



# AFT New Mexico

## Retirees Chapter 8029

### April 2023 Newsletter

#### **Next Meeting**

Our next meeting will be **April 12 at 1:30**. Our topic will be about Alzheimer's and other dementia issues. AFT staff member, John Dyrce will join us to give a brief post-session report on the results of the Legislative session that just ended.

#### **Alzheimer's**

More than 6 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's and over 11 million provide unpaid care to people with Alzheimer's or other dementias. Between 2000 and 2019 deaths from heart disease *decreased* 7.3% while deaths from Alzheimer's *increased* 145%. (!) Come to our meeting and learn more.

#### **ARA – Alliance for Retired Americans**

Every year the Alliance publishes a Congressional Voting Record that scores every U.S. Senator and U.S. Representative on key retirement security issues. The 2022 report considers 10 Senate and House floor votes, including bills to lower prescription drug prices through the Inflation Reduction Act, protect voting rights, pass the Postal Service Reform Act, and provide additional funding for the Social Security Administration.

Fifty members of the U.S. Senate and 220 members of the U.S. House of Representatives earned perfect 100 percent scores. Twenty-three senators earned scores of 20% or below, including Rick Scott (Florida, 10%) who has been at the forefront of GOP plans to cut Social Security and Medicare. Seventy-four House members earned a score of 0%.

New Mexico U.S. Senators Heinrich and Luján scored 100% and New Mexico U.S. Representatives Stanbury and Leger Fernandez both scored 100% while Representative Herrell scored 10% (only voting in support of Postal Service Reform).

#### **Paul Revere's Ride** – *abridged*



Listen, my children, and you shall hear  
Of the midnight ride of Paul Revere,

On the eighteenth of April, in Seventy-five;  
Hardly a man is now alive  
Who remembers that famous day and year...

...One, if by land, and two, if by sea;  
And I on the opposite shore will be, ...

...Through all our history, to the last,  
In the hour of darkness, and peril, and need,  
The people will waken and listen to hear  
The hurrying hoof-beats of that steed,  
And the midnight message of Paul Revere.

## **Europe seeks lunar time zone**

With more lunar missions than ever on the horizon, the European Space Agency wants to give the moon its own time zone. In February the agency said worldwide space organizations are considering how best to keep time on the moon. The idea came up at a meeting late last year, with participants agreeing on the urgent need to establish “a common lunar reference time”. Space agency Pietro Giordano, a navigation system engineer said, “A joint international effort is now being lunched towards achieving this”

For now, a moon mission runs on the time of the country operating the spacecraft. European space officials said an international lunar time zone would make it easier for everyone, especially as more countries and even private companies, aim for the moon and NASA gets set to send astronauts there.

## **NMRHCA – New Mexico Retiree Health Care Authority**

Once again NMRHCA will be sponsoring the popular Health Fair. It is scheduled for May 23. As in the recent past this will be virtual. You will be able to attend from the comfort of your home and learn about nutrition, mental health, exercise, and more. Details on how to join and the choices of “workshops” to attend will be forthcoming. Look for information in your email of on the NMRHCA website.

## **Thought for the Day**

Do not spoil what you have by desiring what you have not; but remember that what you now have was once among the things you only hoped for.

## Earth Day April 22, 2023

“We must recognize that we’re all part of a web of life around the world.”

-Gaylord Nelson, founder of Earth Day

Gaylord Nelson served two terms as the Governor of Wisconsin where he earned the title, “the Conservation Governor”. In 1962, Nelson was elected the U.S. Senate, and for 18 years worked to bring environmental issues to the national stage. In September 1969, he called for Americans to come together the following spring for a day dedicated to environmental education. It was estimated that 20 million people participated that April day. Even more impressive is all the organizing was done without emails, cell phones, the internet, social media, or even fax machines! That makes the success of the first Earth Day even more incredible.



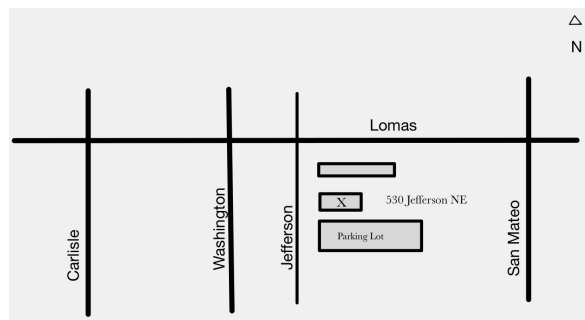
### Earth Day Thoughts

“Only if we understand, will we care.  
Only if we care, will we help.  
Only if we help shall all be saved.”

-Jane Goodall

## Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be **April 12, 2023 at 1:30 pm.** We will have an in-person meeting at the AFT Union Office (530 Jefferson St. NE) *and* a simultaneous virtual meeting (Zoom).



We don't *publish* the link/number for our Zoom meeting. ***We send the link out a few days before the meeting through email.*** The link will be emailed to you by April 10, 2023

We will also send out an email with the Minutes from last month's meeting as well as a current Treasurer's Report. As part of our regular business-meeting we ask members of review these documents and ask any questions about them before we vote to accept them into our permanent record. Please take the time to look these over and note any corrections or questions you may have.

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**ANNUAL DUES** check indicate:

**\$25 Per Person – Licensed** ☐

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