



ALIEF AARP CHAPTER #3264
AARP chapters are separately incorporated affiliates of AARP.
NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 2025



President's Message

WELCOME! Thank you for coming. It takes each and every one of you to make Alief AARP Chapter 3264 successful. Remember without **YOU** we would not have a Chapter. We currently have 101 members and are still growing. We are grateful for each and every one of our members!

Last year we had our second annual Christmas Bingo instead of a program. We had so much fun we decided to do it again. Everyone should bring an unwrapped gift to donate for the prizes. There will be three (3) winners for each bingo game. Alief AARP Chapter 3264 Member Dora Cruz will call our CHRISTMAS BINGO. We ask that Alief AARP Chapter 3264 **MEMBERS ONLY** attend this Fun Party. If you wish to bring a guest, we ask that they bring their National AARP Membership Card and be prepared to pay the 2025 Dues of \$10.00 to join Alief AARP Chapter 3264. We are looking forward to many fun bus trips, interesting programs/entertainment, and increasing our membership.

December 4th our meeting will be held in the Salvation Army Sanctuary due to their using all large rooms as staging areas for setting up their donations to Alief Residents. **NO FOOD IS ALLOWED IN THE SANCTUARY.** However, we decided to return to "An Old Fashion Christmas" (like many of us remember as a child). As we leave after our meeting, everyone will be given a "treat bag" with an Orange, an Apple, and Christmas Candy inside. "Treat Bags" are compliments of Harris County Precinct 4 Commissioner Leslie Briones. **Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah to us all!**

MAY GOD BLESS AMERICA and May God Bless Us, each and every one!

Jan Albers

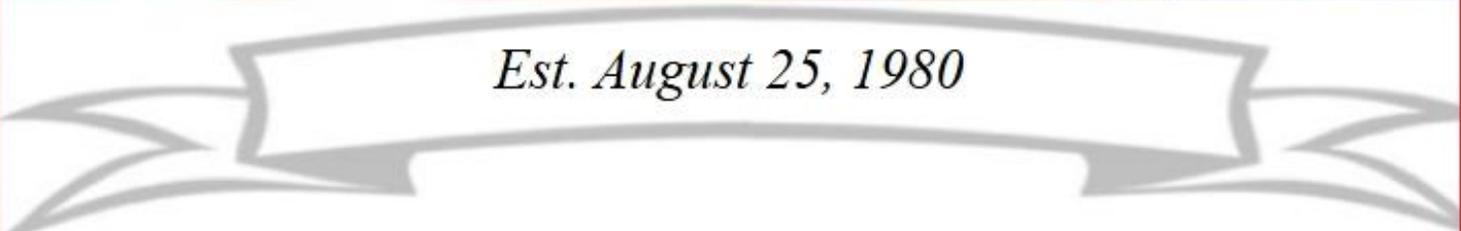
Make sure to visit our new website: www.aliefaarp3264.org . Here is a screenshot of the main page.

Welcome to

Alief AARP Chapter #3264

AARP Chapters are separately Incorporated affiliates of AARP
for more information: info@aliefaarp3264.org





Est. August 25, 1980

November General Meeting
10AM Thursday, November 6th, 2025
The Salvation Army Church
7920 Cook Rd, Houston, TX 77072

Board of Directors Meeting
No Meetings left in 2025 due to holidays

Upcoming Trips

[Friday, November 14th, 2025 - Galveston Tree Sculptures Tour](#)

[Friday, December 12th, 2025 - Champion Forest Baptist Church Christmas Spectacular](#)

Newletters

[November 2025](#)

[Officers' List](#)



AARP CHAPTER 3264 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE FOR DECEMBER 2025

BY AUSTRARUNNELS

The [longest government shutdown](#) in U.S. history is officially over after President [Trump signed a bill](#) passed by Congress. The federal government is reopening. But after 43 days on pause, things may not return to business-as-usual right away. For instance, federal workers are still awaiting backpay and air travel disruptions are expected to linger.

STATUS OF SNAP BENEFITS:

At this point, beneficiaries in some states have gotten their full monthly allocations, while others have gotten partial payments or nothing at all. Reopening the government means restarting SNAP, but it's not clear how quickly full payments will resume, since that varies by state. And, as [NPR has reported](#), many who rely on the program are worried that benefits could be cut again.

REDISTRICTING – WHERE ARE WE?

The Legal Fight: A Three-Judge Panel and Claims of Racial Discrimination

A three-judge federal panel is slated to decide whether the newly drawn districts will stand for upcoming primaries and the 2026 cycle, as dozens of plaintiffs have sued alleging racial discrimination under the Voting Rights Act and constitutional provisions; the litigation timeline and judicial rulings will determine whether the map is implemented or revised before ballots are finalized [\[3\]](#). Courts will weigh competing evidence about intent and effect, including whether mapmakers intentionally diluted minority voting strength or legitimately pursued partisan objectives consistent with precedent. Courtesy of CBS News.

Texas Bills Taking Effect in 2026

House Bill 8: [Will swap the STAAR test](#) with three shorter tests throughout the school year. Students will take new tests the following school year.

House Bill 18: Will increase repercussions against lawmakers who leave the state to block laws from gaining support in the Texas Legislature. The measure comes as a direct response to the Democratic quorum breakers [who fled the state to protest Texas' redistricting efforts](#) in August.

House Bill 26: Will permit Harris County sheriffs and constables to offer additional policing to homeowner associations, school districts and other entities without requesting approval from the county commissioner's court.

Senate Bill 38: Speeds up the eviction process for squatters; part of the law went into effect in September; the rest will take effect on Jan. 1.

Election of 2026 Officers

Election of 2026 Officers was held at our November 6, 2025 General Meeting. Officers that were elected to begin their term on January 1, 2026:

President	Linda Edwards
Vice President	Doris Hemsworth
Secretary	Austra Runnels
Assistant Secretary	Jean Matthews
Treasurer	Katherine Miller
Assistant Treasurer	Barbara Mireles
Three-Year Directors	Bryan Placette & Bunny Trammell
Two-Year Directors	Lucy Rosario Cavazos & Iola Williams
One-Year Directors	Nancy Carter & Valeri Russell.

Committee Chairmen positions are appointed by the 2026 President. If you are interested in serving as a Committee Chairman, please contact the newly elected 2026 President, Linda Edwards.

Programs

December 4, 2025 – Christmas Bingo



Dora Cruz will call Bingo. Bring an unwrapped prize. 3 prizes will be given out for each game.

January 8, 2026 – Murray Pawloski - Healthy Eating Made Simple



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.

February 5, 2026 – Julie Laskowski - Singer



Julia Laskowski will perform Patsy Cline Songs, etc. at our Alief AARP Chapter 3264 meeting on Thursday, February 5, 2026. The last time she performed at Alief AARP Chapter 3264 was September 5, 2024.

March 5, 2026 – Marian Bell – Organizing and Downsizing



Marian Bell is a multi-faceted entrepreneur that is knowledgeable in many areas of our lives.

End clutter. Keep track of theater tickets. Be more efficient in doing errands and keep your receipts organized and have more time in your life.

Marian will also help you as you downsize, whether moving to a smaller home or into a senior community.

*Visit her **Healthy Lifestyle** website at www.marianbell.com.*

TRAVEL

Future Dates of Reserved Bus Trips

December 12, 2025 - Friday – **Champion Forest Christmas Spectacular** – Valeri Russell – Bus Coordinator



A 90 minute, family friendly show celebrating the birth of Jesus and the joy of the holiday season! This cherished tradition combines Broadway-scale songs, stunning dance performances, dazzling lights, and special effects that will captivate all ages. Gather your family and friends, and experience the wonder and true meaning of Christmas in a show you won't want to miss!

Chairman

Linda Edwards is our **Sunshine Chairman** who 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**

Donations – Collections 2025

The Alief AARP Chapter 3264 Board of Directors has voted to resume **monthly** donations of can goods/non-perishable food to donate to those in need who live in the Alief Area. The Salvation Army Church (where we hold our meetings) is one of the Houston Food Bank Distributors. The Alief AARP Chapter 3264 Board of Directors has voted to donate these items to The Salvation Army Church for them to distribute. **Please bring can goods/non-perishable food donations to any of our meetings starting immediately. Please check expiration dates to make sure your donations have NOT expired. THANK YOU!**

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 Valari Russell or President Jan Albers.**

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 hours 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**.

December Birthdays

December 5	Garcica Clarke
December 6	Maria Pungoci
December 18	Ethel Kujimiyo
December 19	Brian Placette
December 21	Lewis Kana
December 23	Bonnie Branch
December 24	Edmund Coyle
December 29	Mary Ann Allen



General Information

Attendance (November 6): 41 Members & 9 guests

New Members: 2

Total Members: 101

Volunteer Hours for October 931

Upcoming Meetings

December General Meeting

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Time: 10:00 a.m.

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

January General Meeting

Thursday, January 8, 2026

Time: 10:00 a.m.

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

No Board Meeting in December due to holidays.

December Dates to Remember

December 21

Winter Solstice

December 22

Hanukkah begins and ends December 30

December 25

Christmas Day

December 26

Kwanzaa begins and ends January 1, 2026

December 31

New Year's Eve

Galveston Tree Sculpture Bus Trip



1228 Sealy – Great Dane



902 Ball – Pad of Dolphins

Officers & Committees 2025**President**

Jan Albers 281-785-7372

Vice President

Linda Edwards 713-202-8800

Treasurer

Katherine Miller 281-530-7037

Assistant Treasurer

Brian Placette 713-854-0926

Three Year Directors

Lucy Rosario 346-529-8428

Iola Williams 713-822-5398

Two Year Directors

Nancy Carter 713-825-0456

Valeri Russell 281-923-0349

One Year Directors

Toni Lomax 281-861-3372

Bunny Trammell 832-845-8742

Immediate Past President

Jean Matthews 713-828-7383

Community Service

Valeri Russell 281-923-0349

Health

Lewis Kana 713-882-9714

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

Austra Runnels 281-686-4319

Meals on Wheels

Willie Mae Wilson 281-556-1991

Secretary

Doris Hemsworth 281-493-2428

Assistant Secretary

Jean Matthews 713-828-7383

Membership/Yearbook

Jean Matthews 713-828-7383

Nametags

Jan Albers 281-785-7372

Newsletter

Linda Edwards 713-202-8800

Nominating**Programs**

Iola Williams 713-822-5398

Public Relations

Valeri Russell 281-923-0349

Raffle

Nancy Carter 713-825-0456

Sunshine

Linda Edwards 713-202-8800

Telephone

Nancy Carter 713-825-0456

Travel

Jan Albers 281-785-7372

Volunteer Hours

Jean Matthews 713-828-7383

Webmaster

Brian Placette 713-854-0926