGeneral Health

Joy McKenna

Director of Marketing & Communications, MaineGeneral Health

Amplifying Your Brand Through Storytelling

Join us for our next enlightening breakfast presentation.

MaineGeneral Health Chief Marketing & Communications Officer, Nicole McSweeney, and Director of Marketing & Communications, Joy McKenna share how authentic storytelling helps to deepen your connection to customers, inspire loyalty, and reinforce your company's value. Learn about the impact of storytelling and how to find and share stories that can elevate your brand and reputation.

Please come prepared with your questions for these knowledgeable individuals and join a discussion on how to utilize this marketing avenue in your organization.

When:

Thursday, November 12, 2026

7:15 - 9:00 a.m.

Where:

Best Western Plus –

375 Main St., Waterville

Pre-register today. Cost per person:

$28 for members.

$34 at the door and for non-members.

Registration includes breakfast.

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TO REGISTER: cindy@midmainechamber.com, www.midmainechamber.com or 873-3315.

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MID-MAINE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
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PRESENTS

WOMEN ONLY!

Ladies NIGHT OUT

SIP • DANCE • CONNECT

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6

7:00 – 10:00 PM

BEST WESTERN EVENT CENTER
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MUSIC BY Holly Parker

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Annual Awards Ceremony

An Event of MMCC

MID-MAINE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Making the Difference

2027 Annual Awards Ceremony

Coming April 2027

It's Time to **Nominate**

An outstanding business or professional in our area deserves to be recognized.

Help us celebrate the people and organizations whose service, achievement, and dedication make mid-Maine stronger.

Who Inspires You?

Explore the eight award categories on the back and tell us who deserves this recognition.

To submit your nominations, go to:

https://midmainechamber.com/events/annual-awards-ceremony

FMI: Cindy@midmainechamber.com

Annual Awards Ceremony
An Event of MMCC

2027 ANNUAL AWARDS NOMINATION FORM

Deadline: January 15,2027

MID-MAINE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Making the Difference

AWARD CRITERIA & NOMINATIONS

Eligibility: All nominees must be Chamber members in good standing except for the Distinguished Community Service Award.

DISTINGUISHED COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

The nominee must have:

- Been involved with the betterment of the community for at least ten years.
- Demonstrated community leadership.
- Initiated creativity in no fewer than three different areas of community service.
- Demonstrated unselfishness toward the economic betterment of the mid-Maine area.

YOUR NOMINATION

BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

Two awards: Small Business (fewer than 50 employees) and Large Business (more than 50 employees).

The award recognizes an area business that has:

- Exemplified commitment to community growth through workforce expansion, major renovations and/or foresight.
- Contributed to the overall well-being of the community.

YOUR NOMINATION

OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONAL

The nominee must have:

- Demonstrated leadership and excellence in their profession.
- Given back in support of the community.

YOUR NOMINATION

MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

This award recognizes an employee of a Chamber-area municipality who has:

- Displayed leadership in supporting the positive direction of their municipality.
- Gone above and beyond in their assignment or project fulfillment, making a difference in the community.
- Demonstrated positive support of business initiatives.

YOUR NOMINATION

2027 ANNUAL AWARDS NOMINATION FORM

Deadline: January 15,2027

AWARD CRITERIA & NOMINATIONS

EXCEPTIONAL VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Nominees in this category must:

- Be a volunteer with at least one Chamber member organization.
- Exemplify service above self in support of the organization's mission and the community.

YOUR NOMINATION

RISING STAR AWARD

The Rising Star recipient must:

- Be under the age of 40.
- Be in management or another leadership capacity within the business organization.
- Illustrate a combination of business success and community involvement.

YOUR NOMINATION

CUSTOMER SERVICE STARDOM AWARD

Nominees in this category must:

- Illustrate pride in their job.
- Demonstrate examples of exceptional customer service.
- Not be a business owner or a member of top management.

YOUR NOMINATION

ELIAS A. JOSEPH AWARD

"In honor of Elias A. Joseph, for dedication of over 28 years of volunteer and loyal service to the Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce and for professional achievement and unselfish devotion to his community, effectively developing, coordinating and supervising programs and projects that greatly enhanced all the people of mid-Maine for over a quarter of a century, and acknowledging his exceptional initiative, that includes over 10,000 hours of volunteer service to this Chamber of Commerce, we of the Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors hereby proclaim and declare that henceforth the Elias A. Joseph Award shall be awarded to those most worthy to bear the name and having displayed similar service to the Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce."

YOUR NOMINATION

Attach additional pages if needed. Submit to Cindy@midmainechamber.com or 50 Elm Street, Waterville, ME 04901.

Please join us for our Annual Awards Ceremony in April 2027.

Festival of Trees

NOVEMBER 20-22 & 27-29

Fri, Nov 20 - 10:00 am-7:00 pm
Sat, Nov 21 - 10:00 am-7:00 pm
Sun, Nov 22 - 10:00 am-5:00 pm

Fri, Nov 27 - 10:00 am-7:00 pm
Sat, Nov 28 - 10:00 am-7:00 pm
Sun, Nov 29 - 10:00 am-4:00 pm

NEW LOCATION

Kennebec Valley Community College - Fairfield, Maine

Carter Hall, Kennebec Room

Admission Ages 12+ $2/adults | Tree & 50/50 Raffle Tickets 50¢ each

WIN A TREE. MAKE A DIFFERENCE. CREATE HOLIDAY MEMORIES.

Over 50 beautifully decorated trees for Raffle + Community Spirit + Tradition + Holiday Fun

Funds raised during the festival directly support food initiatives and workforce development opportunities in the Greater Waterville area.

Experience one of Central Maine's favorite holiday traditions.

Festival of Trees

AYCC Alfond Youth & Community Center

Presented By
Central Maine Betterment Collaborative
In Conjunction With
Alfond Youth & Community Center and
Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce

MMCC Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES & TREE SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE!

Contact Us for More Information:

festivaloftreesmaine@clubaycc.org

www.festivaloftreesmaine.net

Business After Hours

An Event Series of MMCC

Submit your 2027 BAH Application – Reserve a Spot Now!

Looking for a way to bring attention to your business in 2027?

Hosting a Mid-Maine Chamber Business After Hours event should be one of your goals!

Be creative: if you don't have the space, or the budget, plan to partner with another Chamber member business.

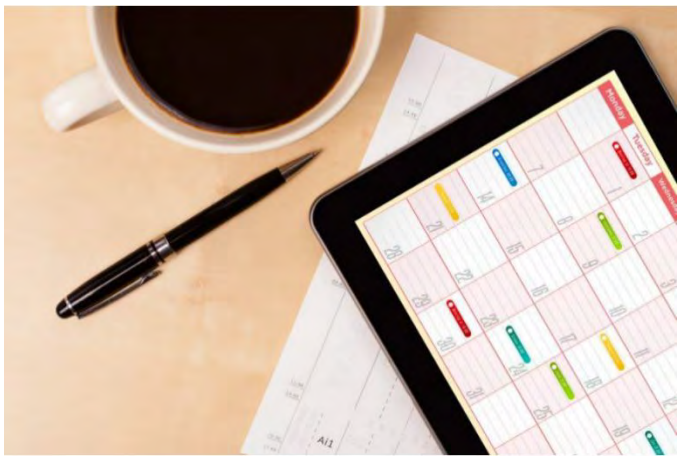
A Business After Hours event:

- **Offers great exposure for your business**
- **Improves networking opportunities**
- **Brings your business top of mind with prospective customers**
- **Identifies you as a major participant among area businesses**

Complete your application now –

Go to www.midmainechamber.com/Business After Hours for the application form.

Please specify desired dates and submit asap as the schedule will be developed shortly.



For more details on this exciting opportunity, contact:

Cindy Stevens, Program Director at 873-3315 or cindy@midmainechamber.com.

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EVENTS CALENDAR

Oct. 1: **MMCC Business Brkst-Connected Communities, 7:15-9:00 AM**
Best Western, 375 Main St., Waterville

Oct. 2: **MMCC Ribbon Cutting-Chase Toys of Sidney, 3 PM**
2309 Belgrade Rd., Sidney

Oct. 3: **Kennebec Montessori School Homecoming Picnic, 12-3 PM**
38 Sheridan Dr., Fairfield

Oct. 3: **Comedy: Ian Stuart and Jim Bishop, 5:30 PM**
Snow Pond Alumni Hall, 8 Goldenrod Ln., Sidney

Oct. 4: **Waterville Running Festival & Marathon, 7:30 AM**
Head of Falls, 60 Front St., Waterville

Oct. 7: **MMCC Leadership Luncheon-Shannon Haines, 11:30 AM-1 PM**
Amici's Cucina, 137 Main St., Waterville

Oct. 8: **Sebasticook Reg. Land Trust Annual Meeting, 5:30-7:30 PM**
Clifford Arts & Student Center, 42 Depot St., Unity

Oct. 9: **MMCC Ribbon Cutting-Home Baked 207, 4 PM**
114 Norridgewock Rd., Fairfield

Oct. 9: **KBH's A Night Out of Dueling Pianos, 6-10 PM**
Waterville Elks Banquet Ctr., 76 Industrial Rd., Waterville

Oct. 9: **Concert: Tusk, The Classic Fleetwood Mac Tribute, 8 PM**
Waterville Opera House, 1 Common St., Waterville

Oct. 10: **Temple Academy Community Walk, 9:30-11:00 AM**
300 Quarry Rd., Waterville

Oct. 16: **MMCC Ribbon Cutting-Hometown Heat Pumps, 4 PM**
29 Neck Rd., Benton

Oct. 16: **CDM's Play It Forward (Adult Only) Night of Play, 6 PM**
Children's Discovery Museum, 7 Eustis Pkwy., Waterville

Oct. 17: **Maine Fermentation Festival, 8 AM**
Castonguay Square, downtown Waterville

Oct. 17: **AYCC Craft Fair, 8:00 AM-1:00 PM**
AYCC, 126 North St., Waterville

Oct. 17: **Concert: Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers Experience, 4:30 PM**
Snow Pond Alumni Hall, 8 Goldenrod Ln., Sidney

Oct. 23: **KVCC-An Evening in Emerald City, 6 PM**
KVCC, Kennebec Room, 92 Western Ave., Fairfield

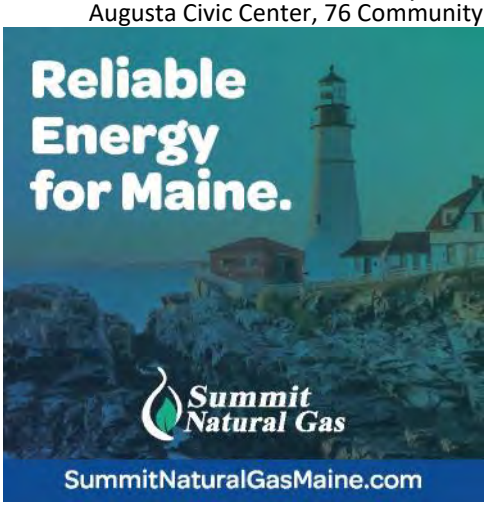
Oct. 24: **Nightmare on Main Street, 4-6 PM**
Main St., downtown Waterville

Oct. 29: **MMCC Ribbon Cutting-Quarry Road Trails, 3 PM**
300 Quarry Rd., Waterville

Oct. 30: **Shizzleween at Snow Pond, 8 PM**
Snow Pond Alumni Hall, 8 Goldenrod Ln., Sidney

Oct. 31: **Boo Ball! With 107.9 The Mix, 8 PM**
Augusta Civic Center, 76 Community Dr., Augusta

SEPTEMBER BAH



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LEADERSHIP LUNCHEON

Leadership Luncheon

An Event Series of MMCC

Randy Liberty, Commissioner, Maine Dept. of Corrections

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MID-MAINE CHAMBER CHATTER

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Are you looking for a way to highlight your business through VIDEO?

The Chamber is now accepting applications for October, November and December Chamber Chatter recordings.

CALL TODAY!
207.873.3315
Sabrina@midmainechamber.com

Business After Hours

An Event Series of MMCC

Now accepting applications for BAH hosts in 2027.

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COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

SEPTEMBER BBS

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MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Michael Rodrigue Financial Services

Your Trusted Partner in Financial Success: Michael Roderigue Financial Services

For over 25 years, Michael Roderigue Financial Services in Fairfield, Maine, has proudly served the local community as a family-owned and operated firm. Founded by Registered Representative Michael Roderigue and joined by his daughter, Investment Advisor Representative Bethany Roderigue, the firm offers experience, trust, and a personal touch. That commitment has earned the firm recognition as the greater Waterville area's Best Financial Advisor for 13 years running!

Clients are treated like family, with personalized strategies built around individual goals, values, and concerns. Whether planning for retirement, growing investments, or protecting loved ones, the team provides clear, caring guidance every step of the way.

Michael Roderigue Financial Services
Our Family Serving Yours For Over 25 Years

Core Services

- **Financial Planning**: Tailored roadmaps to navigate major life events and daily decisions.
- **Investment Management**: Customized portfolios aligned with goals, risk tolerance, and timelines.
- **Retirement Planning**: Support with IRAs, 401(k) rollovers, pensions, and Social Security.
- **Tax Strategies**: Help minimizing liabilities and maximizing deductions while staying compliant.
- **Insurance Solutions**: Life and long-term care products to protect income and assets.
- **Business Services**: Financial consulting, succession planning, and benefit strategies for small businesses.

Known for integrity, professionalism, and genuine relationships, the firm is deeply rooted in the community and committed to helping clients thrive—now and for generations to come.

Schedule a complimentary financial review today.
43 Western Avenue, Fairfield, ME 04937
207-453-5200
Michael.Roderigue@ceteranetworks.com | RoderigueB@ceteranetworks.com
mikeroderiguefinancial.com
Office Hours: Mon–Fri, 8:30 AM–3:00 PM; additional hours by appointment.

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2
SILVER STREET Tavern
2 Silver Street, Waterville, ME

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