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1. Join Us—For Our First ZOOM Meeting. FEA-Retired will hold its first Zoom virtual meeting this month—**Wednesday, September 16th, at 1 p.m. (Eastern time)** --with Michael Gavin, from NEA-Member Benefits (NEA-MB). Mr. Gavin will provide a comprehensive look at the products and services offered by NEA-MB to retired members, especially during this pandemic. NEA-MB has extensive insurance programs (e.g. life and long term disability), banking/investment products, leisure activities and even car-buying services. Plan to attend and learn how this Association benefit can serve you; and get all your questions answered. Join the Zoom Meeting:

<https://neamb.zoom.us/j/99310307285?pwd=MEt6WG4zdjFkLzZuazl5TkRweHZXdz09>

Meeting ID: 993 1030 7285

Passcode: OpT4QG

2. Federal Legislation That Affect You. There are a number of House resolutions and bills that are currently in committee that affect the postal service. These express the sense of the House in continuing to provide door delivery service, preventing privatization, ensuring a 6-day delivery program, restoring service standards, and repealing the pre-funding requirements for future postal retirees (H. Res. 23/33/54/60 and H.R. 2382). The House, with bipartisan support, also approved legislation Saturday, August 22, to allocate \$25 billion to the US Postal Service and ban operational changes that have slowed mail service around the country.

3. What's Up in Your State? FEA retired members reside all across the U.S. (and the world). While our FEA members stay involved in FEA issues, often we are not as closely connected with the NEA State Affiliate in which we reside. During this election year, FEA retired members can still access information on state political issues and views through NEA's Education Votes. Just visit: www.educationvotes.nea.org . Scroll all the way down to the bottom of the page, to the large dark blue banner. Here there is a list of all 50 states. Click on the state in which you are registered to vote to see what candidates and issues are important to that NEA State Affiliate. To find out who your Congress person is just visit <https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative> and enter your zip code.

4. What are the Rules for Casting my Vote? NBC News has set up an easy to use webpage for all the rules, state by state, for casting your vote in your state. They will

give you the rules for absentee voting, deadlines to apply for a ballot, how/where to cast your vote, and whether COVID can be used as a reason for receiving an absentee ballot. Visit: www.NBCNews.com/planyourvote

5. There is still time to donate! As noted last month, there are so many issues this year that affect our retired members, dealing with our pensions, retirement, health, pandemic, civil rights, postal deliveries and the list goes on. Financial support from FEA members is needed to ensure that we have elected representatives who will advocate for our issues. Please consider giving what you can. Giving is done at:

www.neafund.org **Be sure to list “Federal Education Association” as your *state affiliate*, and list “retiree” as your *contributor type*.** *FEA-Retired will be sending an FEA pocket calendar to retired members for any contribution made to this fund.*

6. Free Apps That Can be a Retiree’s Lifesaver. There are a number of apps available for *Smartphones* that can help retirees live safer and more secure lives. There are apps that remind you to take your medication, notify you when your supplies run low and alert you to drug interactions (*Medisafe*). Another app serves as a medical alert bracelet on your smartphone’s lock-screen display (*ICE Medical*). And yet another app is designed for people who live alone. It checks in on you at the time of day you select and alerts your emergency contacts if you fail to check-in (*Snug Safety*). For more information on these and 5 other useful apps visit the AARP’s webpage at:

<https://www.aarp.org/home-family/personal-technology/info-2020/smartphone-safety-apps.html>

7. Have something to share? Do you have some good news to share? Do you have some ideas that helped you during this pandemic? What did you do during your “summer vacation”? Let us know. We look forward to hearing from you. Contact us at retiredFEA@gmail.com
