

Stark difference in education policies

by Marleen Wallingford

The Democratic Party supports programs to help students learn: reducing chronic absenteeism by building social and emotional supports at schools, offering literacy programs, and setting high expectations for student attendance; providing intensive tutoring; extending the school day and school year; expanding community schools; and helping schools to lift student achievement, rather than punishing them based on state standardized tests. Fully funding IDEA and the special educator workforce is called for. The platform also support efforts to provide more timely actionable feedback on student learning and progress to educators and families that will support instruction and student success. The use of private-school vouchers, tuition tax credits, opportunity scholarships, and other schemes that divert taxpayer-funded resources away from public education is opposed. Democrats support quality, affordable, postsecondary education and loan forgiveness programs as well as encouraging universal preschool.

The Republican Party calls for the elimination of the Department of Education. There is strong support for cutting the education budget by \$5 billion dollars to be used for a federal voucher program for private school scholarships. The Republican party is calling for the end of teacher tenure and installing programs for rewarding teachers with merit pay. The emphasis is turning our educational system back to state control so that parents will have more of a voice in their child's education. There is a high concern about the school curriculum and that school funding should be cut for any program pushing Critical Race Theory, gender ideology, or other inappropriate racial, sexual or political content.

To reduce the cost of higher education, a college alternative has been introduced called the "American Academy" which would create a new on-line institution that would be free of charge and cost the taxpayers nothing.

The Republican platform is adamantly opposed to any kind of student loan forgiveness program because it would be unfair to those who have already paid.

Free is a very good price with NEA benefits

by Russ Fillis

Many of us around retirement age remember a local businessman from the Portland area who used to pound on the inside of our late night television screens and yell "Wake Up! Wake Up!" promoting that "Free is a very good price." It was true then and it's still true. Tom Peterson used to give away free black and white televisions when a color television was purchased. Now through NEA Membership Benefits, NEA members are eligible for a \$1000 life insurance benefit at no cost.

Last month I was asked to represent OEA-Retired on the NEA-Retired Membership Benefits Committee. As I was revisiting the information in the NEAMB website, I noticed a no cost insurance benefit was available to all NEA-R/OEA-Retired members. Until I signed up for my no cost \$1000 life insurance benefit, my use of NEA Membership Benefits had been limited to the the travel section, used to book hotel rooms at a

discount on the front and back of international travel before boarding a cruise ship. But as I browsed the Membership Benefits site I noticed other areas of interest, including:

1. The Discount Marketplace
2. Money Management
3. Insurance of all types
4. Discount Tickets Program-featuring

rides to museums, zoos and more, enjoy member-only deals on theme parks, events, games and attractions.

5. Health and Wellness
 6. Shopping and Discounts
 7. No Cost Benefits
- And many more!

If you're interested in browsing the NEA Member Benefits website go to NEAMB.Com, If you have visited the site before, log in. If you have not previously entered the site, go to "Create an Account" and following the directions
Continued on Page 4.

Random remarks



by **President Eileen Wende**

I must share my amazement at how quickly the summer seems to have come and gone. It feels like just yesterday that I was celebrating the end of the school year with my grandchildren and planning for what seemed like endless

summer days. As I write this, the grands are well into their new school year, the 2024 Olympics and Paralympics have come and gone and the outside temperatures are starting to decline. In addition, we have experienced one of the most turbulent presidential campaign cycles in my memory. The Republican and Democratic National Conventions are over and each party has chosen their candidates for the November Presidential election.

Becky Pringle, President of NEA, has put out a call to action for all NEA members, including retired educators. NEA has endorsed Vice President

Kamala Harris for President and Tim Walz, as her running mate. In this crucial election there are many issues at stake near and dear to ourselves, as retired educators. The economy, taxes, privatization of public education, Medicare and Social Security are just a few of the issues at stake in the 2024 election. For this reason, President Pringle asked all NEA-Retired members to talk to 10 other voters to make sure they plan to cast their ballot and to vote for Kamala Harris and Tim Walz, who will FIGHT for our students and public education, as well as for preserving Social Security and Medicare.

In August, I alerted members to some of the written provisions of the Heritage Foundation's Project 2025, and the impact on retirees, as well as on students and public education. You can read about Project 2025 at <https://www.project2025.org> This blueprint for action is intended to be enacted, if Republican's win the election. The threat is real and unprecedented.

It is imperative that we vote and get the word out to other voters to cast their ballots for Kamala Harris and Tim Walz this November. Please join me in excepting the NEA challenge to Get Out the Vote!



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CALENDAR	
<u>2024</u>	
Nov 4	Retired Board Meeting, Salem
<u>2025</u>	
Jan 13	Retired Board Meeting, Salem
Feb. 1	PrimeTimes published
March 3	OEA-Retired Annual Assembly, Salem
April 1	PrimeTimes published
TBD	NEA-Retired Leadership Conference
April 18-19	OEA Representative Assembly, TBD
May 18	OEA-Retired Board Meeting, Salem
June 1	PrimeTimes published
June 29-30	NEA-Retired Annual Meeting, Portland, OR
July 2-6	NEA Representative Assembly, Portland, OR
July 8	OEA-Retired Board Meeting, Salem

OEA Board reviews

by Al Rabchuk

- Audit Committee – The audit looked good. The biggest issue was that the audit was being reviewed in August, when it should be reviewed around April. Rob Stackhouse (CFO) promised that now that OEA had a full financial team, this would be the case going forward. Please note, a clean audit does not mean the deficit has disappeared.
- Revenue Reform Campaign – Emily McLain spoke about the plan to have a revenue reform campaign that would climax in 2028. Ballot Measure 118 (Tax Rebate). Emily spoke quite clearly about the need to oppose the measure. The tax would cause inflation and starve the state's general fund.
- The Relief Fund Committee is writing a handbook. OEA-Retired's experience with handling strike and storm relief to Portland Association of Teacher's members had demonstrated the need.
- OEA needs to develop an official position on cellphones since it will be brought up in the next session.

Time for bylaws and policies

by Bobbi Yambasu

I know – not everyone relishes talking about governance documents! However, as the new chair of the OEA-Retired Bylaws and Policies Committee, it is my duty to make sure the documents are kept up-to-date. In order to do that, the Committee reviews the

documents and updates them as needed. In addition, OEA-Retired members may submit suggested changes to the documents.

This year all proposed amendments must be received by the OEA-Retired President by January 2, 2025 (60 calendar days prior to the OEA-Retired Annual Assembly). Please submit amendments by that date to Eileen Wende (ewende72@gmail.com); you may also copy them to me (bobbij4967@gmail.com). And, I hope to see you all on March 3, 2025, for our Annual Assembly (when we will vote on the adoption of proposed amendments).

Membership grows

by Cherene Mills

Although the new membership year officially began September 1, OEA-Retired works diligently to recruit new members all year long. Since June 1 we have had 20 members join, giving us approximately 1900 members plus 66 pre-retired members. We ask that you encourage recently retired educators to join OEA-Retired.

We hope that you all received your fall mailing in August. The fall mailing is one way we try to keep in touch with our members. Another way is to send out information via email, including ballots for you to vote for OEA-Retired officers and board members. We had about 250 emails kick back to use in the spring during our elections. Please make sure to keep your contact information updated with OEA by contacting Nikki Burke at 503-364-6987 or

nikki.burke@oregoned.org OEA-Retired Membership will be hosting new events during the year to engage you, our current members, as well as to recruit new members. Our regional directors host events in many areas around the state, so consider attending one or more and socialize with fellow retired members. Share with them why you joined OEA-Retired, and what else you would like from your union.

Social justice books

by Bobbi Yambasu

Interested in educating yourself on equity and social justice issues? Want a place to discuss your reading on those topics? Well, we have a book club for you! We meet via Zoom about every six weeks (we want to give everyone plenty of time to read the books) September through July. You can read one of the books, some of the books, all of the books – it's up to you!

November 1, 9:30 a.m.

A Fever in the Heartland: "The Ku Klux Klan's Plot to Take Over America and the Woman Who Stopped Them" by Timothy Egan.

December 13, 9:30 a.m.

"James" by Percival Everett – a retelling of Adventures of Huckleberry Finn from enslaved Jim's point of view.

We hope you can join us.

We meet via Zoom so anyone anywhere with internet can join in. If you would like to receive the link, just email me (bobbij4967@gmail.com) and I will send it to you. Happy and insightful reading!

New trips planned

by Ray Johnson

How would you like to visit the major eastern cities where our nation developed in 1776? We have a trip for you!

Were you signed up to visit Japan when the trip was canceled? Now you can go!

Have you ever been to see the fall colors in New England? We have a trip for you!

Did you miss out on the Christmas Markets that we have sponsored. We have another one planned!

What about seeing tulips in Holland? We have a cruise for you!

And finally, have you wanted to see the breathtaking islands of Croatia? Now you can!

The OEA-Retired Board approved the Travel Committee's recommendation last month for those six new trips for the 2026-27 year. Exact times and prices are being worked on by Collette, our travel partner, with the information to be posted as soon as it is available, but you can start making your plans.

Featured Trip

Journey through spectacular mountain scenery and picturesque cities as you experience three Alpine countries on our Discover Switzerland, Austria and Bavaria tour for September, 2025.

You will spend four nights each in the UNESCO World Heritage city of Bern and the charming Alpine city of Innsbruck. Ride the legendary GoldenPass Panoramic Lake." Visit Mozart's birthplace and
Continued on Page 10.

OEA-Retired 2025-27

Alaska Discovery Land & Cruise

May 21-June 1, 2025. 12 days with 26 meals.

Cost: \$5,399.

Deposit of \$898 due November 21, 2024.

Final payment due January 21, 2025.

For more information or reservations, go to <https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1240783>

Discover Switzerland, Austria and Bavaria

September 3-12, 2025. 10 days with 12 meals.

Cost: \$4,999.

Deposit of \$698 due March 4, 2025.

Final payment due June 5, 2025.

For more information or reservations, go to <https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1240678>

Southern Charm featuring Charleston, Savannah & Jekyll Island

February 23-March 1, 2026. 7 days with 9 meals.

Cost: \$3,699.

Deposit of \$698 due August 16, 2025.

Final payment: November 24, 2025.

For more information or reservations, go to <https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1280593>

Christmas on the Danube

December 2-11, 2025

SOLD OUT

2026

Celebrating America's 250th Birthday, late March

Cultural Treasures of Japan, early April

Colors of New England, early October

Magical Christmas Markets, early December

For 2027

Holland and Belgium Springtime River Cruise, March
Croatia and Its Islands, May

For information on Alaska or Southern Charm, contact Sandi Rosenfeld at 503-880-9953, or sanrosenfeld@gmail.com

For Switzerland, contact Nancy Lewis at 503-352-4453, or nancyjolewis@gmail.com



Zurich is Switzerland's primary financial center.

Travel

Continued from Page 4.

the Mirabell Gardens, featured in *The Sound of Music*, during your time in Salzburg. The hills are alive on this enchanting journey across Switzerland, Austria and Bavaria.

The trip is a Level 3, which is on-the-go walking for more than 90 minutes with physical activities. For more information or reservations, go to <https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1240678>. The Zoom presentation will be on January 21.

OEA-Retired history

by Ray Johnson

Does any of this sound familiar?

35 years ago

NEA-Retired-Oregon, renamed OEA-Retired, held Pre-Retirement Workshops in Salem and Coos County on physical, psychological, emotional and financial considerations for members approaching retirement.

30 years ago

Members worked to elect these OEA-endorsed candidates

to Congress: CD 1, Elizabeth Furse; CD 2, Sue Kupillas; CD 3, Ron Wyden; CD 4, Peter DeFazio; CD 5, Catherine Webber.

25 years ago

Retired member Kathryn Warrior received the Mildred Bennett Elementary Mathematics Education Award, awarded annually by the Oregon Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

20 years ago

The November issue of *PrimeTimes*, but then called *NEA-Retired Oregon*, was the first time it was sent out electronically.

15 years ago

The Washington County Commission unanimously chose OEA-Retired member Margaret Doherty to replace the state representative who had resigned in her district.

10 years ago

Attendees at the Fall Conference heard a speaker from the state Attorney General's office relate tips on how to avoid scams and fraud.

5 years ago

To publicly honor the recipients of the OEA-Retired Lifetime Service Award, a plaque was purchased to hang on the wall at the OEA Salem office.

Free

Continued from Page 1.

created an account if you're interested in details to create your own personal account. Once you've on the no cost life insurance, click on "Life Insurance at no cost to you" This will take you to the appropriate page.

Wake up! It's time to use your membership privileges.

BM 118 shifts tax burden

by Marleen Wallingford

Oregon Measure 118, the Corporate Tax Revenue Rebate for Residents Initiative, is on the ballot in Oregon. A "yes" vote supports increasing the corporate minimum tax on sales exceeding \$25 million by 3%, removing the minimum tax cap, and distributing increased revenue to Oregon residents. A "no" vote opposes increasing the corporate minimum tax on sales exceeding \$25 million by 3%, removing the minimum tax cap, and distributing increased revenue to Oregon residents.

This measure is supported by progressive groups who are advocating for a universal income for all. It would only tax large corporations with sales of \$25M or more.

It is opposed by a wide coalition including OEA.

The Tax foundation, an international research think tank argues that this tax would penalize Oregon's small businesses.

It is a tax on sales; not profits which would cause all prices to rise. It would be an added expense to the general fund which supports all of our services including schools. It is opposed by both Democrats and Republicans.



Region I celebrates the beginning of another school year by playing games and eating ice cream on our “Not Back to School” get together.

Region I

by Viki Mulick

Region I had a fun time at Butteville General Store with our “Not Back To School Ice Cream Social” on Sept. 10th. Around 20 members showed up for some home-made ice cream by Half-Pint Brothers and participated in a Union Trivia Contest. The winning team for the Trivia Contest was “Brain Trust” which included Ray Johnson, Nancy Lewis and Bobbi Yambasu. Admittedly, these three probably know more about OEA-NEA than most!

Next up for October 17th is the PMAE-Retired 15th Anniversary Celebration. It will be held at the OEA Tigard Building 6900 SW Atlanta St. in Portland. This event is from 3:30-5:30 pm and includes stories, speeches, swag, food and drinks. Hope you can make it!

Our last activity for 2024 is the Gay Men’s Chorus on Sunday, Dec. 15th at 3:00 pm. Get your tickets online soon at

www.pdxgmc.org and let Viki Mulick know you are attending (mulickv1@frontier.com). You can also join us for a Happy Hour following the performance at the Heathman Hotel, right next to the Newmark Theater. (A special guest will be joining us

for the Happy Hour). Come to the performance or the Happy Hour or both! The writer of this article is Viki Mulick and I am your new Region I Director. I have been remiss in telling you anything about myself. So, here goes. I taught primary grades for 36 years, mostly in Gaston School District. I retired in the spring of 2015. I was active in OEA for most of my career at the local level and through the Washington County Uniserv. I am honored to try and make Region I a hotbed of fun and connection. (I have big shoes to fill). Hopefully, you will come and join in as often as you can!

Region II

First Tuesday Breakfast Monthly
10 a.m.-Noon, Sybil’s Omelettes
2373 State St., Salem.
Questions and RSVP: Paul Schutz, 503-370-9208 or paul.g.schutz@gmail.com.

Region III



JOIN US AT BACK ALLEY

1225 VIRGINIA AVE, NORTH BEND

OCT. 23

4 PM - 6 PM



OEA-Retired Members
Recently Retired Educators
OEA Educators

RSVP Appreciated
Use QR Code



Appetizers & non-alcoholic drinks provided



by Marleen Wallingford

We have a variety of activities planned for the 2024-25 year including our 15th Anniversary event. Our chapter began when it became apparent that the OEA-Retired Board had very few active members from the Portland area. Former PAT members gathered together to organize a local active OEA-Retired chapter.

15th Anniversary Celebration

3:30-5:30 pm, October 17
OEA Tigard Building
6900 SW Atlanta St.

Breakfast at Beez

9:30 am, November 9
4507 SE 27

Visit the Pendleton Woolen Mills

Washougal, WA
November TBD

John Tigard House

14601 SW 103rd Ave.
Tigard, Or
TBD

General Meeting

9:30 a.m. December 12
PAT Office, 345 NE 8th Ave.
We will have our annual book share and \$10 lunch.

RSVP to Marleen Wallingford to above activities at 503-927-2766 or marleenwong@gmail.com

You can make a difference

by Judy Richards

If you are new at being involved in politics, consider

starting at the beginning. The following is not an inclusive list of everything you might want to know about being involved in the political process, but it is a start.

Most of the policies, ordinances, etc. that impact us are made at the local level. Know who the people are who make policy and other decisions at the local level. Introduce yourself to them. Make sure you have their contact information.

At the local level of **city/county government** there are city or county councils, mayors, city managers and many other positions.

- Look online for the city/county you are in for the positions.
 - Look online for the agenda for the next city or county meeting
 - Attend a city/county council meeting. Generally you will want to attend more than one meeting to get a feel for how they work. It is possible the item you are interested in is on a short timeline. If that is the case, and you wish to make some remarks, prepare for the council/county meeting where it will be discussed by doing the following:
 - Get on the agenda of the council meeting.
 - Prepare what you want to say, but make it concise.
 - Offer a solution or resolution.
 - Agree to be on a work group.
 - Follow up, stay in touch,
- Advocacy at the State Level**
- What legislative districts are you in?
 - Who is your state senator and state representative?
 - How do you contact them at the state capital and at home?
 - Find out if they have an email and/or an online newsletter?
 - Know who your elected state

officers are. Look on "Oregon.gov" for these positions.

- Attend your legislator's town halls. You can find town hall information by contacting either the Democratic or Republican parties or looking online or reading their newsletters, if they have one.

Advocacy at the Federal Level

- You need to know who your representatives are.
- Sign up for their newsletter.
- Introduce yourself on a phone call or online.
- Follow the issues that impact you, or you are most interested in.
- Attend town hall meetings.

Other Advocacy Opportunities

- Attend OEA UniServ meetings at the one closest to you.
- Sign up for the PAC (Political Action Committee) Convention which happens in even years.
- Sign up for Oregon Capital Insider at online@Oregoncapitalinsider.com.

Medicare lowers costs

by Marleen Wallingford

Reforms to the Medicare Part D program were passed in 2022 as part of the Inflation Reduction Act supported by Democrats and opposed by Republicans.

- Vaccines without copays and insulin co-pays limited to \$35.
- Expansion of low income subsidy level to 150% of poverty level.
- \$2000 cap on prescription costs
- Medicare will be able to negotiate directly with drug companies for some drugs.

OEA-PAC

Using the collective power of educators to elect pro-public education champions in Oregon!

Our endorsed candidates need all the support they can get. Some ways to help are through phone banking, canvassing and volunteering.

Election volunteer shifts have begun and will run through Election Day November 5. Volunteer signups will be posted on our OEA website listed at

<https://oregoned.org/endorsements> or you can contact the campaign directly.

Phone banking schedule is 5:30 to 8:20, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Sundays. Canvassing activities are on weekends. the most effective

House District Candidates

5th District	Pam Marsh
7th District	John Lively
8th District	Lisa Fragala
10th District	David Gomberg
13th District	Nancy Nathanson
14th District	Julianne Fahey
16th District	Sarah McDonald
19th District	Tom Andersen
20th District	Paul Evans
22nd District	Lesly Munoz
25th District	Benjamin Bowman
26th District	Courtney Neron
27th District	Kenneth Helm
29th District	Susan McLain
30th District	Nathan Sosa
33rd District	Shannon J. Isadore
34th District	Lisa Reynolds
35th District	Farrah Chaichi
37th District	Julianna Walters
38th District	Daniel Nguyen
39th District	April Dobson
40th District	Annessa Hartman
41st District	Mark Gamba
43rd District	Tawna Sanchez
46th District	Willy Chotzen
47th District	Drea Valderama
48th District	Hoa Nguyen
49th District	Zach Hudson
50th District	Ricki Ruiz
53rd District	Emerson Levy
54th District	Jason Kropf

Oregon State Senate District

14th District	Kate Lieber
18th District	Wlmsvey Campos
23rd District	Katherine Pham
25th District	Chris Gorsek
27th District	Anthony Broadman

Statewide Offices

Attorney General	Dan Rayfield
Secretary of State	Tobias Read
Treasurer	Elizabeth Steiner

Federal Offices

1st District	Suzanne Bonamici
2nd District	no endorsement
3rd District	Maxine Dexter
4th District	Val Hoyle
5th District	Janelle Bynam
6th District	Andrea Salinas

Donate to the PAC today with this [link](#).



Election Day November 5

Ballots now can be postmarked by election day, and still be counted in Oregon

**NEA endorses
Kamala Harris for
President and Tim Walz
for Vice President**



EDUCATION VOTES

We want to make sure our members are informed and supporting our pro-public education candidates. Here are four easy ways to take action today:

BECOME AN EDACTIVIST

Visit nea.org/edactivist to access resources, online trainings, and join a community of education activists.



VOLUNTEER WITH MOBILIZE!

Visit nea.org/mobilize to find phone banks, canvasses, and events in your area



DONATE TO THE NEA PAC!

Visit educationvotes.org/donate to donate and give our candidates the resources they need to win.



MAKE A PLAN TO VOTE & SHARE!



WITH YOUR NEA-RETIRED "GET OUT THE VOTE" PLAN

On July 23, 2024, NEA endorsed Vice-President Kamala Harris for President. At the Democratic National Committee convention, Kamala was nominated by delegates to be the Democrat candidate for President of the United States. On August 22, 2024, Kamala accepted their nomination. Former public school teacher and coach, Tim Walz, has accepted nomination as her Vice-Presidential running mate. NOW IT'S OUR TURN TO GET OUT THE VOTE AND ELECT KAMALA HARRIS AND TIM WALZ! How do we do that? Look Below—and use the NEA-Retired "Get Out the Vote" Plan!

1. Make a list of 10 people (see below).
2. Contact them and find out if they plan to vote – if not let them know the importance of voting this year:
 - Securing Social Security and Medicare • Funding Public Education • Ensuring a woman's right to make her own health care decisions with her doctor • Keeping the Affordable Care Act • Guaranteeing our democratic freedoms, such as the right to vote
3. What method will they use to vote?
 - Will they vote early? • Absentee Ballot (by mail or turn in to the appropriate government office)? • In-Person (at designated voting location)? • Do they need assistance, i.e. a ride to their designated polling place (either early or on Election Day)?
4. Follow-up prior to Election Day to be sure that they still plan to vote and if they need assistance.
5. Contact them after Election Day and thank them for voting!

HOW WILL I CREATE MY LIST OF TEN VOTERS? (Family • Friends • Neighbors • Acquaintances • Co-Workers • Former Students)

1. _____	6. _____
2. _____	7. _____
3. _____	8. _____
4. _____	9. _____
5. _____	10. _____

How does Agenda 47 differ from Project 25?

	Agenda 47 (Trump's Plan)	Project 2025 Heritage Foundation	Similarity
Federal Workforce	Reissuing Schedule F' to reclassify Federal employees, making it easier to fire them. Loyalist strategy	Propose reclassifying federal employees to facilitate their removal and ensure loyalty.	Both plans aim to reclassify federal employees to make it easier to fire those involved in policy decisions. Increased executive power.
Executive Power	Expand executive power by consolidating control over the federal bureaucracy.	Concentrating power in the Executive branch and purging career civil servants.	Both plans seek to increase executive power and centralized control and power within the White House.
Immigration	Enacting strict immigration policies including mass deportations and border security measures.	Implementing the largest domestic deportation operation in US history and enhancing border security.	Both plans emphasize strict immigration enforcement and large-scale deportations. Increased federal interaction and executive power.
Trade and tariffs	Imposing tariffs to protect American industries and renegotiating trade deals	Implementing trade policies that protect American industries from foreign competition.	Both plans prioritize American industries through tariffs and trade policies. Government intervention in the market contrary to free market principles. Increase executive power.
Deregulation	Rolling back regulations on businesses and reducing environmental protections	Dismantling environmental regulations and promoting fossil fuel interests.	Both plans focus on deregulating industries and reducing environmental protections.
Civil Rights	Rolling back protections for LGBTQ+ individuals and restricting gender affirming care.	Eliminating anti-discrimination protections and banning gender affirming care.	Both plans aim to reduce civil rights protections for LGBTQ+ individuals
Healthcare	Expanding Medicare Advantage and reducing government involvement in healthcare.	Promoting privatized healthcare options and reducing government healthcare programs.	Both plans support the privatization of healthcare and reducing government healthcare services.
Abortion and Contraception	Restricting access to abortion and contraception.	Implementing federal laws against mailing abortion pills and restricting access to contraception.	Both plans to seek to restrict access to abortion and contraception.
Law Enforcement	Increase support for law enforcement. "Defund FBI"	Propose significant changes to DOJ and FBI, focusing on loyalty and alignment with executive priorities.	Both plans emphasize restructuring law enforcement agencies to align with executive priorities. Increase executive power

Resources: donaldjtrump.com Donald J Trump for President 2024, Heritage Foundation

Nominations are open

by Mavis Randklev

Greetings fellow OEA-Retired members. Our 2024 election is coming up soon. The following positions are up for election in 2024: president, vice president, Region I director, NEA-Retired Annual Meeting/NEA Representative Assembly delegate, and OEA Representative Assembly delegate/OEA-Retired Board Member.

If you are a current OEA-Retired member you are eligible to run. Please consider running for an office.

Medicare and you

by Ray Johnson

AARP reports that recent information from the trustees of Social Security and Medicare say that trust funds won't run short of benefits until 2035—a year later than was predicted earlier. Also reported was that Medicare's trust fund for Part A, which helps pay for inpatient hospital visits, can cover all of its bills until 2036—five years longer than forecast.

Part B, for doctors' services and outpatient care, and Part D, for prescription drugs, will have enough money indefinitely as premium and federal contributions are automatically adjusted each year to cover the costs.

Consequently, the estimated monthly premium for Part B will increase to \$185 in 2025, but actual amount will be set this fall.

However, the trustees warned that SS still pays out more each year than it collects. Unless fixed by Congress, the program will

be able to pay retirees only 83 percent of benefits by 2035.

TV Mystery pastimes

by Marleen Wallingford

Years ago the television crime mysteries were dominated by programs like Perry Mason and Dragnet. During my working years my television watching dropped but now in retirement I have had the time to discover the new detective mysteries.

I have noticed three major changes: the photography has become more complex with close ups and wide angles. There is much more time spent on learning about the back story and personalities of the detectives and the criminals. Each of these detective mysteries takes place in their own unique and beautiful local.

These series can be found at your local library and through streaming services

Endeavour

This is a prequel to the popular PBS series, Inspector Morse. This is his backstory of how he as a failed Oxford student, finds his calling solving crimes in this idyllic academic setting in the 60s and 70s.

Morse is a lover of literature, classical music and alcohol and has trouble maintaining relationships.

Brokenwood Mysteries

The fictional town of Brokenwood with a population of 5,000 is off the coast of New Zealand.

Detective Senior Sergeant Mike Shepherd has moved to the community from the big city. He is unconventional in his approach to investigations and is assisted by Detective Kristen Sims. Shepard is a divorced man, lover of country western

music and drives a 1971 classic car. He also has many personal secrets including more than one failed marriage.

Hidden

This is a Welsh crime, drama series originally broadcast in that language. Detective Inspector Cadi John, a former soldier struggles with her personal life as she spends long hours at her job. She has rocky relationships with her sisters as well as her female significant other.

The focus of the series is on the motivations and the back story of the criminals and their association with the victims of their terrible crimes.

Van der Valk

The story takes place in modern day Amsterdam—city of bikes, boats, and bodies. The Dutch detective, Piet Van der Valk and his team face high-profile cases in fast-paced episodes that explores Amsterdam's cultural contrasts.

Broadchurch

This is fictional, close-knit coastal town community in Dorset. Detective Inspector Alex Hardy a recent hire, with a scandalous past works with Detective Sargent Ellie Miller

A murder impacts the whole community and we follow the characters as they struggle with the aftermath of a murder of someone they know.

Unforgotten

We follow London detectives DCI Cassie Stuart and DI Sunny Khan as they solve cold cases of disappearance and unsolved murders of 50 years ago. The emotional toll of this on families is heartbreaking.

We are introduced to a group of seemingly unrelated characters who eventually all come together at the end when the murder case is solved.

Continued on Page 12

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TV Mysteries

Continued from Page 11

DI Ray

DI Rachita Ray faces racism and distrust in the fictional Birmingham police force as she is recently promoted to work in homicide. She is South Asian but was born and raised in England. The series explores structural racism as well as inter-racial relationships.

**Have you
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