



May 2019

Dear Friend,

Greetings on this Memorial Day weekend.

In my updates to you this session, I've talked about the 2,000 bills we've been considering and the committee work we've been doing to send our best ideas to the full Legislature. There's a lot of work still to be done, and soon we will be heading into *triple* sessions, but we've had some huge successes so far.

In just the last few weeks, we became the first state in the nation to ban polystyrene food containers – a big step in protecting our environment. We also took a step forward in empathizing with our tribal communities by changing Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples Day, as well as banning Native American mascots in public schools. My committee, Energy, Utilities and Technology, has voted on several bills that have become law, including a bill to keep Mainer's safer during power outages as well as measures designed to extend internet availability in more rural parts of the state. Take a look at all the bills that have been signed into law so far this session right [here](#).

For me, there have been many high points this year, **from introducing legislation to protect children against poorly stored firearms**, to speaking on the House floor in support of our local newspaper's contribution to democracy. Some of the best moments of this session have included greeting many of you in Augusta. Just this week I was proud to introduce the State Championship Winning Chess Team from Camden-Rockport Elementary School to my colleagues. This group of youngsters was a delight to show around and at least one wants to come back and serve as a page!



I feel fortunate every day to hold this office, and I hope you are as excited as I am about the progress we are making in Augusta.

As always, please be in touch with any questions, concerns or ideas.

Sincerely,

Vicki

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Congratulations to our Knox County Teacher of the Year!



Rockport's Tom Gray, longtime educator at Camden Hills Regional High School, is our 2019 Knox County Teacher of the Year! Congratulations on this well-deserved honor. And thank you to ALL the wonderful educators in our district. It was great to welcome Tom to the State House earlier this month.

Commemorate Memorial Day in Camden, Islesboro and Rockport

On Monday, we will all take time to honor the sacrifices of our nation's military. As we celebrate the beginning of summer, please make sure to also thank the Gold Star families in our community and remember those who gave everything for our freedom.

In Camden, Memorial Day activities will begin at 9 am with a ceremony at the Camden Public Landing. There will be a wreath laying and rifle salute. The Camden parade will begin at 9:30 am at the intersection of Route 1 and Camden St. On Islesboro, a wreath will be laid at the Alice L. Pendlet on Library at 10 am. A wreath will also be placed at the Ferry Terminal. In Rockport, the parade will begin at 11 am, and will start at the Rockport Post Office. A lunch for legion members, veterans and band members will follow.

Mainers lost millions of dollars in unclaimed property last year. Are you one of them?

Last year's unclaimed property report is now available. These funds could be from unpaid wages, dividends or idle bank accounts, and for a range of reasons the owner has not been successfully located. We want to fix that, so take a moment to see if you are on [the list](#).

Familiar Faces in the District



Congratulations to the C-R Elementary Chess team and their coach, Bruce Haffner.



Congratulations to Joan Welsh of Rockport! She has been nominated by Governor Mills to the Efficiency Maine Trust Board and will be an amazing addition.



Earlier this month I was proud to address a gathering of female veterans and honor them for their service. Please let me know if you have a Maine female vet in your family so we can honor her as well.

