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## June 2025

Visit [qacdems.org](http://qacdems.org)!

Quick Peek at What's Coming Up

### June

- 4th - Rally Sign-making, 6-8:00 PM at Kent Island Library
- 5th - 9th: Boycott Target
- 7th - Eastern Shore Democrats present "The Work it Takes to Win," Cecil Com. College
- 8th - River Cruise Fundraiser, 5-7:00 PM, Chester River Packet Co. [SIGN UP NOW!!!](#)
- 14th - Centreville Rally, Juneteenth Celebration in Centreville, No Kings Day (see below for info)
- 18th - Hot Topic Membership Meeting at Kent Island Library, 7 PM
- 21st - Coffee Meetup at A Little Lovely Coffee House, Queenstown
- 24th - 30th: Boycott McDonald's

### July

- Ice Cream Social - July 24th, 6-8:00 PM at the QAC Democratic Club (121 Clay)

## August

- 11th - 16th: QAC County Fair, Democratic Booth
- No Membership meeting this month

## September

- 17th - Hot Topic Membership Meeting at Kent Island Library, 7:00 PM

## Next Membership Meeting: June 18th, 7 PM, Kent Island Library: Meet Dan Schwartz, an Opponent Candidate to Andy Harris

We are pleased to host Dan Schwartz, Democratic candidate for US Congress running against Andy Harris, our eight-term Congressman. Dan will introduce himself and follow up with some Q&A. He will be joined by his campaign manager, Ron.

For the past 14 years, Dan has worked as a consumer watchdog- helping state regulators implement reforms coming out of the 2008 financial crisis. He focused for a decade on community banking and in recent years, he's helped state regulators coordinate enforcement actions against firms like CashApp, FIC, and large banks that have abused the public trust. Dan lives in Talbot County with his family.

Check out Dan Schwartz's website. <https://schwartzforcongress.com>



*Dan Schwartz*

For more information, or to make a hot topic suggestion, contact Merle Schwartz [merleschwartz@me.com](mailto:merleschwartz@me.com), or Andrea Alduino [4hgsleader@gmail.com](mailto:4hgsleader@gmail.com)

## Recent Events

# Membership Meeting May 21st, 2025: Guest Speaker Neven Crouse on the Rise of Fascism.

We had a fascinating (and concerning) presentation provided by Nevin Crouse titled *The Rise of Fascism, Answering the Musical Questions, Can you be a Banana Republic Without Growing Bananas?*



Nevin's approach kept us engaged as he addressed what fascism has looked like in history, and the similarities that may be noticed in our current political situation. One point that he made was that fascism is about getting all the power, which would include these areas:

- Executive
- Legislative
- Judicial, Industry
- Labor
- Church
- Education
- Media

Nevin is in his 32nd year teaching history and government at Chesapeake College. We are most appreciative that he joined us!

## **Eastern Shore Indivisible Group (ESI)**

We also had a presentation at the May meeting from Silvia Gonzalez Roman and Jen Gloede, founders of Eastern Shore Indivisible. They discussed what the group is about, with the goal of engaging and empowering Maryland voters on the Eastern

Shore. The group welcomes anyone regardless of political affiliation or who they voted for in previous elections.



ESI will be having a No KINGS Picnic & Rally on June 14th. Register on this [link](#).

The event will take place from noon to 3 pm. From ESI:

Bring your picnic blankets, signs, and songs for an old-style picnic and rally! We'll be gathering for a picnic/rally to put our love of community and country on display. As patriotic Americans, we are uniting with our neighbors to let Donald Trump know that the flag doesn't belong to him. It belongs to us. We're not watching history happen. We're making it.

If you would like to be added to the ESI email, email the group at [easternshoreindivisible@gmail.com](mailto:easternshoreindivisible@gmail.com). You can also subscribe to their Linktree. It has links to all of their events, Bluesky and email. <https://linktr.ee/easternshoreindivisible>. Lastly, you can find ESI on Bluesky @esmdindivisible.bsky.social.

## Action Group Update

The Action Group has been busy calling Andy Harris' office. We wrote postcards to Andy at the last membership meeting. Keep calling, and be sure to download the 5calls app to make your calling easier. Also, check out Paul's most recent piece on Substack.

We will be meeting on **June 4 (6-8 PM)**, at the Kent Island Library to make posters for the **No Kings Day** protests. If you have supplies, bring them; otherwise, we will have plenty. If you are planning to attend any of the No Kings Day protests, you can bring one or more of your posters home, or just leave them for other folks to use.

**No Kings Day is June 14.** There are plenty of rallies planned nearby. In Centreville, there is one at 9:30 AM in front of the courthouse. Later on, there is one at 12:00 PM (also in front of the courthouse) sponsored by Eastern Shore Indivisible – **be sure to go to [mobilize.us](https://mobilize.us) to RSVP for this (picnic plus rally)**. ESI has other

events, but check the website first because many of them require RSVP.

The Action Group will be meeting regularly on the first Monday of every month at 6:30 PM at the Democratic office at 121 Clay Dr., Queenstown.

### **Make it hurt dates- Upcoming boycotts:**

- Target, June 3-9
- McDonald's, June 24-30

## Upcoming Events

Back by popular demand! Join us for a fun 2-hour cruise on the Chester River. Enjoy the company of like-minded folks and know that your ticket includes not just dinner, but a donation that helps the QAC Democratic Club do its good work. **OUR COUNT IS DUE JUNE 2nd!**

**Cruise into Summer with the QAC Dems!**



Join us on June 8th from **5-7pm** on the *Chester River Packet* for a dinner cruise.



Dinner on the cruise includes:

- Filet mignon sliders with horseradish sauce
- Cold poached shrimp
- Pasta or potato salad
- Green salad
- Cookies

We'll have a cash bar.



[Order your tickets](#) by June 1st! For questions, please contact Donna Edward, [dmbEdward@gmail.com](mailto:dmbEdward@gmail.com), 410-917-2862, or Merle Schwartz, [merleschwartz@me.com](mailto:merleschwartz@me.com), 202-285-2162.

## Coffee Meetup, June 21, at A Little Lovely Coffee House, Queenstown

Come join us on Saturday, June 21st, for a bit of Democrat camaraderie. No RSVP necessary. We each buy our own and share in the conversation at A Little Lovely Coffee House located within the Queenstown Premium Outlets (near the Gap). A little laughter goes a long way right now!



## FREE Ice Cream Social! June 24th, 6-8 PM

Come one come all for free delicious ice cream, fun conversation, and more! Our annual Ice Cream Social will take place outside the QAC Democratic Office on June 24th. Bring the kids. Bring your friends. We look forward to seeing you there!



## QAC Democratic Central Committee (DCC)

**About the DCC** Ten members are elected every four years in the Primary for the midterm Election The QACDCC meets at the Democratic office on 121 Clay Street in Queenstown, the 2nd Monday of each month. We fundraise, we support candidates, we are the voice of the party in QA County. We do *not* choose candidates - all registered Democrats get to do that in the Primary.

**If you are interested in running for office or helping others win**, sign up for "The Work it Takes to Win" June 7th event. See below under DCC Events. If you are interested in running for office **or helping others win**, sign up for the "The work it takes to Win" for June 7 10am - 4pm. Meet with others from all over District 1 at Cecil Community College - Elkton Station **107 Railroad Av. Elkton MD** new nominated chair Stueart Pittman will be there. Lots for us to learn!!

<https://www.easternshoredems.com/events> Martin O'Malley key speaker and light lunch provided. \$25.

**Roots to Results-** we had 2,300 Democratic registered voters who ***did not vote*** in the last election. We need to work on this! Can you help? Help us reach out to neighbors and friends and keep them informed. Call to sign up at 443-262-1310.

Lastly, **thanks** to all who joined us at El Jefe for the Second Annual Women's Luncheon on Saturday, May 17th at El Jefe Restaurant. The festivities included a

women's trivia game, raffling of a "Women's March 2017" print by local artist Robin Craig and other prizes, and mosaic peace signs created and donated by Donna Graziano. The featured speakers were Dr. Charlene Dukes, Maryland Democratic Party First Vice-Chair, and Ariana Kelly, Executive Director of the Maryland Commission for Women and former MD state legislator. Dr. Dukes urged all Democrats to get involved and do their part, while Ms. Kelly stressed that each attendee has the potential to become a candidate and that sometimes "you are the right one." The DCC thanks the luncheon's generous sponsors, donors, attendees, and extraordinary speakers.



*Second Annual Women's Luncheon*





## Where's Andy?

*Written by Paul Honigberg, May 27, 2025*

Andy is "Present."

Congressman Andy Harris, M.D. (R-MD1) says on his campaign website that he originally decided to run for the Maryland state senate in 1998 because he was "[u]nhappy with the status quo in Annapolis." Without elaborating on what made him unhappy about the Maryland state senate almost 30 years ago, perhaps it was politicians saying one thing and doing another.

If that were one of his reasons, the Andy of 1998 would likely be unhappy with the Andy of 2025. Andy says he hates federal deficits. Despite his claimed aversion to deficits, he supported the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 during the first Trump administration. This legislation **increased** the federal deficit by \$7 trillion.

More recently, Andy initially supported the House budget reconciliation bill, which proposed extending the 2017 tax cuts by another ten years, further adding at least \$3 trillion more to the national debt. To help offset the addition to the federal deficit, the bill as finally negotiated proposes to cut federal spending on programs like Medicaid and food stamps by \$1.5 trillion.

This bill – essentially a reverse "Robin Hood" measure – disproportionately benefits wealthy individuals and affirmatively harms those at the bottom of the economic ladder. As enacted by the House on May 22, the bill would reduce Medicaid funding by roughly \$700 billion, causing approximately 13 million Americans to lose their health care coverage. It would also reduce funding for the Supplemental Nutritional

Assistance Program – commonly known as food stamps – by approximately \$300 billion over 10 years.

Notably, almost 200,000 of Andy's constituents -- almost 25 percent of all residents of the First District – rely on Medicaid. Over 34,000 households in the First District (roughly 11 percent of the total) rely on the SNAP program.

When pressed about why he favors lowering tax rates for the wealthiest Americans despite the long-term increase in the federal deficit by over \$3 trillion, Andy reverts to supply side mumbo jumbo about how lowering taxes would actually increase gross domestic product by \$2.5 trillion over 10 years (as he did at his March 25 telephone town hall).

Republicans have made some version of this argument for roughly 100 years. But whether you call it “trickle down” or “supply side economics,” it never delivers the promised benefits. Instead, it makes the rich richer and the deficit larger, all at the expense of the most vulnerable members of society.

Here, it has the potential to harm a substantial number of Andy's constituents. Andy has repeated for months that the budget bill would not cause any reduction in Medicaid funding. He made these statements on the floor of the House, in television interviews, on social media, and during his telephone town halls.

When the final text of the bill was released after all-night sessions of the House Budget Committee and the Rules Committee, Andy came out against the bill. What was the basis of Andy's opposition? Was it the likely effect of these cruel cuts on his constituents?

On the contrary, Andy said he opposed the measure because the cuts in domestic spending – including Medicaid – **were not big enough!** Andy proclaimed before the vote that the bill “not ready for prime time,” demanding further cuts to Medicaid funding. Without those changes, said Andy, “I’m still a HARD NO.”

On the day of the vote, two Republicans joined all Democrats in opposing the bill, leaving the tally 215-214 in favor of passage. Andy – Mr. HARD NO – had it in his power to tank the bill by voting no.

What did Andy do? He bravely voted ... “Present.”

His vote was effectively a vote in favor. He explained in a press release, “I voted to move the bill along in the process for the President. There is still a lot of work to be done in deficit reduction and ending waste, fraud, and abuse in the Medicaid program.”

Andy can repeat "waste, fraud and abuse" until the cows come home, but the Republicans have not been able to find any significant fraud in the Medicaid program and the work and paperwork requirements are designed to cause people to lose coverage.

The bill moves on to the Senate, where several Republican senators are objecting to the bill on a variety of reasons seemingly in conflict with one another. But however the Senate vote turns out, Andy's vote allowed it to proceed. In whatever form

Republicans pass this bill and send it to President Trump for his signature, vast numbers of Andy's constituents will suffer.

So much for bucking the status quo.

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## Action Items

### Andy Harris Postcards

Write a postcard (or email) to Andy Harris! If you want a response (not guaranteed), you must include contact information. Otherwise, just put your first name and zip code or city of residence on your mailing. Here are some topics you might consider:

- Protect Medicaid, Medicare, Social Security
- Fight cost-busting tariffs
- Safeguard Maryland children from contracting measles
- Promote public health initiatives that have been rejected by Secretary Kennedy, including encouraging vaccinations
- Reinstate FEMA funding and personnel
- Reclaim Congressional authority, including and especially the allocation of funding
- Prevent the re-opening of Alcatraz
- Protect AMERICAN CITIZENS from deportation
- Restore critical medical research and education

### DCC Postcards for Virginia

We have Postcards for Virginia that do not have to be mailed until October for their election. Stop by the Dem office on Tuesday mornings to write, pick some up, or chat about ideas.

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## Let's Meet Up!

### Join a Short-term Planning Committee or Action Activity!! Volunteer!

Is your thing helping with events? Contributing cookies? Making phone calls? Being a helping hand at an event? Read this newsletter and/or come to the meetings and volunteer to help, maybe on just one thing. Every little bit helps!

We need help supporting future candidates, computer entry, filing, greeting people at outreach events like Centreville Day, KI Farmers market, and more. Contact Merle

Schwartz [merleschwartz@me.com](mailto:merleschwartz@me.com), Andrea Alduino [4hgsleader@gmail.com](mailto:4hgsleader@gmail.com), or Elaine McNeil [elainemcneil101@gmail.com](mailto:elainemcneil101@gmail.com).

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## Support the Cause

### Help Us Find New Members

Share our website with friends! <http://qacdems.org>

### 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 [membership](#) for 2025 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 <http://qacdems.org>

### 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 candidates*, and maintain a *presence in our community*. \$5, \$10, \$15, \$20.... a month will help keep the office open! Visit [qacdcc.org](http://qacdcc.org) for more information Recurring donation? Click on [ActBlue](#)

If you would like to make a donation to the QAC Democratic Club, an easy way to do it is either through our [website](#) or use the QR Code below.





Donate to the QAC Dems  
Club!

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## Our Legislators

[Angela Alsobrooks](#)

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

Donna Edward - Secretary

Carol D'Agostino

Julia Krebs

Bonnie Nelson

Marti MacKenzie

Cynthia Miller

Nikki Newhouse

Paul Honigberg

## Pro-Democracy News Sources (source: Indivisible) and Resources

**Want to *do something* quickly and often to oppose what is happening in DC?**

Install the app 5 Calls!

5 Calls is an easy way to take five minutes to make five calls to influence our representatives. 5 Calls does the research for each issue and determines which representatives are most influential for which topic, collecting phone numbers for those offices and writing scripts that clearly articulate a progressive position.

### **Independent Writers**

Heather Cox Richardson (Letters from an American)

Robert Hubbell (Today's Edition Newsletter)

Jessica Craven (Chop Wood, Carry Water)

Joyce Vance (Civil Discourse)

Jamelle Bouie (The New York Times, but also on TikTok)

Timothy Snyder (historian focused on democracy and authoritarianism)

Marc Elias (Democracy Docket)

Mehdi Hasan (Zeteo)

Osita Nwanevu (The New Republic)

Michael Podhorzer

Brian Beutler, Dan Pfeiffer (“The Message Box”)

## **Podcasts & New Media**

Politics Girl

The Bulwark Podcast

MeidasTouch / “Legal AF”

Pitchfork Economics

Majority Report with Sam Seder

Deep State Radio (The DSR Network)

SiriusXM Progress Channel 127

Media Matters

## **Traditional & Mainstream News Outlets**

MSNBC

NPR

BBC

PBS

The Guardian

Mother Jones

Rolling Stone

The Atlantic

ProPublica

The American Prospect

The New Republic

Harper’s

## **Fact-Checking & Media-Bias Resources**

AllSides (Media Bias ratings)

Ad Fontes Media (Interactive Media Bias Chart)

Media Bias/Fact Check

FactCheck.org, PolitiFact, Snopes, Reuters Fact Check

Ground News (bias checker feature)

### **Other Notable Mentions**

Democracy Now! for progressive-leaning coverage

Daily Kos (community-driven political news)

Talking Points Memo, The Intercept for deep investigative or policy-focused content

Pod Save family (Crooked Media), focusing on progressive politics and activism

Local / State News: Some recommended tracking state legislative news via



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