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1. NEA-RETIRED is looking for Virtual Committee Representatives. NEA-Retired is organizing several committees that will meet virtually this year to work on issues related to our retired members. If you are interested in serving on one of these committees, let us know, and we will submit your name. The committees will meet virtually several times over the school year. The committees are: 1) Political Action, 2) Communication, 3) Membership, and 4) Legislation. Send your name to: retiredFEA@gmail.com

2. Thank you for your Support. Once again, our FEA retired members helped support the NEA Fund for Children and Public Education, our way of electing pro-education candidates to state/national offices. Our retired members will receive an NEA backpack as our way of saying “thank you.” It is still not too late to give. Visit: www.neafund.org **Be sure to list “Federal Education Association” as your state affiliate, and list “retiree” as your contributor type.** After making a contribution, let us know through retiredfea@gmail.com , so we can get our thank-you gift to you (while supplies last).

3. AFSPA Talks – new podcast from American Foreign Service Protective Agency (AFSPA). Several times each month, AFSPA COO Kyle Longton interviews experts and practitioners to discuss a range of topics from mental wellness to dental care and hearing health. All listeners, not just AFSPA members, can learn something about health, wellness, and benefits by tuning in to AFSPA Talks. Subscribe or follow on your favorite podcast app or listen at <https://afspatalks.buzzsprout.com/>.

4. FEA has a new webpage. Robert Forristal, FEA’s Communications and Development Specialist, has been working on a new FEA website. It launched last month. Check it out at www.feaonline.org The section for retirees has also been re-designed. Let us know what you think. The FEA-Retired page can be found at: <https://www.feaonline.org/who-we-are/where-we-are/fea-retired/>

5. DoDDS Reunion has a spectacular return this summer. After a one-year pause due to the pandemic, the DoDDS Reunion returned to their annual “homecoming” in Jacksonville, Florida, last month. Over 500 retirees were able to meet, including our FEA-Retired Roaming Reporters: Karen Rose, Jane Varalli, Grace Merkle, Elda Miller and BettyLou Cummins. Here is some of their report:

The DoDDS Reunion held at the Hyatt Regency in Jacksonville, Florida, was a wonderful gathering for retirees and current DoDDS employees to come together and celebrate seeing old friends and making new acquaintances. There were great tours, informal meetings, and updates on DoDEA, federal benefits, and the American Overseas Schools Historical Society. The Saturday night banquet was, again, the highlight, when members shared a great meal, lots of laughter, and shared memories with friends and

gave tribute to those we have lost. Next year, the DoDDS Reunion will be in Kansas City, Mo. at the Marriott hotel July 13-17, 2022. We hope to see you there. More details at: <https://www.mydoddsreunion.com/>

6. Seniors at high-risk for scam artists. Fraudsters actually don't care about your age; they just want to separate an individual from their money. AARP has set up a "Fraud Watch Network" with information on how to protect yourself. Here are some tips they have given:

- Scammers prefer payment through untraceable means such as gift cards, wire transfers, Bitcoins, peer-to-peer apps, and, of course, cash.
- Don't click on pop-up ads that offer to "fix" your computer from a virus
- Stay clear of unexpected contest wins and company "refunds."
- Don't post photos of your Covid-19 immunization card on social media—it contains too much personal information
- Be wary of persons on dating apps that try to lure you off the dating app site to another platform that may not be monitored. Any requests for money is most likely a scam. "Potential Dates" who ask for personal information or refuse to video-chat are also considered suspicious.
- Don't click on links or call phone numbers from unexpected company emails, pop-up ads or unsolicited phone calls. If you have concerns, go directly to a company's website in a new search.
- Scammers want you to make a snap decision and will often pressure you to act quickly. That's a "red flag" that you may have been targeted.

AARP has many more tips: https://www.aarp.org/money/scams-fraud/?cmp=KNC-BRD-MC-REALPOSS-GOOGLE-SEARCH-FRAUD&ds_rl=1295601&ds_rl=1290515&gclid=Cj0KCQjw7pKFBhDUARIsAFUoMDZX_GbxszM5dFRo6DNg3uz1JLvbft4B2PWkYftPOZ9VZqcSuiTkdsaAuupEALw_wcB&gclidsrc=aw.ds
