



&

Waterford Park

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

OLDE OAKS COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Upcoming Dates

Daylight Saving
Time Ends
November 6

Election Day
November 8

VOTE!

Veterans Day
November 11

Homeowners'
Meeting

November 15 at 6:45 p.m.

Meeting will be held at the Oak Creek Village Clubhouse at 3906 Gladeridge Drive, behind the Oak Creek subdivision tennis courts.

Thanksgiving
November 25

Happy Thanksgiving

HALLOWEEN Decorated Houses

While I realize that many families didn't have their Halloween decorations up by our early print date cutoff, here are some of the spooookiest houses in the neighborhood. Pictures are courtesy of Ryan and Royale Jockers. If you missed this month's issue, you can send me Halloween pictures for next month's newsletter at ociaeditor@gmail.com.

Tanya Pilant, Editor



15618 Misty Hollow



15502 TC Jester



15714 TC Jester

(more photos on page 3)

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EVENTS

Texas Masters Chorale 10

HOME SERVICES

Moore Care..... 2

Wired Electrical Services 8

E-Z Seven Landscaping 8

MEDICAL

The Methodist Willowbrook Hospital 12

REAL ESTATE

BH&G, Bonnie D'Amico..... 2

BH&G, Laura Cox..... 5

Coldwell Banker United, Jan Kopfler 7

The Patel Group, Alexis Delgado-Mize 9

BH&G, The Jockers Team 12

SALONS

Curtis Reser Hair 2

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE NOVEMBER 9

Editor: Tanya Pilant | Send information and questions to ociaeditor@gmail.com

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Halloween Houses - continued from cover



3435 Aspen Bend



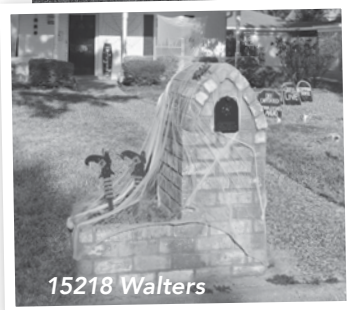
3802 Highfalls



3434 Aspen Bend



3403 Blakewood



15218 Walters



3610 Brimwood

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pam@crest-management.com

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mjshannonoociaboard@gmail.com

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MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICTS (MUD)

Manhole/Sewer Backup
713-983-3602

MUD #20

www.edpwater.com/your_district.html

Billing, Service & Emergencies
832-467-1599

Board Meetings: First Tuesday
of month, 11:30 a.m.,
10000 Memorial Dr., Suite 260
713-951-0800

MUD #44

www.wdmtexas.com/districts-served/
harris-county-mud-44

Billing, Service & Emergencies
281-376-8802

Board Meetings: (Call before to confirm),
Second Tuesday of month, 4 p.m.
15705 N. Greenfield Drive

Bammel Utility District Office

281-376-8802

www.wdmtexas.com/districts-served/
bammel-utility-district

Board Meetings: Second Monday
of month, 7 p.m., 3906 Gladeridge
(clubhouse)

Let's Go Native!

Eleese Lester-Baier – October 8, 2022

Well, this has been quite a year – a long drought, some rain, and more drought! Many folks are considering replacing some of their yards with hardy native plant species in order to reduce costly watering, fertilizing, lawn maintenance and pollution, yes, pollution! The great news is that there is plenty to choose from as most nurseries are providing more varieties of native species than ever before.

The average homeowner spends 30% of their water bill on their yards! Commercial and imported grasses have shallow root systems while native grasses have deeper roots and can sustain droughts. And according to PBS editor, Justin Stabely, the overuse of commercial fertilizers has created an excess of nitrogen which ends up in our bodies of water causing algae blooms. According to the EPA gas-powered mowers and leaf blowers produce a whopping 242 million tons of pollutants, 29% of all global carbon monoxide and 4% of all global carbon dioxide emissions annually! And to add to the problem, these grass lawns don't contribute to the diet of local wildlife or pollinating insects.

So, what's a homeowner to do? Nothing drastic! Replacing your entire lawn isn't necessarily the answer but reducing the size of your lawn, gradually replacing areas with native grasses, shrubs, plants and flowers can be a fun and ongoing project for you and your family. Start with an area of your lawn where you can create an oasis of natives with native grass borders or ground cover. There are so many wonderful online examples of folks who gradually converted areas of their yards. Less work, cost, water, fertilizer and more beauty! If you build it, the pollinators will come!

Here are some resources to get you started or visit a local nursery for suggestions.

The Native Plant Society of Texas promotes the conservation and use of native plants and provides educational resources/workshops for homeowners, npsot.org/wp/tnpw, or Landscaping with Native Texas Plants on Facebook.

Top 15 Suggested Texas Native Plants:

Shade: Turks cap, American beautyberry, rock rose; **Full sun:** Esperanza, cenizo, flame acanthus, mealy blue, sage salvia; **Ground cover:** Frog fruit, wooly stemodia; **Flower beds:** Fall aster, cora vinca, autumn sage, frostweed, Gregg's mistflower, cora vinca, gaura lindheimeri; **Trees:** Native texas oaks and pecans; **Berry trees:** Yaupon holly or possumhaw holly; **Flowering trees:** Texas mountain laurel, retama, Texas redbud, huisache.

Get cuttings from friends and neighbors.
Many of these species can be seeded or rooted
from cuttings.

Thank You, Garage Sale Helpers

Olde Oaks/Waterford Park had its first Community Garage Sale in September since the COVID epidemic. Thank you, Mia Cordova, for organizing this event! Thanks to Britta Schmidt, Barbara Simpson and Robert Dennis for helping set up and retrieve the signs at the entrances.

Sleep in Heavenly Peace “NO KID SLEEPS ON THE FLOOR IN OUR TOWN”

On December 17 and 24, approximately 30 delivery teams of the all-volunteer organization, Sleep in Heavenly Peace-TX Houston Northwest Chapter, will deliver 110 beds to kids 3 to 17 years of age who have no bed of their own – free of charge. By the end of 2022, SHP Houston Northwest volunteers will have built and delivered a milestone number of over 2,500 beds, serving over 900 families in North Houston. Bed components are assembled in the clients’ homes and are fully furnished with all new mattresses, pillows, sheets, and comforters – specifically chosen for each child, based on age and gender.

Sleep in Heavenly Peace-TX Houston NW was established in mid-2018, by Olde Oaks residents, Gary and Nikki Akin. The local chapter is one of over 300 chapters in the U.S. and Canada affiliated with the national, non-profit organization, Sleep in Heavenly Peace, Inc. Since the beginning of SHP, Inc. in 2012, its chapters have delivered over 100,000 beds!

The bed components are built by volunteers at the SHP workshop located on the campus of theMet Church on Jones Road. No experience is needed and volunteers are needed and welcomed. For information, contact Gary at gary.akin@shpbeds.org. Bedding for each bed delivered is specifically chosen by the Bedding Angels. Donations of child-friendly bedding sets (comforter, sheet set) for kiddos 3-17 are always needed and welcomed. They can be dropped off at the Akin’s home, 3219 Chapel Bend Drive, Olde Oakes, or sent to Northwoods Presbyterian Church, 3320 Cypress Creek Parkway, Houston, TX 77068. For more information contact Nikki at nikki.akin@shpbeds.org.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Police – Fire – Ambulance | 911
Nonemergency Sheriff | 713-221-6000
Fire Department – Klein Volunteer
281-251-0101

Animal Control | 281-999-3191
24 hr. Emergency Poison Control Center
800-222-1222

CenterPoint Electric | 713-207-2222
CenterPoint Gas | 713-659-2111

Harris County Pct. 4
(M-F, 8 a.m.–5 p.m.) | 281-353-8424

Harris County Pct. 4
(outside regular hours) | 713-755-5000

Registered Sex Offenders
www.familywatchdog.us

www.iwatchharriscounty.com
Download the app for Apple and
Android phones to report criminal
activity anonymously.

To have your house checked on
while you’re away on vacation go to
[www.harriscountysos.org/
vacation_watch.aspx](http://www.harriscountysos.org/vacation_watch.aspx)
and complete the form online,
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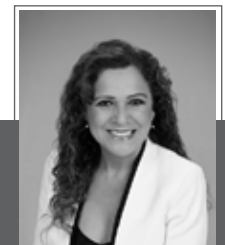
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MARKET REPORT OLDE OAKS SEPTEMBER 2022

PRICE RANGE	ACTIVE LISTINGS*	UNDER CONTRACT	CLOSED SALES
Below \$300K	3	1	1
\$300K - \$350K	4	3	1
\$350K - \$400K	3	1	0
\$400K - \$450K	0	0	0
\$450K - \$500K	0	0	0
\$500K - \$550K	0	0	0
\$550K - \$600K	0	0	0
\$4600K - \$650K	2	0	0
\$650K - \$700K	0	0	0
\$700,000 - \$750K	0	1	0

*Source Data: Per HAR MLS, 9/1/2022 - 9/30/2022, Single Family Homes, Olde Oaks

MONTHS OF INVENTORY
1.9
OF HOMES SOLD IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS
88
AVERAGE PRICE
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DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SHARE?

Email ociaeditor@gmail.com. If you have a picture, please include it separately from the text. I am also looking for reporters/ assistants to help with our subdivision newsletter and you will get credited (a byline) for the article. Please contact the editor for more information. – Editor



SEPTEMBER SHERIFF'S STATISTICS

911 Hang Up.....	1
Accident FSGI.....	1
Accident Major.....	1
Accident Minor.....	2
Alarm Holdup.....	3
Alarm Local.....	13
Burg. Habitation*.....	1
Compliance Check.....	1
Criminal Mischief.....	2
Disturbance Family.....	3
Disturbance Loud Noise.....	6
Disturbance Other.....	3
Domestic Prevent.....	3
Drug OD Possession.....	1
Fraudulent Use ID.....	2
Information Call.....	7
Meet the Citizen.....	18
Meet the Officer.....	2
Mental Health Call.....	1
Missing Person.....	2
Open Door Window.....	1
Project Lifesaver Field Int.....	1
Property Found Lost.....	1
Suspicious Person.....	4
Telephone Harrassment.....	1
Terroristic Threat.....	1
Theft Other**.....	3
Traffic Stop.....	66
Unknown Medical Emergency.....	2
Vacation Watch.....	3
Vehicle Abandoned.....	1
Vehicle Stickered.....	1
Vehicle Suspicious.....	9
Warrant Service.....	3
Welfare Check.....	13
WRIT.....	1

Note: This report was produced by the Harris County Sheriff's Office and contains raw data subject to change as cases are investigated and reclassified. Editor edited list to eliminate routine checks.

*Burglary Habitation – Not actual burglary. No report made.

**Thefts Other – (1) Resident had not received money for product sold on Internet. (2) Personal belonging was found and not stolen. (3) Civil matter, not theft.

October Yards of the Month

Photos courtesy of Ryan and Royale Jockers. Homes are selected by the Yard of the Month Committee. Contact HOA Committee Chairman David Pichowsky at david.pichowsky@redfin.com to submit nominations.

4219 Canterwood



3303 Kennonview



3007 Grand Elm Circle



3202 Rustling Moss Drive



15102 Walters



CONGRATULATIONS!

Book Club “Footnotes”

As I type this article, I must mention that our group is starting its twenty-third year. We are proud of our longevity, all the books we’ve read, the great discussions we’ve had, and the friendships we have made along the way. Members have come and gone during this time, but we do have a core group of eight right now.

We’ll meet on November 15 (the third Tuesday instead of our usual fourth because of Thanksgiving in that fourth week). Tanya Pilant will be hostess and discussion leader. Also at that meeting we will choose books for January through May 2023. That list will be in the January newsletter.

Our book for November is *American Dirt* by Jeanine Cummins. Although she was born in Spain in 1974, she is of Irish and Puerto Rican heritage but is an American now. Apparently this book is controversial as some Hispanics do not think it is an accurate account of the migrant experience. Ms. Cummins did do five years of research for the book and felt she was being culturally sensitive and not adhering to traditional stereotypes.

This 2020 novel is about the ordeal of a Mexican woman who along with her son left behind a middle-class life to flee to the United States illegally after her husband and the rest of her family are murdered by a cartel. Needless to say there are many themes in this book, such as a mother’s determination to save and protect her son, trust, survival, grit, grief, and the fight for a brighter and safer future. The moral voice is on the side of the migrants.

Kathy Hall, Coordinator
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What are they building on TC Jester?



Here is the apartment sign showing what is being built on TC Jester near the SST School.



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Kinsmen Lutheran Church Thanksgiving Community Feast and “Run for Your Turkey”



Both events return to in-person this year on Thanksgiving Day with a delicious meal of turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, gravy, green bean casserole, cranberries, rolls and pie. The Thanksgiving Feast is free of charge and will be served at Kinsmen from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Thanksgiving Day, November 24. For those who prefer, meals may also be taken home to enjoy.

Along with great food and conversation, other traditions will return as well—including crafts for the kids. Reservations are not needed and the event is open to the entire community.

In preparation for the holiday, a bilingual Thanksgiving Eve worship service will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, November 23 at the church, 12100 Champion Forest Drive in Houston, 77066.

Another Thanksgiving tradition at Kinsmen is the annual “Run for Your Turkey” 5K/10K walk or run, which is now in its 11th year. The run steps off at 8 a.m. Thanksgiving Day from Kinsmen, winds through the tree-lined neighborhood of Greenwood Forest, then brings participants back to Kinsmen to cross the finish line. Registration for the 5K/10K walk or run is \$30 through November 20. Proceeds help fund the Thanksgiving Feast.

For more information and to register, please visit www.kinsmenlutheran.org or call 281-444-3126.

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Dickens on Cypress Creek A Victorian Christmas Market

Friday, November 11, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Saturday, November 12, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

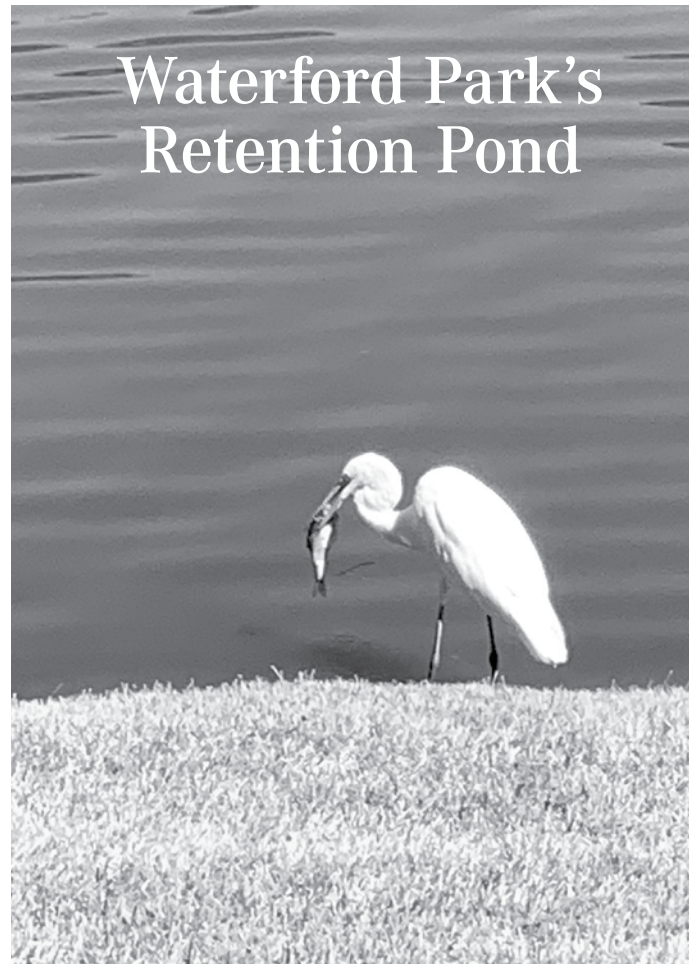
Cypress Creek Christian Church

6823 Cypresswood Drive, Spring, TX 77379

Enjoy an array of food, crafts, merchandise and entertainment – all with a Victorian flair! Free admission.

Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts Art Market & Family Day

The Pearl will host an Art Market and Winter Family Day on Saturday, November 12, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission is free. The Art Market will feature work for sale by local artists, and coincides with The Dickens Market at Cypress Creek Christian Church, allowing shoppers to easily flow between the two. Families can also enjoy art activities, children's entertainment, and the museum's current exhibitions at the Pearl's Winter Family Day.



Hello Neighbor!

🎵 ONE IS THE LONLIEST NUMBER 🎵

What's better than being a Realtor / Resident of Olde Oaks and Waterford Park? Having a team that lives here too! Meet Taylor Davis and Brandon Mize.

WE want to wish you and yours a Happy Thanksgiving!

And we are pleased to have donated to the ASPCA thanks to our most recent transactions. We continue to pledge a portion of our proceeds to a charity of your choice.

I'm Bilingual, Hablo Español
"Whatever you do, work heartily" -Colossians 3:23

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Controlling Water on Your Property

Controlling water flow around your property will add to the longevity and structural integrity of your home – protecting your investment for years to come. It is also critical to maintain your landscaping, and preserve your foundation. This article will discuss things on the exterior of your home. Look for a future article on controlling moisture on the interior of your home.

Eliminate Standing Water

Eliminating standing water helps to prevent mosquitoes from breeding. Consider replacing stagnant water vessels like birdbaths with fountains that will continuously recirculate the water.

French Drains

French drains can be very helpful if you have standing water in your yard. A French drain is a trench filled with a perforated pipe and gravel that allows water to drain naturally from your yard. Though the name implies some sort of connection to France, you may be surprised to learn that the French drain was named for a man, rather than after the country. According to *The Washington Post*, the French drain was popularized by Henry Flagg French, a Massachusetts lawyer.

Drains

People rarely use real French drains. Instead people will bury a pipe in the ground, connected to a grated drain in a low spot in your yard with the pipe running into the street. You can see where people have cemented the exit pipe into the curb. This is the most common form of drainage system in our neighborhood. The trick is to angle the pipe in such a way that the water naturally drains into the street. You want to make sure you do not install the drain on an easement. The drain should not be tapped into the sewer line. Depending on the size of your yard and the scale of your drainage issue, you can purchase the pipes and equipment to create a drain yourself, but it's not a bad idea to hire a professional.

Swales or Valleys

Swales or valleys are an alternative to French drains/drainage. Swales are shallow ditches that do not contain pipes. You can usually find them along a property's edge, following the natural grade of the land to direct runoff to ditches or wooded areas.

Berms

Berms are another alternative. A berm is a rounded mound of soil or dirt built upon an otherwise level patch of land. The rounded character of a berm is what distinguishes it from a raised bed, which has a flat surface. One reason to build a berm is to improve drainage for plants that do not like wet soil. A berm can also be a good way to improve poor soil.

Sprinkler Heads

I often see sprinkler heads watering the pavement. If possible, try and find out the brand of the sprinkler head (such as Rainbird) then look for a video on the Internet on how to adjust your sprinkler heads to save water (and money). If a sprinkler head is broken, take the old one to a hardware store to find the exact match. If you are considering putting in a sprinkler, be sure and ask for a diagram that shows where the waterlines, electrical lines and zones are placed. This will help when you have digging or other work done in your yard.

Downspouts

Extend roof downspouts away from the house and foundation. Ideally, the extensions should take rainwater at least 10 feet away from the house.

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281.440.4850 OR AT THE DOOR

Native Plants

Another suggestion is to replace lawn areas with native plants such as shrubs and wildflowers. These tend to develop more extensive root systems that take in and hold water much better than lawns. As an added bonus, they require less maintenance than a lawn does. Lawns are not particularly effective at absorbing and retaining water, especially during our heavy rains.

Rain Barrels

Rain barrels collect rain and can be used to water your plants and yard inexpensively. These will need to be kept out of sight of the street.

Water damage due to a neighbor's actions – or inactions – may lead to considerable and costly issues for adjoining neighbors. If your neighbor alters their property in a way that causes excess water to run onto your property (such as a pool with insufficient drainage), other than might otherwise occur naturally, you may have some recourse to recover for that damage. **Be sure and check with our HOA for ACC approval before making any exterior improvements.**

Teen Job Seekers

If you're looking for a responsible teen to watch your child, house, pet, or to do some yard work or power washing, look no further! These teens live in your neighborhood and have references from your neighbors:

B = Babysitting P = Petsitting T = Tutoring
O = Odd Jobs Y = Yard Work PW = Power Washing

Service(s)	Name	Age	Phone
O, PW	Grayson Fischer	17	832-721-5755
B, P, T	Jade Yeaple	17	346-367-4309

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- No one wants to listen to barking dogs, loud music and/or playing basketball late at night.
- Pick up your pet's poop. Secure your fence so your pets cannot escape the yard and run loose.
- Consider putting your trash in bags.
- Don't litter. Help keep our neighborhood a beautiful and nice place to live.

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Thanksgiving

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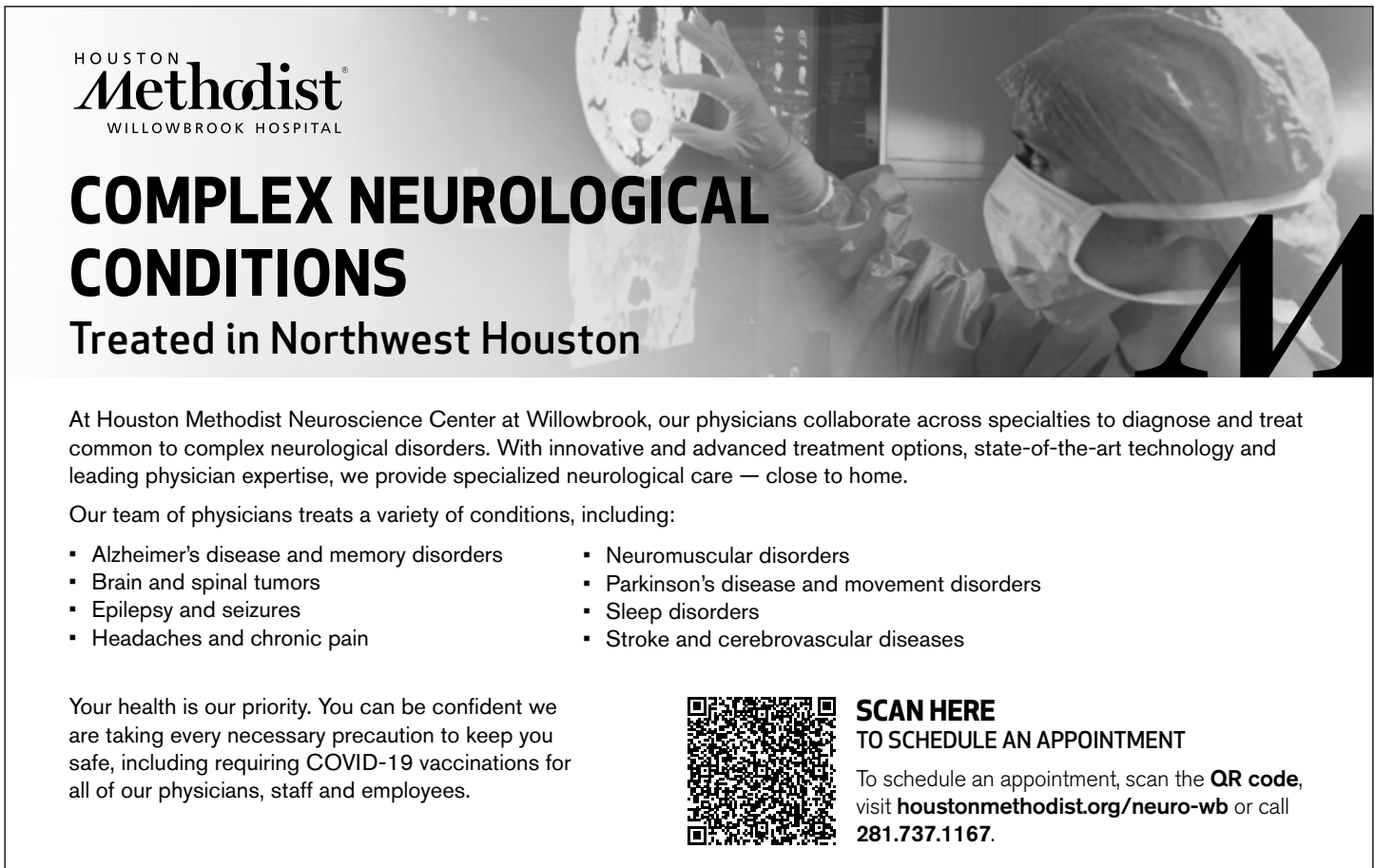
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COMPLEX NEUROLOGICAL CONDITIONS
Treated in Northwest Houston

At Houston Methodist Neuroscience Center at Willowbrook, our physicians collaborate across specialties to diagnose and treat common to complex neurological disorders. With innovative and advanced treatment options, state-of-the-art technology and leading physician expertise, we provide specialized neurological care — close to home.

Our team of physicians treats a variety of conditions, including:

- Alzheimer's disease and memory disorders
- Brain and spinal tumors
- Epilepsy and seizures
- Headaches and chronic pain
- Neuromuscular disorders
- Parkinson's disease and movement disorders
- Sleep disorders
- Stroke and cerebrovascular diseases

Your health is our priority. You can be confident we are taking every necessary precaution to keep you safe, including requiring COVID-19 vaccinations for all of our physicians, staff and employees.

SCAN HERE
TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT

To schedule an appointment, scan the **QR code**, visit houstonmethodist.org/neuro-wb or call **281.737.1167**.