

Monday Morning Report

November 9, 2026

Veterans Remembrance Day (Abbreviated Edition)

INTERNAL

This Wednesday, November 11th, Veterans Day, was originally named **Armistice Day** to mark the end of major hostilities in World War I on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918. In 1954, following World War II and the Korean War, Congress renamed the holiday to **Veterans Day** to honor all American service members. ***History***.

INFRASTRUCTURE

The High Speed Rail Alliance argues in ***Trains*** that Union Pacific itself should be lobbying for increased US passenger rail service, citing economic growth, safety, improved freight mobility and reduced tort claims liabilities. The group points to a successful partnership in **Chicago** as an example of how UP might benefit. ***Story***.

Egypt suffered the latest global news-making trainwreck over the weekend, the third major such accident this year. Seven people were killed and over 100 injured when a conventional speed train traveling to **Giza** struck another passenger train headed to **Cairo**. Spain has experienced two multi-fatality high speed wrecks this year. ***Story***.

The **New York *Times*** Editorial Board proposes *'8 Bold Ideas To Fix America'* to incoming Democratic majorities, including: building more housing; addressing affordability; artificial intelligence regulation; Medicare for kids; Supreme Court expansion; campaign finance reforms; ending the Iran war. and legalizing immigrants. ***Opinion***.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (and Other News)

The **Austin**-area space industry got another boost lasts week with the announcement that **Cedar Park**'s Firefly Aerospace has signed a $1.3 billion deal to build 36 rocket engines for Texas-based AST SpaceMobile, Inc. Two types of engines are involved in the deal, both designed for heavy-lift rockets under development. ***Details***.

Turns out that all that talk about major television and film studios that started in **Bastrop** and **Elgin** may have been a big scam dating back to 2017, the ***American-Statesman*** reports. The

scheme, involving a supposed billionaire from **Los Angeles** and a highflying local investor, is playing out in Central Texas courtrooms now. ***Story*.**

Mexico News From ***El Pais***: The Spanish-English language newspaper has three stories of interest today, first, how the recent mid-term elections - which saw 10 US-Mexican border Congressional seats change hands - have potentially changed politics (***here***); another on new Texas governor Gina Hinojosa's Mexican roots (***here***); and lastly, a piece about the decline of tourism on Mexico's Riviera near **Tulum** due to... seaweed? ***Story***.

'That's Senator Talafreako, to you:' US Senator-elect James Talarico made his *Saturday Night Live* debut over the weekend. In case you missed it, he called himself "the guy who's been texting you for $5." ***Details & Video***.

Thought of the Week

"The ballot is stronger than the bullet." – Abraham Lincoln

This newsletter is available to our members. If you wish to unsubscribe,
please send an email request with subject UNSUBSCRIBE to **council@thecorridor.org**.

©2026 Austin-San Antonio Corridor Council