



Indivisible Bainbridge Island

We believe in democracy.

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Indivisible Bainbridge Island Newsletter

April 4, 2025

Guided by Indivisible's [Practical Guide to Democracy on the Brink](#)

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Things to Do!

- In Person, **Bainbridge Island events are in bold.**
 - **April 5, Hands Off! Bainbridge Island Fights Back!** Indivisible Bainbridge Island is joining hundreds of other Indivisible groups across the country on Indivisible's Day of Action. Rally starts at 305 and Winslow Way. Bring your "Hands Off" signs. Let us know you're coming: [RSVP](#)
 - **April 9**, noon to 1:30 pm, Rally for America, the intersection of 305 and Winslow Way. Signs in support of Ukraine, Medicaid, Social Security, Medicare, Education, you name it. This is a weekly event.
 - April 9, 1 pm to 2 pm, Zoom, Meeting with Rep. Adam Smith's staff. Hosted by Seattle Indivisible. [RSVP](#)
 - **April 9**, 2 pm to 3:30 pm, Postcards on Wednesdays, upstairs at the T&C on Winslow Way, writing to flip another California CD in 2026.
 - April 11, 11:30 am to 1:30 pm, [Federal Building Fridays](#), Jackson Federal Building, hosted by Troublemakers.
 - **April 16**, 7 pm (doors open at 6:30 pm), Lynwood Theater, special screening of [American Dignity](#), a documentary commemorating the 60th anniversary of the march across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama. *American Dignity* is an intergenerational reflection on the

- endurance of movements, the weight of history, and the courage required to keep marching—no matter what lies ahead. Hosted by Common Power.
- **April 19**, 2 pm to 4 pm, Indivisible Bainbridge Island in-person meeting at the Eagle Harbor Congregational Church, 105 Winslow Way W, BI. Note the change to Saturday and the change in venue.
 - **May 2**, 1:30 pm, Zoom, [Politics with David Harrison](#), hosted by the BI Senior Center.
- [Boycotts](#) for caving to Trump on DEI
 - Ongoing through April 17, [Target](#)
 - April 7 to April 14, [Walmart](#)
 - April 18, [Economic blackout](#)
 - April 21 to April 28, [General Mills](#)
 - May 6 to May 12, [Amazon](#)
 - June 3 to 9, [Target](#)
 - June 24 to 30, [McDonald's](#)
 - July 4, [Economic blackout](#)
 - [Call Our Elected Representatives](#) or use [5Calls.org](#)
 - **Call our senators and tell them it's time for Schumer to step aside.** Schumer excused his vote on the dirty C.R. by saying we [aren't](#) in a constitutional crisis "yet." A few days later, he said we [are](#) in a constitutional crisis. We need actual leadership in the Senate.
 - **Call Rep. Randall and thank her in advance for her "No" vote on the [H.R. 22](#), the "Safeguard American Voter Eligibility Act" aka, the SAVE Act, which is up for consideration next week.** This bill would require a current passport (takes months to get, costs \$130+ and [requires birth certificate](#)) or [state-issued birth certificate](#) (takes weeks to get, costs \$12 to \$34, depending on your state of birth) to register to vote or update your voter registration, for example, because you moved. And register or update your residence in person (not online). So many women change their last name when they marry, they will become ineligible to register to vote.
 - **Call our senators and tell them to vote NO on all nominations**, such as self-professed DOGE-er, [Frank Bisignano](#), to run the Social Security Administration. [Watch](#) his hearing which was held last week. Sadly, in April, Sen. Cantwell voted to confirm Abigail Slater ([former advisor to JD Vance](#)) as an Assistant Attorney General to head the antitrust division and [Michael Krastios](#) as Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, bringing her total of Yes votes on Trump nominees to four.

Good News!

- What Susan Crawford's [win in Wisconsin](#) means. The liberal candidate for Superintendent of Public Instruction [won](#), too.

- Florida's special election results mean [38 House GOP members](#) are at risk in 2026 because they won by less than the Florida Democratic candidates improved their numbers on April 1.
 - Rep. Emily Randall has adopted Arizona's 6th congressional district as her "sister" district. The seat is held by Juan Ciscomani, one of the 38 at-risk Republicans. He's number eight on the list, winning in 2024 by just 2.51%.
- Louisiana voters [turned down](#) four GOP-backed amendments to their state's constitution.
- **Senators Step Up**
 - Sen. Ruben Gallego (D) [is putting holds](#) on top VA nominees to protest Trump's plans to cut its workforce.
 - Sen. Adam Schiff (D) [is putting a hold](#) on Trump's nominee for U.S. Attorney in Washington, D.C., Ed Martin.
 - Sen. Cory Booker [held the floor](#) of the Senate for over 25 hours.
 - "If America hasn't broken your heart, you haven't loved her enough."
- State Sen. Mallory McMorrow (D) [announced](#) that she is running for the U.S. Senate seat that's being vacated by the retiring Gary Peters.
- Elise Stefanik's nomination to be U.N. ambassador was [withdrawn](#) over GOP concerns about retaining their House majority.
- Trump [ordered](#) to pay hefty legal fees after Steele dossier lawsuit tossed.
- House Dems [open probe](#) into FCC chairman, Brendan Carr, over attacks on the free press.
- Retired Lt. Gen. Dan Caine testified at his Senate hearing for Joint Chiefs chair. When asked if Trump's story about Caine donning a MAGA hat when he met Trump, Caine [said](#) "Trump must have been "talking about somebody else."

Why We're Fighting Back

- **The Economy**
 - **Tariffs**
 - Ruination Day: Trump [stunned](#) economists with 'idiotic' and flawed tariff calculations that [hit all countries](#) except Canada, Mexico, Cuba, Russia, North Korea and Belarus with a 10% "universal" tariff, plus "reciprocal" tariffs. Asian countries hit the hardest: Cambodia (49%), Vietnam (46%) and China (a total of 54%).
 - **Why?**
 - He gets the pleasure of people [negotiating](#) (aka, groveling) for exceptions and [maybe he gets to pocket](#) some kickbacks.
 - Trump thinks his tariffs (which will [cost](#) the average U.S. household \$3,800/year) will bring in \$6 trillion over the next

ten years - enough, he thinks, to [cover the GOP's tax cuts for the wealthy](#) estimated to [add \\$5.8 trillion](#) to the deficit over ten years. (By the way, the House has already passed a budget framework, and the Senate [unveiled](#) its version on Ruination Day. It's a [train wreck](#).

- No new tariffs on Canada and Mexico. They were already hit on March 4 with a 10% tariff on energy and a 25% tariff on all goods not covered by the USMCA trade deal, which agricultural products, apparel, textiles and auto parts.
- Trump's 25% tariff on foreign car imports [causes](#) Stellantis to "temporarily" close a factory in Mexico and another Canada that employs 4,500.
- Canada responded with a 25% tariff on cars imported from the U.S. and a promise to build its economy away from the U.S.
- Even the Wall Street Journal is unhappy: "[Trump's New Protectionist Age](#)."
- The U.S. already has tariffs on a few sectors. [It hasn't gone that great](#).
- Japan and South Korea [shoved](#) into the warm embrace of China.
- After announcing the tariffs, Trump left for Florida where he's [hosting](#) a LIV golf tournament at his Doral golf club. He couldn't be bothered to honor the return of four U.S. soldiers who died in a training accident in Lithuania. At least Lithuania [did](#).
- Sens. Maria Cantwell (D) and Chuck Grassley (R) introduced the [Trade Review Act](#) to claw back power over tariffs. Earlier, with votes from Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), Susan Collins (R-ME), Mitch McConnell (R-KY) and Rand Paul (R-KY), the Senate [passed](#) a resolution that would thwart President Donald Trump's ability to impose tariffs on Canada. The House has already [protected](#) Trump's ability to impose tariffs.
 - Trump skipped Econ 101, but Ferris Bueller's Econ Class [didn't](#).
- On Friday, the Dow Jones Industrial Average [closed](#) at 38,314.87, down from last week's close at 41,583.9 and down 6,567.26 from its peak of 44,882.13 on Jan. 30, 2025.
- Federal Reserve chief says Trump's tariffs are likely to [raise inflation](#) and slow U.S. economic growth - or some think maybe even [negative growth](#).
- By March 13, Trump/Musk/DOGE [may have terminated](#) 100,000 federal probationary employees, and another 75,000 accepted the buyout offer.
- U.S. payrolls [rose](#) by 228,000 in March, but the unemployment rate increased to 4.2%.
 - Federal workers who were laid off/terminated "for cause" (such as the ubiquitous and unjust "poor performance" in a form email) [may](#)

[have trouble](#) getting unemployment benefits.

- **Trump's Executive Orders**

- Trump's Executive Order interfering with state election procedures, imposing proof of citizenship requirements, conditioning election funding for states on compliance, and targeting states with extended mail ballot receipt laws, [was challenged](#) by four lawsuits filed in Washington DC and Massachusetts. The plaintiffs include the State of California, the League of Women Voters, the League of United Latin American Citizens, the DNC and nineteen AGs.
- The federal court for the Northern District of Illinois [granted](#) the request of the Chicago Women in Trades non-profit for a Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) prohibiting the Secretary of Labor from freezing or cancelling contracts on the basis of Trump's anti-DEI EOs.
- 23 state attorneys general [sue](#) Trump administration over decision to rescind billions in health funding.
- The federal court in the Northern District of California [granted](#) a TRO requested by Community Legal Services prohibiting the U.S. Office of Refugee Resettlement from cutting off congressionally appropriated funding for legal representation services for unaccompanied immigrant children, through Apr. 16.
- The federal Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals [denied](#) Trump's request for a stay of the preliminary injunction issued last week prohibiting enforcement of the EO banning transgender military service members.
- The federal court for the Northern District of California [issued an order](#) leaving in place the Temporary Protected Status for Venezuelan nationals granted by the Biden administration, then rescinded by the Trump regime.
- As deadline approaches, Trump [extends](#) TikTok sell-by date.
- Democratic AGs [sue](#) National Institutes of Health over disrupted medical research grants.
- With the Dept. of Education hollowed out, Trump wants student loans to be managed by the Small Business Administration, which has been relieved of 43% of its staff or [2,700 workers](#). But some Republicans are [leery](#).

- **Renditions and Deportations**

- Judge Boasberg [put the screws](#) to the Trump DOJ on who exactly may have ignored his orders regarding the Alien Enemies Act. Boasberg is trying to figure out if the Trump administration structured the entire removal process under the Alien Enemies Act to avoid judicial scrutiny and deprive the deported of whatever chance they may have had to file legal challenges to the process. Another hearing is set for next week.

- On Friday, Judge Paula Xinis ruled the U.S. [must return](#) Kilmar Abergo Garcia, the man who was deported to El Salvador in 'error.' (Earlier in the week, the DOJ said they were unable to return him.)
- The U.S. [is paying](#) El Salvador \$6 million in taxpayer money to imprison the Venezuelan prisoners.
- Judge [holds ICE agent in contempt](#) after the agent detained a man as he left his own trial.
- In the Mahmoud Khalil case, Judge Michael Farbiarz issued an [order and opinion](#) that the court has habeas corpus jurisdiction over the case.
- Judge [moves](#) legal case of detained Tufts student to Vermont. She is still in a Louisiana detention facility.
- **Retribution**
 - It's not just Trump: Lee Dudek, the acting commissioner of Social Security [ended a program](#) for Maine newborns because he was 'ticked' at Maine's governor, Janet Mills (D).
 - FBI [launches](#) task force targeting anti-Tesla 'domestic terrorism.'
- **Health**
 - Hundreds of Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) employees based in Washington were abruptly [fired or placed on leave](#) from several different offices, including the HHS regional office that covers Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Alaska, the regional Head Start office and a CDC laboratory in Spokane.
- **National Security**
 - Trump appears to be taking advice from right-wing activist [Laura Loomer](#) (a racist 9/11 truther). After her Wednesday visit to the White House, Trump [fired](#) six National Security Council staffers.
 - National Security Agency chief and deputy director dismissed; this time, Loomer is [taking credit](#) for the firings.
 - Meanwhile, the guy who added the journalist to the Signal chat remains unscathed, even though he also [used gmail](#) for government business.
- **The Hateful Place Our Country Has Become**
 - Georgia woman [arrested](#) after having a miscarriage at 19 weeks and illegally disposing of the fetus.
 - The Trump regime has quietly been [revoking the visas](#) of international students across the country with no reason given and forcing them to leave immediately: so far, the known revocations are [eight in Arizona](#), [ten in Colorado](#) and [two in North Carolina](#).
 - Federal judge [allows the transfer](#) of the Institute of Peace's \$500 million office building to the GSA for free.
 - This regime is disappearing people
 - Man in Maine with protected status was [disappeared](#).

- Lawyers and advocates say [48 people are unaccounted](#) for after an ICE raid in New Mexico.

In Washington

- NTSB [warns](#) two bridges in Washington could have similar fate to Francis Scott Key Bridge: The Lewis and Clark Bridge, which spans the Columbia River, and the Astoria-Megler Bridge.
- Trump's research cuts [threaten](#) to set off a wave of university brain drain. UW is already feeling it.
- Trump regime funding freeze of \$27B in clean-energy program [strands local projects](#).
- Washington AG [takes software company to court](#) over rental price-fixing allegations.
- States ordered by Dept. of Education to certify school DEI ban or lose funds. Washington's Superintendent of Public Schools is still trying to [decipher the order](#).

In the World

- **Canada:**
 - Mark Carney, Canada's new prime minister, [announced](#) snap elections on April 28. His Liberal Party may win thanks to Trump. [Elbows Up!](#)
- **Gaza**
 - An Israeli strike on a school in Gaza [killed at least 27 people](#), including 14 children and 5 women.
- **Ukraine:**
 - Moscow [describes the latest US peace proposals](#) as unacceptable to the Kremlin, highlighting the limited progress Trump has made on his promise to end the war.
 - After talks with NATO countries, Sec. of State Rubio [said](#) the U.S. is "testing to see if the Russians are interested in peace. Their actions – not their words, their actions – will determine whether they're serious or not, and we intend to find that out sooner rather than later," referring to weeks, not months. Rubio also tried to assure NATO of continued U.S. support, amid serious concerns from European leaders. Rubio also [criticized](#) European leaders for the "hysteria and hyperbole" around the issue of whether the U.S. will continue to be a member of NATO.
 - The top U.S. general in Europe [told Congress](#) that Ukraine has solved its troop shortages and that a cut-off of U.S. weapons and intelligence would be extremely harmful. No cease-fire is in place and Russian attacks continue in Ukraine.

- The U.S. [has withdrawn](#) from the ICPA, an international group collecting evidence of potential Russian war crimes in Ukraine.
- Russia [has added](#) the Elton John Aids Foundation to its list of "undesirable organizations", which also includes the World Wildlife Fund, Greenpeace, Transparency International and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty.
- [Global markets are in turmoil](#) as Trump's tariffs wiped \$2.5 trillion in value from Wall Street. World leaders from Brussels to Beijing rounded on Trump in response to Wednesday's tariffs. China [condemned "unilateral bullying"](#) practices and the EU said it was drawing up countermeasures. Trump timed his [Wednesday evening Rose Garden address](#) to avoid live tickers of crashing stock markets.
- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) [warned](#) that Trump's tariffs pose a "significant risk" to the global economy, as stock markets were hit by a punishing worldwide sell-off by investors.
- Trump's tariffs are [seen as a possible nail in the coffin](#) for the German auto industry. After noting the earlier problems from VW's "dieseldgate," one auto worker observed "even bigger arseholes are deciding our future."
- Thanks to Simon Ffitch for collecting this info!

Indivisible Bainbridge Island

We are **Indivisible Bainbridge Island**, working in 2024 to **save our democracy** and elect common sense Democrats who respect personal freedoms.

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