

Hi there,

I hope your 2023 has gotten off to a great start and that you are enjoying the winter wonderland that has visited us! With the session officially underway, I am proud and energized to start my second term representing District 21. And I'm excited to share with you about all that I've been working on —from leading the Housing Champions bill to re-introducing the Access to Abortion-Care Act to launching MomsCaucus.

### Remembering Dr. Geoffrey Clark

I wanted to start off by mourning the immense loss of the late Dr. Geoffrey Clark, who will be dearly missed on the Seacoast. I have seen all the kind comments posted and have been reflecting on what an impact Martha and Geoff have had on our rich, cultural lives on the Seacoast. What good fortune, to have known them together, to have known the contributions they made, and in my case, to have been a recipient of their generosity and wisdom in ways that have changed my life - deeply, and irrevocably. I was always struck, in the many, many hours I have been fortunate to spend with Martha, by the support and love they showed for each other - and the many cups of tea I witnessed Geoff bring to Martha. Each is so accomplished in their own right, and yet so supportive. Busy in a happy hustle every day I knew them, together Martha and Geoff lived a life to aspire to, knew a happy, connected hustle I can only hope centers my life, for so long in my life.

Martha, we know you have experienced the biggest loss, but we all know at least a tiny piece of that loss, and our hearts are with you.





To read SeacoastOnline's beautiful tribute, click here.

# Legislative Update

A new term means a new legislative package! This term I am leading 17 major bills, which aim to tackle:

# Addressing housing in our communities and for our businesses

- I am leading several bills this session to tackle the housing crisis, including Housing Champion legislation that would empower municipalities in their affordable and workforce housing development.
- I am also leading legislation to study workforce housing development and allow cities and towns new tools, including requirements on new buildings to ensure the creation of affordable units.

#### **Protecting Reproductive Rights**

 Abortion rights remain a top priority and I will be the prime sponsor again this year of the Access to Abortioncare Act (AAA), a bill that would codify Roe in New Hampshire - the minimum we need! This bill came up one vote short last session. AAA would codify Roe into law and ensure no parent has to worry about losing their rights during such a vulnerable time.

#### MomsCaucus and Supporting Working Families

• Last week, I co-launched MomsCaucus alongside Sen.

Becky Whitley and Rep. Megan Murray to better support moms serving in office, while bolstering our efforts for policy change for our Granite families. The New Hampshire MomsCaucus is a nonpartisan alliance of moms in elected office - and allies - who support one another and are dedicated to improving the lives of all Granite State moms.

• I am also leading legislation to break down barriers to small-setting childcare and mandate insurance coverage for postpartum pelvic floor therapy.

#### Supporting LGBTQ Families

 Same-sex couples should have access to the same healthcare services as their heterosexual counterparts. They shouldn't have to go through months of testing in order to access care or face administrative burdens to adoption. Two of my bills this session aim to address these issues.

#### Strengthening Our Democracy

- With the start of my second term on the Election Law and Municipal Affairs Committee, I will continue fighting to make our democracy fair and accessible to all.
- I am working to allocate HAVA funds to update voting machines, ensuring we have the proper infrastructure leading into 2024.

#### Fostering Renewable Energy

 Just recently, I attended a BOEM meeting for offshore wind where they have announced draft lease areas and are taking comments from the public. Offshore wind will be key to our district, and must balance many needs to be done right.

I'll keep you guys updated on how these priorities advance this session. And in the meantime, you can find a full list of the 41(!) bills I am leading and co-sponsoring <a href="here">here</a>!



# **Looking Forward**

Last week, Attorney General Formella announced that the leader of a neo-Nazi group was charged with violating the state's Civil Right Act after he hung a banner that read "Keep New England White" over Route 1. I am proud of our community for standing up against racial inequality. As I wrote several months ago, we need to continue holding each other accountable to ensure a more equitable community.

There are some fun community events on tap for the next few weeks, which include:

## Be My Valentine Dance



Saturday, February 11 • 6:00-8:00PM
Community Campus Cymnasium
Families Welcome
S20 per family with pre-registration
S25 at the door

Walk the Red Carpet • DJ & Dancing • Dress to Impress
Sixtle candidate and 903-427-3317

Join us on Saturday, February 11 from 6-8 PM at the community campus gymnasium for the "Be My Valentine Dance" -- Advance registration is required per family: \$20, at the door \$25

RSVP: 603-427-1547 or CLICK HERE to register online

Be apart of Forward Fridays at Emery Farm Market & Cafe!

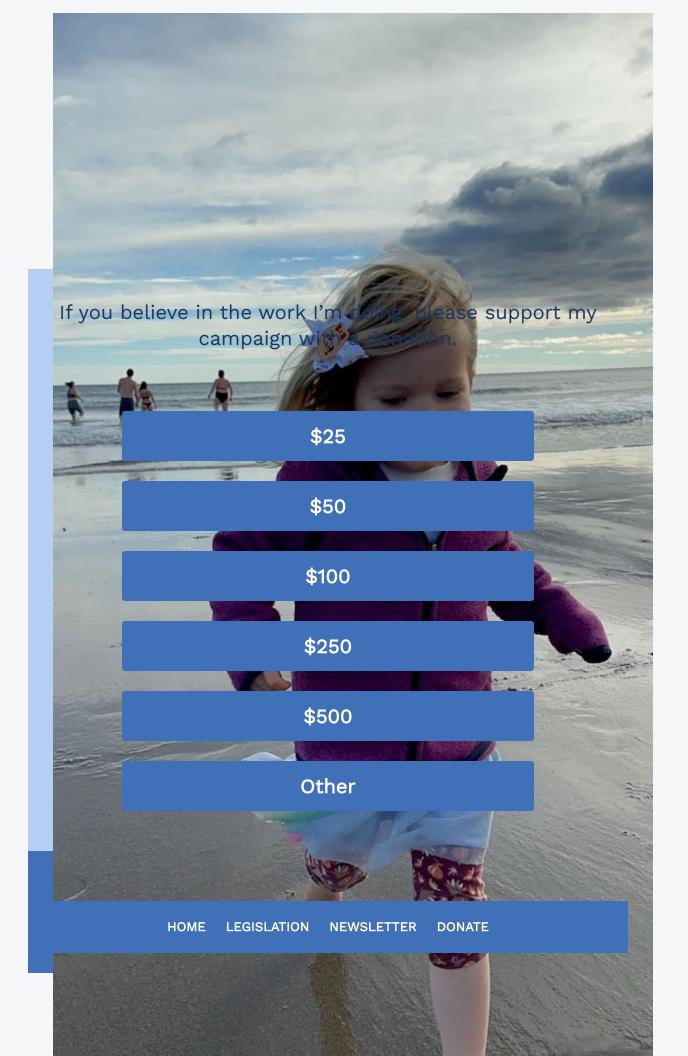


Forward Fridays is an initiative to "pay it forward" and give

back to the community, The Market & Cafe at Emery Farm will donate 10% of their Cafe Sales (Cafe Beverages, Donuts, Baked Goods, and Made to Order Bagels and Sandwiches) on Fridays. If you would like to nominate a charity to be included in this community giving program, please fill out the form HERE.

We had a nice, mellow holiday and took a dip in the ocean on New Year's Day! The girls are back to school as the legislative session swings into full gear!





## PAID FOR BY REBECCA PERKINS KWOKA FOR STATE SENATE

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