



## February 2026

**\*\*2026 Membership Dues Due Now!** Visit [qacdems.org](http://qacdems.org)!

### What's Coming Up

#### February

- 17th - National Day of Action: in-district lobbying
- 18th - Membership Meeting, 7 PM, Kent Island Public Library
- 14th - Coffee and Conversation, 10 AM - noon, Little Lovely Coffee House, Queenstown
- 24th - Last day to register to run in 2026 Election - info at [qacdcc.org](http://qacdcc.org)

#### March

- 7th - DCC's Women's History Month Luncheon at El Jefe, 1:00 AM-2:00 PM
- 18th - Membership Meeting, 7 PM, Kent Island Public Library
- 28th - No Kings Day Rally, Queen Anee's County Courthouse Square in Centreville

[Next Membership Meeting is February 18th](#)

[Kent Island Library, 7 PM](#)

There is so much going on right now in our country and with the upcoming 2026 elections. We use the monthly membership meetings as a way to talk about the most

current events unfolding, take action together where we can, bring candidates to our meeting so you can know more about who is running for office, and offer the opportunity to share conversation with like-minded people. This upcoming meeting will be very focused on activism.

Our meetings are generally the third Wednesday of every month. Mark it on your calendar. Plan to join us on February 18th!

**Be Angry** 😡 *[Recent Club Events to Follow this Editorial]*

Where's Andy?

*Written on January 27th, 2026 by Board member Paul Honigberg*

### **Off Track!**

On the one-year anniversary of Donald Trump's inauguration for a second term, Congressman Andy Harris, M.D. (R-MD1) was in a celebratory mood. On Facebook, Andy proclaimed that the Trump regime "had delivered real results for Americans in just 12 months ..." and that Trump was "keeping his promises and getting America BACK on track."

One would think that, given this stellar record, Andy would not be hiding from his constituents or whining that a possible Congressional redistricting plan might add a few more registered Democrats to his district. Rather than tout the accomplishments of the administration and the Republican-controlled Congress, however, Andy has not held an in-person town hall since August 2023. With the golden age of Trump and all the kept promises, why are you hiding?

Let's review some of those "real" results, which may help explain Andy's disappearing act:

- Maryland lost almost 25,000 federal jobs in 2025, the most of any state. According to the Congressional Research Service, there were approximately 26,000 civilian federal employees in the First District as of September 12, 2025. How many of them are now looking for work in an economy not producing new jobs?
- The inaptly named One Big Beautiful Bill Act, for which Andy voted, extended the Trump tax cuts enacted in 2017 for another 10 years, until 2034. This bill represents a huge transfer of wealth and benefits from those at the lower end of the income spectrum to those at the upper end.
- The non-partisan Congressional Budget Office expects this bill to *increase* the federal deficit by \$3.4 trillion over 10 years. When interest payments of \$700 billion are added, the bill will increase the federal deficit over that same period by a total of \$4.1 trillion. Although Andy tells everyone who will listen that he is against increasing the federal deficit, his vote in favor of this bill, combined with his vote in favor of the Trump tax cuts in 2017 that added another \$3 trillion to the federal debt, makes Andy the "\$7 Trillion Deficit Man."
- Also under this bill, health insurance premiums for those insured under the Affordable Care Act skyrocketed in 2026. Almost 28,000 residents of the First

Congressional District were enrolled under the ACA in 2025. The Kaiser Family Foundation estimates that, for a First District 40-year-old making \$31,000 per year, premiums under the silver plan are anticipated to rise from \$58 per month to \$153 per month in 2026, an increase of 165 percent. And for a 60-year-old couple in this district making \$82,000 per year, premiums under the silver plan are expected to rise from \$581 per month to \$1,552 per month in 2026, an increase of 167 percent.

- The same bill included cuts to the Medicaid program estimated to cause approximately 10 million Americans to lose their coverage entirely. Maryland's First District has 188,800 individuals – including 62,100 children –enrolled in Medicaid. How many of them will lose their coverage?
- Reductions in Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits (formerly known as food stamps) due to funding cuts and changes to eligibility contained in the One Big Beautiful Bill Act will significantly reduce access to food assistance for millions of Americans. SNAP covered 33,613 households in the First Congressional District in 2025, of which 15,684 included children. How many will go hungry?
- And who can forget the Trump administration and congressional Republicans holding SNAP recipients hostage during the 54-day government shutdown, by refusing to fund SNAP while the parties were at an impasse over the bill to fund the government? Those were some real results for Marylanders wondering if they could afford to put food on the table while Republicans fiddled.
- Andy is a Johns Hopkins-trained physician. As such, he knows the importance of our country's world-renowned research universities, like Hopkins, in making important medical advances and discovering cures around the globe. But Andy – a member of the House Appropriations Committee from which all spending bills originate – stayed silent as the Trump administration illegally refused to spend money appropriated by Congress by cutting research funding.
- Andy also did not utter a peep as crackpot HHS Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. issued new vaccine guidance contrary to broad scientific and medical consensus and replaced mainstream scientists with vaccine deniers on the FDA committee charged with approving new vaccines. Secretary Kennedy's actions have delivered real results to the almost-2000 Americans affected by several measles outbreaks across the United States in 2025, which included several deaths. Given that measles was considered eradicated in the United States as of 2000, those now suffering from and at risk of contracting measles can surely appreciate this administration's results.
- Andy's post also touts the administration's immigration record, proclaiming, "Eight straight months with NO releases at the border." Although this claim has recently been called into question, Andy seems proud to be associated with the administration's immigration policies, which are all too real. One need look no further than Minneapolis, where ICE and CBP agents are parading around like storm troopers looking to provoke confrontations and two U.S. citizens have been killed by ICE goons while exercising their first amendment rights.

Contrary to Andy's Facebook post, the first year of the Trump Administration has been a dark period of American history. The heavy-handed tactics of ICE and CBP, rather than removing hardened criminal aliens from the United States, has targeted United States citizens, immigrants legally in the country, and undocumented individuals with no criminal record who simply desire a better life for themselves and

their families. This should be a source of shame for all Republicans, including Andy.

Are these the “real results” Andy has in mind? Is this really getting America “BACK on track.”

**Perhaps Andy should reconsider.**

## Recent Events

### 2026 Election and Membership Kickoff Event- A Big Success!

Our 2026 Kickoff Party on January 21st was a well attended and successful event! Many thanks to Bonnie Nelson who spear-headed the event along with help from many of our QAC Dem Club Board members.



The free evening was held at the Kennard Cultural Heritage Center, Centreville. We toasted to the new election cycle, enjoyed hors d'oeuvres, met candidates, and shared conversation about what we need to do to have a successful 2026 election.

We also kicked off our 2026 QAC Democratic Club membership. Several people went online right from the event to re-up their membership or to join. In support of our Club, many people bought raffle tickets to win a “Big Bucket of Cheer.” Others simply donated to our efforts. We appreciated all of the support!

Dr. Darren Guido, Supervisor of Instruction, Queen Anne’s County Public Schools, expressed his gratitude for the Club’s Migrant Holiday Giving program. This year, Club members provided pajamas, books, and winter hats and gloves to 13 families. We received a \$500 donation from Queen Anne’s Advocates for Youth which funded \$30 Food Lion gift cards for each family and partially funded the catering for their holiday party.

Please go to [qacdems.org](http://qacdems.org) to renew your membership for the 2026 year. Time to roll up our sleeves and make the difference!

Should you want to make a donation:



Donate to the QAC Dems  
Club!

## QAC Dem Club Hosted a Peaceful Protest in Support of Justice on January 11, 2026

On Sunday, January 11, we gathered at our Democratic headquarters in Queenstown for a peaceful protest following the fatal shooting of Renee Good by a federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agent in Minneapolis on January 7, 2026. The demonstration brought together **over 50 community members**, along with two dogs — and, to the surprise and delight of attendees, **a unicorn** to help keep the mood hopeful and family-friendly.

Participants held signs calling for accountability and justice in response to the controversial Minnesota shooting that has sparked nationwide debate and protests. Good, a 37-year-old Minnesota resident, was shot by an ICE officer during a federal enforcement operation — an incident that has drawn intense scrutiny, public outcry, and calls for independent investigations into federal law-enforcement actions.

Speakers at the Queenstown event emphasized the importance of nonviolent civic engagement and solidarity with communities calling for reform. Organizers say they will continue to hold events aimed at fostering dialogue and advocating for policy changes at the local and national levels.



## Upcoming Events

### Dem Coffee Meetup on February 14th

Come join us on February 14th 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!



## Community Efforts and Action

### The Action Group

The Action Group is working with both democratic congressional candidates to collaborate on community outreach initiatives. As these develop, we will keep our membership posted.

- Randi White's first kitchen table talk is in Queen Anne's County, Feb. 1, 3-5 pm. No venue has been announced yet.
- Some of us are getting involved in the campaign to protect our immigrant neighbors and end the militarization of our cities by ICE officers.
- We continue to keep our eyes open for local actions to resist Trump's authoritarian regime. If you hear of things happening, please let us know about them.

Please join us! Cindy Miller, 607-435-6048, millercynthia1952@gmail.com .

### National Day of Action: In-district Lobbying on February 17th, 2026

FLARE USA, Citizens' Impeachment, and 50501 Movement are proud to announce the next **National Day of Action: in-district lobbying on February 17, 2026** for the impeachment, conviction, and removal of President Trump. Representatives will be in their districts; catch them at home and demand they use their power to remove this unconstitutional regime!

Grassroots pro-democracy organizations (e.g., local chapters of Indivisible, Hands

Off, 50501), progressive primary candidates, and other concerned citizens will join together in leading constituents into the local/in-district offices of all 435 US House Representatives to demand impeachment.

If you are interested in visiting Andy Harris' office on February 17th, please contact Marti MacKenzie ([martimackz@gmail.com](mailto:martimackz@gmail.com)) or Cindy Miller ([millercynthia1952@gmail.com](mailto:millercynthia1952@gmail.com)).



## No Kings Day Rally, March 28th

Come one, Come all,

Frogs and dogs,

Patriots and Protesters,

Take back Our America!

Save the date for the next big nationwide protest event as people will take to the streets in cities and towns across the country to say:

***No Kings here now or ever. This is our America.***

We are planning to fill the Queen Anne's County Courthouse Square and line the streets of Centreville. Building on the success of our No Kings Rally in October, we will have speakers and music and lots of activities for people of all ages.

### Help Us Plan

We will meet at QA Democratic Headquarters every Tuesday. 10:00 AM - noon, to finalize plans. Bring your ideas and talents.

Meanwhile, mark your calendar, tell all your friends and neighbors, make your posters, and keep protesting the illegal, immoral, racist and damaging policies of He Who Wants to be King and his thugs.



## QAC Democratic Central Committee (QACDCC)

Elaine McNeil, Chair

Use our website [qacdcc.org](http://qacdcc.org) to find out more about opportunities to run for election. You have to file by February 24th. Call or text Elaine at 443-262-1310 with any questions.

Mark March 7th on your calendar for the Women's History Month Luncheon at El Jefe, 1:00 AM-2:00 PM. This is a fundraiser for candidates. Our special guest is Maryland's Comptroller Lierman. See [qacdcc.org](http://qacdcc.org).

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## Let's Meet Up!

Stay Informed

[Maryland Matters](#) is a great site to track what is going on in Maryland. Take a look!

**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 would like to have members covering the county headquarters every Tuesday

and Thursday morning. 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

Get Your Awesome QAC Democrat T-Shirt Now!



Are you proud to be a Queen Anne's County Democrat? 2026 can result in a blue wave, so wear your blue and show you are working to Free America! Shirts in sizes small-to-extra large will be on sale at our January 21st Kickoff Event and at Democratic headquarters each Tuesday morning. The cost is \$20 each.

## 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](#) 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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