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More calendar dates

Thursday, Feb. 9, Monthly meeting at the Gloucester House.

Thursday, March 9, Delegate selection caucus and monthly meeting

Sunday April 30, annual brunch at the Elks in East Gloucester



Mary Kingsley, Susan Only, John Recroft and Mike Wheeler at our Day of Service

Day of service helps feed hungry

Cold weather didn't prevent our GDCC volunteers from helping out our neighbors on Saturday, Jan. 14.

In six hours, GDCC volunteers collected 1,959 pounds of tuna and other forms of protein for The Open Door food pantry. Public Service Director Bernadette Merenda thanked all of those who participated. Besides Merenda, volunteers included Mary Kingsley, Liz Murray, Susan Only, John Recroft, Ralph Waddey, Michael Wheeler, Candace Wheeler, Monica Nardone, Karen Bell, David Rhineland, Helen Wiseman, Margaret Spencer, Liane Giunta, Deanna Fay, Steve Anaya, Tom Denman, Matthew Murray, and Wayne and Deb Berger.



Another day of service is planned for **Feb. 5** at which GDCC volunteers will help staff the Grace Center, which provides services to Gloucester's homeless population. .

Convention caucuses to be held March 9

This year we will select delegates and alternates to our June 3 platform convention in Lowell. The caucus will be held at 6 p.m. on March 9 at the Gloucester House, 63 Rogers St. The caucus will be immediately before our monthly meeting.

In a platform committee year, the caucus is usually fairly quick. You must be registered as a Democrat prior to the caucus in order to participate.

Health care focus of February meeting

Ture Turnbull, the Executive Director of MassCare, a health-care advocacy group, will be the featured speaker at our Feb. 9 meeting. He will speak on the topic of Single-Payer Healthcare. The meeting will be led by Matt Murray and Dru Tarr.

Turnbull attended Northeastern University, graduating in 2007 with a degree in Public Administration. He has

Health care topic at February meeting

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worked as a researcher for a joint committee of the Massachusetts state legislature and in a number of policy roles within both the Massachusetts House and Senate. In 2011, he was appointed to the Massachusetts LGBT Youth Commission.

MassCare has been fighting for healthcare justice for the last 20 years and currently is closer than ever to reaching its goals of providing a Medicare For All / Single Payer Healthcare System. In the local State election in 2016,

the group helped elect eight new representatives and senators to our State House. The group has two bills in the Legislature that would create a Single Payer system.

- “An act establishing improved Medicare for All in Massachusetts”
- “An act to ensure effective health care cost control”

Meetings are held at the Gloucester House, 63 Rogers St., at 7:30 p.m. A social hour starts at 7 p.m.

New state chair addresses GDCC

At our January monthly meeting, our featured speaker was Gus Bickford, Chair of the Massachusetts Democratic State Committee. He said his intent is to develop a model for the next election in 2018. The State Committee will have a new Executive Director and Communication Director. The State Committee will develop a message to spread to the local level. Bickford's plan also includes updating the party's platform, an updated web page, increased social media presence and hiring a new staff person to focus on outreach.

McCarthy Award

The GDCC is accepting nominations from members for the 2017 award. The deadline for nominations is March 3; see our website for further details.

Email award committee chair, Deanna Fay if you have questions at ward1@gloucesterdemocrats.org

Democratic Dialogue

The Gloucester Democratic City Committee's public access television show, Democratic Dialogue, is airing on Cape Ann TV, Ch. 12, throughout February on Fridays at 4 p.m., Sundays at 7 p.m., and Thursdays at 9:30 p.m.

Videos at: www.capeanntv.org/video.



Getting social



The GDCC will increasingly use social media to facilitate discussion among members and friends, promote participation in events, and encourage specific action on important issues. Please “like” us on the GDCC Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/gloucesterdemocrats>). The Cape Ann Democrats Facebook discussion group is at <http://bit.ly/2jvhcuX>. On Twitter, we are @gloucesterdems. Our home page is <http://www.gloucesterdemocrats.org/>

Did you know you can pay your GDCC dues online?

<https://secure.actblue.com/contribute/page/annual>

The Democratic Party works for the Common Good

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