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## January 2026

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

### What's Coming Up

- **January**

- 10th - Coffee and Conversation, 10 AM - noon, Little Lovely Coffee House, Queenstown
- 20th - the Big Walkout to Free America
- 21st - 2026 Election and Membership Kickoff Event - Drinks and hors d'oeuvres, 6:30 PM, Kennard Cultural Heritage Center, Centreville

### **February**

- 18th - Membership Meeting, 7 PM, Kent Island Public Library
- 14th - Coffee and Conversation, 10 AM - noon, Little Lovely Coffee House, Queenstown

*Important Note: Before we share all the great Dem Club information about upcoming events for this election year, recent events, and ways to be active, PLEASE READ THE EDITORIAL ABOUT CONGRESSMAN*

*ANDY HARRIS below. We have got to get him out, and that is a major effort for our Democratic efforts. Scroll below the editorial for the usual newsletter events.*

## The List (Andy's Version), written by Board member Paul Honigberg 12/30/2026

### The List (Andy's Version)

Another year in the books for Congressman Andy Harris, MD (R-MD). Finishing his fifteenth year representing Maryland's First Congressional District, Andy can look back proudly on his accomplishments in 2025. These included ... and then there was ....

Anyway, he did take a 54-day vacation in the fall, while the federal government was shut down, during which he received full pay and benefits while federal employees were either furloughed or forced to work without pay. Of course, this is on top of all the other vacations and district "workdays" that Members of Congress afford themselves. (Despite all this free time, Andy has not held an in-person town hall since August 2023.) Andy proclaimed himself satisfied with the Senate version of the bill that ended the government shutdown, although he opposed the provision rescinding the administration's illegal layoffs of federal employees during the shutdown.

On to 2026, with The List (Andy's version):

### OUT

### IN

The Constitution

vests in Congress the power to decide how federal money must be spent

The Trump Administration refuses to spend money duly appropriated by Congress and shuts departments and agencies created by Congress. Andy goes along

Federal budget deficits are bad

Over \$4 billion of additional federal debt is good if it pays for massive tax cuts for wealthy individuals and corporations. After proclaiming himself a "Hard No," Andy voted "YES"

The Affordable

Care Act (ACA) allows millions of Americans to afford

Republicans pass legislation that would allow ACA premium subsidies to expire, which will cause premiums to double (or triple), and likely cause 20 million Americans to lose coverage

health care that they could not otherwise afford while reducing costs on the entire health system

and the premiums for the rest of us to increase. Andy tries to change the subject, saying we are merely returning to pre-COVID subsidies without considering the effect on those who can no longer afford the higher premiums. And joins with GOP leadership in refusing to negotiate with Democrats

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Benefits provided to needy Americans

The Trump Administration withholds SNAP benefits in negotiations with Democrats over the government shutdown, depriving 42 million Americans – including 33,613 households in the First Congressional District (almost half of which include children) -- of critical food assistance (and then had the gall to sue Democratic-led states to prevent them from using their own funds to provide this aid). Even though Republicans refuse to negotiate, Andy blames Democrats for the shutdown and the cut-off of SNAP benefits

No person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law

Masked federal agents summarily arrest suspected undocumented immigrants, ship them off to holding facilities far from their homes, and send them out of the country to foreign prisons without meaningful due process despite federal judicial orders to the contrary. Andy, whose parents immigrated from Eastern Europe, cheered them on

Congress has the sole power to declare war

The Trump Administration concocts one emergency after another and then directs the military to attack small fishing boats and threaten war with Venezuela. Andy is silent

Robust national vaccine program keeps Americans healthy

HHS Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr.'s fact-free crusade against vaccines has made Infectious Disease Great Again and bodes ill for the future. As a doctor, Andy knows (or should know) that Kennedy's views on vaccines are nonsense, but doesn't say a word in protest

Freedom of speech and assembly

Andy's take on the No Kings protesters (as stated while being interviewed on a Baltimore radio station the day after the protests): "If I want to see furry animals, I'll go to the zoo."

"We must keep our promise to those who answered our nation's call by ensuring they have access to the

Massive cuts to VA programs, including health care providers, with more on the way. Naval Reserve veteran Andy is MIA

highest quality health care.” Andy Harris House web page

American research universities are the envy of the world, producing amazing discoveries and turning out world renowned doctors, scientists, and engineers

Trump Administration attacks American research universities primarily because they deal in facts. Andy, a graduate of Johns Hopkins university and its medical school, knows better, but remains mum

US AID provides food and medicine to poor countries around the world at a relatively reasonable cost (roughly \$40 billion)

DOGE-driven cuts illegally eliminated US AID and a rescission package further reduced foreign aid. This has caused the deaths of hundreds of thousands of children. Andy observed during his April 1 telephone town hall: “That’s the way the world works.”

*"Give me your tired,  
your poor,  
Your huddled  
masses yearning to  
breathe free,  
The wretched  
refuse of your  
teeming shore.  
Send these, the  
homeless, tempest-  
tost to me,  
I lift my lamp beside  
the golden door!"*

America First! (unless the immigrants work for one of Trump’s tech-bro patrons or at one of his properties). Andy loves this “Golden Era.”

Members of Congress represent the citizens of their district

Andy makes clear during his October 21 telephone town hall that he believes he only represents the views of Republican voters in his district. He explains, “That’s how representative government works.”

Partisan mid-cycle redistricting is bad

Partisan mid-cycle redistricting is only bad when Democrats do it and threaten Republican seats (like Andy’s!)

Republican majority American people, including voters in the First District, have had in Congress enough

Although Andy may choose to represent only a portion of the residents of his district, he is proud to report that he has been re-elected chair of the House Freedom Caucus for 2026. What an honor!

Former House Speaker John Boehner, a rock-ribbed conservative Republican if ever there was, had this to say about the Freedom Caucus: “They are against everything. I’m not sure what they’re for.”

More recently, after the Freedom Caucus initially grumbled about the massive addition to the federal deficit that would be caused by Trump’s big ugly bill, they all fell in line. This prompted a writer in *The Bulwark* to describe the House Freedom Caucus as “impotent,” and note that they were now being referred to by some reporters and other lawmakers as the “House Folding Caucus.”

Happy New Year, Andy. How about resolving to represent your constituents in 2026?

2026 Election and Membership Kickoff Event with Drinks, Food, and Political Perspective! - *Be our Guest!*

Democratic Club of  
QUEEN ANNE'S  
COUNTY

# 2026 Kickoff Party

**Be our guest!**

Join us to toast the new election cycle, enjoy hors d'oeuvres, and share conversation about what we need to do to WIN!

Wednesday 6:30 PM  
**1.21.26**

**KENNARD CULTURAL  
HERITAGE CENTER**  
Centerville

RSVP: [QACDEMS.ORG](https://www.qacdem.org)

We are throwing a 2026 Kickoff Party on January 21st, 6:30 PM at the Kennard

Cultural Heritage Center, Centreville.

*Be our guest!* We'll toast to the new election cycle, enjoy hors d'oeuvres, and share conversation about what we need to do to have a successful 2026 election.

We'll also be kicking off our 2026 QAC Democratic Club membership. 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!

[RSVP here](#) so that we know how much food and drink to buy.

Should you want to make a donation:



Donate to the QAC Dems  
Club!

## More Upcoming Events

Dem Coffee Meetup, Saturday, January 10th, at A Little Lovely Coffee House, Queenstown, 10 AM - Noon



Little Lovely Coffee House  
430 Outlet Center Dr., Queenstown

## Coffee & Conversation

Jan 10th

10am - noon

Join  
the  
Conversation



Come join us on Saturday, January 10th, 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!

[Walkout to Free America - January 20th](#)



The next big national action to Free America from Trump administration policies is not a rally or a march, but a walkout. With the support of national organizations like 50501 and Indivisible, all concerned Americans are asked to leave their offices, factories, schools, or wherever they work or study in one giant coordinated walkout.

Organizers say the plan for the day is:

- ★ We walk away from fascism.★
- ★ We walk towards a Free America.★
- ★ We fight for a future that belongs to us all.★
- ★ Everybody in, nobody out.★
- ★ Welcome to the Free America★

After walking out, participants can gather to protest, march, or do another creative action like a sit-in, banner deployment, or town hall!

### **Join us at the QAC Democratic Headquarters**

Our Democratic headquarters in QAC is at 121 Clay Drive in Queenstown, beside Royal Farms. It will be open for the afternoon of January 20th as a gathering place for those who walk out and seek like-minded citizens. Coffee and snacks will be served to sweeten the conversations.

For more information or to join:

\* Learn more: <https://www.freeameri.ca>

## Recent Events

### Ivey Tells Local Democrats that the Tide is Changing!

“The tide is turning; it really is!”



*Congressman Glen Ivey*

That was the news Congressman Glen Ivey shared with local Democrats in Stevensville on December 6th. He cited the No Kings Rallies in October that drew over 7 million people, along with recent Democratic wins in Virginia and New Jersey as evidence of the growing anger over policies being enacted by the Trump administration. “The affordability agenda for America is working” for Democrats, he

explained.

The event, Holiday on the Bay, was the annual fundraiser for the Queen Anne's County Democratic Central Committee and the kickoff to the 2026 election season. Enthusiastic leaders and activists and several announced and unannounced candidates for local, state and federal offices were in attendance.

The former Prince George's County state's attorney and past chair of the Maryland Public Service Commission, Ivey, who was elected in 2022 to represent Maryland's fourth congressional district, currently serves on the House ethics and appropriations committee. He is focused on preserving the rule of law, safeguarding federal workers, and promoting economic policies that level the playing field for working class citizens. He said Congressional action to permanently extend the Trump tax cuts for the wealthy while cutting programs that serve the poor and middle class is being felt. The spending bill did nothing for working people, he decried.

Ivey was introduced by Len Foxwell, founder of Tred Avon, who is considered one of Maryland's elite political and communication strategists. Foxwell stressed the story of Easton Pastor Daniel Fuentes Espinal who was detained by Immigration and Customs agents (ICE), sent to a detention center in Louisiana, and finally released after pressures from the Democratic members of Congress from Maryland. Both Ivey and Foxwell also addressed the number of medical facilities on the Easton Shore that may be closed due to a trillion dollars in cuts to Medicaid.

The Queen Anne's County Democratic Central Committee supports the Maryland state party's principles and helps elect Democrats to public offices. It works in conjunction with the Queen Anne's County Democratic Club to hold meetings and promote activities that acquaint voters with Democratic policies and candidates. Central Committee Chair Elaine McNeil reported at the event that several candidates are considering running for the state general assembly, Queen Anne's county commissioners and other county jobs. So far three candidates have expressed interest in the Democratic nomination for congress in the first district, the position now held by Congressman Andy Harris.

The committee's headquarters are at 121 Clay Drive in Queenstown. Office hours are 10 a.m. until noon on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

## Taking Action

### Action Group Update from Cindy Miller

The Action Group has a singular focus in 2026 to unseat Andy Harris. We have contacted all 3 of the democratic primary candidates to offer our services and we will be planning more events as the year progresses. If you have not been receiving messages from the Action Group, please contact Cindy Miller [millercynthia1952@gmail.com](mailto:millercynthia1952@gmail.com) and we will add your name to our list.

Stay tuned and let's turn 2026 into the happiest of new years with a democratic

defeat of Andy Harris!

## Community Organizing

### **We continue Second Saturday gatherings!**

After holding sign-waving and rallies on the second Saturdays of each month through last spring, summer and fall, we have moved inside for the winter. Join us from 10:00 AM-noon on January 10th, Little Lovely Coffee House, Queenstown.

### **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.

[QAC Democratic Central Committee \(QACDCC\) - Elaine McNeil,](#)

## Chair

***IT's Time* for a change in this county - time to put people who live here and love it here, not developers, in charge of QA's future.**

We are seeking candidates for every race. A full slate helps every other Democrat running, all the way to the House of Representatives. As a registered Democrat, YOU CHOOSE the candidates in the Primary - doesn't it feel good when a Democrat is on the Ballot?

The hard deadline for signing up is FEB 24th. Contact me, Elaine McNeil, immediately if you are considering running or know anyone who needs an encouraging call. My number is 443 262 1310. We need to provide an alternative for Independents and less involved Democrats who are also tired of the MAGA fiasco.

We will celebrate our candidates at the following:

SAVE THE DATE: **Women's Luncheon March 7th El Jefe**

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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 [4hgslender@gmail.com](mailto:4hgslender@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](#) 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



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

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