



## **The Links Between Retired Educators Association of Minnesota, NRTA and AARP**

Your decision to be a member of the Retired Educators Association of Minnesota helps make it clear to legislators, neighbors and businesses alike, that educators are important and vibrant members of our community. Collectively, you are making your presence known through volunteer efforts in the areas in which you live as well as through legislative advocacy in the statehouse. It was in this same spirit that, sixty years ago, Dr. Ethel Percy Andrus founded the National Retired Teachers Association (NRTA), **now known as NRTA: AARP's Educator Community**.

As a teacher and the first female high school principal in California, Dr. Andrus knew the life-long impact and benefits of a solid education; as the volunteer director of welfare for the California Retired Teachers Association, she also knew the importance of honoring commitments to, and channeling the energy and wisdom of, education professionals and others as they aged. Dr. Andrus helped make it possible for teachers, administrators, college and university professors, librarians and other school personnel to have a non-partisan, national presence. She was a tireless advocate on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. for improving health care and pensions; meanwhile, she encouraged business leaders to create meaningful products and services (such as insurance and travel opportunities) that would be of interest to mature Americans. Dr. Andrus created a national network of retired educator associations who chose to voluntarily affiliate with NRTA to share ideas, garner strength from one another and fulfill her motto: *To serve, not to be served*.

Over the years, NRTA has continued to offer support to state and local retired educator associations to further the impact and honor the contributions of retired educators' volunteer community service and advocacy efforts. Today, NRTA resides within AARP, which Dr. Andrus founded eleven years after forming NRTA.

People who join AARP and designate themselves as members of NRTA: *AARP's Educator Community*, pay only \$12.50 per year and receive all of AARP's member benefits and publications along with the quarterly publication *NRTA Live & Learn*. NRTA also provides on-going support to Retired Educators Association of Minnesota and other state retired educator associations through national leadership conferences and presentations at state conventions.

Joining AARP and designating yourself as a member of NRTA: *AARP's Educator Community* is a decision that is supported by a rich and shared history between Retired Educators Association of Minnesota, NRTA and AARP. It is one way to make your presence known and to help improve the lives of those over 50 through our collective efforts.

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