NORTH CAROLINA

Stopping elder abuse It's estimated that 1 in 10 Americans 65 or older experience elder abuse annually, ranging from financial exploitation to physical abuse or denial of medical care. May is Older Americans Month, and AARP North Carolina is working with agencies and groups to create a stronger elder-protection network.

AARP is asking lawmakers to adequately fund the state's Adult Protective Services, including adding more long-term care ombudsmen to monitor the growing number of nursing home and assisted living residents.

Older adults are also more likely to be targets of fraud. The AARP Fraud Watch Network educates people on how to battle fraud, with nearly a million Americans 50-plus reporting fraud or identity theft to the Federal Trade Commission in 2020. Learn more at aarp.org/nc.

DELAWARE

Get social AARP Delaware has remained hard at work on behalf of older adults in the First State, advocating for family caregivers, fighting fraud and holding events like virtual movie nights.

AARP is looking for volunteers to help with digital outreach. Ideal candidates enjoy being on social media, like videos and are eager to learn more about communicating in a technologically diverse world.

Members of the team can film videos, retweet to elected officials and policymakers, and help the state office reach new Delawareans on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

AARP Delaware also does Facebook Live events, YouTube videos and Twitter outreach. The work is fun and keeps volunteers connected.

To learn more about volunteering, email deaarp@aarp.org or call 302-498-6511.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

<u>Visit the presidents</u> There's one place in Washington, D.C., where the public can see all the American presidents—the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery.

AARP is offering a virtual tour of presidential portraits and the historic styles in which they were painted. The exhibit includes an overview of each president's time in office, with information on his challenges, major acts and legacies.

The online tour is Tuesday, May 11, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Register at aarp.cvent.com/ Treasures0511.

The exhibit can also be viewed at americaspresidents.si.edu.

VIRGINIA

Never stop learning As part of a collaboration with the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at George Mason University, AARP Virginia is providing a sampling of online classes on art, litera-

ture, history, science and current affairs

The summer session goes from Monday, June 21, to Friday, July 30. Classes are free and allow students to enjoy intellectual and cultural experiences in a welcoming atmosphere.

To register for summer classes and for links to videos of the spring offerings, visit aarp.org/olli-mason.

WEST VIRGINIA

Taking action AARP West Virginia has long had a very visible and influential presence at the state capitol, advocating for Mountain Staters 50-plus.

This year that effort was entirely virtual, as volunteers on the Capitol Advocacy Team pressed AARP's agenda during the 60-day legislative session that concluded April 10.

Volunteers met with lawmakers via videoconference and also communicated via email and social media. Agenda items included expanding access to high-speed internet service; protecting older residents and their families from abuse, fraud and financial exploitation; strengthening financial security; and supporting the state's 280,000 unpaid family caregivers.

State advocacy work continues year-round through monthly interim legislative meetings. To learn more about becoming an AARP West Virginia volunteer advocate, visit aarp.org/wv.

ALL STATES

<u>Vaccine updates</u> For the latest on the distribution and availability of COVID-19 vaccines, go to aarp.org/coronavirus and find your state in the drop-down menu at the top. —Susan Milligan

For other state news, go to aarp.org/states.

DATABANK USA

The Cost of Owning a Car

S AVERAGE MONTHLY COST OF OWNING A CAR \$350 \$250 \$400 \$450 \$500 **CALIFORNIA MOST EXPENSIVE:** \$459 **MICHIGAN** \$775 NEW YORK \$402 **CHEAPEST:** ALASKA **TEXAS FLORIDA** Expenses vary widely, depending on where you live. The average American spends \$5,264 a year on a vehicle.

ANNUAL AVERAGE MILES DRIVEN



ALASKA 9,915 MOST WYOMING 21,821

AVERAGE GAS PRICE



LEAST MISSISSIPPI \$2.09 MOST CALIFORNIA \$3.39

ANNUAL SPENDING ON CARS/PARTS



ALASKA \$1,929 **MOST** TEXAS \$4,145

SOURCE: MOVE.ORG, WHICH OFFERS GUIDANCE ON MOVING SERVICES