

March 2025

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

Membership Meeting

Hot Topic based on what's happening in the news

March 19, Kent Island Public Library at 7PM

Please mark your calendars for Wednesday, March 19th, for our next Hot Topic membership meeting at the Kent Island Public Library. As is now our 'tradition,' we will have easy-to-do action items that everyone can participate in as a way to influence events at a national and local level.

For more information, or to make a hot topic suggestion, contact Merle Schwartz <u>merleschwartz@me.com</u>, or Andrea Alduino <u>4hgsleader@gmail.com</u>.



Recent Events

Membership Meeting February 19th, 2025: Immigration and Action Items Discussed

Our February membership meeting hot topic was *immigration*. Matthew R. Peters, executive director of Chesapeake Multicultural Resource Center in Easton, spoke about relevant issues. He provided a perspective on the problems and issues that the immigrant community on the Eastern Shore are facing, as well as an understanding about immigration and law enforcement over the last several years.



Additionally, Board members Cindy Miller, Bonnie Nelson, Julia Krebs, and Paul Honigberg shared about targeted actions and resources that we can take to influence the political scene. In the picture below, some participants were downloading the 5 Calls app, 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.





Action Group Update

The Action Group met on Feb. 25. Discussion largely focused on Andy Harris. Paul Honigberg has written another piece (scroll to *Where's Andy* in this newsletter), published on Substack, about how Harris, a physician, has embraced RFK Jr as Secretary of HHS. To see his work, go to Substack.com, look for votermd1. Like, follow, and make comments on his pieces. They are excellent.

Action items regarding Andy Harris include emailing him:

- ask for a response on Musk firing the JAGs (Judge Advocate Generals)
- ask his response to the invasion of our privacy by the Musk team
- ask him when he is planning to hold an in-person town hall *(scroll to Town Hall Meeting in this newsletter)*

Jen Gloede and Silvia Gonzalez Roman announced that they have established a local Indivisible Group. This will not replace the Action Group, but Indivisible has

many resources so having an additional platform will be great for our community, Thank you Jen and Silvia! Stay tuned for more information about the new Indivisible Group. At the time of this writing, the <u>first meeting</u> for the Eastern Shore Indivisible Group is scheduled for March 11th, 6:30 PM at the Kent Island Library.

Make it hurt dates:

March 7-14 - Boycott Amazon

Mar 21-28 - Boycott Nestle

April 7-14 - Boycott Walmart

April 18 - 2nd Economic Blackout

April 21-28 - Boycott General Mills

Please join us at our next meeting at the Club office, 121 Clay Dr., Queenstown, on Thursday March 13th, 6:30 pm.

Upcoming Events

QAC Democratic Central Committee (DCC)

For the first time since 1928, the GOP has the presidency, the House, the Senate, and the Supreme Court. You may remember from history class how that turned out.

Fellow Democrats— It is time to help. Do something. Resist. It also is time to bring about success in 2026. Although it is not presidential, it is a BIG election. There is the 1st District position again, Governor of the state, and the Board of Education candidates.

It has already begun. February 25th, 2025 was the first day to register to run as a candidate in the next election. We need to bring forward our values. This is not a time to rest, so your Central Committee has the following events:

- March 4 Open Forum
- March 6 Dem walk
- March 8 Town Hall Meeting

Details for each event are found in this newsletter (scroll to find).

The QAC DCC meets 2nd Monday of the month, with March 10th being the next meeting at 121 Clay Drive, 7 PM. It is open to the public. For more information, contact Elaine McNeil at 443-262-1310.

Open Forum on March 4th

Come to the Democratic Party office, 121 Clay Drive in Queenstown, to vent and to reach out. Let's help in the three big elections coming up in Florida and New York. The time will be from 10:30 AM - noon.

Talbot Dems Walk for Democracy, March 6th, Easton

Andy Harris is hosting a high dollar fundraiser at the Tidewater Inn, in downtown Easton, on March 6th from 5:30 - 7:00 PM. Let's show him our displeasure with his job performance by taking a nice walk from the Talbot Dems headquarter to the venue. The start address is 316 E Dover St, Easton, MD 21601. If interested, follow this link to sign up to attend.

Town Hall Meeting on March 8th

What do you want to ask Andy? We have invited Andy Harris to attend (although no response from him at the time of this writing) from 1 PM to 3 PM at the Kent Island Public Library. There will be other speakers (to be announced) but we also want to hear the questions you have for him about his voting record at this crucial time.



Interested in becoming a candidate or supporting our Democratic candidates for the 2026 election? Join us for a Free Brunch followed by a panel discussion on the topic of *running for office*! We'll be at Cult Classic,1169 Shopping Center Road in Stevensville.



Coffee Meetup, March 29, at A Little Lovely Coffee House, Queenstown

Come join us on Saturday, March 29th, 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!



"Good Trouble" Discussion Group

This group meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM at 121 Clay Drive. There are ongoing topics aimed at creating a more informed electorate in Queen Anne's County, keeping our friends and neighbors informed using *Roots to Results*.

Where's Andy?

Paul Honigberg published a Where's Andy piece on Substack on February 22, 2025, focusing on Andy's backing of Robert F Kennedy Jr.

Below is a sample from the article. NOTE: Since this was published, an unvaccinated child who is part of the west Texas measles outbreak, discussed below, has died.

Congressman Andy Harris, M.D. (R-MD1) touts his medical education and career at Johns Hopkins University as an asset in fulfilling his Congressional responsibilities. He is a member of the GOP Doctors Caucus, a group "composed of medical providers who utilize their healthcare expertise and backgrounds to develop patient-centered health care policy." In addition to his medical degree from Johns Hopkins, Andy also has a Masters of Health Sciences Degree from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Hygiene and Public Policy, and has served in the U.S. Naval Reserve. Given his medical training and career, Andy should be a reliable source of information on issues of public health, and he should speak out when he sees health

policy heading in the wrong direction.

It was, therefore, jarring to see Andy's Facebook post *congratulating* Robert F. Kennedy Jr. on his confirmation as Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services. Harris wrote, "I look forward to working with him to Make America Healthy Again."

But will Secretary Kennedy make America healthy again? The facts suggest otherwise. Kennedy is an environmental lawyer with no medical or health policy training. It appears the main reason for his selection as HHS Secretary was his decision to abandon his failing presidential campaign and endorse Donald Trump for president. Although Kennedy promises to promote the laudable goals of fighting chronic disease and promoting healthy eating – as former First Lady Michele Obama did – he is among the worst of Trump's many unsuitable cabinet picks and others requiring Senate confirmation.

For the full article, go to: https://votermd1.substack.com/p/wheres-andy-february-22-2025

Action Items

Join the Amazon.com Boycott!



Complete an Andy Harris Survey Form

Check out Andy Harris' website. There is a 2023-2024 <u>survey form</u> that is still live. Also on the site is a way to email him. Let him know what you think.

Community Events

National Vietnam Veterans Day Commemoration, March 29

There is a National Vietnam Veterans Day Commemoration on Saturday, March 29th at the QAC High School from 2 - 4:00 PM. This event is part of a call out to the people who served on Active Duty anywhere in the world from November 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975.

 Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Community Celebration - reschedule to March 30

On March 30th, at 3:30 PM, there will be the annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Community Celebration, held at The Performing Arts Center at Chesapeake College. The guest speaker will be Rip Cornish. Admission is free.

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!

Life for QAC Democrats continues after this presidential election. 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, Andrea Alduino 4hgsleader@gmail.com, or Elaine McNeil elainemcneil101@gmail.com.

Calendar

Below is a summary of our events and activities for March. Scroll through this

newsletter for the details.

March

- 4th Open Forum, 10:30 AM noon, QAC Democratic Party Office
- 6th Talbot Dems Walk for Democracy, 5:30 7 PM, 316 E Dover St., Easton
- 8th Town Hall Meeting, 1 3PM
- 11th Indivisible Group kickoff meeting, 6:30 PM, Kent Island Library
- 13th Action Group, 6:30 PM, QAC Democratic Party Office
- 19th QAC Democratic Club Membership Meeting, 7 8:30 PM, Kent Island Library
- 29th Democrats Coffee Meetup, 10 AM noon, A Little Lovely Coffee House
- 29th National Vietnam Veterans Day Commemoration, 2 4:00 PM, QAC High School
- 30th Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Community Celebration, 3:30 PM, Chesapeake College

April

16th - QAC Democratic Club Membership Meeting, 7 - 8:30 PM, Kent Island Library

May

- 17th Women's Luncheon, El Jefe Restaurant, save the date
- 21st QAC Democratic Club Membership Meeting, 7 8:30 PM, Kent Island Library

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 activities, and maintain a presence in our community.

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





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)

Below is a condensed summary of Indivisible member recommended pro-democracy news sources.

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



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