



Indivisible Bainbridge Island Newsletter

July 7, 2024

Guided by [Indivisible's Practical Guide to Defeating MAGA](#)
Our goal is to help elect progressives in our state legislatures and in Washington, D.C.

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This newsletter is prepared weekly by [Holly](#) and [Kathy](#).
Past newsletters are archived [here](#).

On the Calendar

- July 9, 6:30 pm, Zoom, [League of Women Voters Candidate Forum](#) for LD 23 State Rep. Position 1. Participants: Tarra Simmons (D), Tiffany Attrill (I) and Kurt Robertson (R)
- July 10, 2 pm to 3:30 pm, [Postcards on Wednesday](#), upstairs at the T&C
- July 11, 6:30 pm, Zoom, [League of Women Voters Candidate Forum](#) for LD 23 State Rep. Position 2. Participants: Greg Nance (D), John Gibbons (D), Jamie Miles (R), Brynn Felix (D)
- July 12, 1:30 pm, Zoom, [Politics with David Harrison](#)
- July 12, last day to buy postcard stamps at .53 cents per stamp
- July 14, 1 pm to 3 pm, Meet Brynn Felix in Poulsbo. [Email](#) Carollynn for the location.
- July 20, [Kitsap Pride at Kitsap County Fairgrounds](#). Kick-off party July 19.
- August 6, Primary Day, ballots in the mail [July 19](#). Online and mail registrations must be made by July 29. In-person registration available through August 6.

In This Newsletter

- **Understanding One of This Week's Stories** - Just the facts, ma-am!

- **Do Something** – Call our senators, and Dick Durbin, too!
- **Holding Trump Accountable** – Disastrous decision
- **Elections** –
- **President Biden and His Administration** –
- **In Congress** – Working at home
- **In the Courts** –
- **In the States** –
- **In the World** – War and war
- [Daily Actions](#) - Tell our members of Congress what you think! We have topics for July.

Understanding One of This Week's Big Stories - Just the facts, ma'am!

After ten days of handwringing, here's what we know:

- Only Joe Biden can decide to withdraw from this race.
- [Only Joe Biden and Kamala Harris can run for president](#) using the existing campaign infrastructure (field offices, field organizers and campaign cash).
 - Given that fact, if Joe Biden is going to withdraw, he should do so ASAP to allow Kamala Harris to run as an incumbent.
- An open convention would be a disaster. See the [1968 Democratic convention](#) that got Richard Nixon elected even as Democrats were trying to find peace in Vietnam. Nixon, of course, had a plan to end the war. It was to bomb the crap out of Southeast Asia. The war continued for another five years.

Some recipients of this newsletter think Democrats should not rally around Biden the way Republicans line up for Trump. I say "Al Franken."

Some think Gaza is the reason to bail on Biden. As much as I wish Biden and the Democrats were not so entwined with Israel, Biden has at least [proposed a peace plan](#) that's getting serious consideration from Middle East leaders (except Netanyahu who seems to be [using this war to stay in power](#)). It's not enough, but between Oct. 7 and Feb. 27, Biden has [delivered \\$180 million in humanitarian assistance](#) for the people of Gaza and the West Bank.

Netanyahu is an authoritarian, just like Trump. Deep-thinker Trump urged Netanyahu to "get it over with and get it over fast" because he's "losing the PR war." That's Trump-speak for kill as many Palestinians as fast as possible. Electing Trump will not help the Palestinians.

The goal is to defeat Trump. We need to make sure the Democratic nominee does just that.

[Watch](#) Joe Biden's speech at the rally in Raleigh, NC, a day after the debate.

[Watch](#) Joe Biden's interview with George Stephanopoulos.

Do Something!

- [Take the ongoing Indivisible Bainbridge Island candidate preference poll!](#) Do you prefer [Brynn Felix](#), [Greg Nance](#) or [John Gibbons](#) to represent LD 23, position 2, in Olympia next year?
- SCOTUS
 - Call our senators and demand hearings on the corruption at the Supreme Court. Murray: [\(206\) 553-5545](#) (Seattle office), Cantwell: [\(206\) 220-6400](#) (Seattle). Call Sen. Dick Durban's office (he's chair of the Judiciary Committee): [202-224-2152](#). Here are some Illinois ZIP codes if needed: 60106 (Bensenville), 60131 (Franklin Park), 60611 (Chicago).
 - [Sign the Common Cause petition](#) to Congress demanding a REAL ethics code of conduct for the Supreme Court.
 - [Sign the Progressive Turnout Project's petition](#) calling on Alito to resign.
 - [Sign the League of Conservation Voters' petition](#) calling on Congress to pass the Judiciary Act to expand and rebalance the Supreme Court.
- \$\$\$\$\$ Maintain the Democratic majority in the U.S. Senate. If you can afford to donate, donate to these Democrats (they need the money *now*):
 - [Debbie Mucarsel-Powell](#) (D) to flip Rick Scott's (R) U.S. Senate seat.
 - [Colin Allred](#) (D) to flip Ted Cruz's (R) U.S. Senate seat.
 - [Angela Alsobrooks](#) (D) to retain the retiring Sen. Ben Cardin's Senate seat. She's up against Larry Hogan (R), Maryland's former and popular Republican governor.
 - [Elissa Slotkin](#) (D) to retain the retiring Sen. Debbie Stabenow's (D) Senate seat.
- In case the orange guy wins, be ready to respond. Check out United to Protect Democracy's website, "[The Authoritarian Playbook for 2025.](#)"
- Want to learn more about how to help important campaigns in other states? Check the web site put together by the Pod Save America team: [Vote Save America, Organize Or Else](#). They'll email stuff to you.
- **Phone bank**
 - Phone bank for Brynn Felix! [Email Jeff](#) for the next phone banking opportunity.
 - [Emergency SCOTUS response phonebank](#) to voters in Pennsylvania, sponsored by Indivisible.
 - [Call CA Voters in Support of Dave Min, Will Rollins and Derek Tran](#) to Take Back the House! (CA 41, 47 and 48), Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Hosted by Activate America.
 - [Call Arizona Voters in Support of Ruben Gallego](#), Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Helping voters sign up for mail-in ballots. Hosted by Activate America.
 - Text bank
 - [Learn how Activate America's text banking works.](#)
 - [Sign up for text banking](#) to be notified when text banking starts later in the year.
- **Write Postcards!** Indivisible Bainbridge Island postcard writers meet upstairs at the T&C every Wednesday at 2 pm. We've got a list in Spanish for Will Rollins and a list in English for Rudy Salas, both running to flip their CDs in California.
 - **Can't make it to POW?** Click [here](#) for how to write postcards anyway.

- **Can't write but want to help?** Many of our postcard writers provide their own stamps, but we can always use donations. Reminder: July 12 is the last day to buy postcard stamps at the current rate of 53 cents each.
- Save the date! We've decided to do another yard sale on Aug. 24 so we can keep buying postcard stamps right through to General Election day. Please save your donatable items for the sale!
- Write for [Vote Forward](#). They have campaigns in Arizona, California, Georgia, Michigan, Montana, North Carolina, New Hampshire, New York, Nevada, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and Nevada.

Holding Trump Accountable

Follow these cases at [LawFareMedia.org](https://www.lawfaremedia.org)

- **Manhattan DA Alvin Bragg's Felony Election Interference Case;** Judge Juan Merchan presiding.
 - Norm Eisen (former White House ethics lawyer) says these Trump convictions '[will not be disturbed](#)' by the immunity ruling.
 - Judge Merchan has [postponed Trump's sentencing until Sept. 18](#). DA Bragg [did not oppose](#) the delay.
 - Rachel Maddow [interviewed](#) Stormy Daniels last Monday. Daniels lives in Texas and is in danger of losing her home. She has no security. She has no money and she is threatened daily. She stood up against this goliath. A [Go Fund Me](#) has been set up for her.
- **Special Counsel Jack Smith's Jan. 6 case;** Judge Tanya Chutkan presiding and currently suspended by SCOTUS.
 - The DOJ is [eyeing ways to sustain obstruction cases](#) against Jan. 6 defendants. [Watch](#) attorney Michael Popok discuss.
 - Trump's prosecutions [depend on whether the dissent](#) got it right.
 - U.S. Supreme Court leaves [Judge Tanya Chutkan to parse Jack Smith's indictment against SCOTUS's bestowal of presidential immunity](#).
 - Actions a president takes as part of his official duties are immune from prosecution. Also, official acts cannot be introduced as evidence to prove unofficial acts, such as pardoning someone (official act) in return for a bribe (a crime). Also evidence of motive cannot be introduced as evidence.
 - Actions that *may or may not* be official acts.
 - Actions that are personal, unofficial acts.
- **Special Counsel Jack Smith's Documents Case;** Judge Aileen Cannon presiding, no trial date set.
 - On Friday, [attorneys for Trump asked Cannon to halt court proceedings](#) and allow for consideration of how the Supreme Court's presidential immunity ruling impacts the criminal charges. They also took Clarence Thomas footnote questioning the legality of Jack Smith's appointment as special counsel to heart and asked her to

- consider that (something on which she's already held hearings). [Watch](#) attorney Glenn Kirschner discuss.
- On June 27, [Cannon granted Trump's request](#) for a hearing on whether prosecutors had been permitted to improperly breach attorney-client privilege when they obtained crucial evidence from one of his ex-lawyers. She [did not set a date for this hearing](#) but pushed back on the very idea that such hearings will delay the case further. (If this seems like deja vu, it is. She held hearings on the same topic earlier this month.)
 - On the same day, Cannon [denied Trump's request](#) for a hearing on his claim that the DOJ had submitted false or misleading information in an application to search Mar-a-Lago.
- **DA Fani Willis Election Interference RICO Case**; Judge Scott McAfee presiding; no trial date set.
 - Norm Eisen says the presidential immunity decision [will not affect this case](#): "the alleged actions related to his campaign were purely personal and political and are clearly unofficial conduct not 'within the core of his official duties' as president."
 - **Other Trump News**
 - On Friday, Trump Media & Technology Group's (DJT) [closed at \\$29.17](#) down from last Friday's close at \$32.75.
 - **Enablers**
 - Giuliani [disbarred](#) in New York.

President Biden and His Administration

- White House to host NATO summit in Washington this week.
 - NATO summit in Washington to feature '[bridge to membership](#)' for Ukraine with Biden at center stage.
- [Watch](#) President Biden's [remarks on the Supreme Court immunity decision](#).
- If the bird flu that's been circulating in dairy cattle in recent months jumps to humans, the Department of Health and Human Services [will be ready](#) with vaccines and tests.
- 'What goes around comes around': [Biden urged to use immunity ruling](#) to harass Republicans.
- Trump-appointed judge [partially blocks FTC ban](#) on anti-worker noncompete clauses.
- The [Right is in a tizzy](#) over Hunter Biden's presence in the White House.
- [Watch](#) President Biden's remarks on Supreme Court immunity ruling.
- DOJ [wants Boeing to plead guilty](#) in case surrounding fatal 737 Max crashes.

In Congress

- **Senate** - [Back in session](#) Sept.9
- **House** - [Back in session](#) July 8.
 - 'Frustrating' [partisan stalemate](#): the new normal for farm bills?
 - Republican Farm Bill would [weaken pesticide protections](#) and put communities at risk.

In the Courts

- **Supreme Court**
 - The disgraceful immunity decision was no surprise. [Read it here](#), including Justice Sotomayor's dissent.
 - From PBS.org: What does the Supreme Court immunity ruling mean for Trump? [6 questions answered](#).
 - From the Brennan Center for Law and Justice: Supreme Court's radical immunity ruling [shields lawbreaking presidents](#) and undermines democracy.
 - From Justia.com: Supreme Court's presidential immunity decision "[Will Live in Infamy](#)."
 - From the ACLU: Supreme Court grants Trump, future presidents a loaded weapon to break the law.
 - Massive campaign to hit Supreme Court [launches hours after immunity ruling](#).
 - The presidential immunity and EMTALA decisions were filled with an enormous amount of misogyny. [Dahlia Lithwick responds with snark](#).
 - By overturning Chevron, SCOTUS limited federal power. [Health care is feeling the shockwaves](#).
 - All the reasons why Amy Coney Barrett is [not 'evolving' into a moderate](#).
 - Clarence Thomas [signals](#) he's coming for states' assault weapons bans.
- **In Lower Federal Courts**
 - The [defense rested its case](#) in this bribery trial. Sen. Bob Menendez (D) says he didn't testify because prosecution failed to prove its bribery case against him.
 - A Florida judge released a 150-page transcript related to a 2006 grand jury investigation of Jeffrey Epstein, revealing that for two years [prosecutors knew](#) that Epstein was sexually abusing underaged girls. Reminder: those prosecutors were Bush Jr. appointees.
 - Trump's name appeared in Epstein's call logs times multiple times. [Watch](#) attorney Ben Meiselas discuss.

In the States

- COVID-19 variant KP.3 [remains dominant in US](#), rises to 36.9% of cases.
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- In Washington:
 - Study finds that [Northwest ecosystems changed dramatically](#) when wolves were nearly exterminated.
 - On July 1, WA became the third state in the nation to [punish 'stealthing'](#). What's that? Plus other laws that went into effect on July 1.
 - WA's [protections for tenants](#) threatened with eviction are being litigated in the courts. The issue: Are settlement agreements valid if they require renters to sign away rights granted by state law?
 - WA counties to receive nearly [\\$30M in payment](#) for tax-exempt federal land. The payments are for land held by the Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Forest Service, and Army Corps of Engineers, none of which is in Kitsap County.
 - The U.S. Supreme Court decision against the Purdue Pharma OxyContin settlement agreement [derailed a \\$183 million payment](#) to Washington.
 - In Wenatchee Valley, seniors in need of affordable housing face [long waits and cultural barriers](#).
 - Citizens face [growing obstacles to public record](#) — and legislators are making them worse.
 - Washington [gas prices fell](#) from last week.
 - Here's the link to [Kitsap County's requirements](#) to be eligible for a property tax exemptions or a deferral.

In the World

- Elections in France:
 - From the Washington Post: Left-wing bloc [leads in surprise projections](#).
 - From Al Jazeera: [High turnout](#) in second round of French elections
 - From the Independent.co.uk: After the first round of elections last Sunday, [What happens next](#) and will Macron resign?
- Elections in the U.K.:
 - From the BBC: [What's happened and what comes next?](#)
 - From the Financial Times: Historic wins and crushing losses: [what happened in the UK general election?](#)
 - From NBC News: Keir Starmer [confirmed as Britain's new prime minister](#) after Labour Party's decisive win.
- **Israel/Hamas War**
 - From The Jerusalem Post: What is going on in Gaza, Lebanon? [Gallant, Eisenkot say Israel close to hostage deal](#), held back by Netanyahu.
 - From Al Jazeera:
 - Hamas says [no news on truce deal](#) as tens of thousands of Israelis protest. Antigovernment protest organizers in Tel Aviv estimated 130,000

converged downtown on Saturday night demanding an immediate ceasefire deal to bring the captives home from Gaza.

- Israeli forces intensify attacks in Shujayea as [Gaza death toll rises](#).
- **From the Pew Research Center:** [Jewish Israelis and Arab Israelis see the war very differently](#).
- Ultra-Orthodox Jews [clash with police](#) in protest over new Israeli military draft.
- **Ukraine/Russia**
 - How the failure of Putin's Soviet warfare [changed NATO strategy](#).
 - Unsustainable [losses put pressure](#) on Putin's invasion.
 - Ukrainian drones [attack ammunition and oil depots](#) in Russia.
 - Ukrainian partisans [blow up railway](#) carrying North Korean weapons.
 - [Kyiv troops retreat from key eastern town](#) as Moscow conducts nuclear drills. They 'cannot hold what is ruined', says battalion commander.
 - [Air strike leaves 100,000 without power](#) in Ukraine.

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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