

ALIEF AARP CHAPTER #3264

AARP chapters are separately incorporated affiliates of AARP.

NEWSLETTER - AUGUST 2026**President's Message**

August is already here and it will be a busy month for our Chapter. I am pleased to announce that we have been awarded a **\$1,000 Grant from AARP National**. This Grant will allow us to promote our Chapter to the community and increase our membership. We will have funds to purchase advertising products, such as flyers, business cards and logo pens. Many thanks to all of our Board members that helped to make this possible. **But it will take all of our members to help distribute materials to friends and places such as churches, community centers, apartment complexes, doctor's offices and any other place that people will see us.** The membership drive will last from October 1, 2026 to March 31, 2027.

You may notice a new look at the top of this page. AARP has a new logo. You will see this logo on all future communications.

Look at the Officer and Committee page. We need some additional volunteers. See if you can help out in any way.

The Board has nominated Nancy Carter as Secretary since Austru Runnels has moved into the Membership Chairman role. At our August meeting we will take any nominations from the floor and vote to elect the new Secretary.

Make sure you come to our August meeting. We will celebrate our 26th anniversary with a nice spread of treats. Tiffany Thomas will also be our speaker and should answer questions about our community.

Thanks for all you do.

Linda Edwards

Make sure to visit our newly updated website: www.aliefaarp3264.org.
Recent updates have been made, including photos and a new logo.

Alief AARP Chapter #3264



AARP Chapters are separately incorporated affiliates of AARP

Est. August 25, 1980

Questions? info@aliefaarp3264.org

"...we will remember there are always new frontiers."

— AARP Prayer

MEETINGS



FUTURE MEETING

August 2026

Thursday, August 6th · 10AM–Noon

The Salvation Army Church

7920 Cook Rd, Houston TX 77072

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

August Dates to Remember

August 1	World Lung Cancer Day
August 2	Tisha B'Av (Jewish Holiday)
August 4	U.S. Coast Guard Birthday
August 6	Fiesta de San Salvador
August 9	National Women's Day
August 19	World Humanitarian Day
August 21	National Senior Citizens Day

AARP CHAPTER 3264 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE FOR AUGUST 2026

By Austra Runnels

I know. You don't want to talk about voting. However, I've been told often that if you don't have a plan to succeed then you have a plan to fail. We want our members to have as much information as possible as we prepare for the November or Midterm elections.



Let's begin by getting everyone **REGISTERED TO VOTE!**

Registering to vote in Texas is easy! So long as you are eligible, you will be able to register to vote in your county of residence to make your voice heard in local, state and federal elections. Use this link to either register to vote or check to see if you are registered or update your registration. **SUPER EASY!** All in one link.

Once you've confirmed your registration, you're ready to make a **PLAN TO VOTE!** Keep this information handy, on your fridge, so you'll have it handy when it's time to start planning.

STATE OF TEXAS MIDTERM ELECTION INFORMATION

Last Day to Register to Vote	Monday, October 5, 2026
First Day of Early Voting by Personal Appearance	Monday, October 19, 2026
Last Day to Apply for Ballot by Mail (Received, not Postmarked)	Friday, October 23, 2026
Last Day of Early Voting by Personal Appearance	Friday, October 30, 2026
Last day to Receive Ballot by Mail	Tuesday, November 3, 2026 (Election Day) at 7:00 p.m. if carrier envelope is not postmarked, OR Wednesday, November 4, 2026 (next business day after Election Day) at 5:00 p.m. if carrier envelope is postmarked by 7:00 p.m. at the location of the election on Election Day (unless overseas or military voter deadlines apply) ⁴

Voting scheduled provided by Texas Secretary of State Website.

Programs

August 6, 2026 –Tiffany D. Thomas - Council Member District F



Tiffany D. Thomas is a transformative public servant and visionary leader, serving as the first female Houston City Council Member for District F - one of the most diverse communities in Texas. Re-elected in 2024, she is known for bold leadership, a people-centered approach, and fearless policy execution, redefining what local government can achieve through courage, clarity, and community trust.

Her signature initiatives include the [Faith & Affordable Housing Summit](#), bridging faith institutions and developers, and heirs' property education to preserve generational land in historically Black and Brown neighborhoods. With cultural fluency and policy insight, Thomas convenes multiracial, multiethnic, and intergenerational coalitions that shape Houston's future.

Beyond City Hall, Thomas is an Associate Professor of Community Development at Prairie View A&M University, connecting research to action. Her work is nationally cited and replicated, reinforcing her role as a bridge between scholarship, policy, and grassroots leadership.

September 3, 2026 –Lindsey Drouet - Harris County Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management



Lindsey Drouet is the Finance/Admin Supervisor for the Harris County Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management (HCOHSEM), where she oversees the agency's finances, budgeting, human resources, grants management, and purchasing. During her more than 20 years with HCOHSEM, she has supported responses to Hurricane Katrina shelter operations, Hurricanes Rita, Ike, and Harvey, Winter Storm Uri, and numerous flood events.



The "Ready For Anything" Presentation will include hurricane preparedness and other emergency situations.

October 1, 2026 – Andrea Murray - MD Anderson

Andrea Murray with MD Anderson will speak about Colorectal Cancer.

November 5, 2026 – Murray Pawloski – Medicare Changes for 2027



Murray will address the changes in Medicare for 2027 and any other Medicare questions.

Murray has an over 20-year passion for cooking, and the restaurant and wine industry. He is still actively involved in the restaurant and wine business to this day. Now Murray is using all his knowledge and experience to help restaurants educate their guests on how to eat healthy and low carb meals that are "Murray approved" when dining out.

TRAVEL

Future Dates of Reserved Bus Trips

September 25, 2026 – Friday – **Holey Moley Putt Putt Golf** – Linda Edwards - Bus Coordinator
(Rescheduled from August)



Holey Moley features three, nine-hole mini golf courses. This cute and unique mini golf course is so creative – themes from Godzilla to giant toothpaste! We'll be serving up the craziest round of mini golf you've ever played - from the moment you tee off, to the final hole, you never know where you might end up. Play up and kid around with our 'Kid in a Candy Shop' Hole, win big at the 'FORE in a row' hole, or live out a millionaire's dream by 'Makin' it Rain'. Holey Moley is the craziest round of golf you've ever played!

October 8, 2026 – Thursday – **George Ranch Historical Park** - Valeri Russell - Bus Coordinator



Discover more than 100 years of Texas history with a trip through time at the George Ranch Historical Park. Located on a 20,000-acre working ranch. The park is divided into four time periods (1830s, 1860s, 1890s, and 1930s) and features historic home tours, costumed interpreters, hands-on activities, cattle working, blacksmithing demonstrations, and more! We have a tour guide and a tram to take us around. Also, a short performance. This should be a great day!

November 17, 2026 – Tuesday – **Moody Gardens Aquarium** - Valeri Russell - Bus Coordinator



Dive into the world's oceans at one of the largest aquariums in the Southwest. This 1.5-million-gallon aquarium is teeming with creatures from tuxedo-clad penguins to seals, sharks, an amazing Jellyfish Gallery and thousands of tropical fish and more, with new and interactive opportunities all along the way.

A fun and awe-inspiring experience is wonderfully complemented with conservation messages that underscore the vital importance of the oceans. New exhibits not only inspire visitor interest and empathy, but also connect them to specific ocean habitats. Each ocean exhibit highlights different marine sanctuaries and different aspects of our relationship to the seas.

Sunshine Chairman

Linda Edwards is our **Sunshine Chairman** this year. She will send e-cards, birthday cards, get well cards, thinking of you cards, and sympathy cards to our members.

If you know of any of our members who should receive a card from Alief AARP Chapter 3264, please advise **Linda Edwards** at 713-202-8800 or email: dance.partners@yahoo.com.

Note: We are looking for a new Sunshine Chairman. If you are interested, please contact Linda Edwards (contact info above).

Donations – Collections 2026

We will no longer be collecting food for distribution. There are nearby sites where you can take your donations.

Also, The Board of Directors has voted to resume collecting the following items for donations:

Cell Phones to be refurbished and distributed to Battered Women.
Eye Glasses

Please bring your donations to our monthly General Meetings and give them to **Community Service Chairman Valeri Russell**.

Volunteer Hours

Remember to sign in your volunteer hours at the monthly general meeting. This is one of the most important things we can do each month. Be a “Texas Star”! Let us validate the fact that we are a service organization, not a social organization.

If you attend the Alief AARP Chapter 3264 monthly meeting, please sign in for the 2-hour service. If you help a friend, attend an AARP General Meeting, help at your church, help your neighbors, run errands for someone, help at a hospital or anything else where you donate your time, all of your time spent doing for others (including travel time) is considered **volunteer hours**.

August Birthdays

August 3	Arwanda Elam
August 5	Dolores Leo
August 12	Plummer C. Lake
August 24	Jing-Jung Su
August 25	Carol Teal
August 26	Janice Hicks
August 30	Linda Edwards



General Information

Attendance (July 2): 38 Members & 1 Guest

No New Members

Total Members: 93

Volunteer Hours for June (not available)

Upcoming Meetings

August General Meeting

Thursday, August 6, 2026

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12 Noon

Location: The Salvation Army Church
7920 Cook Road, Houston, TX 77072

August Board Meeting

Thursday, August 20, 2026

Time: 10:30 a.m. – 12 Noon

Location: The Salvation Army Church
7920 Cook Road, Houston, TX 77072

September General Meeting

Thursday, September 3, 2026

Time: 10:00 a.m.- 12 Noon

Location: The Salvation Army Church
7920 Cook Road, Houston, TX 77072



Officers & Committees 2026**President**

Linda Edwards 713-202-8800

Vice President

Doris Hemsworth 281-493-2428

Treasurer

Katherine Miller 281-530-7037

Assistant Treasurer

Barbara Mireles 316-616-7499

Secretary

Nancy Carter 713-825-0456

Assistant Secretary

Jean Matthews 713-828-7383

Three Year Directors

Brian Placette 713-854-0926

Bunny Trammell 832-845-8742

Two Year Directors

Lucy Rosario Cavazos 346-529-8428

Iola Williams 713-822-5398

One Year Directors

Nancy Carter 713-825-0456

Valeri Russell 281-923-0349

Immediate Past President

Jan Albers 281-785-7372

Community Service

Valeri Russell 281-923-0349

Health

Lewis Kana 713-882-9714

Helping Hands – The Board of Directors**Hospitality**

Ethel Kujimiyo 281-731-8638

Legislative

Austra Runnels 281-686-4319

Meals on Wheels

Willie Mae Wilson 281-536-1991

Membership/Yearbook

Austra Runnels 281-686-4319

Nametags

Austra Runnels 281-686-4319

Newsletter

Linda Edwards 713-202-8800

Nominating

The Board of Directors

Programs

Iola Williams 713-822-5398

Public Relations

Valeri Russell 281-923-0349

Raffle

TBD-looking for volunteer

SunshineLinda Edwards 713-202-8800
(looking for new volunteer)**Telephone**

Linda Edwards 713-202-8800

Travel

Valerie Johnson 281-785-1943

Volunteer Hours

Austra Runnels 281-686-4319

Webmaster

Brian Placette 713-854-0926

** Committee Chairmen subject to change **