

# March 2024

# Visit <u>qacdems.org!</u>

### February Meeting with David Trone a Winner Event!

On February 21st, Representative David Trone, candidate for the US Senate, was our membership event speaker. We had a packed crowd at the Kent Island Public Library filled with folks who wanted to know more about David's vision. The Congressman spoke with passion and focused thoughtfulness about topics that included his background and business creds, the challenge to Democrats with prior Governor Hogan's candidacy, his bipartisan mental health and substance abuse work, and commitment to criminal justice reform, medical research, and education.

The personable David Trone took many questions after his initial statements and stayed after the meeting, taking the time to meet all individuals who wanted to chat more.

It was a great evening and a wonderful way to kick off the importance of our QAC Democratic Club in gearing up to work for Democratic wins in the 2024 election.







Representative David Trone with QAC Democratic Club Co-Presidents Merle Schwartz and Andrea Alduino.

Note- At this time we do not have a commitment from David Trone's Democratic opponent, Angela Alsobrooks, to visit with our members.

### **Next Membership Meeting**

The next membership meeting will be on **Wednesday, March 20th at Kent Island Public Library** at 7:00 pm. Hope to see you there!

### **Future Club Events**

• Developing Engaged Young Voters in a Time of Political Conflict- April 17th Forum Panel Discussion

Our timely forum will be on April 17th at the Kent Island Public Library. We'll also have voter registration available!

Takeout Dinner Fundraiser on May 15th - Yummy Crab or Beef!

Instead of a traditional membership meeting on May 15th, we are going to have a delicious solution to your *What's for Dinner?* question! More to come, but we'll be offering a crab cakes dinner or roasted round of beef dinner.

# Let's Meet Up!

### Coffee Social

**March 16th** at the Lovely Little Coffee Shop, 10 am to noon, 430 Outlet Center Dr., Queenstown, MD. This is near the Gap outlet store. Enjoy conversation with fellow Democrats. Wear something BLUE!

### Trivia Night Dem Fun

**March 21st** at Rams Head Shore House, 7 pm, 800 Main St., Stevensville, MD. This is an informal drop-in event.

# Lend a Hand

### Join our Planning Committee (Board)!

We have openings for our 2024 QAC Democratic Club Planning Group (Board). It's a small but mighty group. With the 2024 election approaching, we could use additional members to help us think through events. We do a mix of political and social efforts, and have lots of fun in the process. Please connect with Andrea Alduino (<a href="mailto:4hgsleader@gmail.com">4hgsleader@gmail.com</a>) or Merle Schwartz (<a href="mailto:merleschwartz@me.com">merleschwartz@me.com</a>).

# It's Political!

# Focus on Democrats Getting Things Done - editorial from QAC Democratic Club Board

The endless election season that defines American democracy is close to full swing and the stakes are as high as they have ever been. Every single day voters are bombarded with information and disinformation. President Biden's age, the former president's trials and latest outrages and the us vs. them divide are constantly headlined by attention seeking media.

For sanity's sake, it helps just to focus on what and who can get things done. And from this perspective it is important to remind folks that after the 2020 election it was a Democratic Senate, a Democratic House and a Democratic President that demonstrated a straightforward and compelling record of achievement. Take, for example, the Federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. The law did not pass by much, but the benefits for Maryland and for the Eastern Shore are substantial. It is also reasonable to remember that Congressman Harris from the First Congressional District voted against the Act.

https://www.nytimes.com/2021/11/05/us/politics/house-infrastructure-reconciliation.html?searchResultPosition=19; VOTED NO, TOOK THE DOUGH: Shameless Andy Harris Touts Slaughter Creek Funding He Voted Against - DCCC

A year ago, the White House made clear what was in the Act for Maryland. <a href="https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Maryland-Fact-Sheet-E3.pdf">https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Maryland-Fact-Sheet-E3.pdf</a>. As it turns out, quite a bit. As of February 2023, some 44 projects had been selected for funding, including funding for investments in roads, bridges, ports, airports, clean water, and high-speed internet.

Democratic Senators Van Hollen and Cardin as well as Maryland's Democratic House members routinely update the list. On February 20, 2024, the Senators announced funds for replacement of Maryland's aging light rail fleet.

<a href="https://www.cardin.senate.gov/press-releases/maryland-delegation-members-announce-more-than-213-million-to-support-replacement-of-maryland-transit-administrations-light-rail-fleet/#">https://www.cardin.senate.gov/press-releases/maryland-delegation-members-announce-more-than-213-million-to-support-replacement-of-maryland-transit-administrations-light-rail-fleet/#</a>

Earlier in the month, funds were obtained through the Infrastructure Act to help improve operations at BWI. <a href="https://www.cardin.senate.gov/press-releases/maryland-airports-receive-nearly-20-million-for-integral-infrastructure-improvements/">https://www.cardin.senate.gov/press-releases/maryland-airports-receive-nearly-20-million-for-integral-infrastructure-improvements/</a>

In December 2023 Infrastructure Act funds for clean water projects were announced. <a href="https://www.cardin.senate.gov/press-releases/maryland-delegation-members-announce-over-240-million-for-clean-water-infrastructure-across-maryland-2/">https://www.cardin.senate.gov/press-releases/maryland-delegation-members-announce-over-240-million-for-clean-water-infrastructure-across-maryland-2/</a>

Also in December 2023, the Democratic delegation announced that substantial funds were being directed to improve road safety across Maryland, including the Eastern Shore. <a href="https://www.cardin.senate.gov/press-releases/maryland-delegation-members-announce-more-than-25-million-to-improve-road-safety-across-maryland/">https://www.cardin.senate.gov/press-releases/maryland-delegation-members-announce-more-than-25-million-to-improve-road-safety-across-maryland/</a>.

This is not an exclusive list. There has been Infrastructure Act funding for projects across Maryland ranging from wetlands protection (

https://www.cardin.senate.gov/press-releases/cardin-van-hollen-announce-more-than-1-8-million-for-maryland-coastal-bays-wetlands-restoration/ ) to broadband access. https://www.cardin.senate.gov/press-releases/maryland-congressional-delegation-members-push-fcc-for-improved-broadband-mapping-to-ensure-high-speed-internet-access-for-more-marylanders/.

One way for Democrats to counter the noise of those who traffic in grievances is to broadcast widely what Democrats do and how they have delivered for America, Maryland, and the First Congressional District. The record is clear in 2024: The White House and Maryland's Democratic delegation members have earned our respect and deserve to be elected or reelected.

# Queen Anne's County Democratic Central Committee (DCC)

**ELECTIONS 2024** 

EARLY VOTING - May 2 - May 9 7AM-8PM

Primary Election May 14 7AM-8PM

If you plan to vote by mail that works too!! It needs to be in the BOX at the Election Sites by Election day.

Any questions? Please call Elaine McNeil at 443 262 1310

There are two Democrats running for the MD First District against Harris. Both are from Harford County. Blane Miller and Blessing Oluwadare.

There are also elections for QA School Board Districts 2, 3, and 4. On voting day we vote in each district, not just the district we live in. The school Board will not be on the Primary Ballot in May.

#### **CAN YOU HELP?**

Help candidates, write postcards, computer entry, filing, greeting people at outreach events like Centreville Days, KI Farmers market and more. Please contact Elaine McNeil at (443) 262-1310 or at elainemcneil101@gmail.com

- March 6: Queen Anne's County Central Committee Monthly meeting
- March 9: Thank You Volunteers! Coffee and Donuts & sign up to write to Voters

  10 AM to 12 Noon, at 121 Clay Drive, Queenstown (Next to Royal Farms)
- March 11: Tickets go on sale for How we Win from Eastern Shore Democrats, Upper Shore Division Division - learn how we can win in 2024 and 2026. 443-262-1310
- April 5: First Friday Centreville at the old Courthouse (weather permitting)
- April 6: Safety Drive Hazardous Waste Collection (the day they accept old air conditioners, paint cans etc!! (couple of miles North of Centreville near State Police Barracks on RT 301N
- **April 13:** *NAACP MLK Luncheon* \$45 person (\$18 Under 18). For tickets contact Eric Daniels 443-480-5989. It's a great event, inspirational speaker, scholarships for students, and a wonderful buffet!
- APRIL 27: How We Win at Washington College, Chestertown 8AM 12 NOON, 443-262-1310 for details
- May 4: Reproductive Justice Special Event Brunch, details to follow

#### In the News

Going Further than "Leave no Trace" - New Director of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Chesapeake Bay Program Office

Martha Shinkin is the new director for the Bay Program. Read the Bay Journal article to get a sense of her background, and the daunting tasks ahead as we approach the 2025 outcomes assessment set in the 2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement.

# Support the Cause

Join the MD Dems on the Eastern Shore!



### Help Us Find New Members

Share our website with friends! <a href="http://qacdems.org">http://qacdems.org</a>

### Renew Your Membership Today!

We still have much to do to turn the tide blue right here in Queen Anne's County. Let us continue the course TOGETHER to build a solid foundation for future elections.

We hope that you will continue to support our Democratic Club to fight for justice, equality, and opportunity by renewing your <a href="mailto:membership">membership</a> in the Democratic Club of Queen Anne's County or joining for the first time. Your dues help to cover the Club's outreach efforts, special events, materials, printing, and postage. Annual dues are only \$35/household, \$20/individual, or \$10/student.

Renew at <a href="http://qacdems.org">http://qacdems.org</a>

# Donate today.

# Set up a recurring donation through ActBlue to help support the Queen Anne's County Democrats.

Recurring donations help us keep our county headquarters, lend support to local democratic activities, and maintain a presence in our community.

Any amount will help! Visit <u>qacdems.org</u>





# **Our Legislators**

Ben Cardin

U.S. Senator

Chris Van Hollen

U.S. Senator

Andy Harris, MD

U.S. Representative

Steve Hershey

Maryland State Senator

#### Steven Arentz

Maryland State Delegate

Jefferson Ghrist

Maryland State Delegate

Jay Jacobs

Maryland State Delegate

# **QAC Democratic Club Board**

Andrea Alduino - Co President

Merle Schwartz - Co President

Nan Ciandella - Treasurer

Carol D'Agostino

Julia Krebs

Donna Edward

Bonnie Nelson



Democratic Club of Queen Anne's County · PO 39, Grasonville, MD 21638, United States