

Northeast Newsletter

Tarrant County Commissioner Gary Fickes - Precinct 3

Volume 13, Issue 4

"Working together for a better tomorrow"

August 2020

COMMISSIONER'S CORNER

Due to the public health situation, we will not have Coffee with the Commissioner in August. We hope to resume Coffee with the Commissioner soon!



ATTENTION
You may see census workers in your area, as the non-response follow-up runs from August 1 - September 30

Inside this issue:

- Virtual Empowering Seniors 2020 Pg. 2
- Immunization Collaboration of Tarrant County Pg. 3
- Be Mosquito Free Pg. 3
- Covid-19 Pg. 3
- Precinct 3 Maintenance Department Update Pg. 4
- Assistance Programs Pg. 5
- Calendar Pg. 6

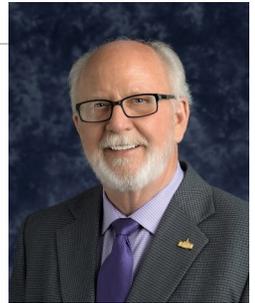


As Tarrant County’s fiscal year winds down, I remain committed to maintaining a conservative budget and tax rate as we navigate through the challenges that we all face during the COVID-19 pandemic. Over the next several weeks, we will be drilling down into our countywide budget to guarantee we are serving the needs and honoring the values of our constituents in Tarrant County. Please contact me at gfickes@tarrantcounty.com if you have any questions, concerns, or for further information regarding our County and how we serve you.

YES! You’ve asked and we’re delivering—Empowering Seniors will happen this year! To ensure the safest and healthiest atmosphere for all participants, Empowering Seniors 2020 will be a virtual event that you can watch online on Friday, October 2! This year’s Empowering Seniors Health and Lifestyle Expo will still bring participants health seminars, “Ask the Doctor” panel, informational workshops, entertainment, celebrity guests, virtual BINGO, and more! Best of all – Dallas Cowboys’ Legend, **Drew Pearson**, AND Texas gardening & horticulture expert, **Neil Sperry**, will be joining us this year, among others! Additionally, each of our presentations will be archived on the Empowering Seniors website, so you can watch anything you missed and then share with friends and family. We’ll notify those registered when the goodie bag and program guide is available for pickup at the Tarrant County Northeast Courthouse, so you’ll have it for the live event. We want to thank Care N’ Care Insurance for joining us as our presenting sponsor again this year! For more information, or to register to attend, please visit: www.EmpoweringSeniors.com

While we continue to take precautions around the COVID-19 virus, Tarrant County residents should also be mindful of the increased risk of West Nile Virus (WNV) due to mosquito transmission in our area. So far, 2,516 mosquito samples have been tested since West Nile Virus seasonal surveillance began on April 1. A total of 270 samples from the Tarrant County region have tested positive for WNV. Prevention is a key component. Unfortunately, we cannot predict what a mosquito season will be like, but we can all do our part to help minimize the threat. Empty or treat standing water to eliminate breeding sites around your home. Also, use repellent and dress appropriately if you are outdoors when mosquitoes are most active. View more about WNV in Tarrant County [here](#).

Included in this newsletter is information about the Immunization Collaboration of Tarrant County immunization fairs, exciting information about Empowering Seniors 2020, Precinct 3 updates, community resources, and more! We will not have Coffee with the Commissioner again this month due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, but we look forward to visiting with you all very soon!



Gary Fickes



Question of the Month

Question: What is the largest nature center in the United States that is owned by a city?

Answer on page 5

The Quote of the Month - “Some folks look at me and see a certain swagger, which in Texas is called “walking.”

—George W. Bush

ENJOY This Year's 2020 VIRTUAL EMPOWERING SENIORS EVENT

From the Safety of Your Home!

**REGISTER
TO ATTEND**



Presenting Sponsor
care@care
Insurance Company, Inc.



Introducing our Executive Producer of Empowering Seniors 2020 Neil Luft, CEO of Internet Imagineering

Neil Luft is a recognized visionary and accomplished producer who has led major clients through not just COVID-19, but also major digital events across the United States.

Neil - who will be on-site managing the virtual production of Empowering Seniors 2020 - has seen the world of virtual events change dramatically over the past 90 days, moving from simple streaming delivery to full on-scale virtual-only interfacing and fulfillment.

Among his recent clients:

- Academy of Country Music
- CBS Interactive
- Chick-Fil-A
- Walt Disney World
- ESPN
- Hospital Corporation of America

You won't miss a moment of this incredible event—Just announced **Drew Pearson**, Legendary Dallas Cowboy #88 AND **Neil Sperry**, Texas gardening & horticulture expert will be joining us this year among others!

Empowering Seniors to be a LIVE VIRTUAL EVENT on October 2

SAFE * INFORMATIVE * EXCITING * FUN!

Please allow me to share some wonderful news: **WE WILL have Empowering Seniors 2020 – our 12th annual event – on Friday, October 2.**

Here's the unusual twist: It will happen right where you are, in your own home. **Empowering Seniors 2020 will be a VIRTUAL event!**

We recognize that you need Empowering Seniors more than ever. It will be a time of socialization, as well as a source of information and fun. We thank our friends at Care N' Care Insurance for once again being our Presenting Sponsor.

We are concerned for your safety in attending a large gathering, so we have taken this proactive step to help you feel comfortable in participating.

Here's what that means:

- You will be able to participate safely from your home or even with friends
- The entire event will take place on our website
- We will feature so much of what you've told us you like:
- Informational workshops
- "Ask the Doctor" healthcare panels
- Health information and workshops from medical experts
- And yes, we **WILL** still have raffle and door prizes **for those who register for Empowering Seniors 2020 in advance**, plus a **printed program/resource guide** and a **goody bag**.

Tutorials on how to join us will post in September on the website at www.empoweringseniors.com. You can watch Empowering Seniors on your:

- Desktop computer
- iPad or tablet
- Laptop computer
- Smartphone

Best of all, we will continue to refresh the content on the website for the following 12 months, with updates about health, personal safety, retirement planning, gardening, cooking, and other categories that are of interest to you.

Empowering Seniors 2020 will be safe... it will be fun... and it will be an amazing VIRTUAL EXPERIENCE!

We will have multiple programs going on simultaneously and they are all being recorded, so they will be available for you to watch any time for a full year!

ASK THE DOCTOR/ PROVIDER PANEL



WORKSHOPS



BINGO, DOOR PRIZES & MORE!



ENTERTAINMENT

Immunization Collaboration of Tarrant County

Be Wise-Immunize™
It's An Act of Love!



Please Read Before Attending

2020 Immunization Events Bring Shot Records!

Ridgmar Mall—Food Court Entrance
1888 Green Oaks Blvd., Fort Worth, TX 76116

Date	Day of Week	Start Time	End Time
August 10-14	Monday - Friday	9:00 a.m.	6:00 p.m.
August 15	Saturday	9:00 a.m.	2:00 p.m.
August 17-21	Monday - Friday	9:00 a.m.	6:00 p.m.
August 22	Saturday	9:00 a.m.	2:00 p.m.
August 24-28	Monday - Friday	9:00 a.m.	6:00 p.m.
August 31-September 4	Monday - Friday	9:00 a.m.	6:00 p.m.
September 8-11	Tuesday-Friday	9:00 a.m.	6:00 p.m.

Important Note: If your child has private insurance that pays for the needed vaccines, see your child's doctor. For additional health questions, physicals or exams, follow up with a doctor. To view the recommended immunization schedule: www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/index.html

Important CDC Guidelines and recommendations:

- Please do not come to the event if:** you have had any of the listed symptoms associated with COVID-19 within the last 24 hours OR tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 14 days.
- We ask that you wear your own mask at the vaccine event.
- We will assist with social distancing and will regularly disinfect all areas.

Symptoms of COVID-19

- Fever
- Sore Throat
- Cough
- Fatigue
- Shortness of Breath

Administration Cost:

Children (0-18 years old) - **\$8 per shot.**
Adult Safety Net Vaccines (19 years & older with no insurance) - **\$15 per shot**
NO DEBIT OR CREDIT CARDS
Cash, Check, CHIP, or Medicaid Accepted

PRE-REGISTRATION LINK - Pre-registering for the event **DOES NOT GUARANTEE OR GIVE YOU A SET APPOINTMENT.** It will help you get through the process quicker and save you time!

Questions? Text 817-776-5575, Visit www.ictchome.org

Facebook: [ImmunizationCollaborationTC](#) Twitter: [ImmunizeTC](#) Instagram: [ImmunizeTC](#)



Mosquitoes are among the insects that can transmit disease, and are sometimes referred to as vectors for disease transmission.

Imported cases of both Zika and Chikungunya could make local spread of both viruses possible because the Aedes mosquitoes that

transmit those viruses are found in Texas. While the Culex mosquito that carries West Nile Virus is active and bites only from dusk to dawn, Aedes mosquitoes, which carry Zika and Chikungunya, are active and bite during the day – so it's important for people to do what they can to eliminate mosquito breeding sites and to protect themselves against mosquito bites at all times.

Even the most unexpected places can become breeding grounds for mosquitoes and the illnesses they can carry. Tarrant County Public Health (TCPH) and County officials are asking for your help to protect our community. Do your part and help Tarrant County Be Mosquito Free:

- Dump standing water
- Keep vegetation trimmed
- Wear long sleeves and pants
- Use EPA-approved insect repellent

For more information, please visit www.tarrantcounty.com/en/public-health.html

Specific North Texas mosquitoes that carry disease



Culex quinquefasciatus



Aedes albopictus

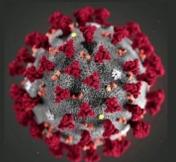


Aedes aegypti

COVID-19 INFORMATION

CARE 4 TARRANT

Tarrant County Coronavirus (Covid-19) Information Page
Tarrant County COVID-19 Updates; County Declarations and Orders



COVID Testing



COVID News Releases



COVID Transmission Data



Local Orders



Family Resources



Essential Businesses



Frequently Asked Questions

Precinct 3 Maintenance Center News

August 2020



Despite a brief shutdown earlier this spring due to concerns regarding the pandemic, we have been back at work for several months. We are working fervently to provide Tarrant County residents, and our cities, with the excellent service level they expect. Work is a little different nowadays as we have implemented numerous health precautions to keep our employees and those who work around us safe. We have adjusted and are on schedule to complete our County and City Interlocal Projects scheduled for this year.

The following are Interlocal and County Projects we have completed, in progress or scheduled.

INTERLOCAL PROJECTS

These projects are a cooperative effort between the county and cities to complete needed resurfacing and rehabilitation on selected city streets. The city provides material funding, and the county provides the labor and equipment to perform the work. Projects we have completed or scheduled within the past year include:

Bedford

Forest Ridge Drive (Completed Mar 2020)
Brown Trail (Completed Mar 2020)
Harwood Road (Completed Mar 2020)

Colleyville

Curtis Road (Completed Oct 2019)
Herbert Road (Completed Oct 2019)

Shelton Drive (Completed Nov 2019)
Beverly Drive (Completed Nov 2019)
Leta/Duane Street (Completed Nov 2019)
Suellen Circle (Completed Nov 2019)
Jim Mitchell (West) (Completed Apr 2020)
Jim Mitchell (East) (Completed Apr 2020)
Maranatha Court (Completed Apr 2020)
Bogart Drive (Completed Apr 2020)
Thompson Terrace (Completed Apr 2020)
Lloyd Circle (Completed Apr 2020)
Cherry Lane (Completed Apr 2020)
Rose Street (Completed Apr 2020)

Eules

Freestone Drive (Completed May 2020)
Sage Lane (Completed May 2020)
Broadway Ave (Completed May 2020)
Royce Drive (Completed May 2020)
East Midway Drive (EB) (Completed May 2020)

Fort Worth

Avondale Haslet Road (Complete Aug 2020)
Blue Mound Road (Completed Jul 2020)
Bonds Ranch Road (Completed Jun 2020)

Grapevine

Boyd Drive (Completed Feb 2020)

Haslet

Blue Mound Road (1) (Scheduled Sept 2020)
Avondale Haslet Road (Complete Aug 2020)
Blue Mound Road (2) (Scheduled Oct 2020)

Hurst

Hurstview Drive (1) (Completed Mar 2020)
Hurstview Drive (2) (Completed Mar 2020)
Hurstview Drive (3) (Completed Mar 2020)

Keller

Whitley Road (Completed Jun 2020)

North Richland Hills

Meadow Road (Completed May 2020)

Richland Hills

Midway Road (West) (Completed May 2020)
Midway Road (East) (Completed May 2020)
Belton Road (Completed May 2020)

Southlake

Crooked Lane (Completed Feb 2020)

Watauga

Whitley Road (Completed Jul 2020)
Dunson Drive (Completed Jul 2020)
Dunson Ct (Completed Jul 2020)

Westlake

Fire Station Parking Lot (Completed Dec 2019)

Birdville ISD

Birdville High School (Completed Dec 2019)
Deborah Lane (Completed Mar 2020)
Lyndale Lane (Completed Mar 2020)

TARRANT COUNTY PROJECTS

Avondale Haslet (West) (Completed Jun 2020)
Bonds Ranch Road Railroad Crossing Repairs (Jun 2020)
Maxwell Road (Scheduled Sept 2020)

We are currently receiving projects for FY 2021. To date, we have 37 projects submitted from 9 different cities within Precinct 3. Four cities are still evaluating their budgets and plan to submit additional projects. In addition to our City Interlocal Projects, County Projects planned for next year are: Resurface and add turn lanes to Wagley Robertson at Bonds Ranch Road; Rehabilitate Roanoke Haslet Road; and Rehabilitate Harmon Road.

As a reminder, your safety and the safety of our crews are of the utmost of importance. When encountering any type of roadway construction or maintenance, please be patient, drive slowly through the construction area, and be keenly aware of the equipment and personnel working around you to make your commute safer long after they are complete.

*Article courtesy of Richard Schiller,
Director of Field Operations,
Precinct 3 Maintenance Center*

Driver Safety - Work zones present a different environment for drivers to navigate. Drivers are likely to encounter uneven pavement, narrow lanes, concrete barriers, slow-moving heavy equipment and vehicles that make sudden stops. Please keep the following tips in mind when driving through work zones:

- Slow down and always follow posted work zone speed limits. Remember, traffic fines double in work zones when workers are present.
- Pay attention as workers and heavy equipment may only be a few feet from passing vehicles.
- Don't tailgate. Give yourself room to stop in a hurry. Rear-end collisions are the most common kind of work zone crashes
- Stay alert, minimize distractions and put the phone away.
- Watch out for road crews. The only protective gear they wear is a vest, hard hat, and safety boots. Their bodies are no match for your vehicle.
- Allow extra time. Road construction slows things down. Count on it and plan for it.

Community Resources & Volunteer Opportunities

6 Stones

- ACH Child & Family Services
- Alliance for Children
- Catholic Charities Fort Worth
- Christ's Haven for Children
- Community Enrichment Center
- Community Storehouse
- The Gatehouse

GRACE

- Meals on Wheels of Tarrant County
- Metroport Meals on Wheels
- Mid-Cities Care Corps
- Mission Central
- North Texas SNAP
- One Safe Place
- SafeHaven of Tarrant County

Salvation Army DFW

- Sixty and Better
- Tarrant Area Food Bank
- Tarrant County Homeless Coalition
- United Way of Tarrant County
- The Women's Center of Tarrant County

Homelessness: For those in need of **Community Resources** call **211**. If you are experiencing homelessness, or are at risk call **817-996-8800** or click this link to fill out an Online helpline form.

Tarrant Area Food Bank Mobile Pantry Schedule: www.taafb.org

Child Care: The Best Place for Kids!

Mental Health: For those dealing with mental health issues during the COVID-19 pandemic, call the MHMR (My Health My Resources) **ICare call center at 817-335-3022** or for the hearing impaired use the **TTY_TDD numbers at 817-569-4488**.

2-1-1 ASSISTANCE FOR FAMILIES IN NEED

www.211texas.org is a website for individuals needing assistance related to COVID-19. Enter "COVID-19" as search term.

You can also dial 211. The phone line is serviced 24/7.

Employment Solutions

TC Workforce Solutions has several resources available, but you must register to attend:

- **MAPS Series Virtual Sessions** - Professional development opportunities through a variety of career planning, job seeking, self-evaluation assessments and soft skills.
- **Welcome and Information Session Workshops** - Provide you with access to jobs with immediate openings, no cost workshops, training opportunities and more.

Aug. Calendar: <https://workforcesolutions.net/events/2020-08>

Sept. Calendar: <https://workforcesolutions.net/events/2020-09>

Fort Worth Business Assistance Center

Jobs at AllianceTexas..... www.alliancetexas.com/jobs-at-alliancetexas

Tarrant County College (TCCD)

Tarrant County College Workforce Services

Tarrant County Employment Opportunities

Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County

Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County - Jobs Now

Texas Workforce Commission

Aug. 20 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. - Fort Worth Virtual Career Fair <https://www.nationalcareerfaairs.com/national-career-fairs/fort-worth-career-fair/08-20-2020/6779/>

Sept. 9 at 9:00 a.m. - Fort Worth Virtual Job Fair <https://www.besthirecareerfaairs.com/event/fort-worth-virtual-job-fair-september-9-2020/>

Nov. 18 Fort Worth Virtual Job Fair <https://www.besthirecareerfaairs.com/event/fort-worth-virtual-job-fair-november-18-2020/>

Career One Stop www.careeronestop.org/JobSearch/job-search.aspx

Eventbrite Job Fairs <https://www.eventbrite.com/d/tx--fort-worth/job-fair/>

Simplyhired Job Fairs <https://www.simplyhired.com/search?q=job+fair&l=fort+worth%>

USA Jobs www.usajobs.gov

Work In Texas ... www.workintexas.com/vosnet/Default.aspx

Linkedin Jobs www.linkedin.com/jobs

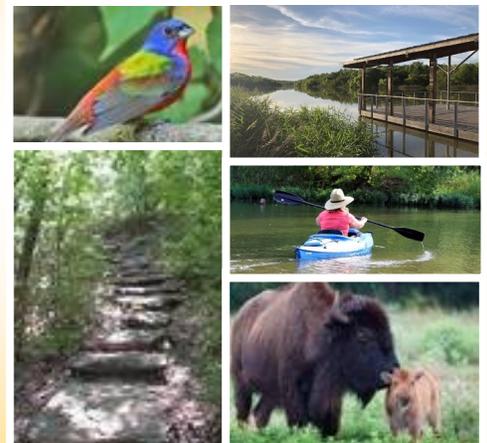
Question of the Month

Question: What is the largest nature center in the United States that is owned by a city?

Answer: The Fort Worth Nature Center and Refuge.

The inception of the FWNC&R was based on protecting the local watershed. In 1914 when Lake Worth was built, the land was purchased around the West Fork of the Trinity River by the City of Fort Worth to protect the quality of drinking water for the Fort Worth community. With great persistence from some local citizens, particularly the Fort Worth Audubon Society, the Park Board designated some land in 1964 to create a wildlife sanctuary and nature preserve for our community, and the FWNC&R was born. At its current state, the FWNC&R covers 3,621 acres, preserving important sections of prairie, Western timbers, and river savanna. With over 100,000 visitors each year, the Center offers more than twenty miles of hiking trails and canoeing on Lake Worth and the West Fork of the Trinity River. The refuge is home to bison, white-tailed deer, coyotes, egrets, and the lovely painted bunting.

For more information: www.fwnaturecenter.org



Calendar

- Aug 14 Mission Central Mobil Food Pantry Drive.....www.missioncentraltx.org
- Aug 30 Alliance For Children Virtual Family Trivia Night....www.allianceforchildren.org
- Sep 7 Labor Day.....
- Sep 10 Keller Chamber Annual Golf Classic.....www.kellerchamber.com
- Sep 13 National Grandparent’s Day.....
- Sep 17 NE Tarrant Chamber Hometown Heroes.....www.netarrant.org
- Sep 17 North Texas Giving Day.....www.northtexasgivingday.org
- Sep 17 Alliance for Children Sporting Clay Tourn.....www.allianceforchildren.org
- Sep 18-20 Colleyville Lions Club Hole-In-One Shootout.....www.colleyvillelions.com
- Sep 19 Community Storehouse: Run In the Dark.....www.runinthedarkdfw.com
- Sep 21 Colleyville Chamber Classic Golf Tournament.....www.colleyvillechamber.org
- Sep 24 HEB Chamber Birthday Bash.....www.heb.org
- Oct 2 Virtual Empowering Seniors.....www.empoweringseniors.com**
- Oct 2-4 Southlake Oktoberfest.....www.southlakechamber.com
- Oct 5 Grapevine Chamber: Annual Golf Tournament.....www.grapevinechamber.org
- Oct 6 National Night Out.....www.natw.org
- Oct 15 Keller Chamber Wine & Jazz.....www.kellerchamber.com
- Oct 16-17 6Stones CPR.....www.6stones.org
- Oct 17 City of Hurst: Fall Festival.....www.hursttx.gov
- Oct 17 NETC Walk to End Alzheimer’s.....www.act.alz.org
- Oct 17 Westlake Classic Car Show.....www.westlake-tx.org
- Oct 22 NE Tarrant Chamber Annual Golf Classic.....www.netarrant.org
- Oct 23 The Women's Center Monster Mash.....www.womenscentertc.org
- Oct 24-31 CASA: Superhero Run.....www.speakupforachild.org
- Oct 29 North Texas Regional Job Fairwww.grapevinechamber.org
- Oct 29 Stan the Chamber Man's Annual Chili Challenge.....www.heb.org
- Oct 30 Metroport Chamber Annual Golf Classic.....www.metroportchamber.org

Chambers of Commerce

- Colleyville Chamber of Commercewww.colleyvillechamber.org
- Grapevine Chamber of Commercewww.grapevinechamber.org
- HEB Chamber of Commercewww.heb.org
- Greater Keller Chamberwww.kellerchamber.com
- NE Tarrant Chamber of Commercewww.netarrant.org
- Metroport Chamberwww.metroportchamber.org
- Southlake Chamberwww.southlakechamber.com

Senior Centers

- Bedford Senior Center (817) 952-2326 www.bedfordtx.gov
- Colleyville Senior Center (817) 503-1195 www.colleyville.com
- Eules Family Life Sr. Center..... (817) 685-1671 www.eulesstx.gov
- Grapevine Active Adults at The REC (817) 410-3465 www.gograpevine.com
- Haltom City Sr. Citizens Center..... (817) 834-8021 www.haltomcitytx.com
- Hurst Sr. Citizens Activities Center (817) 788-7710 www.ci.hurst.tx.us
- Keller Senior Activities Center..... (817) 743-4370 www.cityofkeller.com
- N. Richland Hills Senior Center (817) 427-6600 www.nrhtx.com
- Richland Hills Sr. Activities Center (817) 616-3738 www.richlandhills.com
- Southlake Senior Activity Center ... (817) 748-8315 www.ci.southlake.tx.us
- Watauga Senior Center (817) 514-5892 www.ci.watauga.tx.us

(Please note, center opening and hours have changed due to the public health situation. Be sure to call them for current information concerning their center.)



Centered in Care
Powered by Pride

Locations In Northeast Tarrant County

Health Clinics

- Gertrude Tarpley JPS Health Center .. 817-514-5036
6601 Watauga Road, Watauga 76148
- JPS Medical Home Northeast Tarrant 817-702-1100
3200 W. Eules Boulevard, Eules 76040

School-Based Clinics

- Birdville 817-547-3046
8200 O’Brian Way, N. Richland Hills 76180
- Birdville 817-759-2035
2807 Layton Avenue, Haltom City 76117
- Grapevine/Colleyville 817-251-5751
3050 Timberline Drive, Grapevine 76051
- HEB 817- 399-3500
3115 W. Pipeline Road #B, Eules TX 76040
- Georgia Kidwell - HEB 817-399-3366
3115 W. Pipeline Road #D, Eules TX 76040

For a complete list of Health Clinics and School-Based Clinics log onto:
www.jpshealthnet.org

COUNTY HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

September 7 - Labor Day

Commissioner’s Office Precinct 3

Gary Fickes, Commissioner
gfickes@tarrantcounty.com

Rebecca Barksdale, Precinct Administrator
rbarksdale@tarrantcounty.com

Devin Sanders, Community Outreach Coordinator
dwsanders@tarrantcounty.com

Theresa Parsons, Assistant Precinct Administrator
tparsons@tarrantcounty.com

Freida Landerholm, Office Administrator
fnlanderholm@tarrantcounty.com

Dee Long, Office Administrator
sdlong@tarrantcounty.com

Northeast Courthouse
645 Grapevine Highway, Suite 200
Hurst, Texas 76054
817-581-3600
Fax: 817-581-3603